

German Railway Strikers Yield To American's Appeal To Move Passenger Trains

BERLIN, May 27.—(AP)—A German rail strike leader yielded last night to an appeal from a young American officer and agreed to move four Allied military passenger trains stalled on the single main line track between Berlin and the west.

The break came after the four trains had been stalled at the Berlin Wannsee station for hours while anti-Communist UGO (independence labor organization) strikers who manned switches refused to open them.

The young officer walked up to Karl Hennig, district UGO chief, and said: "Look, we flew the airlift for you. Why don't you do this for us and get the trains off the track?"

Hennig replied: "As a token of sympathy for your airlift work we'll let these four trains move. But no more."

Earlier the American commandant in Berlin had accused the Russians of "welching" on their promise to lift the blockade. He challenged them to untangle stalled rail traffic.

With the airlift once again Berlin's main source of supply, a Russian officer threw out a veiled threat that rail traffic into this badgered city once again might be halted by Soviet order.

"Welching" charged Brig. Gen. Frank L. Howley, the American commandant spoke angrily of the situation which has piled up millions of dollars worth of railway cargo at the Soviet zonal line and in Berlin's strike-bound railyards in what amounts to a semi-blockade.

"All they have succeeded in doing is welching on their blockade lifting agreement," he said. "You can be sure they want things the way they are. If they did not, they would only have to issue one of two orders: to let the striking workers run the trains and man the installations as they have offered, or pay them in west marks, the only legal tender for West Berlin."

The veiled threat to reimpose the blockade officially came from a Russian officer to an American transport officer at the Wannsee station where four trains are held up. He told the American officer that unless the Wannsee tracks are cleared, all train traffic into Berlin might be halted again. The American officer refused to clear the tracks, saying that to open the locked switches would be strikebreaking.

Sound Money Wanted.

The strikers have not handled the cargoes because the railways technically are under Russian control. The strikers want, besides payment in West marks—worth four times the East mark—assurance that all strikers will be taken back on their jobs and recognition of their independent union.

The Kommandatura already has sent Communist-controlled East sector police out of the West sector railyards, replacing them with Allied-trained police. The ouster came after rioting by demonstrators in which two persons died.

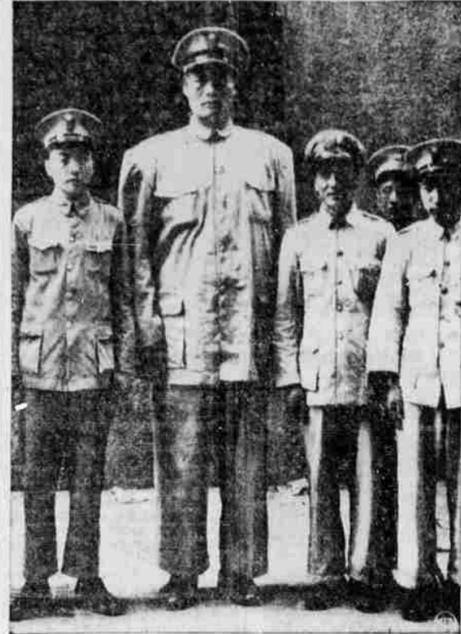
Since this action Tuesday, four days after the strike began, only a half dozen West German supply trains have reached Berlin.

More than 23 million youngsters from five to 17 are enrolled in U. S. public schools.



MINISTER-PERFORMER—The Rev. Johnstone Beech (above) Episcopal rector, is newest clown in Gainesville, Texas, community circus which recently opened its 20th season.

He's Up and Coming (Up)



Looming above his fellow workers is Chang Ying-wu, 27, seven-foot, 320-pound jailer in Shanghai. And Chang claims he's still getting taller. He comes from a family of 23 members, all of whom are of average height. (Photo by NEA-Acme staff correspondent Warren Lee.)

Lilienthal, Atomic Board Head, Has Defender in President Truman

WASHINGTON, May 27.—(AP)—President Truman came to the defense Thursday of Chairman David Lilienthal of the Atomic Energy Commission who is under fire in Congress.

Mr. Truman told a news conference the atomic program is in good hands and in good shape. He said he knows of personal knowledge how the program has developed. And he deplores, he added, the blowing up of relatively trivial items in an attempt to reflect on the atomic chairman.

A Senate-House committee began an investigation Thursday of the commission's work. The inquiry was touched off in part by demands from Senator Hickenlooper (R-Iowa) and others that Lilienthal resign.

Lilienthal, first witness to be heard, told the Congress members that the Atomic Energy Commission had cleared two men for secret work despite adverse recommendations from its security officer.

The AEC chairman named the men as Dr. Edward U. Condon, head of the Bureau of Standards, and Dr. Frank Graham. At the time of the commission action Graham was president of the University of North Carolina. He is now a Democratic Senator from North Carolina.

Lilienthal was the first witness as the Senate-House Atomic Energy Committee opened hearings into charges of "incredible mismanagement" in the AEC.

Away from the hearing, Senator Cain (R-Wash.), a critic of the AEC, announced he has prepared legislation to abolish the Commission and entrust atomic development to a board to be composed of the secretaries of the armed forces, the three chiefs of staff and a scientist.

Cain said the confidence of the people in the AEC would be increased if Lilienthal would resign.

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Careful Driving Over Holiday Period Enjoined
If the three-day Memorial Day Weekend seems too short for the trip you're planning, don't try to stretch it by fast driving, state safety officials warn.

State police headquarters joined Secretary of State Newby in urging motorists to keep speeds down on crowded highways. Records reveal excessive speed is responsible for almost half of Oregon's fatal mishaps, with accidents on rural highways ten times as likely to be fatal as those on city streets.

"Careful driving at a normal, steady pace is the surest and easiest way to save lives on the highway, as well as the only way to enjoy any trip," Newby pointed out. "Trying to stretch your holiday by fast driving may shorten it beyond measure."

Uncle Sam has nearly 29 million youngsters between the ages of 5 and 17.

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