

Oregon Man, Wife Murdered In Philippines

MANILA, March 21 (AP)—The trussed-up bodies of two Americans and their Australian farm manager were found in the yard of their hacienda near Manila today, apparently the murder victims of a communist Hukbalahap raid.

The couple was identified by investigating army patrols as John Hardie, youngest son of a prominent Condon, Ore., family, and his wife, Marie. The Australian national was Donald Capuano.

Ambassador Cowen took up with the Philippines government immediately the question of protecting American citizens.

A conference of leading American residents at the U. S. embassy raised the question of whether it might be necessary to evacuate American families. No decision was reached.

Ambassador Cowen said the Hardie farm execution and the slaying of three American members of a U. S. topographical survey party in Quezon province Jan. 28 raised the question of "whether the communists think they are sufficiently strong to begin a deliberate policy of murdering Americans."

Avoided Americans
Cowen said that for a long while after the Huks took virtual control over large areas of Luzon, main island of the Philippines, they apparently had a policy of avoiding trouble with Americans.

But, he added, several months ago there were indications that this policy had changed although no definite evidence had been seen until the January killing of the surveyors.

Filipino employees at the Hardie dairy told police more than 50 armed Huks quietly entered the hacienda early last night and put guards over the Hardies and Capuano in the house and the employees in the yard.

Told of Execution
After looting the house of food and other supplies, they said, the main body of Huks left about 10:30 p.m. Ten Huks left behind then told the three through a farm-hand translator they were to be executed.

"This must be a joke," Hardie is reported to have said. There was no reply from the execution squad leader.

Mrs. Hardie pleaded with them to state a reason for execution. She got no reply, and the leader had the three moved down by five men shooting automatic weapons. Witnesses said the signal to fire was given by the main body of Huks, who had withdrawn, to the squad leader left at the hacienda.

A Philippine army patrol rushed up at the sound of the firing but the assailants had melted into the darkness.

\$600 Finances \$7,800,000 Defense Loan

WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—Key defense officials went on the griddle today about an alleged "can't lose" venture in which the men put up \$600 to get a \$7,800,000 government loan on a defense plant.

Chairman Hardy (D-Va.) of a house investigating committee roundly criticized the federal officials for approving the loan. The Virginia legislator discounted a rider which provided that the trio must raise \$1,000,000 in private capital before the loan finally becomes effective.

If all goes well, Hardy said, the three men will become "multi-millionaires" in a few years. In Hazleton, Pa., one of the principals in the loan application, Benjamin S. Dowd, said \$1,000,000 in cash is available for completing the loan requirements. He said he and his two associates, Martin C. Charles and James H. Hopkins, have already spent \$250,000 in developing the proposed steel plant and said it will be in production by December 1.

Chairman Hardy charged that officials of the national production authority — the big mobilization expediting agency overrode an RFC recommendation against a \$7,800,000 government loan to the Hazleton, Pa., steel tubing company.

Prowler Suspect Fatally Wounded By Householder

PORTLAND, March 20 (AP)—A suspected prowler was fatally wounded early today by a Portland householder. The dead man is identified as David Daniel Venegas, 30. His wife, Jennie, is in a Portland hospital where she underwent surgery recently. A 7-year-old daughter is living with friends. In a signed statement, Lawrence Wayne Cummings, 20, gave police this report: He was awakened shortly after midnight by a man who asked an address. He said he didn't know, so the man left. Later he heard another tap on the door. Looking out the window, he saw a man crouched near his automobile in the driveway. He fired two shots into the ground with his .22 rifle, then told the man to come into the light while he had his wife telephone the police. When the man started to run, he fired at him. Venegas' coat was pierced by seven bullets but only one entered his body. Deputy District Attorney John Collier has ordered an inquest tomorrow.

Spell Champs Vie Tonight At Hubbard

HUBBARD, March 20—At least eight school spelling champions are expected to compete at Hubbard grade school at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday in a semi-final of the Statesman-KSLM spelling contest. The schools they represent, their names, ages and grades are:

Gervais—Evon Clark, 13, 8th. Parkersville—Charles Bergeron, 13, 8th. Eldridge—Joe Michalek, 12, 8th. Broadacres—JoAnne Parker, 13, Hubbard—Frances Parson, 13, 8th. St. Louis—Ramona Tolley, 13, 8th. Pioneer—Maxcere Warboys, 13, 8th. Ft. Paul's of St. Paul—George Smith, 13, 8th.

Other schools eligible to specify champions for tonight's competition if they so wish are Donald, Aurora, St. Paul, Butteville and Sacred Heart of Gervais.

The winner will compete for war-bond prizes in the finals in Salem April 19.

Secretary Tells Of Try to 'Evict' RFC Director

WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—Mrs. Florence M. Smoot, secretary to RFC Director Walter L. Dunham, has testified that at a time when her employer was out of the city, another RFC director urged her to rush Dunham's resignation to the White House.

Mrs. Smoot said the other director was C. Edward Rowe. She said Rowe wanted her to rewrite the first page of a previously prepared letter of resignation, and then hustle it over to presidential assistant Donald Dawson.

Dunham has testified the move to get him to resign was an attempt to make him the "goat" in the congressional investigation of RFC. Rowe denied this.

Rowe testified that it was true he had suggested changes in Dunham's letter. But, he said, it all was done with Dunham's approval. Rowe denied he had urged immediate delivery of the resignation, which Dunham had prepared in case President Truman wanted it.

Mrs. Smoot said the letter was not delivered to the White House. She said that after Rowe urged her to deliver it, she called up Dunham, who was in Florida, and he got "very angry" and told her not to let the letter go.

The testimony was given yesterday behind closed doors, and was made public today by a senate banking subcommittee investigating RFC.

Taft Claims New Plea for Troops To Europe Due

WASHINGTON, March 20 (AP)—Senator Taft (R-Ohio) said today the United States may be asked to contribute 15 divisions to the defense of western Europe before the end of 1952.

The republican leader told the senate the Truman administration has "no intention" of holding the American contribution to six divisions, as outlined recently by defense chiefs.

Entering the heated debate on the senate's troops-for-Europe resolutions, Taft called for "strictly limited" reinforcement of the international army being raised under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Psychiatrists Divided Over William Cook

OKLAHOMA CITY, March 20 (AP)—Psychiatrists split today in their opinions whether admitted slayer Bill Cook is criminally insane.

The 23-year-old ex-convict sat emotionless through his sanity hearing as defense lawyers tried to save him a possible death sentence for the kidnap-murders of the five members of the Carl Mosser family of Atwood, Ill.

In a packed courtroom, Dr. Hugh Galbraith, Oklahoma City psychiatrist, testified Cook had the mentality of a three-year-old child, was emotionally backward "and utterly incapable of making plans from moment to moment."

Three other psychiatrists agreed. Three Oklahoma City psychiatrists requested to examine Cook by Shelton had contrasting opinions. Dr. Moorman Prosser said "Cook is shrewd. He does what he chooses to his own advantage. He is not criminally insane. He is crazy like a fox."

Church Wins City Planners' Endorsement

First Church of the Nazarene Tuesday night received the endorsement of Salem planning and zoning commission for a special business zone to permit new church buildings at 13th and Center streets.

William Beaver of the church building committee and the Rev. Eugene Stowe, pastor, told the commission the church is ready to erect a Sunday school building at the rear of its property and hopes later to build a new church.

The zone change to make this possible now goes to the city council for final action.

Marion and Polk county officials joined the city zoners in a roundtable discussion of zoning matters related to city fringes.

County Zoning Districts
Representatives of both county courts said consideration is being given to possible establishment of county zoning districts which are now authorized by state law.

Access roads serving a city but under the county's jurisdiction were among the problems discussed, with Marion county commissioners indicating that widening of Center and Market streets outside the city probably would be undertaken this year after completion of the state bypass route east of the city. "Cloverleaf" traffic separation points at those and a few other streets are to be provided by the state. The entry streets, now narrower outside the city than inside, should be widened somewhat to expedite traffic, it was stated.

On Hand for Meet
On hand for the conference were Polk County Commissioner G. V. Rempel, Dallas City Councilman J. W. Siddall, Polk County Engineer E. J. Himes, Marion County Missionary Roy Rice and E. I. Rogers and Marion County Sanitarian I. G. Lerman.

Capitol zoning in the light of new state legislation on expansion of the capitol mall area was referred to the zone revision committee for study prior to a conference with members of the state capitol planning commission.

Approval was recommended for a breakfast nook addition to the home of Joseph L. Moreland, 1485 Pearl st., which requires a setback exception and for construction of a second house on Lee R. Cline property on the west side of Church street between Rural and Oxford.

Request for business zoning to permit modernization of the Dr. Roy Reynolds clinic at 1144 Center st. was referred to the setback committee. The clinic is located in a frame residential building.

Planes Find 3 Lost Boys At Florence

FLORENCE, Ore., March 20 (AP)—Three little boys, wet but not scared, were found safe today after spending all night in the woods near here.

They were located by circling planes and brought out by a ground party after 100 men had combed the underbrush between highway 101 and the ocean all night.

The boys, Dennis Hayes, 7; Joe Fortner, 9; and James Fortner, 7, said they started playing together after school yesterday and became lost.

Firemen, loggers and townspeople responded for the all night search and four planes took off at dawn this morning. A pilot spotted the boys at 7:15 a.m. He circled and called for a ground party and within half an hour the boys were home.

Dennis said they slept under a bush last night. They didn't get cold until the ground got wet, he said.

West Skeptical Of Gromyko

PARIS, March 20 (AP)—Andrei Gromyko came up with what he called a concession at today's meeting of the Big Four deputy foreign ministers, but western officials viewed it with skepticism.

The Soviet deputy foreign minister proposed "establishment of international control" over the reduction of Big Four armed forces" as well as other measures for elimination of the threat of war and fear of aggression and the question of fulfillment of present treaty obligations and agreements of the four powers. This was tacked to a previous Soviet proposal for a discussion of a reduction in the armed forces of the Big Four.

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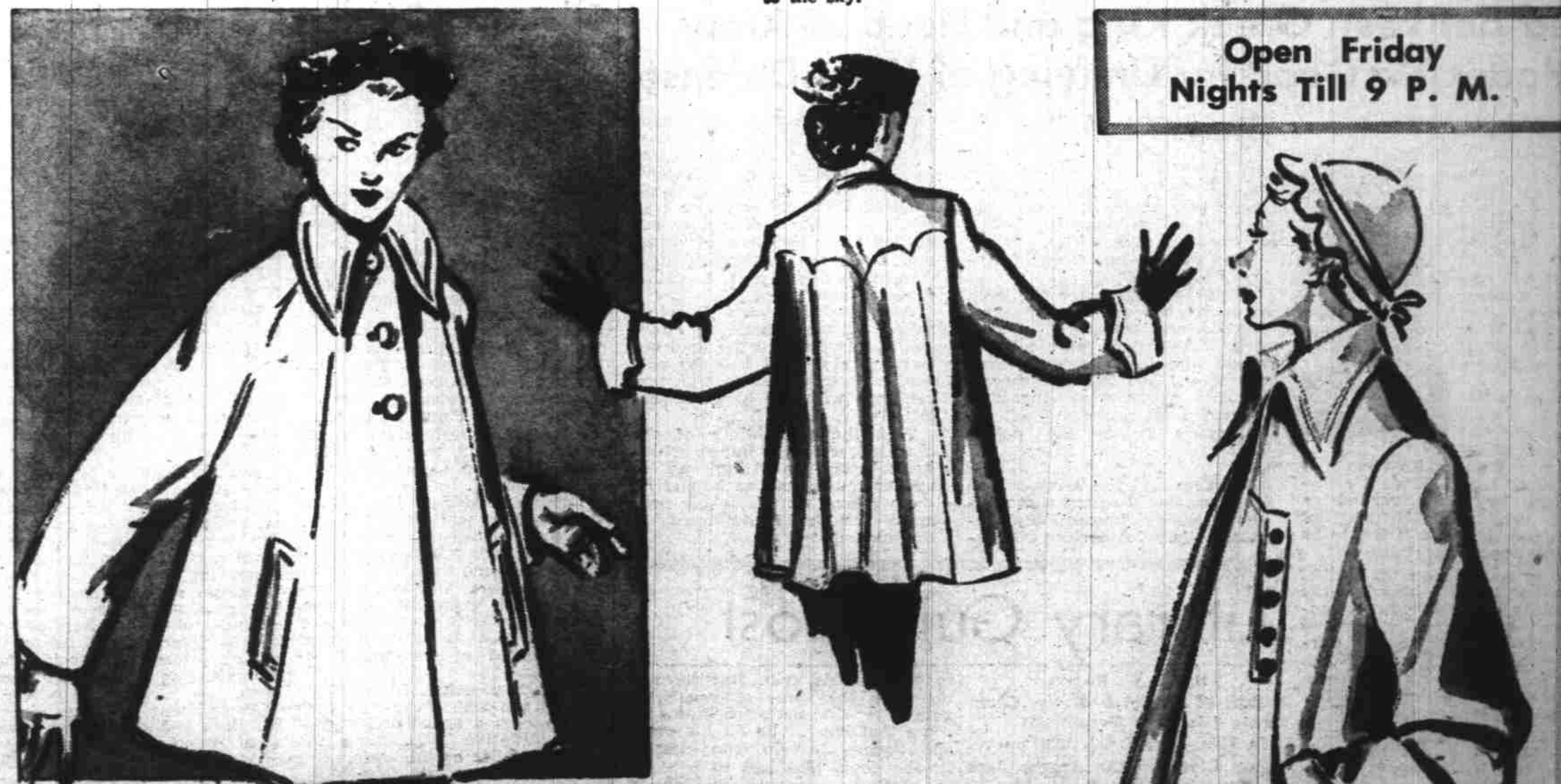
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