

# Rumor of Beria's Arrival by 'Chute Arouses Madrid

(Story also one page one)

By LOUIS NEVIN

MADRID, Spain (AP) — A story that Lavrenty P. Beria has parachuted into Spain got Madrid up in the air Wednesday.

But you couldn't prove from official sources that anybody had seen hide or hair of the Kremlin's most prominent purge victim of 1953.

The national police chief said the whole thing was laughable.

"It looks as though Beria will now be replacing the flying saucers," he said.

The monarchist newspaper ABC set off the uproar.

Admitting it did not know whether the story was true, ABC published a report that Beria and a number of other Russians jumped

several days ago into the Mancha region.

World of Don Quixote

The Mancha region is a flat plateau land in Central Spain, devoted chiefly to grain and cattle. Dotted by numerous windmills, it is known to the world as the scene of Don Quixote's windmill jousting in the novel by Cervantes.

ABC explained it assumed no responsibility for the Beria story and published it only because of the bare possibility it might be true.

The story went on to say a number of FBI agents, bearing special credentials signed by Vice President Richard Nixon and a Senate committee, had arrived to escort the former secret police boss to Washington.

Restricts Agents

This angle ignored the detail that U.S. law restricts the operation of J. Edgar Hoover's agents to the United States.

But Madrilenos were not primarily interested in details. Police headquarters and newspapers were besieged with telephone calls asking one question:

"Is it true Beria is in Spain?"

The answers ranged from denials to "we know nothing about it."

U.S. Ambassador James Dunn said:

"This embassy knows absolutely nothing about this story and has been involved in no way in anything pertaining to it."

"Nothing to It"

Another embassy source said: "There is absolutely nothing to it."

The ABC said that in exchange for asylum in the United States Beria promised to reveal the names of all the persons in Europe and America serving Soviet Russia. Other highlights of the story:

Beria chose Spain to hide in because there are hardly any Communists here and because the pilot of his plane had fought in the Spanish civil war and knew the terrain.

He presumably flew in from Russia, and arranged to arrive at night.

All the plane's occupants parachuted after setting its controls and leaving just enough gasoline to carry the plane by itself over the Atlantic where it would sink without a trace.

An automobile was awaiting Beria. It took the entire party to a secret hiding place on the Spanish coast.

The United States asked and got a Spanish exit permit for Beria.

Beria has left or is on the point of leaving Spanish territory," the story concluded. "At the moment these lines are written."

# Nixon, Durkin, Meany Confer At AFL Meet

(Story also on page one)

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Vice President Richard Nixon Wednesday conferred with AFL leaders, including Durkin and AFL President George Meany, to get their suggestions for amending the Taft-Hartley law.

Nixon said he was working as a reporter for the President in getting the views of labor officials on what changes they think should be made in the law. No details of the meetings were announced.

Nixon earlier addressed the convention explaining the administration's views of the 19 proposed Taft-Hartley law changes.

"Contrary to press reports inferring that I had something to do with development of the message that was to be sent to Congress concerning the 19 points," the vice president said, "as Martin Durkin will tell you, I did not participate in the substance of the message and the discussions in regard to the substance of the message.

"My interest was only in its timing."

Nixon did not elaborate, but there have been published reports that it was Nixon who blocked White House delivery of the message to Congress on July 31, the day of the death of Sen. Robert A. Taft.

Another converse speaker, Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon took up the remark of Nixon's on having been interested in the message's "timing" and said:

"That is what we lawyers call a confession by avoidance." There was a message, the one Martin Durkin told you about.

Reject Alibying

"The time has come to reject the kind of alibying you heard this morning from the vice president."

Morse said he believed Durkin's story of having an agreement with Eisenhower, despite denials, because he knew Durkin as "a man of unimpeachable integrity."

"Government by the country club must be brought to an end in November, 1954," Morse said. He received a loud and prolonged ovation from delegates, noticeably more enthusiastic than the polite applause received by Nixon.

# Ike Labels U. N. 'Sheer Necessity'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower said Wednesday the United Nations has become a "sheer necessity" in the face of terrible new weapons of mass destruction.

Speaking in the White House rose garden, the President told members of the U. S. Committee for United Nations Day:

"With all its defects, and with all the failures that we can chalk up against it, (the U.N.) still represents man's best organized hope to substitute the conference table for the battlefield."

# Pro-Red GIs Cite 'Reasons' In Statement

(Story also on page one)

PANMUNJOM, Korea (AP) — The Reds turned over to neutral guards Thursday 23 Americans who have refused repatriation. Wilfred Burchette, Communist newspaperman, released a statement which he claimed was written by the Americans and was signed in pen with 23 names.

The statement said "our staying behind does not change the fact that we are Americans. We love our country and our people."

But, the statement said, "unfortunately under present conditions in America, the voice of those who speak out for peace and freedom are rapidly being silenced. We do not intend to give the American government the chance of silencing our voices too."

One Britisher

Burchette said the highest ranking American in the group is a sergeant. He said there are three Negroes. The Britisher, he said, is a marine.

Burchette said the Americans "are quite convinced that America is embarked on a war policy and they don't want any part of that."

Burchette said the group "is a mixed one" with varying degrees of education.

No Destination

The Red spokesman said the Americans "did not say where they wanted to go" if they are not repatriated.

The list of names given by Burchette was not passed by the Army censor. The censor said he had instructions from his Tokyo headquarters that no names would be passed unless the prisoner decides to return to the Allied side.

Already in Indian-guarded camps in the demilitarized zone were 22,600 anti-Communist Chinese and North Korean prisoners of war, delivered by the Allies over the past two weeks.

Beginning Saturday representatives of the Communists and the Allies will start "explanations" to the POWs as to their rights under terms of the armistice.

# Fliers Tell How Reds 'Wear You Down' for Confessions

By SPENCER DAVIS

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Two hollow-eyed Marine fliers who played leading roles in Communist germ warfare charges against the United States came home from Korea Wednesday and told dramatically how false "confessions" were wrung from them by torture.

Col. Frank H. Schwable, 45, of

Alexandria, Va. and Maj. Roy Bley, 39, Santa Ana, Calif., both showing the effects of long imprisonment in solitary confinement, told newsmen they finally yielded to Red demands under "mental torture over a long drawn out period of time."

"At no time did I or any of us have hallucinations that what we were saying was true," said Schwable.

He said he made the "confession" because "I was positively convinced I would never leave unless I did confess. I was declared a war criminal in a formal tribunal on the day we left camp near the Yalu, Sept. 3."

"Had to Confess"

Schwable said that Col. Andrew J. Evans Jr., of Montgomery, Ala., former deputy commander of the 58th Fighter-Bomber Wing, and Col. Walker M. Harrin of Fort Wayne, Ind., famed World War II ace, who were forced to "confess" to germ warfare were also convinced that "we would be there forever if we had not confessed."

Bleys agreed with him? The air-men accused of biological warfare were among the repatriated prisoners who returned home aboard the transport Gen. R. L. Howze. It was the last shipload of liberated POWs from Korea.

# Anti-Picketing Suit Argued in Grants Pass

GRANTS PASS (AP) — The testimony of two union representatives occupied most of the second day of a state labor examiner's hearing on a complaint that a Grants Pass restaurant was picketed to force its employees to join a union.

The case is the first test of the new law passed by the last Legislature which bans organizational picketing.

Gertrude Sweet, Portland, vice president of the Restaurant and Hotel Employees and Bartenders International, testified she attended a meeting here to assist in contract negotiations between Local 329 and Grants Pass restaurants, but denied issuing instructions to officers of the union to picket the Cave Shop.

A meticulously clean, well-groomed man, Schwable related that the Reds "play on every sense you have. You yallow in the mud. You don't shave for months. Your hair is matted. You yallow in filth."

"You are utterly exhausted physically and mentally. You conceive of your situation as absolutely hopeless."

Continuous Writing

"You are exhausted by continuous writing about things that don't matter. It's part of the process to wear you down."

"They had me writing continuously one time for three weeks—from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. There were questions to wear me out, to keep me writing."

The questioning was alternated with long periods of solitary confinement.

"For weeks and weeks we just sat in a little place—mine was 3 feet by 7 feet and Bley's was even smaller," Schwable said.

"We just sat and sat and sat."

After his "confession" was signed, Schwable said they gave him a comb as a reward.

"I combed my hair for the first time in eight months," he recalled.

Bley said he was given a bath after his confession was signed.

# Salem Man Arrested in Slaying Case

KANSAS CITY (AP) — A 32-year-old Salem, Ore., man wanted by Denver police for questioning in the slaying of a woman was arrested here Wednesday and waived extradition after denying any connection with the case.

He was booked as John Henry Baney. He was picked up as he was about to enter a car bearing Oregon license plates.

(Neither Salem city nor telephone directories listed a John Henry Baney and records of city, county and state police Wednesday showed no record of a man by this name.)

At Denver, police reported Mrs. Dorothy H. Gall, 31, died in a hospital Sunday after telling officers she had been beaten and raped by a man she met at a downtown tavern Saturday night.

A coroner's jury ruled Tuesday that her death was caused by a brain swelling "resulting from a beating, raping and strangulation."

Mrs. Gall, who said she was married 13 years ago but separated from her husband shortly afterward, told officers the man offered to drive her to her rooming house. Instead, he drove to a spot southwest of Denver and after "a terrible fight," she was forced to submit.

Detectives learned that a man registered as John H. Baney had stayed at a Denver hotel from Friday through Monday.

# Lower Dam On John Day Wins Support

ARLINGTON, Ore. (AP) — Strong support was voiced here Wednesday for the proposed John Day Dam with a 255-foot level reservoir downstream from McNary Dam on the Columbia River.

But no backing was expressed for the dam with the 232-foot reservoir proposed by Army Engineers to provide more storage for spring floodwaters.

Only opposition to any John Day dam came from the Oregon Game and Fish Commissions and the Yakima Indian Confederation, who said it would damage fish.

Representatives of Washington and Oregon cities and counties, port districts, public utility districts and civic groups testified in favor of the dam with the lower reservoir at a hearing conducted by Col. T. H. Lipscomb, the Portland District Army Engineer.

The Higher project would cost some 460 million dollars compared with 393 millions estimated for the lower one. It would at capacity flood all or parts of the towns of Umatilla. Boardman, Arlington and Irrigon in Oregon and Plymouth, Paterson, Roosevelt and Alderdale in Washington.

Chester Sterrett of the Portland Chamber of Commerce said the chamber favored the lower project. The \$3 million dollars it would save could well be spent on levee protection for the lower Columbia and more upriver water storage, he said.

The Union of South Africa has three capitals: Pretoria for the executive department, Cape Town for the legislature and Bloemfontein for the national judiciary.

# Pen Escapee Still Missing

State police and penitentiary officials were still looking Wednesday for Doyle Sidney Wright, 40, the elusive convict bean-pickler, who chose to break for freedom last Friday rather than complete his three-year sentence.

Wright secreted himself in a bean yard near the penitentiary annex east of Salem while on work crew Friday morning. His escape was the object of intensive search and radio warnings to motorists to beware of hitch-hikers.

The prisoner had been serving a term for robbery.

# Try to Burn Iranian War Planes Fails

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Four officers of Iran's Red-tinged air force tried to burn four hangars filled with fighter planes at the Gahleh Morghi Airport Tuesday night, but were foiled by the sentries, Tehran newspapers said Wednesday.

The officers set fires in each corner of the hangars, the newspapers said, but were detected before the flames spread and were forced by gunfire of the sentries to flee.

The air force long has been a hot bed of Communism, outlawed though the party is supposed to be. Government sources have charged that the Communists plan an armed uprising the moment Premier Gen. Fazollah Zahedi eases the army's grip on the capital.

# Eisenhower Backs Drive to Aid Handicapped

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower gave double-barreled support Wednesday to programs to rehabilitate the physically handicapped.

Speaking briefly at a meeting of the President's Committee on Employment of the Physically Handicapped, the President said no military man could escape deep concern over the plight of those disabled in war.

Eisenhower said that of all the various committees operating under the President's name, none "engages the interests of my heart more than this one."

Only one-fifth of the cotton acreage in the southern United States is mechanically harvested.

# Professor Fired For Refusal to Answer Solons

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Temple University's Board of Trustees Wednesday fired Dr. Barrows Dunham, head of the school's philosophy department because "he acted in clear contempt" of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Dr. Robert L. Johnson, Temple president, had suspended Dunham March 1 following the professor's refusal to answer all but routine questions when he appeared before the House group Feb. 27.

# Ike Regime Due To Cut Staff by Another 100,000

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chairman Philip Young of the Civil Service Commission said Tuesday night the Eisenhower administration expects to drop another 100,000 workers from the federal payroll by next June 30.

This would make a total reduction of about 188,000 since the Republicans took office last Jan. 20.

Young emphasized, however, that more than half of the forthcoming reductions will be written off in normal turnover procedures — by not filling vacancies, retirements and other types of separation that occur regularly.

# Army Releasing 40 Progressives, Paper Claims

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Washington Post said Wednesday night the Army is honorably discharging some 40 former American prisoners of war who allegedly collaborated with their Communist captors in Korea.

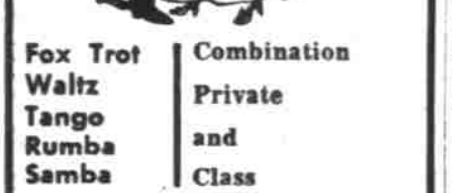
However, the Post added, Army legal officers are reviewing evidence against them and if any of this evidence "warrants trial of any of them for treason or other crimes, they will have to face justice."

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# Fire Chief Asks Furnace Check

The possibility of faulty heating plants in Salem homes prompted a warning Wednesday by Fire Chief Ellsworth Smith that these plants should be thoroughly cleaned.

"We expect an increase in alarms with the advent of cold weather, mostly due to faulty heating equipment," the chief explained. Especially in need of checking are pot-type oil furnaces or stoves which are susceptible to a combustion-type fire if clogged, Smith said.

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# IKE AIDE RESIGNS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Emmet J. Hughes, President Eisenhower's chief speech writer, resigned Wednesday to rejoin the editorial staff of Life magazine.

The 32-year-old Hughes gave "compelling personal reasons" as the cause of his leaving his \$15,000-a-year White House post of administrative assistant to the President.

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