

Red's Highway Tax On Route to Berlin Termed Blackmail

WASHINGTON (U)—American officials said Thursday night the Western allies will not be blackmailed into paying stiff highway taxes to the Communists to keep vital goods flowing into Berlin.

The West Berlin city authorities already have advanced one million marks (\$250,000) in subsidies to help truckers to meet new highway taxes imposed by the Communists. These authorities called the Communist move a form of retaliation for West German ratification of rearmament.

State Department officials said the allied high commissioners are in session at Berlin. They said the money advanced by the West Berlin authorities is simply a "palliative until a decision is reached on what to do."

At any rate, these officials said, the allied consultation is aimed at finding "other measures than paying the price."

Increasing subsidies to the German truckers, who would then be forced to pay higher taxes to the Communists, they said, and the United States would not approve of that.

The highway to Berlin from Western Germany runs 100 miles through the Soviet zone of the country. The East German Communists said higher taxes were needed to keep the highway in repair.

Officials said trucks carry 40 per cent of goods shipped into Berlin and 70 per cent of the goods shipped out.

That means about half of the total flow of traffic involving Berlin must go by truck. Rail, Water and air routes are still open.

Effective Friday, the taxes will be boosted as high as 220 marks (\$52.38) for a round trip on the 100 miles of highway through the Soviet Zone.

Traffic was snarled at both ends of the Soviet Zone super highway linking Berlin with West Germany Thursday night as truckers tried to beat Friday's deadline when the new tax becomes effective.

The East German control ma-

The Asks Cut In A-Budget

WASHINGTON (U)—A \$75,000,000 cut in the Atomic Energy Commission's operating budget for the fiscal year starting July 1 was recommended by President Eisenhower Thursday.

The White House said the reduction "does not mean a decrease in the scope of activities," but is made possible by savings in operating expenses and somewhat lower construction costs.

Eisenhower asked Congress to provide \$1,045,000,000 for the agency instead of the \$1,120,000,000 originally requested.

This is a cut of about 6 1/2 per cent.

Wreck Near Halsey Fatal

ALBANY, Ore. (U)—An elderly woman was injured fatally and her brother hurt critically when their car left the Pacific Highway and crashed into a telephone pole Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Corinne Barber, about 70, Portland, died in a hospital here about two hours after the crash.

The accident occurred on a wide curve miles south of Halsey. Mrs. Barber, who was driving, was hurled 100 feet into a ditch. She was returning to Portland from her winter home at Laguna Beach, Calif.

Col. McCormick Said 'Critical'

CHICAGO (U)—The condition of Col. Robert R. McCormick, editor and publisher of The Chicago Tribune, is "critical" and he is growing weaker, it was reported Thursday night.

The publisher's physician, Dr. Theodore R. van Dallen, reported at 6:30 p. m. the colonel was weaker than Thursday morning and continued to slip into frequent comas.

Col. McCormick, 74, who has had two spells of illness and an operation in the last two years, is at his home near suburban Wheaton.

19 U. S. Rubber Plants Struck

NEW YORK (U)—A spokesman for the U. S. Rubber Co. said early Friday the company's 19 plants were struck by CIO United Rubber Workers at midnight.

The company and the union had been negotiating here for a new contract. The old one expired at midnight.

Wages were not an issue in the contract talks, covering some 33,000 U. S. Rubber workers.

HOLLYWOOD
PHONE 3-6058
Open 6:45
Judy Garland
in
'A Star Is Born'
Cinemascope—Technicolor
—ADDED ATTRACTION—
"Valley of the Sun"

Hearings on Hells Canyon Start Monday

WASHINGTON (U)—Nine or 10 members of Congress plan to attend hearings in the Pacific Northwest next week on legislation to authorize the federal Hells Canyon dam.

The Senate reclamation subcommittee will hold hearings Monday morning in Boise, Idaho; Monday afternoon in Lewiston, Idaho; Tuesday at Pasco, Wash.; and Wednesday at Portland, Ore.

The site for the proposed federal project is in the Snake River between Idaho and Oregon, where Idaho Power Co. is seeking federal power commission authority to construct three smaller power dams.

A committee staff member said Sen. Murray (D-Mont.), interior committee chairman, will preside at the Idaho and Washington hearings and Sen. Neuberger (D-Ore.) will preside at Portland, Sen. Anderson (D-NM.), subcommittee chairman who had planned to direct the hearings will not attend.

Senators planning to participate in the hearings, besides Murray and Neuberger, are Morse (D-Ore.) who introduced the Hells Canyon bill, Watkins (R-Utah), Dworshak (R-Idaho) and Barrett (R-Wyo.).

Three or four members of the House Interior Committee are expected to sit in on the hearings. Three members who sponsored Hells Canyon bills in the House plan definitely to attend one or more hearings.

They are Rep. Poff (D-Idaho), Rep. Green (D-Ore.) and Rep. Metcalf (D-Mont.). Rep. Sisk (D-Calif.) may also make the trip.

Airman Empties Jet Fuel Trucks; Planes Grounded

NELLIS AFB, Nev. (UP)—A young airman responsible for the grounding of 300 planes at this jet fighter base was held for mental observation Thursday after confessing he emptied 24 jet fuel trucks because of "an uncontrollable urge to destroy."

The Air Force said Airman 3C James E. Igoe, Brewer, Maine, confessed after an officer smelled jet fuel on his clothing. Igoe insisted he was a "loyal citizen" and did not deliberately sabotage the fuel.

Some 11,000 gallons of fuel were emptied from the trucks Wednesday and base officers ordered all planes grounded pending tests on fuel in 45 other trucks. The base is the closest Air Force Field to the Yucca Flat Atomic Proving Grounds.

CCC Takes Over Northwest Wheat

SPOKANE (U)—An estimated 90 million bushels of the 1954 wheat crop now in storage in Washington, Oregon and Idaho has been taken over by the Commodity Credit Corp.

About 32 1/2 million bushels of Pacific Northwest barley and oats will apparently revert to the government agency April 30, the Pacific Northwest Grain Dealers Assn. announced Thursday.

Wednesday was the deadline for redemption of wheat loans.

Half the housewives who live in cities can fruits or vegetables in their own homes.

ST. HELENS (U)—A strike of 450 AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers at two St. Helens insulating material plants is expected Friday.

Union officials indicated they would strike at the Firtex Insulating Board Co. and the Western Insulating Co. Friday morning because of failure to reach a new contract.

The companies were reported to have offered a 7 1/2-cent hourly pay boost, but negotiators indicated other matters brought a deadlock.

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Religious Army Deserts Rebels In Indochina

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (U)—The Cao Dai religious army and its commander deserted the anti-government coalition Thursday and rallied to embattled Premier Ngo Dinh Diem.

The defection of Gen. Nguyen Thanh Phuong and his troops was a complete surprise to the "United Front of Nationalist Forces," which seeks to overthrow Diem, a Nationalist himself.

It left the private armies of the Binh Xuyen Society and the Hoa Hao religious sect alone in the front. But it did not lessen the danger of a revival of the brief revolt which cost 25 lives Wednesday.

No one could say what Gen. Le Van Vien, the Binh Xuyen commander, might do. Stung by the Cao Dai move, he could decide to stake everything on a military showdown in the front's quest for additional power in the government.

The three groups have shared eight seats in the Cabinet. Gen. Paul Ely, French commissioner general for Indochina, sought in a series of talks to hammer the precarious truce he arranged Wednesday night into something more permanent. At showdown he was able to report some progress, but neither side committed itself irrevocably to keep fingers off the triggers.

Most observers agreed the American - supported Premier staged a coup in getting the Cao Dai over to his side.

4 Reservoirs Lowered for Coulee Supply

SEATTLE (U)—Four big reservoirs are being lowered to keep a supply of water back of Grand Coulee Dam as subnormal snows and cold weather cut stream flow drastically.

Bonneville Power Administration reported Thursday it was operating on a "critical stream flow basis."

The Pacific Northwest Power Pool decided to draft all reservoirs and Marshall Blair of the Washington Water Power Co. said the Long Lake, Flathead, Coeur d'Alene and Pend Oreille reservoirs were "almost empty."

The Post-Intelligencer said aluminum producers and other industrial users who buy power on an interruptible basis were restricted this week to 25 per cent of their normal hydroelectric supply. Most managed to maintain normal operations by purchasing steam-generated power, the paper said.

A recent check showed only about 80 per cent of the normal snow cover in the mountains, although there has been quite heavy precipitation since that time.

A break in the cold weather could refill the reservoirs. Normally the spring runoff comes around mid-April. Bonneville officials said temporary relief came on the coast this week with warmer temperatures and rain, but a return of cool weather was forecast.

A Puget Sound Power and Light Co. official said snows on the company's watersheds were only 70 per cent of normal at the end of February. Present indications, however, are for a 91 per cent coverage for the season, he added.

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At The Theaters Today

ELSMORE
"HIT THE DECK" with Jane Powell and Tony Martin.
"JAMBOREE" starring \$5,000 Boy Scouts.

CAPITOL
"WHITE FEATHER" with Robert Wagner and Debra Paget.
"THE BOB MATHIAS STORY" with Bob Mathias.

GRAND
"TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT" with David Niven and Yvonne DeCarlo.
"LOOPHOLE" with Barry Sullivan.

NORTH SALEM DRIVE IN
"THE VIOLENT MEN" with Glenn Ford and Barbara Stanwyck.
"JUST FOR YOU" with Bing Crosby and Jane Wyman.

Sailor Defends Sitter Accused In Tot's Death

EPHRATA, Wash. (U)—"She's wonderful—the greatest girl I've ever met," a San Francisco sailor said Thursday after a jail visit with this red-haired sweetheart, a former baby sitter accused of murdering a child last summer.

"I love her very much," said William F. Heffelmire, 24, after a two and a half hour talk with Charlotte Brewer, 30.

Miss Brewer was working in a San Francisco insurance office under the name of Kathleen Carnahan when arrested recently on a charge of first degree murder for the death of 21-month-old Deena Starzman at Grand Coulee, Wash., Aug. 7.

The girl had been found face down in a puddle on the lawn, apparently drowned. Suspicions of the child's maternal grandmother led to a reopening of the case. An examination showed the girl had died from a blow on the head.

Heffelmire, a large blond man, said he and the accused woman plan to be married "when this is all over."

He is spending a 25-day leave in Ephrata, where trial is scheduled for April 18th.

A number of other people, including the victim's parents, the grandmother, relatives and former employers, have proclaimed their faith in the suspect.

Her brother, William H. Brewer, 28, Nampa, Idaho, termed his sister "radiant" after a visit earlier Thursday. He said she had faith in God and a belief that American justice would not permit the conviction of an innocent person.

He said his sister's change of name and stories of studying at Purdue and being in an Irish convent for 10 years were easily explained.

"Charlotte just never did grow up," Brewer said. "She always led a sheltered life. She had everything when she was a child."

Two Salem Men Arrested After Car Theft Report

Two Salem men were apprehended Thursday by city police six minutes after a stolen car report was broadcast.

Police identified them as Kenneth L. Plenge, 44, 160 Union St., and William W. Clark, 42, 685 Court St. They were held in city jail.

The 1937 Chevrolet was reported stolen at 5 p. m. by Ernest R. May, 1354 Holgate St., who said it had been parked in the 100 block of Chemeketa Street.

The all-car alert was broadcast at 5:17 and the pair was picked up by the downtown patrol at 5:23 in the 200 block of Court Street.

595 Answer Call Of Billy Graham

GLASGOW, Scotland (U)—A total of 595 persons made their "decisions for Christ" Thursday night at American evangelist Billy Graham's all-Scotland crusade.

The number exceeded by more than 100 the previous high during Graham's services here. An audience of 16,000 packed Kelvin Hall, to hear him.

Izaak Walton Soil System 'Has Merit'

CHICAGO (U)—Two farm experts agreed Thursday the Izaak Walton League's soil plan has merit.

The plan is designed to eventually supplant farm price supports. In essence, it would provide for a system under which a farmer would retire certain marginal lands from production and lease them to the government. Some 70 million acres would be taken from cultivation.

The experts discussed pros and cons of the plan at the league's 33rd annual convention.

Gus F. Geissler of Denver, representing the National Farmers Union, commented that "I like the basic plan and our objectives" but that he differed with the league on the supposition that it would erase price supports.

The reason is that farm output cannot be tailored as can industrial production, he said. "There are too many variables to consider, and to overcome these some food and fiber reserves must be carried over from one year to the next."

Geissler also said that the reserves built up through the price support programs "are an extremely important national defense factor."

But he said that he was in sympathy with the soil plan and commented that "We in the National Farmers Union are now supporting legislation with similar objectives."

W. E. Hamilton, research director for the American Farm Bureau Federation, said the plan appeared to be "sound practicable and workable" but there might be some objections to its costs.

George L. Hockenjos, Springfield, Ill., businessman and farmer who is credited with pioneering the plan, estimated that the farmer who cooperated would receive an average of \$7.50 a year for each marginal acre retired.

Employment Rise Expected

WASHINGTON (U)—A moderate rise in employment is expected throughout most of the nation this spring, the Labor Department said Thursday.

A survey of employers' hiring plans shows that job gains are expected through mid-May in all but 16 of the country's 149 major industrial centers, the department said.

Improved factory employment, especially in the auto and steel industries, was found to have reduced labor surpluses in most of these cities since Jan. 1.

"Slight to moderate" gains in employment were reported in other durable goods, including farm machinery, furniture, aircraft, electrical machinery and such household appliances as refrigerators, washers and home coolers.

North Salem Drive-In Theatre

Gates Open 6:45
Show At 7 P. M.

Now Playing
Two Technicolor Hits
In Cinemascope
GLENN FORD
BARBARA STANWYCK
—in—
"The Violent Men"

—also—
Bing Crosby
Jane Wyman
—in—
"Just for You"

—also—
"Kartoonascope"

4 Cartoons in Cinemascope

Now Playing!
FIRST TIME IN SALEM!

DAVID YVONNE BARRY
NIVEN - DE CARLO - FITZGERALD

TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT
TECHNICOLOR

—2ND HIT—
THE BOB MATHIAS STORY

GRAND
Now Playing!
FIRST TIME IN SALEM!

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WU Students To Clean Up Graveyard

Willamette University freshmen Thursday decided to clean up Pioneer Cemetery by Decorating Day as a community project for the benefit of Salem.

Their cleaning up of this former IOOF cemetery was one of several projects suggested to Mayor Robert F. White and City Manager J. L. Franzen at a meeting a week ago Wednesday. The city officials indicated most favor toward the cemetery project, so that's the one chosen at a later student meeting.

Spokesmen for the 277-member class were Wayne Carr, Salem, class president; Tom Gail, Medford, vice-president; Diana Wickstrom, Menlo Park, Calif. They met with the city officials.

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