

Charges of Military Uniform Graft Start New Senate Probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate investigators said Sunday they are exploring new charges that "intricate" graft deals marked the awarding of contracts for millions of dollars' worth of military uniforms.

VA Medical Abuses Told By Probers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal investigators Sunday reported hundreds of "abuses" of the veterans medical program by both doctors and veterans throughout the country.

Among doctors getting Veterans Administration (VA) payments, mainly dentists, numerous cases were listed of charges made for work not done for veterans.

Among veterans, one was found with a net worth of half a million dollars who got free VA hospital care after stating he could not afford to pay.

Findings of the dual investigation were made public by the House Veterans Affairs Committee headed by Rep. Olin E. Teague (D-Tex.).

Teague said "abuses" by dentists and physicians "varied from minor administrative failures to serious false claims," but "certainly do not provide the basis for generalization that there is substantial dishonesty among the medical profession."

Rather, Teague said, the inquiry shows that "in any large program, involving many thousands of individuals, a certain amount of carelessness, misunderstanding and, in a few cases, outright dishonesty, will creep in."

Similarly, the committee chairman said the study of veterans treated for non-service-connected sickness demonstrates that the "vast majority" of veterans are not abusing their right to free treatment if they cannot pay their own way.

The twin reports did not include a compilation of the ratio of "abuses" to the size of the overall program. Cases cited were only a small fraction of the total reported.

GAO Probe
The investigation of veterans getting free hospital treatment was conducted by the General Accounting Office (GAO) beginning in March, 1955. It dealt mainly with 1,100 cases—the last 100 non-service-connected veterans to be admitted at each of 11 VA hospitals following the start of the study.

Of the 1,100 cases, net worth could not be determined in 150. Of the remaining 950, 774 had net worth of less than \$5,000 while 176, or 18 per cent of the 1,100, had net worth ranging from \$5,000 to \$80,000.

In another investigation of 852 veterans hospitalized free for non-service-connected disability, the GAO reported an instance where a retired construction engineer had a net worth of \$507,670 and an annual income of \$17,500.

To get free hospital treatment for sickness not caused by service duty, a veteran is supposed to sign a form saying he is unable to pay. The VA must by law ac-

cept the veteran's own estimate of his financial standing.

The GAO listed eight other cases where it figured the veteran's net worth at from \$109,734 to \$136,232.

When she left her sons, Bobby, 4, and Dickie, 6, and their friend, Tommy Bojin, 5, all three were playing with blocks of scrap wood.

Later they switched to picking up handfuls of assorted nails and listening to the fascinating sound they made scattering over the floor.

"Have you any idea how many nails make up 300 pounds?" Mrs. Jacobs asked, stooping down to pick them up.

Mother Learns Quantity of 300 Pounds of Nails

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP) — Mrs. Winifred Jacobs discovered Saturday the mistake of allowing three small boys to play near a house under construction down the block.

Rifle Discharges In House Blaze, Man Wounded

EUGENE (AP) — Arnold Grove, 41, of Dixon, suffered a minor wound in the leg Saturday when a rifle discharged in a burning house.

He was sitting in his trailer home when a fire broke out in the cabin of Mr. and Mrs. Hoover Rhodes about 100 feet away. The fire heated the gun, causing it to fire. The bullet crashed through the walls of the cabin and the trailer and hit Grove in the leg.

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Waikiki Lions Club Honors Salem Man



HONOLULU, T. H.—Art Martin (right), second vice president of the Salem, Ore., Lions Club, was made an honorary member of the Waikiki Club during a recent visit here. He is shown receiving the "Calabash Cousin" card from Shigeru Chye, the Waikiki club's president.

New Mexico Man in Coma Since 1951

DEMING, N. M. (AP) — Jimmy Smith, 20, this week begins his fifth year of complete unconsciousness.

Smith has been in a deep coma since an auto accident totally destroyed the cerebral cortex of his brain in 1951. He has been unable to see or move from the time of the accident, and doctors say he is completely unaware of anything.

His case, called one of the strangest in medical history, has attracted nationwide interest. Brain specialists have said there is no possible cure for him. He will not get any closer to life than he is at present, doctors say.

He has been kept in a state of suspended life by his brain stem, the automatic part of the organ. Food and water are fed to him through a nasal tube as he lies in a deep sleep at a Deming hospital.

Nebraska Bank Robbed; Omaha Man Charged

DECATUR, Neb. (AP) — A federal bank robbery charge was filed Saturday night against a 30-year-old Omaha man flushed from a thicket by officers seeking the gunman who robbed the Citizens State Bank of Decatur of \$6,800 a few hours earlier.

The FBI said the man charged in a complaint filed with the U. S. commissioner in Omaha was Clifford Harold Davis. Federal agents said Davis carried a pillowcase stuffed with money and two pistols in a paper sack when he was taken in a wooded area near Decatur.

Lost Blood Hound, Walking Homing Pigeon Make Light Spots in Papers During Week

By JOY MILLER

NEW YORK (AP) — After a homing pigeon walked home, a blood-hound got lost and a husband demanded his wife pay rent to him, the concept of home as a place to hang your hat took on a new dimension last week.

But first, to launch the homey discussion, a story of a little girl who was found wandering along the streets of Baltimore's honkey-tonk area and taken to a police station by a friendly cop. There similarity to other such tales ends. No ice cream cones and lollipops and Mother Goose. This little girl was a 25-year-old stenographer clad only in a string of pearls and a pair of shoes. And her comment about police solicitude:

"Every time I try to have a little fun I get into trouble."

About that homing pigeon. A Vista, Calif., boy traded him for a parakeet. The new owner clipped his wings so he couldn't

fly until he adjusted. Three days later the pigeon turned up at his former home, footsore and bedraggled from the three-mile hike.

In Baton Rouge, La., one of the sheriff's bloodhounds got lost while he was tracking down a robbery suspect. Anyone finding "Red" was asked to call the sheriff's office. The suspect was missing too. Collusion between

PERON OUT OF ARMY
BUENOS AIRES (AP) — The revolutionary leaders who kicked Pres. Juan D. Peron out of office last September got around last week to booting him out of the Argentine army. He previously had been stripped of his general rank and uniform. He lives in exile in Panama.

man and beast—or collision? A bride of six months left her husband, she told the Paterson, N.J., superior court, because he told her to pay rent to him and to pay for their wedding photo album to boot. After all, she worked, he reasoned. She asked separate maintenance—and the rent paid to a real landlord.

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