



AFTER WHITE HOUSE SESSION — Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wis) grins as he leaves the White House after discussing the issue of subversives in government and elsewhere with President Eisenhower and top Republican legislative leaders.

Hostage Says Convicts Treated Her Courteously

The following story was told by one of two women taken as hostages on a night-long escape flight by five Southern Michigan Prison inmates.

By MARY LOU WATTS
As Told to Ed Smith, of The Jackson Citizen-Patriot

JACKSON, Mich. (AP)—It was a little after 9 p.m., Saturday when these men barged right into our house. One of them held a gun and the others had knives.

They told us no one would be hurt and then proceeded to ransack the house.

All we could do was sit there. My husband, (Joseph Watts), Helen (Miss Helen Gilbert), Don (Don Peck), Mary (Mary Bobe, 14, a baby sitter) and I couldn't believe it.

They took three of Joe's suits, three pairs of his shoes, even the ones he was wearing, and one of his shirts. Don's Cadillac was parked outside, full of gas. It was just like an invitation for them.

We were scared. Little Mary was terrified and began to cry when the men got ready to leave and said they were taking her as a hostage. We begged them not to take her and they changed their minds.

They ordered Helen and me into the car.

Before we left, though, they asked my husband the way to Indiana.

They promised that we wouldn't be hurt. Then they tied the others after collecting about \$30 from all of us. But they left one dollar with my husband.

Then we named Dowling (Robert Dowling) was driving. I sat in front with him and another man. Helen was in the back seat with the other three.

We headed south on M60 at about 70 or 80 miles an hour.

We ran into the first roadblock about 15 miles from home but they saw it in time and backtracked to the first side road. Then Helen and I really were scared.

We were in constant fear—not of the convicts—but we were afraid a state police car might come along and open fire. Then, too, we thought we might get in trouble for helping them escape because we were sort of giving them directions when they asked us.

From then on it was just one set of back roads after another. We finally ran out of gas near Climax (southwest of Battle Creek). There was a filling station open and we pulled in.

"You'll be okay if you don't make a sound," they told us, and we kept quiet.

A state police car passed as we pulled away from the gas station but they didn't notice us. Then it was more backroads until we drove almost to Flint and then headed for Detroit—always on the side roads.

It was funny. All of them except the one called Usiondek (Roman Usiondek) were almost kind. One time I sort of bowed my head trying to stay awake and one of the convicts asked if I was sick.

Once they talked about the break and one of them said he felt like turning himself in after they were outside. He said

there were too many to be successful.

Whenever they wanted to talk about their plans, though, they stopped the car and talked outside. Once we skidded into a ditch because there was ice on the road. Then Usiondek went wild, screaming about Dowling's driving and waving a gun. It seemed as if they all were afraid of him.

We reached Detroit about 6:20 a.m. Neither Helen nor I know much about it but we stopped at Wyoming and Joy Roads on the northwest side of the city. There was a consultation and two of them got out.

Then the other three left, but not before they gave us two dollars to use for food and phone calls. They told us not to turn in an alarm for a least 15 minutes.

We started to drive away but ran out of gas. There was a filling station open and we went in to call. We called the State Police and then called home to let them know we were safe.

We hadn't eaten since Saturday afternoon. Even though the convicts offered to stop and get us hamburgers and coffee during the ride—we were too nervous and keyed up to think of food.

Neither one of us slept, either, although one of the men in the back slept on the floor for a while.

When the Detroit police found us, we both thought it hard to believe we were still alive.

All I want to do now is sleep.

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Leburg Youth Held On Larceny Charge

Ross Stanley Phibbs, 19, of Leburg, entered a plea of guilty Monday in Circuit Court to a charge of larceny from an auto.

He is being held under \$1,500 bail and will be sentenced Tuesday. He is accused of taking about \$40 from a parked car.

Also in Circuit Court, John Harbaugh, 29, Roseburg, was arraigned on a charge of taking and using an automobile without the owner's permission. He will enter his plea to the charge Tuesday.

Anti-Depression Program Drafted

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower will forecast continued prosperity in 1954 when he sends his annual economic message to Congress in January, his aides say.

But they also expect him to outline the defense his administration plans to throw up against any possible recession.

The President's Council of Economic Advisors has been working up a stabilization program since last spring.

It calls for four main anti-depression steps ranging from federal action to encourage maintenance of high production and employment to a federal public works program that would be called into play only in a dire emergency.

If the public works project is needed, officials say, only those that would contribute to the country's long-range productivity and economic growth would be built.

Morse Seeks Code

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Morse (Ind-Ore) says congressional investigations should not be halted but they ought to be bound by stricter rules.

"The real abuse is the abuse of procedure," he told a Radio-TV questioner Sunday night. He said that is why he's sponsoring a bill to set up a mandatory code for investigating committees.

The phases in the anti-depression program:

- Strengthening of some of the "built-in stabilizers" against deflation: Social security extension, broader unemployment compensation coverage, increase in the minimum wage from 75 cents an hour. Some immediate action is anticipated in this field. Continued high farm price supports also might come under this heading, if Eisenhower and Secretary of Agriculture Benson adopt that policy.

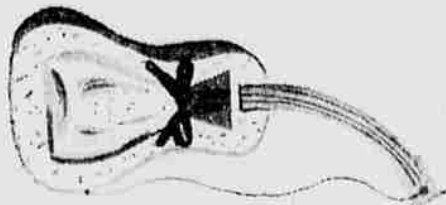
- Measures to give consumers and business firms spending incentives: Lowering of interest rates, encouraging business investment by federal reserve and treasury moves affecting bank reserves and national debt management.

- Tax adjustment: An overhaul of the federal tax structure already is underway with stress on removing obstacles to business investment and consumer purchasing. Administration officials made it plain budget balancing would have to step aside if it looks as though tax reduction and deficit spending would be needed to prevent economic collapse.

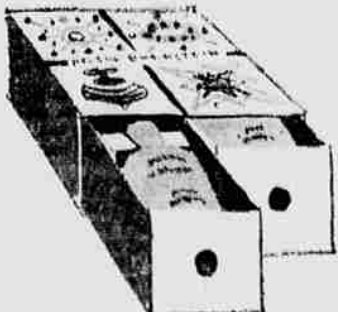
- Public works: Private industry as well as state and local governments would get federal loans, tax concessions and other indirect aids in financing needed projects to avoid direct federal spending wherever possible.

A Very Merry Christmas Remembrance

by Helena Rubinstein



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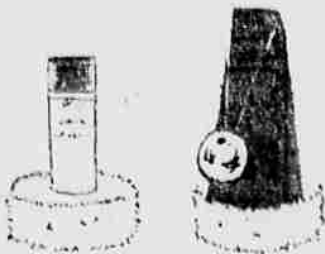
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