

Booby Trap Bomb Death A Mystery

Texas Rangers Query Executive

SAN ANGELO, Tex. (AP)—Deepening mystery Thursday veiled the booby trap bomb death of attractive Mrs. Harry E. Weaver, wealthy wife of a prominent architect and geologist.

Mrs. Weaver, 52, was killed Wednesday about 8:30 a.m. as she set out for a local hospital to visit her ailing mother.

A Houston businessman, questioned following officers' long conferences with Weaver, was accompanied to the Harris County Court House by Texas Rangers and sheriff's deputies and his two small children.

Officers would not answer questions either about the man's identity or any other development in their hunt for the person or persons who planted the nitroglycerine bomb in one of the Weaver automobiles.

Tom Green County Dist. Atty. Aubrey Stokes said no arrest warrants had been issued. He refused to comment about possible suspects but did say he was working with information furnished by Weaver and other members of the family.

WHERE REDS MAY BLAST OUT NEW SEA—Shaded area is a rough approximation of the area where, according to reports from Western diplomats, the Russians may be planning to use nuclear explosions to blast out a new Central Asian sea. Such a sea would make winters and summers milder in Siberia and provide needed irrigation. Russian scientists have revealed that they hope to be able to reverse the northward flow of the Ob and Yenisei rivers to provide water for the new sea basin. The Aral sea would be the basin for the project which would include area between Kirghiz steppe and Kazak mountains toward city of Tobolsk, according to reports.

Principal Points of President's Economic Letter to Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—Textual highlights of President Eisenhower's letter transmitting his annual economic report to Congress Thursday:

Economic well-being sustains our whole national life. A high and rising standard of living brings to more of our people the opportunity for continued intellectual and spiritual growth.

The need of our times is for economic policies that, in the

first place, recognize the proven sources of sustained economic growth and betterment, and in the second place, respect the need of people for a sense of security as well as opportunity in our complex, industrialized society.

Wise management of the national household, our country can within a decade increase its production from the current and annual level of about \$90 billion

dollars to 500 billions, or more, expressed in dollars of the same buying power.

The year 1954 was one of transition from contraction to recovery. . . . The contraction was relatively mild and brief, because of a variety of timely public and private actions.

Although manufacturing production fluctuated, total output was fairly stable, and disposable personal income reached record levels.

JOBLESS PROBLEM Some industries and localities suffered from serious unemployment. The fortunes of most of them turned for the better when recovery got under way in the early autumn, and they will benefit from further general economic expansion.

Instead of expanding federal enterprises or initiating new spending programs, the basic policy of the government in dealing with the contraction was to take actions that created confidence in the future and stimulated business firms, consumers, and states and localities to increase their expenditures.

The vigor of the recent recovery . . . holds out the promise that we shall achieve a high and satisfactory level of employment and production within the current year.

ECONOMIC GROWTH It is essential to keep a close watch on financial developments; continued economic recovery must not be jeopardized by over-emphasis of speculative activity.

The wise course for government in 1955 is to direct its program principally toward fostering long-term economic growth rather than toward imparting an immediate upward thrust to economic activity.

Our nation's recent history teaches that a foresighted government can do much to help keep the economy stable, but experience affords no good basis for a belief that the government can entirely prevent fluctuations.



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Costa Rican Fracas Threatens to Widen

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)—The five-nation investigation commission of the Organization of American States, recognizing the threat of a war between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, asked both sides to agree to establishment of a demilitarized buffer zone along the border, effective at noon Thursday.

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)—Costa Rica's rebellion threatened to widen Thursday.

Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza charged his neighbor's new U.S.-purchased fighters had violated the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan frontier, and he said four of his own fighters would patrol the border to meet any further trespassers.

In a message to the inter-American investigation commission here, Somoza charged two of the Costa Rican pilots had veered there F51 Mustangs over the frontier while strafing La Cruz, seven miles from the border. It was the pilots' first mission with the planes, which arrived in San Jose Monday.

LONG-TIME ENEMY The Nicaraguan president, a long-time enemy of Costa Rican President Jose Figueres, told a news conference in Managua Wednesday night that the situation could become "an international conflict."

The protest to the commission, sent here by the 21-nation Organi-

zation of American States, said the Costa Rican planes had created a "very tense" situation. The note said Nicaragua also was reinforcing its border garrisons.

Figueres, meanwhile, predicted Thursday would see the decisive stage in his government's fight against the rebels in northwest Costa Rica.

Reports from the fighting front indicated the loyalists—supported by aerial bombing from a converted airliner—were trying to out-flank the rebels and cut them off from the border over which Figueres charges they came.

A TIGHT POCKET These reports said government troops continued Wednesday to push the rebels into a tight pocket near the Nicaraguan border. More skirmishing, which broke off at night-fall, again was reported in the area of Santa Rosa plantation, 20 miles from the border.

The general staff said the rebels were making "preparatory movements." Although the skirmishes were referred to as big battles in the local press, observers said they actually were more like guerrilla clashes with few casualties on either side. The crew of the converted airliner has been aiding the loyalists' ground drive by dropping oxygen tanks filled with explosives. In the fighter attack on La Cruz, the Costa Ricans reportedly shot up a light plane on a nearby airfield, strafed a house and damaged a tractor.

Mexico's Luis Quintanilla, chairman of the OAS commission, declined to comment on an offer by Costa Rican ex-President Otello Ulate Blanco to mediate between Figueres and the rebels. Ulate indicated to reporters the commission had turned down his offer.

NOTHING TO MEDIATE Figueres dismissed the offer, commenting to reporters: "I see nothing to mediate."

Somoza said he had approved a request from Ulate to pass through Nicaragua to reach the rebels. Somoza expressed belief the rebels would lay down their arms if Figueres would let them return home with all their rights restored and guaranteed "free elections" in the future.

Parker to Attend Feb. 5 Conference

Maj. Alvan P. Parker, Eugene, national councilman of the Reserve Officers Assn., will attend the annual meeting of the organization's national council which convenes in Washington, D. C., Feb. 5-6.

Council members, representing Reserve officers world-wide, will receive an all-service military briefing from Department of Defense officers who will report on international requirements of the Armed Services and the role of Reserve Forces personnel as prescribed by man-power legislation presently being considered by Congress.

North Bend Votes Funds for Census

NORTH BEND, Ore. (AP)—The North Bend City Council has voted funds for a census of this Southwest Oregon town.

Total cost of the census, to be taken by the U. S. Bureau of the Census, was estimated at \$1,430. The council has approved expenditure of \$845.

An increase in population would entitle the town to additional money from certain state tax receipts.

AH-H-H!

CHICKASHA, Okla. (AP)—After a surprised doctor had removed five pebbles from 18-year-old Mildred Taylor's nose cavity, she said she remembered stuffing a handful of pebbles up her nose when she was three. "It's wonderful," she said after the minor operation. "This is the first time I've breathed out of that side of my nose."

Dixon-Yates Official to Ask SEC Ruling

WASHINGTON (AP)—Edgar H. Dixon, head of Middle South Utilities Inc., said Thursday he is preparing to request final authority to capitalize a proposed 107-million-dollar power plant near the Tennessee Valley.

Dixon, key figure in the Dixon-Yates utility group, said he will ask the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) "as soon as possible" to rule on plans for raising 102 million dollars through long-term loans from banks and insurance companies.

The commission Wednesday took under advisement the group's proposal to start the project with an initial 5½-million-dollar investment, possibly within two weeks. Opponents say they will appeal any such decision to the courts.

Dixon told a reporter that, despite the long controversy over the project, he is going ahead with plans for the long-term loans.

Authoritative sources said SEC approval of the loans probably would be a formality if it authorized the original 5½-million-dollar investment.

Middle South and the Southern Co., headed by Eugene A. Yates, have signed a 25-year contract with the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to provide power to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in the area of Memphis, Tenn. The electricity would replace some TVA energy used in atomic plants.

County Gets Road Money

Lane County has received \$227,094.19 as its share of highway revenues for the three-month period ended Dec. 31.

Olga Freeman, county treasurer, said Oregon's 36 counties participate on a pro rata basis of the 759,846 motor vehicles registered during 1953.

The counties participate in a 19 per cent distribution of highway funds from motor vehicle registrations, motor vehicle fuel taxes, motor carrier fees, and fines for violation of motor vehicle laws.

The total apportionment of highway revenues to the 36 counties was 2,615,762.

Lane's payment goes into the county's general road fund. The current road budget estimates that 737,000 in highway revenues will be received during 1954-55.

During 1953, there were 63,968 motor vehicles registered in Lane County.

Yellow Fever

MEXICO CITY (AP)—A health official says yellow fever has broken out in the south Mexican states of Tabasco, Yucatan and Chiapas and has taken several lives.

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January

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