

Gromyko Tells Soviets: U. S. Disarm Plan 'Pretext'

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko charged Tuesday that Western disarmament proposals at Geneva were designed for spying and X-raying the entire territory of the Soviet Union.

He spoke before the Supreme Soviet which opened Monday with the disarmament stalemate in Geneva as one of the chief items on its agenda.

Premier Khrushchev went through the motions of submitting the resignations of himself and his government to the newly elected Parliament, and was chosen unanimously to resume his office.

The Supreme Soviet also unanimously re-elected Leonid Brezhnev chairman of the Presidium, or president of the USSR.

Berlin Talk To Continue At Slow Pace

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin are setting an unhurried pace in their talks on Berlin.

They aren't expected to begin probing at the heart of the dispute until after Rusk returns from a round-the-world trip about mid-May.

The two diplomats met Monday—one week after their first conference—and the only reported result of the 50-minute session was Soviet acceptance of Rusk's suggestion that the new round of exploratory talks on Berlin be conducted here.

Apparent Satisfaction

U.S. officials would not speculate on the reasons of the Kremlin's apparent satisfaction with going slow on Berlin. One possible explanation is that Soviet Premier Khrushchev is pleased with reported U.S. proposals aimed at breaking the Berlin deadlock such as a declaration of non-aggression between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization nations and the Communist Warsaw Pact members.

Monday's meeting was primarily procedural, State Department officials said. Dobrynin, they reported, did not bring a message, nor did he receive any from Rusk. The atmosphere was described as relaxed.

No New Ground

But, authoritative sources stressed, no new ground was broken either. It is most unlikely, they said, that Dobrynin would call on Rusk again this week, and the secretary is scheduled to leave Sunday for conferences in England, Greece, Turkey and New Zealand. He is due back about May 12.

U.S. officials indicated that the timetable for the Berlin talks may be affected by two events this week. The U.S. nuclear tests tentatively scheduled to start in the Pacific and a major policy speech by Khrushchev before the Supreme Soviet.

Joins Health Group

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP) — Mongolia became the 110th member of the U.N. World Health Organization Monday, the U.N. Office of Legal Affairs announced here.

Easter Celebrates

DANVILLE, Va. (AP) — Russell Easter celebrated his 32nd birthday on Easter Sunday. Last year the birthday of his brother Ed fell on Easter Sunday.



Trio Safe Friends, relatives and the curious gather around Martin Huddleston, James Mason and William Bartee (left to right, seated) after the three college students were rescued Monday from a cave where they were lost three days. The cave is located near Trenton, Ga.

On a Muddy Perch Above Eternity 3 Lost Cave Explorers Hungry, Cold—But Safe

By BILL RAYLINS
Of the Associated Press

TRENTON, Ga.—A three-day ordeal without food and water ended happily for three collegiate explorers who carved a narrow perch between themselves and eternity inside a muddy cave.

The three—two Eagle Explorer Scouts and a novice—were plucked safe, sound and soggy from a mud bank in the Lookout Mountain cave late Monday—the end of an all-out search begun 36 hours earlier. Fraternity brothers found them in a spot experts had overlooked.

"They're safe!" shrieked their parents when word that the lads were found reached the cave's mouth. More than 150 rescue workers who had toiled in the search bowed their heads in prayer as the famished boys gulped their first hot meal since Friday night.

Probably His Last

The three are James Mason, 21; Bill Bartee, 20, both of Atlanta, and Martin Huddleston, 19, of Ormond Beach, Fla. They had told friends they planned to explore the cave over the Easter weekend. They were reported missing when they did not return home as planned Saturday midnight.

Mason and Bartee, who grew up together, are experienced cave explorers. It was Huddleston's first trip underground. "I guess it will be my last," he said with a grin.

Mason and Huddleston are students at Emory University in Atlanta. Bartee attends Presbyterian College in Clinton, S. C.

"We went into the cave about 9 p.m. Friday," said Mason. He said they secured a rope at the top of the mud bank to explore two deep holes about a mile inside the cave—which he and Bartee had inspected many times before.

'Cramping Pretty Good'

"We knew there was water down there, but we didn't know how much," he said. "I went down first and hit water about chest deep. The others came on down and found the water soon was over their heads."

"We swam about 40 feet and it was getting cold and we started cramping pretty good and we swam on back. We decided it was about time to leave and we started to climb up this sheer cliff by holding onto the rope. But by that time it was pretty slimy. The more we tried to crawl up the rope, the harder it got."

60 Hours Without Food

"Using a knife," he continued, "we crawled about 40 feet up the slope and carved out a four-foot trench. We took turns with two of us sitting in it and the third one lying across our laps to keep warm."

They had nothing to eat in their more than 60 hours on the ledge, Mason said.

"We felt pretty confident that somebody would find us, he said, "because we had parked our car and left our coats outside the cave."

Ed Seagraves and Dick Shuptrine, fraternity brothers of Mason, and Harry Lang, Bartee's fraternity brother, found them in an area bypassed many times before.

Laos Army Battles New Red Drive

By MICHAEL T. MALLOY
Of the United Press International

VIENTIANE, Laos (UPI)—Powerful Communist rebel forces battled Royal Laotian army troops near the northwestern provincial capital of Nam Tha with both sides suffering heavy losses, it was reported Tuesday.

The Laotian Defense Ministry said the Reds launched "a new large-scale action" against the city on Saturday and at least 1,000 troops from each side were still engaged in the fiercest fighting near Nam Tha in the past 60 days. Heavy casualties were reported by both sides.

Informed sources said it was too early to determine whether the enemy was attempting to capture Nam Tha or merely to occupy the territory which it had let slip to the Royal Laotian army during the past two months of relative quiet.

The sources confirmed that Viet Minh or pro-Communist Pathet Lao rebels had driven Royal Laotian troops away from most of a mile-high hill just southeast of Nam Tha.

The Laotian government claimed for the first time Monday that an officer of the Communist North Vietnamese army had been captured.

A military communique said Lt. Nguyen Van Quy, identified as a North Vietnamese company commander, was among the 15 enemy wounded "left on the field" Sunday following a battle in the Nhip River Valley in central Laos.

The communique said ten others were killed.

From Russia's 1961 Tests

Fallout Authority Predicts Increase

By FRANK CAREY
Of the Associated Press

WASHINGTON — One of the world's leading authorities on fallout said Tuesday radioactive debris from the Soviet Union's atomic test series last fall is expected to be about twice as plentiful this spring and summer as the fallout was following the Soviet tests in the autumn of 1958.

Willard F. Libby, former member of the Atomic Energy Commission and still a member of AEC's Advisory Committee, told a reporter, "Even though Russia's 1961 series was a 'cleaner' series, relatively speaking, in comparison with the fall 1958 series, the fallout still will be twice as big as it was in 1958."

Libby's views were not in conflict with those of the AEC which has said radiation to humans from all nuclear tests since 1945—including the Soviet Union's 1961 bursts—will remain within acceptable health limits.

His figures, however, were the first given by anyone related to the AEC making a direct comparison between the fallout from the 1961 Soviet tests and that from the tests of autumn 1958.

Libby said of the 1961 Soviet tests produced 25 megatons of fission yield out of a total explosive yield of about 120 megatons—figures which the AEC gave out last December. The fission component of a weapon is the only part involved in producing fallout. By these figures the fission yield was only about one-fifth the total yield.

Libby said the 1961 Soviet series was divided about 50-50 on fission and fusion yield. He has estimated that the fission yield from the 1958 series was between 12½ to 15 megatons. Thus, the total explosive yield was between 25 and 30 megatons.

When the Russians were holding their 1961 series, various scientists estimated that the fission (fallout producing) yield would be much higher than the AEC eventually estimated after analyzing the Soviet tests.

These scientists were making their estimates on the basis of a presumption that the fission-to-fusion yield would be about 50-50.

The AEC found after analyzing the data from the tests that the Russians had made gains in lowering the fission yield of some of their larger weapons, although they actually increased the total explosive yield.

Libby estimated that the peak of the fallout from the 1961 Soviet tests would be reached relatively soon. He indicated this might come in late May or early June, then taper off in the next month or so.

Aid for Transit Systems Urged by Federal Officials

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal housing administrator Robert C. Weaver said Tuesday President Kennedy's \$500 million request for federal aid to mass transit is the first stage in a long-range program.

Weaver did not attempt to estimate the eventual cost but city officials have testified many billions must be spent if commuter facilities are to be kept alive.

The housing chief and Rex M. Whitton, federal highway administrator, appeared as the opening witnesses before the Senate housing subcommittee in support of the administration's bill.

Kennedy has recommended an authorization for \$100 million in grants in fiscal 1963 starting this July 1 and \$200 million each in 1964 and 1965.

The money could be used for equipment and all sorts of facilities needed in mass transit. Local communities would have to put up \$1 for each \$2 of federal aid.

The bill appears sure to win approval of the subcommittee and the full Banking Committee. Its sponsors are confident also of getting Senate passage without long delay. The House, however, has looked with less favor than the Senate in the past on such government outlays.

Whitton said that in most urban areas over 85 per cent of the total daily travel is by automobile and approximately 78 per cent of transit travel is by buses which move on highways.

However, he testified that in the largest cities from 40 to 90 per cent of peak hour travel in the mornings and evenings is by public mass transit.

Weaver, who would distribute the mass transit grants, stressed that there must be a "flexible approach in administering this program."

Cities vary so widely in their transportation needs that no common plan is possible, he said.

Canoe, Carrier Dedicate Dock

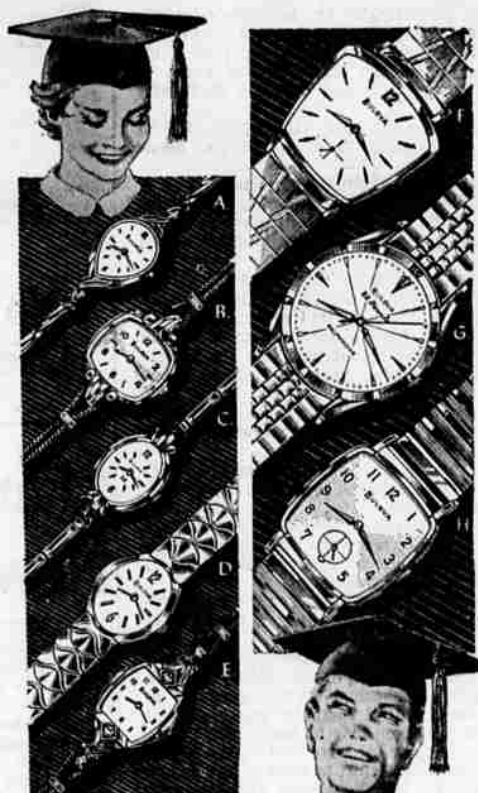
BREMERTON, Wash. (AP) — While the 13th Naval District Band drummed "Iroquois," the first boat nosed into the free world's largest drydock Monday.

Clifford Mowich Deer Hunter of the Quinault Tribe paddled a canoe into the vast "tub" ahead of the aircraft carrier Kearsarge, which broke a ribbon marking the dedication of the \$23 million drydock.

The structure is 1,180 feet long, 181 feet wide and 61 feet deep. It will hold 88 million gallons of water.



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