

COMMUNIST PARTY HEADS SEIZED



ON YOUR MARK-GET SET—Thousands of East Germans in the Soviet zone of Berlin, ignoring threats of Communist leaders, as the second phase of the "Eisenhower food packages" went into effect. Above a group of East Berliners make a dash for the food packages during the first phase of the food program.

Administration Officials Pleased By Budget Slash

Washington—(U.P.)—Administration officials were elated today by an up to date budget report showing that the Republican economy drive has slashed \$6,100,000,000 from the prospective federal deficit for fiscal 1954.

In a new review of income and spending, the Budget Bureau estimated the government will go \$3,800,000,000 in the red for the year ending next June 30. That compares with a deficit of \$9,900,000,000 forecast by former President Truman before he left office last January.

It also represents a substantial improvement in the budget outlook since May, when President Eisenhower estimated the deficit at \$5,600,000,000.

The budget review estimated government spending for the year at \$72,100,000,000, or \$6,500,000,000 below former President Truman's January estimate and \$2,000,000,000 below Mr. Eisenhower's May estimate.

Secretary of Treasury George M. Humphrey hailed the revised estimates as "very good news." He said the new figures mean "we have turned the corner" in the struggle for a balanced budget, next year "until we get the facts."

Part of the "good news" is that it will not be necessary to call Congress into special session this fall to boost the debt limit. The new figures estimated that the national debt at the end of this fiscal year will be \$271,100,000,000, or \$3,900,000,000 below the present limit and some \$2,000,000,000 less than President Eisenhower had estimated in his urgent, but futile last minute appeal to Congress to boost the debt ceiling before it adjourned early this month.

Note Says Marines Held by Communists

San Mateo, Calif.—(U.P.)—The FBI today received a note supposedly signed by two Marine Corps servicemen who claimed they were being held captive by Communists in a submarine 10 miles off the California coast.

Sheriff's deputies asked the FBI to investigate the claim, but at the same time pointed out that the note was probably a hoax. Neither name appears on the Marine Corps' roster of men stationed on the West Coast.

Former Nazi Gang Members Held in Train Wreck Try

New Orleans—(U.P.)—Authorities disclosed today the arrest of seven youths, two of whom were members of a teen-age Nazi type gang rounded up last year, in the attempted derailment of Southern Pacific's speeding Sunset Limited streamliner here late yesterday.

Louisiana State Police said the fast passenger train was flagged to a screeching stop on the outskirts of New Orleans seconds before it would have crashed into a jammed train switch.

They said a "serious" derailment was averted by two fast working switchmen who brought the train to a halt 300

Local Cloud Seeders Operations Described In National Magazine

The cloud-seeding operation conducted in the Rogue valley by Pilo Harvey Brandau and Gene Kooser is the subject of an article in the science section of Time magazine this week.

The magazine, on the newsstands today, describes the controversy which arose after Brandau and Kooser, both ex-Navy fliers, started their hail-prevention operations in 1949, using their secret "goop," which they revealed last week to be sodium chloride—or table salt. Switch to "Goop"

"At first Brandau and Kooser used silver iodide," Time's

Steege Tells of Good Treatment

Tokyo—(U.P.)—An Oregon Marine, captured eight days before the war ended, told today how the Reds gave him "the best possible medical attention," including candy, nuts, chicken and all the fruit he wanted.

Pfc. Leonard E. Steege, 20, Medford, Ore., wounded shortly before he was captured by a Communist raiding party July 19, said his captors, none of whom could speak English, dressed his wounds and gave him morphine. He said Chinese female nurses at a forward hospital "ran around and got me anything I wanted."

"I think they treated me nice because they knew the war was about to end," he said. "Other guys who had been there longer said this nice treatment had been going on for a couple of months."

The young Marine, who is awaiting air shipment home, said he knew the war was over because the Chinese "sang all night and staged a wild party. He said they 'seemed overjoyed.'"

(See Story on Page 7)

Weather

FORECAST: Cloudy with rain this evening. Generally cloudy with showers Saturday. Low tonight 33. High Saturday 68-70.

Temp.	76
Highest Yesterday	76
Lowest this Morning	55

article said, "sprayed through extensions on their planes' exhaust pipes. Eventually, to cut down expenses, they replaced the iodide with goop which seemed to work just as well."

"For the first few years," it continues, they seeded typical hail clouds, and "no hail hit the valley's prize fruit. The skeptics called it coincidence. But after three unspoiled harvests, the skeptics were almost convinced."

Then, the story adds, there were hailstorms in the summers of 1952 and 1953. The pilots have explained that during one of them the planes were grounded for repairs, and during another the storm was a general one and that "they had never claimed to have the equipment to handle such frontal storms," the article states.

"This summer," Time continues, "an unpredicted hailstorm hit the valley before the planes could get aloft. But, despite the late start, the fliers did their best. Weather reports showed a change from storm to light rainfall as the two planes shepherded the clouds across the valley."

The pilots said today they appreciate the article, despite what they claim are some minor inaccuracies in it. The information for the article was prepared by Joe Stein, an Oregon Journal reporter who is a Time correspondent in Portland.

Brandau and Kooser, despite the fact that results of a project such as theirs are difficult to assess, maintain that long-range evaluation will prove their success in fighting the "typical summer thunderstorms" which they are equipped to handle.

Such an evaluation, based both on observation of seeding results and on statistical data of hail activity over a period of years compared to years when they were operating, is being made by the Rogue River Valley Traffic association, which employs the pilots and owns the planes they use, a Navy fighter and a P-40, which they call the "Iron Bird."

The Time article is illustrated by a picture of the fliers and one of the planes, taken by Kenn Knackstedt, Medford photographer.

Hotel Says Dispute Involves Two Groups

A labor dispute at the Medford hotel involves only the dining room and lounge and not the hotel proper, representatives of the hotel said today. Pickets were placed around the hotel yesterday by the Culinary Alliance and Bartenders union, Local 329.

Of the 24 employees in the two departments, only five of the present staff have participated in the dispute, the spokesman said. He added that the union "does not represent a majority of the employees and for that reason the management is not willing to sign a labor contract which would require all employees to belong to the union."

"The management of the hotel has offered to pay the 84 cents an hour union scale," hotel spokesmen stated.

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India Quits Bid for Seat

Progress Reported In Checking Forest Fire in California

Many Evacuated In Path of Blaze

San Bernardino, Calif.—(U.P.)—Some 600 fire fighters made progress today in checking a wind fanned timber and brush blaze that forced evacuation of many mountain residents, and for a time threatened the Lake Arrowhead resort area.

Forest Service officials here said a "bad situation" still existed but the Lake Arrowhead area no longer was in immediate danger.

An estimated 4,000 acres, mostly heavy brush and some timber, was destroyed in the fire that started Wednesday in the foothills. Many campers and vacationers left the area when flames threatened to sweep through populated areas.

But W. W. Skinner, chief ranger here, said the fire fighting crews, which include 160 Zuni Indians, had stopped the blaze's advance toward Arrowhead. Two fingers of the fire reached across the Rim of the World Highway yesterday, forcing closing of the road linking San Bernardino with the lake resorts.

Fire fighters concentrated today in keeping the center of the fire line from crossing the road.

Authorities said winds of 15 to 25 miles per hour today were fanning the flames. They said it would not be known until late today whether the fire could be controlled before it spreads into rich timber areas.

The San Bernardino sheriff's office said cars and jeeps equipped with loud speakers had warned hundreds of residents to be ready to flee if winds shift the blaze toward their areas. The areas alerted included Alpine, Twin Peaks, Valley of the Moon, Strawberry Lodge, San Moritz and Crestline.

The main body of the fire was located about three miles south of the southern tip of Lake Arrowhead.

Silver Bar Sale Attempted in City

City police reported today that a man has been attempting to sell a bar of silver marked "US Mint, San Francisco, Calif." to local jewelers.

The first notice came from Graebrows Jewelers yesterday. When asked where he obtained the silver the man evaded the question, and answered that there was "plenty more where it came from," city police records stated.

Police notified other jewelry stores in town and were told that the man had been in Brophy's Jewelers. He was reported to be in Chapman's Jewelers when the police called there, but he immediately left. A clerk followed him for about a half a block, but lost him.

He was described as about 20 years old, 5 feet, 9 inches tall with dark hair and wearing an Air Corps bracelet and silver signet ring, police said.

A call to the secret service revealed that no silver is known to be missing from the mint.

Leaking Gas Causes Explosion in Sewer

An explosion at the intersection of West 11th and Hamilton sts. at 9:39 p.m. yesterday was caused when gas from a break in the California-Pacific Utilities gas line leaked into the city sewer line, the gas became ignited by a flare on a man hole cover, city police reported.

California Pacific Utilities officials said today that the leak in the lines occurred when contractors excavating for paving work on the street broke the gas line.

Medford firemen were called to the scene of the explosion. No damage was reported.

CAPITAL PHONE WORKERS STRIKE

By UNITED PRESS

Labor unrest grew today as a new telephone strike was called in the Washington, D. C., area, and an angry mob screamed its defiance at night stick swinging police in a violent communications strike in Indiana.

Meanwhile, negotiators tried again to reach a wage agreement between the nation's long distance telephone operators and the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. after a handful of operators in three Midwest cities staged temporary walkouts yesterday.

At St. Louis negotiators were stalled over a "strike protection clause" in attempts to end a week long strike by 53,000 employees of the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

New Strike Starts
The new phone strike in the east began at 6 a.m. when pickets appeared in Washington. A total of more than 14,000 CIO Communications Workers of America members were ordered to walk out at the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. exchanges in the capital, suburban Virginia, most of Maryland and parts of West Virginia.

A company spokesman said the federal government's huge and vital telephone network would not be affected.

Violence and Arrests
The strike call was issued after futile all-day bargaining sessions yesterday in which the CWA rejected a company wage offer ranging from \$1.50 to \$2.50 a week for operators and maintenance men in the Washington area.

At least 15 persons were arrested and three injured last night in Indianapolis, Ind., when a shouting, surging mob demonstrated in the CWA strike against Indiana Bell Telephone.

"Bring on your bayonets," the crowd shouted, in an apparent reference to rumors that the Indiana National Guard has received recent riot training with rifles and bayonets.

Kidnaping, Other Charges To Face Man Arrested Here

William Frank Cory, 34, Roseburg, who was arrested here Wednesday evening, has been returned to Roseburg to face several criminal charges, state police here said today.

The police office was informed this morning that Cory will be charged with kidnaping, illegal possession of a firearm by an ex-convict, assault with a dangerous weapon, and larceny of a gun.

The charges were to be filed this afternoon, according to United Press.

Gun in Car
Cory was arrested in Medford after Mrs. Andia Jones, wife of Roseburg Attorney William Jones, had told a Shady Cove waitress she had been kidnapped. City police said there was a gun in the car when he was arrested, and that there was a bullet hole in the car's upholstery.

Mrs. Jones returned to Roseburg Wednesday evening.

Cory, an ex-convict, reportedly has been sentenced to prison at least three different times, and has spent some 17 years behind bars. He was accused by Mrs. Jones of forcing her to leave her husband's office in Roseburg Wednesday, and to come south with him. In a statement given to officers Wednesday evening, she also said he fired a shot near her face during an argument.

Jones recently successfully defended Cory from conviction in a burglary charge, according to information from Roseburg.

Cory was taken to Roseburg yesterday afternoon by two state policemen after being questioned at the Medford city jail by state and city police officers. He has denied portions of Mrs. Jones' story, according to police reports.

Jet Plane Drops Wing Tank Before Landing

Firemen were called to stand by at the airport yesterday when an Air Force jet plane landed after dropping a wing tank in the Camp White area.

Two Air Force crash wagons were dispatched to the area where the tank was dropped and the Medford city tank stood by in their absence. The tank reportedly was dropped because it would not feed fuel to the motor.

Firemen were also sent to the home of Dr. Milo Kubalek, 1308 Winchester street, yesterday when clothes in a dryer caught fire. The lint trap of the dryer had been left off, firemen said, and clothes got against the heating element.

Oregon Growers Face Crop Losses If Rain Continues

By UNITED PRESS

Oregon grain growers faced heavy losses today as the weather bureau predicted more rain and showers through Saturday.

Harvesting was at a near standstill in Polk county where hundreds of acres of vetch, wheat and barley are ready for harvest.

M. M. Giles, manager of the Dallas cooperative warehouse, said about 60 per cent of the grain harvest had been completed in that area but that only about 10 per cent of the barley crop had been taken in. Discoloration and overripeness could cause heavy losses if the rains continue, he said.

Vetch Crop Periled

At Stayton, in the Santiam river area, farmers reported they would be able to salvage only a small part of their vetch crop. Barley is also threatened there. More damage was reported in late hay cuts, unharvested oats, early prunes and some beans and hops.

Woman in Hospital After Pill Overdose

Mrs. Margaret Harris, 55, of route 1, box 386, Talent, was in "critical" condition at Sacred Heart hospital today, according to hospital attendants.

She was admitted to the hospital at about 2:40 p.m. yesterday after taking what sheriff's deputies reported as "an overdose of 1 1/2 grain nembutal capsules." Mrs. Harris has not regained consciousness since being taken to the hospital, attendants stated.

Mrs. Harris apparently took the capsules at her home, where friends called the sheriff's office.

Mrs. Harris drove to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Cooper, route 3, box 244, Medford, where Mrs. Cooper was fixing coffee for her when she collapsed.

Mrs. Cooper called Mrs. Harris' doctor, who in turn called Peri ambulance which took Mrs. Harris to the hospital.

Communist Spies Said in South Korea

Tokyo—(U.P.)—The Communists have sent "more than 20 teams" of North Korean spies across the demilitarized buffer zone in Korea to get information on United Nations positions, it was learned today.

The spies posed as civilians fleeing from Communist rule in North Korea, reliable United Nations sources said. Most of them took orders from women leaders.

United Nations troops saw through their scheme and captured them.

"Many of them confessed," the sources said.

Nomination To Korea Conference Withdrawn in UN

Western State OK'd by Assembly

United Nations, N. Y.—(U.P.)—India withdrew from the running for a seat in the Korean Political Conference today and the United Nations General Assembly then approved, 43 to 5, the Western state backed by the United States.

The crucial Western resolution which recommends that all 17 countries that fought for the U. N. in Korea be invited to the parley, was approved by the assembly with the Soviet bloc opposing it and 10 countries abstaining.

Russia Invited

Indian delegate V. K. Krishna Menon, in a dramatic move before the vote, asked the assembly not to take a ballot on the British Commonwealth proposal to invite India to the conference.

The assembly also approved an invitation to Russia to attend the Korean conference, "provided the other side desires it." The vote for the Soviet resolution was 55 to 1, with Nationalist China against and Argentina abstaining.

The American led Western powers actually picked up one vote over the ballot taken yesterday in the Political Committee as the assembly approved the plan for conference membership. The committee had returned a 42 to 5 vote in favor of the West.

Measure Ratified

In addition to approving the membership resolution, the assembly ratified a measure proposed by India, Indonesia and Liberia instructing Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold to communicate the proposals and proceedings of the assembly to Communist China and North Korea. The vote was 54 to 3 with 1 abstention.

Police Investigator Opens Office Here

Howard I. Bobbitt, the former FBI agent who is conducting an investigation of the Medford police department for the city council, has set up an office in the Jackson hotel building.

He will be available there for visits or telephone calls from those who have information to present to him which might aid in his investigation.

Bobbitt said this morning that those who wish to confer with him regarding the police situation can do so with assurance that their confidence will be respected.

The office telephone number is 2-4087, and it is listed under "police investigator" with the telephone information service. The office is the "director's room" of the hotel, and has a street entrance next door to the Fidler agency, on Eighth st.

Chicago—(U.P.)—The Council on Dental Education has listed the University of Oregon Dental School in its first list of accredited schools for dental hygienists.

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Yokum*
announce the birth of a baby
on Thursday, August 27, 1953
at Dogpatch

*Li'l Abner and Daisy Mae, to you

Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Yokum of Dogpatch announce the birth of their first child, a son—or daughter, as the case may be—at home on Thursday, August 27. The sex of the child has not yet been determined because nobody seems particularly interested in learning whether it is a boy or girl. Mrs. Yokum is the popular Daisy Mae, a Dogpatch belle. Mr. Yokum (and this is the first time he has ever been called Mister) is more familiarly known as Li'l Abner. Details will be found on the comics page.

Fugitives Grabbed In Sierra Hideout By Disguised FBI

Four Others Arrested On Harboring Charges

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Two fugitive Communist party leaders were clapped behind bars today after unshaved FBI agents disguised as campers surrounded and trapped them in a remote mountain hideout in the High Sierra.

Four other persons were arrested for harboring fugitives, and the federal agents, reluctant to discuss how the trap was laid, said "We've got five other Reds to track down."

The top Communist party leaders, wanted on charges of plotting to overthrow the government, were disguised with dyed hair, mustaches and crew cuts when the FBI surrounded the well appointed, comfortable cabin near Sonoma, Calif., yesterday.

Held At Alcatraz
Robert G. Thompson, 38, one of the top 11 American Reds concealed underground by the

Portland—(U.P.)—Robert George Thompson, one of the Communist fugitives captured by FBI agents yesterday in a California mountain hideout, is a native of Grants Pass, Ore., and lived in the state until 1935.

The Moscow-trained Red was born June 21, 1915, at Grants Pass. He went to Moscow in 1935 to attend the Young Communist International Congress and stayed in Moscow for a year, working in a ball bearing plant and attending night school to learn the Marxist-Leninist line.

party since his conviction on Smith act charges four years ago, was held in Alcatraz Prison.

Sidney Steinberg, also 38, a second string Red leader who had been evading arrest since June, 1951, when 21 Communist organizers were indicted for conspiracy, was in San Francisco County Jail.

Three other persons, charged with harboring the two fugitives in a cabin two miles north of the California summer resort of Twain Harte, were in jail with Steinberg.

Woman Arrested
All five were arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Joseph Karsh here last night less than nine hours after they were caught in the FBI trap.

Almost simultaneous with the arraignment of the five here, other FBI agents were arresting a sixth person implicated in the huge Communist coverup.

A woman identified as Patricia Blau, 42, alias Janet Conroy, was stopped as she drove her car from Modesto to Stockton, Calif. The FBI said her car "had been used" recently by the two fugitive Red leaders.

Names of Others
The FBI said she "definitely" was involved with the Reds trapped in the mountains.

Also arrested were Carl Edwin Rasi, 40, a Minnesota Communist leader, Samuel I. Coleman, 42, New York Red functionary; and Mrs. Shirley Keith Kremen, 21, described as a onetime member of the "Young Progressives."

Shady Cove Serviceman Due From Far East Area

A 2/c Charles T. Parks, Shady Cove, is included among servicemen due to arrive in Seattle tomorrow aboard the transport W. O. Darby from the Far East, according to the United Press. Available directories do not list the serviceman.