

Mail Checks Alarming To Senators; FBI Man Says They're Routine

Washington—(U.P.)—Senators were alarmed Saturday over disclosures that government investigators have sometimes run "mail checks" on private citizens and even a member of the Senate itself.

But Paul J. Cotter, an ace congressional investigator and a former FBI agent, said a "mail cover" is a routine method of investigation.

Many Requests

He said the post office frequently makes mail checks on a secret basis for law enforcement agencies. The department has a book of requests about a foot high for such "covers," Cotter said.

A mail cover is a check of incoming letters by the post office to determine by post marks and return addresses who is corresponding with a person under

investigation. The mail is not opened or read.

Senate concern over mail covers developed earlier this week when Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.) said a check was made on his mail during Senate Elections sub-committee investigation of his finances in 1951-52. McCarthy charged that someone forged the name of a senator to the request for the mail cover.

Blamed Gillette

McCarthy originally blamed Sen. Guy M. Gillette (D-Iowa), onetime chairman of the Elections subcommittee, for ordering the mail check and on the eve of the recent elections, accused Gillette of a "flagrant violation" of law in taking such action. Gillette was defeated for re-election by Rep. Thomas E. Martin (R-Iowa).

But testimony released Friday by a special two-man committee which investigated use of the mail cover against McCarthy disclosed that McCarthy admitted he made "mistake" in accusing Gillette. Gillette had resigned as subcommittee chairman before the request for the mail cover was made.

The special committee, composed of Sens. Homer Ferguson (R-Mich.) and Walter F. George (R-Go.), said the requests for the mail cover were signed by a rubber stamp bearing the signature of Sen. Thomas E. Hennings (D-Mo.) who succeeded Gillette as subcommittee chairman.

But Ferguson and George said no senator ever authorized the mail cover and that it could not be determined who stamped Hennings' signature to the mail check requests.

Davies Fears Gag In Form Agreement For Separation

Washington—(U.P.)—John Paton Davies, Jr., ousted State Department officer, said Saturday that because of fear of a "gag" he has not picked up some \$17,000 due him from the government.

Davies said that in order to collect back pay and pension allowances he would have to sign a "separation" agreement with the department. This "form" agreement, he said, may prevent him from speaking out on his case and other national issues.

Davies said the form agreement which he would have to sign states that he has neither classified (secret) or unclassified material.

Fears Gag

Davies, fired as a security risk on grounds he lacked "judgment, discretion and reliability," said he feared that the paper "might be a gag."

"I have no classified material," he told a reporter. But he said he thought the form agreement covering unclassified information was "rather sweeping" and went beyond "the needs of national security."

He said he is waiting to find out what the paper meant before he signed it to get his back pay and accumulated pension contributions.

CHILD KILLED

Sacramento—(U.P.)—A nine-year-old girl was killed and two other bystanders were seriously injured when one of two cars involved in an intersection accident jumped the curb and ran them down Saturday. Angelina Huizar, 9, was killed after being dragged more than 30 feet by one of the cars. Aurora Pulido, 12, a playmate, and Mrs. Felipe Guarjardo, were injured.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 9:30 previous day.

Ike Congratulates Watkins On Job With Censure Group

Washington—(U.P.)—The White House said Saturday that President Eisenhower personally congratulated Sen. Arthur V. Watkins (R-Utah) "on the very splendid job he did" as chairman of the McCarthy censure committee.

Press Secretary James C. Haggerty told reporters of the congratulations following a White House call by Watkins.

Reflects Respect

"He told the Senator he thought he had handled a difficult and tough assignment with a great deal of dignity which reflected the respect the people of the country have for the Senate of the United States," Haggerty said.

Watkins also talked with reporters after a 45-minute visit with Mr. Eisenhower. He said he told the President a great load had been lifted from his shoulders.

"I feel good this morning," the Senator said. "I feel considerably younger, even though I may not look it."

Sees No Split

Watkins said he did not believe the vote to condemn Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy would cause any permanent split in the Republican party.

Watkins said the Senate next year should adopt four rules changes recommended earlier by the censure committee but overlooked in the furor over reprimanding McCarthy. Watkins said he tried to call the proposals to the Senate's attention but was not recognized in the rush to adjourn the special session Thursday night.

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Montgomery Receives Rebuke from Commies

Moscow—(U.P.)—Marshall Alexander Vasilevsky sharply rebuked British Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery Saturday for his recent statements on atomic warfare and warned that "you are playing with fire."

Vasilevsky, writing in the official Communist organ Pravda, bitterly attacked Montgomery for his "insistent appeals to unloose atomic warfare" and for "appealing to the Americans command to tell the Russians that 'we will give them the works.'"

"A well known proverb says 'who sows the wind reaps the whirlwind,'" Vasilevsky wrote. "I would not advise you, Field Marshal Montgomery, to take the role of a sower of atomic war."

"Brains" of Victory

Vasilevsky, now deputy minister of defense, was appointed chief of the Russian General Staff in April, 1943, and was once called the brains behind the Russian victories of World War II.

Montgomery, in a speech at Los Angeles, Calif., Nov. 29, said the free world should be ready to use nuclear weapons if necessary "even in small local wars" and suggested the allied political leaders warn Russia "we will give them the works" in event of aggression.

"This flair for weapons of mass annihilation has taken such an insistent character in Montgomery that some Englishmen have begun to ask themselves whether Field Marshal Montgomery is suffering from atomic psychosis," Vasilevsky wrote.

"When a British field marshal who has to understand clearly the horrors of this war especially for such countries as England appeals for atomic war it is not simply senselessness but something worse."

"We, Field Marshal Montgomery are a military people. We know what war is like and have now a clear idea of the destructive power of atomic and hydrogen weapons and the horrible consequences of an atomic war."

TWO ARRESTED

San Jose, Calif.—(U.P.)—Two men beat and robbed a gas station attendant Saturday and an hour later two Stanislaus county brothers were arrested at an Alameda county sheriff's roadblock in connection with the crime. Wayne Thomas, 26, and his brother, Donald, 17, both of Patterson, were taken into custody at Niles and jailed here on robbery charges.

Grotewohl Says Red China Promised Aid

Berlin—(U.P.)—East German Premier Otto Grotewohl said Saturday Communist China promised at the Moscow Security conference to fight side by side with the Soviet Union if war breaks out in Europe.

Grotewohl told a press conference the Chinese Communist observer informed the Moscow meeting his country will extend its 1950 friendship pact with the Soviet Union to cover European events.

According to Grotewohl, observer Chang Wen-Tien said Red China decided to put this treaty in force if the Soviet needs help in Europe.

The East German Premier called this a "very, very important" result of the conference.

He advised the Western powers to consider this Chinese pledge before they ratify the Paris agreements to rearm West Germany.

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Self-Confessed Slayer of Four Writes Memoirs

Tulsa, Okla.—(U.P.)—Gentle-faced Nannie Doss, who confessed poisoning four husbands and once fancied herself to have a touch with an epitaph, is writing her memoirs for a magazine.

One of her court-appointed lawyers said Saturday that Mrs. Doss, 49, hopes to get enough money for the article from the magazine (Life) to hire psychiatrists to prove she was crazy when she killed the husbands with rat poison.

Suspect in 11 Deaths

If she can prove in court she was crazy, she can escape the electric chair. She is suspected of murdering a total of 11 persons: Her parents, two sisters, two daughters and a step-grandson, in addition to the husbands.

Relatives of the pink-cheeked Mrs. Doss told authorities in Lexington, N.C., that she was fond of composing epitaphs.

The inscription she wrote for the tombstone of husband No. 3, Frank Lanning of Lexington, whom she poisoned in 1952, said "We Will Meet Again."

Married Five Times

She had "God be With You 'Til We Meet Again" chisled into the headstone of husband Frank Harrelson, who was buried in Alabama. She was married five times.

Her first husband, Charlie Bragg, divorced her because he was afraid of her and survived.

Traces of arsenic were found in her mother's body, but she denied poisoning her mother.

Missing Yacht Believed Safe

Tokyo—(U.P.)—An American yachting expert said Saturday the "missing" American yacht Phoenix probably is struggling against southerly winds near Midway, island while the Japanese Coast Guard is searching for it along the coast of Japan.

George Folster, a National Broadcasting company correspondent who crossed the Pacific in his own yacht two years ago, discounted concern over the disappearance of the Phoenix and said it may be encountering trouble in leaving the prevailing west winds and heading toward Hawaii.

"It is easier to sail from Tokyo to San Francisco than from Tokyo to Hawaii," Folster said.

The small vessel, carrying anthropologist Earle Reynolds, his wife Barbara, their two children and a crew of three Japanese university students, sailed Oct. 28 on a cruise to Honolulu.

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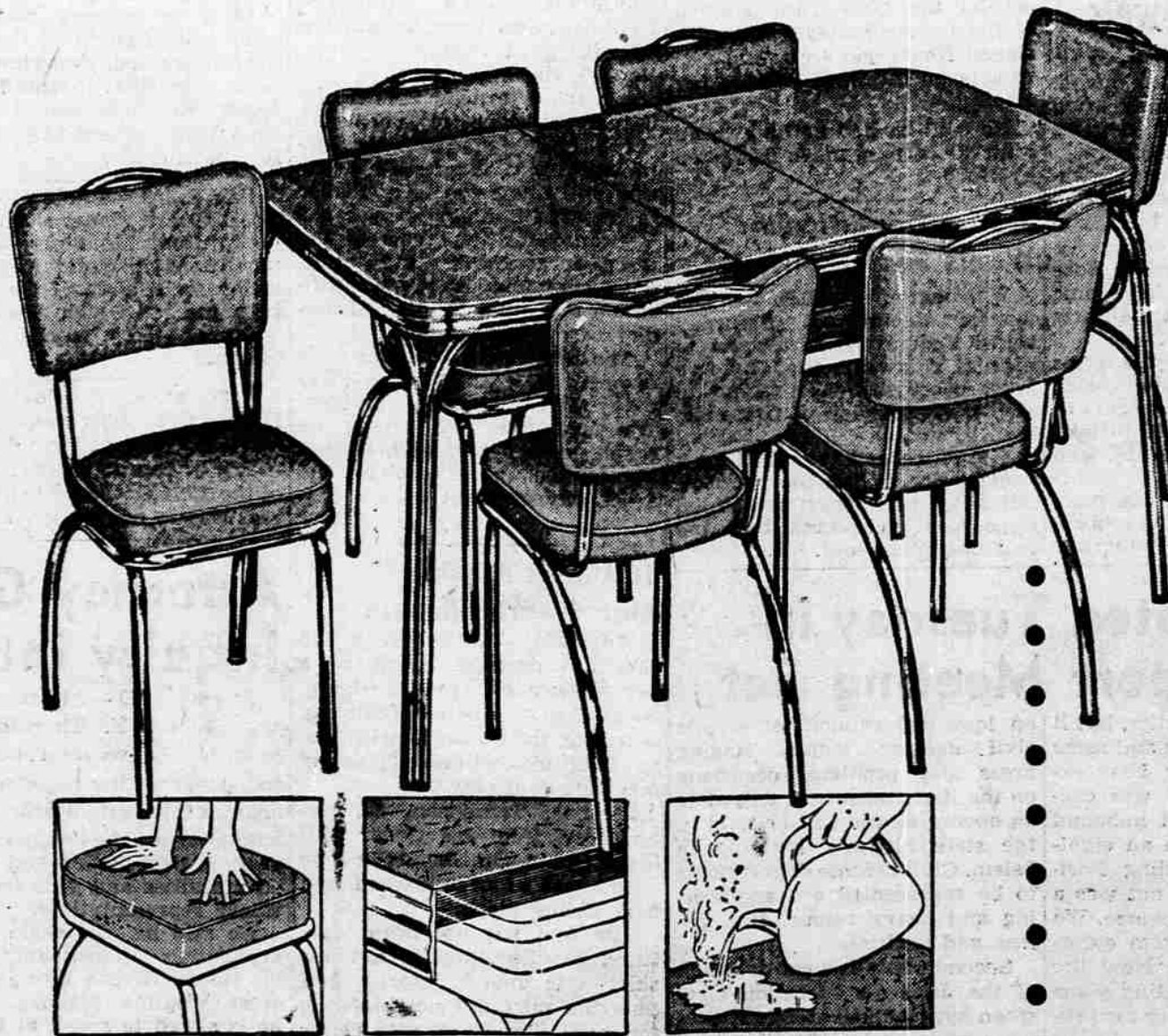
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