

Hoover Commission Sees Need for More Efficient Federal Supply System

Failure To Send Greetings To Bandung Conference Termed 'Sheer Stupidity'

Bandung, Indonesia — (U.P.) — Rep. Adam Clayton Powell (D-N.Y.) charged today the U. S. administration was guilty of "sheer stupidity" in rejecting his suggestion that President Eisenhower send greetings to the Asian-African conference here.

The Negro congressman, here as an unofficial observer and newspaper reporter, said the American omission "was all the more obvious after the Moscow Radio broadcast greetings to the conference today."

He said "I think this is a colossal error and sheer stupidity and further indicates that we have no Far Eastern policy and do not understand what is happening here at all."

A Presidential Cable

He exhibited a cable he said he had just received through the U. S. embassy from assistant Secretary of State Thurston B. Morton.

The cable read: "I have been asked to acknowledge your telegram of April 6 to President Eisenhower in which you suggested that he address a message of goodwill to the Asian-African conference."

"While most grateful for the suggestion we do not believe the relationship of this government to the Bandung Conference would warrant such a message from the President."

Powell said the State Department had opposed his attendance at the Bandung Conference and "tried to buy me off." He said "the deal was that if I stayed away from Bandung they would send me on one or two paid red carpet missions anywhere I wanted to go."

When he refused, Powell said,

Morton told him "very well, but do us a favor and stay away from the American Embassy."

"I finally managed to see American Ambassador Hugh Cumming this morning and he told me 'the State Department decided we should stay away from you so that nobody could say we were trying to influence the conference.'"

The congressman said "this conference has put us right on the spot. Asia and Africa are riding on whether we want to come along or not. If we abstain from voting on colonial questions in the United Nations any more our entire relationship in Asia and Africa is in danger."

County Students Take Speech Test Honors

Two Ashland high school and two Crater high school students were named winners in a speech tournament April 17 at Corvallis.

From Ashland were Richard Lamb who took two of the places with first in extemporaneous and impromptu speaking, and Janet Saltus, who received first place in poetry reading. The Crater students are Nathan Douthitt, first in serious reading, and Verity Day, third in humorous reading.

Thirty-seven schools entered 161 contests in the tournament which was held for two days at the Oregon State college campus. Paul X. Knoll, OSC professor of speech, directed the tourney.

About 122,000,000 ball-point pens were produced in 1953.



FOR HAWAII—Pan American stewardess Helen Vavoudes rides truck loaded with Salk polio vaccine to be loaded aboard her plane at San Francisco International Airport. The shipment is destined for the Public Health Service in Honolulu.

Northwest To Stick To Standard Time

Portland — (U.P.)—Oregon and Washington will be out of step next Sunday at midnight when the rest of the nation goes on daylight saving time. The Northwest will stick to Standard Time. Portland television stations and some air lines plan to conform to the rest of the nation while bus lines and trains will side with the Pacific Northwest.

There were 9,666,000 persons working on U.S. farms in 1954.

Taxpayers Could Be Saved Billions, Report Indicates

Washington — (U.P.) — The Hoover Commission told Congress today that the taxpayers would be saved billions of dollars if the government operated a more efficient supply system.

The commission, set up to devise more efficient ways for the government to operate, made the statement in a report entitled "Surplus Property." It said the government had.

Over-supplied itself with many items, some of which are enough for 128 years.

Complicated its bookkeeping. Some items were found with 37 different stock numbers.

Disposed of surplus stocks at too low prices. If the commission's suggestions are followed, the report promised, the return would help eliminate the annual budgetary deficit.

Urges Modern Techniques

The commission, headed by former President Herbert Hoover, urged modern techniques in "purging" government warehouses by selling the surplus merchandise to private industry. It said at present the government receives from 5 to 7 per cent of the original cost of the merchandise. Often "valuable" items are sold in mixed lots, the report said, with "little regard for their possible commercial use."

If only one per cent more were received on each item, the 12-man commission said, it would yield an extra \$20,000,000 yearly.

"In view of the serious shortage of school and civilian hospital facilities, as well as equipment for them," the commission reported, "it is a prudent investment of public funds to transfer to the states such excess equipment and supplies as can relieve this shortage." The commission urged only that administration of the donation program be improved.

Single Federal Catalogue

To overcome the difficulty of multiple identification of merchandise, it recommended a single federal catalogue to identify the property.

From fiscal 1950 to 1954, the report said, military agencies spent \$107,000,000 for supplies, equipment, capital goods, real property and construction.

And, during fiscal 1955 the Defense Department will spend \$23,900,000,000 and civilian agencies \$3,400,000,000.

"With proper inventory control and more realistic stock levels," it said, "from 10 to 25 billion dollars of supplies now in government warehouses could be eliminated."

Phoenix Scouts Aid Community Club

Phoenix — Senior Girl and Boy Scouts of the city are now selling memberships of the Phoenix Community club and Youth Center, Club Secretary Betty M. James has announced.

The membership plan was approved last month by club representatives. Scouts are making door to door contacts. Student membership fee is less than the amount for adults.

A special meeting of the community club and youth center will be held on Thursday, April 21, at 8 p.m. Representatives or their alternates from other community organizations are asked to be present.

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Butte Escapees Returned To Jail

Portland — (U.P.) — All seven convicts who cut their way to freedom Saturday from the Rocky Butte county jail are back in confinement today. At least four of them face burglary charges resulting from their day of freedom.

State police and Multnomah county deputy sheriffs rounded up the seven in a manhunt yesterday. Two were caught underneath a bed in Portland and two were found cowering in a Portland garage.

Scores of deputy sheriffs and county police reserves caught one in open country and the remaining two were picked up on state highways.

The men cut their way out of jail shower room Saturday after persuading trusty Chester Conklin to steal an acetylene torch and tanks from a nearby prison quarry. Conklin hid in the hills all day Friday and moved the heavy equipment to the prison window Friday night.

Sheriff Terry Schunk identified the escape leaders as Len C. Thompson, 18, William Patrick, 24, and Lloyd Earl Eddy, 17. Other escapees included Ernest D. Trujillo, 23, Victor V. Hanna, 28, Walter M. Chamberlin, 23, and Edward Aldridge, 18. The latter four face burglary charges for breaking into the home of Clint Butler here for clothes and food.

About 35,000 Americans visited Ireland the summer of 1954.

Oppenheimer To Discuss Constitution of Matter

Eugene — (U.P.)—Controversial physicist Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer will tackle a non-political subject at the University of Oregon tomorrow when he discusses "The Sub-Nuclear Zoo; The Constitution of Matter." The renowned physicist who during the war headed the Los Alamos laboratory in which the atom bomb was perfected, will be in Portland at a later date.

The State of Iowa processed more than two billion pounds of dressed meat during 1954, leading the nation.

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