

Arms Collection at Washington Prison Continued by Guards

Walla Walla, Wash. — (U.P.)—Volunteer guards combed cell blocks at Washington State Prison today adding more weapons to an arms collection following a 26-hour riot.

All but a handful of the prison's 1784 convicts, meanwhile, spent the night in the prison yard where they were served hot coffee periodically. Prison Business Manager William V. Connell said a complete shakedown of the men and their cells might not be completed for "several days."

The riot which broke out at 9:45 a.m. Tuesday ended 26 hours later when prison officials and convicts signed a nine-point agreement. Nine hostages were released unharmed.

Dr. Thomas Harris, state director of institutions, said there was no apparent major vandalism inside the prison. He said the only severe damage was to the complicated remote control locking system. He said damage costs would be about \$20,000.

All except a dozen inmates whose health and safety would be impaired spent the night in the yard.



PEACEFUL ENDING—Signaling end of a one-day rebellion at Walla Walla state penitentiary, convict spokesman Jim Frazier, left, turns over straw hat to W. V. Connell, business manager of the institution. Nine hostages were released unharmed.

Magnuson Seeks Aid For Tuna Industry

Washington — (U.P.)—Sen. Warren G. Magnuson has demanded quick action from government agencies to aid the U. S. tuna industry which he said was being ruined by the importation of cheap Japanese-caught tuna. Magnuson, chairman of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, said he met with State Department, Tariff Commission, Interior Department and other fisheries experts yesterday, and will meet with them again in about 10 days to consider whatever solution is offered.

"I read to the conference a report from a fishery expert on the committee staff who reported the whole tuna industry on the Pacific Coast is staggered because Japanese imports are taking away the market for their catches."

"The staff report said American boats do not dare go to the fishing grounds because of the lack of market for their catches, and that in San Diego, there are 57 boats with 14,000-tons of tuna aboard tied at the docks," Magnuson said.

Tacoma Swimmer Spans Juan de Fuca

Victoria, B. C. — (U.P.)—Husky Bert Thomas, Tacoma, became the first person today to swim the Strait of Juan de Fuca. He completed the 18-mile, tide-ripped swim at 6:07 a.m.

The husky logger touched the shore at Victoria and was cheered by an estimated 10,000 persons who lined the beach to greet him. He had been in the water for 11 hours and 17 minutes.

Thomas entered the water at 6:50 p.m. yesterday at Port Angeles, Wash., and had drifted into an ebb tide which helped push him toward Victoria.

It was his fifth attempt and the 13th try all told. Other challenges of the tide-ripped strait had included the famous marathon swimmer, Florence Chadwick.

A Vancouver housewife, meanwhile, still was going strong in her attempt to cross the strait in the opposite direction. Mrs. Ann Meraw entered the water at 3 a.m. and was four miles out of Victoria 2½ hours later en route to Port Angeles.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday, 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day

Assessment Ratios For Utilities Down

Salem — (U.P.)—The State Tax Commission today reported that new county assessment ratios for utilities have, in general, declined from ratios of previous years.

The Legislature had recommended that such assessments be reduced to bring them closer to assessments on other property. Utilities were to be brought under the state corporate tax program.

Biggest assessment decline was in Jefferson county, where the ratio dropped 6 per cent to 40 per cent. Average decrease was about 4 per cent.

Deschutes and Jackson county recorded increases, of 9 and 6 points respectively. Six counties showed no change, but instead raised locally assessed property ratios.

Portland Masons Get Wage Increase

Portland — (U.P.)—Portland cement masons have been granted wage increases of between 10 and 20 cents an hour as of July 1, union secretary C. V. Keller said today.

Keller said AFL cement masons, in addition, would receive a 10 cent increase next Jan. 1.

The new contract, which expires at the end of 1956, removes a 10 cent disparity between pay scales in the building and heavy divisions of the trade. Workers in both divisions would now receive \$2.80 per hour.



RIOT'S END—A one-day "rebellion" at Washington State Prison, Walla Walla, ended peacefully when convicts released nine prison employes held as hostages. Among first released was Theodore Bezerides, shown above being escorted from cell block to his office. He's flanked by convicts Ron Erb, left; Jim Singletary, and, in foreground, Jim Frazier.

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