

ITALIAN SHIP SINKS IN ATLANTIC

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TRIBUNE
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51st Year 26 Pages MEDFORD, OREGON, THU 26, 1956 Price 5c No. 108



ENTERS COURTROOM—Billy Junior Nunn is shown at right entering the courtroom after a brief session in the judge's chambers. Tape recordings of his conversation with officers in Alturas, Calif., May 3 were played in part by Defense Attorney Sam Harbison Wednesday afternoon. The defendant is charged with first degree murder in the sex-

slaying April 19 of Alvin William Eacret, 14, Klamath Falls. The case was expected to go to the jury this afternoon. Behind Nunn is Deputy Sheriff Ed Zander, one of Nunn's two guards. At extreme left is the defendant's wife, who is expecting their second child soon. Mrs. Nunn has been present throughout the trial.

Closing Arguments Completed in Trial; Jury to Get Instructions

District Attorney Walter Nunley this morning made his final plea to the jury to make the decision that would send Billy Junior Nunn to the gas chamber. Nunley's closing argument lasted 2 1/2 hours. The jury is expected to retire this afternoon, following instructions from Judge H. B. Hann, Judge Hanna's instructions were to start at 1:30 p.m. The state has asked for the death penalty for Nunn, who is charged with first degree murder in the April 19 sex-slaying of Alvin William Eacret, 14-year-old Klamath Falls boy.

Reviews Incidents
Nunley reviewed incidents from the beginning of the case to the present time, including discovery of Alvin's body April 29 near Tub Springs state park, investigation by officers, arrest and questioning of Nunn in Alturas, Calif., and testimony of witnesses.

He asked the jury to give special credence to testimony of State Police Sgts. Thomas Eaton and Earl Tichenor and Deputy Sheriff Joseph Walsh, who did most of the police work in the case and testified that Nunn had made an oral confession to them.

Nunley said the defendant's intelligence and cunning had been graphically portrayed in

the trial and described him as a "depraved, cruel, malignant person."

Shows Portrait
Nunley showed a portrait of the murder victim to the jury, then recalled testimony of Alvin's mother, Mrs. John Eacret.

He repeated a charge made in his opening statement that Nunn was guilty of deliberate, premeditated, malicious conditions under which Alvin died. He described Alvin as a small, immature, physically handicapped adolescent suffering from effects of rheumatic fever. He also reminded the jury Nunn was a weight lifter, long distance swimmer and wrestling champion.

The district attorney earlier commented, "This is the first case I have ever handled in which the defense has argued the defendant was guilty."

Defense Attorneys Sam Harbison and A. E. Piazza have said the state could prove nothing more than second degree murder.

Alan Holmes, deputy district attorney gave the first portion of the state's closing argument Wednesday afternoon.

Bloodmobile Visit Scheduled August 8

The Bloodmobile will visit Medford Wednesday, Aug. 8, and will be at the Elks Temple from 1 to 5 p.m.

Persons in good health between the ages of 18 and 19 have been urged to donate blood.

The quota for Jackson county for August is 240 pints. According to the local Red Cross office, during the vacation season accidents are more frequent causing a greater demand on the blood supply.

Voluntary Quarantine Placed on County Home

A voluntary quarantine has been placed on the Jackson county farm home, Highway 99 south of Phoenix, county judge Rodney Keating has announced.

Keating said the quarantine was placed because one of the residents has the mumps. He said no date has been set for lifting the quarantine.

Moist Air Brings Showers; Lightning Fires Reported

A breath of moist marine air moved into the northern California-southern Oregon area creating lightning storm activity this morning over the northern Sierras, the southern Cascades and Siskiyou mountains.

In addition the forest service reported that lightning knocked out the telephone switchboard at Star ranger station in the Applegate district.

Most fires were of the single snag type. Two fires on state protected land were controlled, a crew was on a third and patrolmen were headed to others.

Three were in the Soda mountain area, one at the north end of Hyatt lake and the other southeast of Buncom in the Applegate area.

Rogue forest had a man on its blaze near Siskiyou gap on Mt. Ashland loop rd.

Carl Nesheim, southwest district warden for the state forestry department, said the lightning storm was "quite bad" over the southeast section of the district.

A state lookout also spotted a fire over the line in California.

Water Restrictions Announced for Talent

Talent — The water supply for Talent is running critically short, it was announced today by Jim Purdue, water master, and new watering restrictions were placed into effect.

The city gets its water supply from two city-owned wells and they have become dangerously low, Purdue said.

The new watering hours, announced by Mrs. P. J. McAbee, recorder, are Tuesday and Friday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

No other watering will be permitted and no washing of cars will be allowed, Mrs. McAbee said. Open hoses will not be allowed during the watering hours.

Subcommittee Kills Postal Rate Boost

Washington — (UPI) — Senate Post Office Subcommittee today killed the bill to raise postal rates.

The subcommittee abandoned the bill, requested by President Eisenhower, as both houses sprinted toward adjournment.

The House had passed a measure to raise postal rates by \$430,000,000.

The Senate was hitting a fast-track for the time being than the House. It passed a \$3,770,000,000 foreign aid money bill, a \$2,100,000,000 military building measure, a \$1,500,000,000 rivers and harbors bill, and several other pieces of legislation in quick succession.

The social security liberalization bill made progress toward enactment when Senate-House conferees agreed on a final version. Both houses were expected to complete action on it and send it to the White House today.

Manno Named Head of Hardware Group

Anthony R. Manno, Medford hardware dealer, was reelected Wednesday as national director of the Independent Retail Hardware association.

Delegates representing 25,000 retail hardware stores in the United States and Canada elected Manno at the 57th annual congress in Toronto, Canada.

Manno has also served as president of the retail hardware group in Oregon and Washington.

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Tax Valuation Ratio Reduced 7 Per Cent

The ratio of tax valuations in Jackson county as assessed by the Oregon state tax commission has been reduced 7 per cent, according to Mrs. Elva Jennings, county assessor.

The valuation ratio for the year ending June 30, 1956, was 43 per cent, Mrs. Jennings said, compared to 36 per cent for this fiscal year.

Mrs. Jennings said the reduction will result in a \$949,653.76 tax valuation loss from utilities, which will mean a loss in basic school money for county schools.

Mrs. Jennings explained that property owners will have to pay more taxes to make up the difference.

Largest Reduction
The ratio reduction is the largest there has ever been in Oregon, Mrs. Jennings said. She said she knew of no reason for the ratio cut, and added that ratios were reduced in all counties in Oregon.

The state tax commission determined assessed valuation of land and buildings for fiscal year starting July 1, 1956 in Jackson county will be \$54,759,770, compared to \$55,034,020 for last year, according to Mrs. Jennings.

The commission determined assessed valuation of personal property this year will be \$14,415,550, compared to \$14,128,414 last year, Mrs. Jennings said.

Assessed valuation for utilities will be \$10,526,804.29, compared to \$11,746,460.05, for the previous year, she said.

Total valuation for tax assessments this year will be \$79,702,124.29, compared to \$80,658,894.05 last fiscal year, she said.

Ambuehl Is Bound Over to Grand Jury in District Court

Donald LaVerne Ambuehl, 31, of 1615 Crater Lake ave., was bound over to the grand jury yesterday by Judge Rawles Moore after a formal hearing in district court.

Ambuehl, who was arrested July 18 by city and state police and charged with unlawfully dealing in narcotics, was released from county jail July 24 after posting \$3,500 cash bond.

Witnesses for the state yesterday at the hearing included Police Detective Sergeant Lyle Perkins; William Crankshank, private detective; State Police Lt. Paul Morgan; Jack M. Merrill, agent in charge of the federal narcotics bureau office in Portland; and Police Chief Charles Champlin.

Recalled as witnesses for the defense were Perkins and Merrill.

The operator of the Y-Club in Medford, Ambuehl has been a suspect after officers received a tip earlier last week. When officers confronted him at the Plaza apartments he ran to his car and backed it several blocks in his attempt to escape them.

The chase was halted when Ambuehl's car was rammed by a state police vehicle.

City and state police are continuing the investigation according to Champlin.

Bids Called for MID Siphon Work

Bids for construction of Yankee creek siphon and Antelope creek siphon and wastewater in Medford Irrigation district will be received until 10 a.m. Aug. 28 at the Medford bureau of reclamation office, J. A. Callan, project construction engineer, has announced.

The project includes removal of existing structures, earthwork and construction of concrete siphons and accessory structures. Monolithic concrete or precast concrete cylinder pipe construction of the siphon barrels is optional with the contractor.

Yankee creek siphon will be about 1,940 feet long and Antelope creek siphon about 155 feet long. Both will be 60 inches in diameter.

Specifications may be obtained from Callan at the bureau of reclamation office here.

Keating Names 7 Committee Members

Jackson county judge Rodney Keating late yesterday announced seven members of a joint committee appointed to study assessment procedures on orchard trees and make recommendations to the state tax commission.

The committee, appointed by court order, also will have one member appointed by the county assessor and two appointed by the state tax commission.

Members of the joint committee of the county board of equalization and the Fruit Grower's league announced yesterday are Harry Glim, Talent; Howard Bush, Medford, president of the league; Stephen Nye, Medford; William Bagley, Talent; David Holmes, Phoenix; Bob Root, Medford; and Ralph Cook, Medford, a former member of the board of equalization.

Members of the board of equalization are Keating, chairman, and Arnold Bohner, Medford, and Edwin H. Singmaster, Ashland.

Salem — (UPI) — An advisory committee to study office space needs for state departments has been named by Gov. Elmo Smith.

BASEBALL

NATIONAL	
Milwaukee	11 16 0
New York	0 9 1
Conley and Crandall; Antonelli, Riddick (2), Hearn (2), Littlefield (6) and Sarni. Home run: Aaron, Milwaukee.	
Chicago	0 4 1
Pittsburgh	4 6 0
Jones, Meyer (7), Davis (8) and Chitt; Waters, Pollet (8) and Shepard.	
Cincinnati	3 6 0
Brooklyn	5 9 0
Acker, Jeffcoat (6), Black (8) and Bailey; Craig and Campanella. Home run: Campanella, Brooklyn.	

AMERICAN (1st game)	
Washington	0 4 0
Cleveland	1 5 1
Stobbs and Courtney; Lemmon and Hegan. Home run: Woodling, Cleveland. Second game postponed, rain.	

"Dick, You Have A Chance To Perform A Great Service"



Stassen Will Launch Poll To 'Re-Evaluate' Nixon-Herter Strength

Washington — (UPI) — Harold E. Stassen announced today that he will launch a new nationwide poll next week to "re-evaluate" the relative political strength of Vice President Richard M. Nixon and Gov. Christian Herter of Massachusetts.

Stassen, who is boosting Herter instead of Nixon for the GOP vice presidential nomination, made the announcement after a breakfast conference with Republican National Chairman Leonard W. Hall.

Hall, a strong Nixon supporter, pulled the rug from under Stassen's pro-Herter maneuver by announcing Tuesday that Herter had agreed to place Nixon's name in nomination at the San Francisco GOP Convention starting Aug. 20, Stassen Wednesday accused Hall of trying to dictate Nixon's nomination and "force-close" any free choice by convention delegates.

Herter Gets Assurance
In a statement, Stassen said he had a "thorough and friendly" talk with Hall. He said no commitments were requested or given by either man.

It was reported here today that Herter agreed to make the Nixon nominating speech only after he was convinced President Eisenhower wanted him to.

The report got heavy support today when the White House confirmed that Mr. Eisenhower had discussed with Hall the possibility of Herter doing the honors for Nixon.

White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty said Herter was one of a list of possibilities.

Weather

FORECAST: Thunder showers this evening. Partly cloudy tonight and Friday with afternoon and evening thundershowers. Cooler. Low tonight 55. High Friday 90.

Highest Yesterday 92
Lowest this Morning 55
Prec. to 10 a.m. Today, Trace

Our Skies Tonight

Sunrise 5:58 a.m.
Sunset 8:38 p.m.
Moonrise 9:16 p.m.
Last Quarter July 30

PROXIMATE STARS
Arcturus, in the west 10:25 p.m.
VISIBILE PLANETS
Jupiter, sets in the evening twilight.
Mars, rises below the Moon, 10:35 p.m.
Saturn, in the southwest 10:31 p.m.

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Luxury Liner Goes To Bottom After Collision

At Least Four Dead In Mysterious Crash

Nantucket, Mass. — (UPI) — The Andrea Doria, Italy's largest luxury liner, plunged to the bottom of the Atlantic at 10:09 a.m. (EDT) today nearly 11 hours after it was rammed by a Swedish liner and only one hour after the completion of a dramatic rescue at sea.

At least four persons were known dead as the result of the tragedy which occurred despite the most up to date radar equipment aboard both liners. Six others were reported seriously injured and scores received shock and bruises.

The Coast Guard reported that 1,600 survivors of the Italian lines flagship had been accounted for on the six rescue ships bringing them into New York.

There were 1,135 passengers aboard the 29,083-ton Andrea Doria. The exact number of crew members was uncertain but estimated at between 400 and 500.

Mysterious Collision
The \$29,000,000 Andrea Doria, one of the world's most beautifully appointed ships, received its mortal blow from the liner Stockholm in a mysterious collision 45 miles south of here at 11:20 p.m. Wednesday. It sank from sight in a burst of oily water bearing useless life boats and suitcases 10 hours and 49 minutes later.

One of the dead men and several of the injured were crew members of the 126,000-ton Swedish-American liner whose prow cut into the starboard side of the Andrea Doria like a giant can opener. The Stockholm, which carried 535 passengers and a crew of 215, was seriously disabled but was en route to New York under its own power.

Gun searchlights from the rescue ships stabbed through the night and the fog to light the way of the passengers down cargo lines and nets and into lifeboats. The frantic abandonment of the liner ended a festive "last night out" party aboard attended by film stars, industrial tycoons, and socialites.

A passenger, Miss Julia Streitz, Marion, Ohio, told the United Press in a radio-telephone interview that there was "some panic" aboard the liner "but everyone acted pretty well."

She gave credit to the crew and officers of the ship for their calm handling of the situation.

"There was a double crunch as the Stockholm hit us on the starboard side," Miss Streitz said. "It was like bumping into a dock. Almost immediately the ship began to tilt."

"I went to the upper side of the deck on the port side where everybody was gathering. Fortunately the lights remained on and that made things a lot better, but we had to wait quite a while to get away."

Ordered To Leave
Capt. Piero Calami and 19 of his officers and crew gallantly stayed behind in a futile attempt to man the pumps and keep the three-year-old liner from sinking. Only an hour before the sinking, they were ordered to abandon ship by the Italian government.

The Italian Line reported that there were 426 American citizens aboard the Andrea Doria. Many of them were tourists returning from European vacations.

Among the notables aboard the Andrea Doria were Mayor and Mrs. Richardson Dilworth of Philadelphia; movie actress Ruth Roman and her son, Richard; F. M. Thieriot, circulation manager of the San Francisco Chronicle, and Mrs. Thieriot; Istvan Rabovsky and his wife, Nora Kovach, internationally known dancers. All were rescued.

Portland — (UPI) — At least 13 Oregonians were believed aboard the two steamships which collided in the fog last night off Nantucket Island.

Aboard the Italian liner Andrea Doria, which sank after the collision were: Mrs. John Saccomanno, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Marchetti, Mrs. Donald Graf and her daughter Marilyn Graf, all of Portland.

Aboard the Stockholm were: Mrs. Emily Gunderson, of either The Dalles or Dallas, Ore.; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Olson of Gresham; Flora Herman, and Mrs. Lillian Morris, both of Portland.

(See Story on Page 14)

Washington — (UPI) — The Public Health Service has announced that the 1956 polio rate is running lower than in any other year since 1947.

Bulletin

Salem — (UPI) — The Oregon State Highway commission today appointed W. C. (Dutch) Williams as state highway engineer, to succeed R. H. Baldock.

Late News Briefs

PLEADS INNOCENT
Springfield, Ill. — (UPI) — Former state Auditor Orville E. Hodge today pleaded innocent to 46 indictments charging him with embezzlement of \$637,000 in state money.

Judge Dewitt S. Crow set Hodge's bond at \$100,000, which was furnished.

TENSION SHARPENED
Jerusalem, Israeli Sector — (UPI) — A series of border clashes sharpened tension along Israel's frontiers with three neighboring Arab states today. The most serious trouble spot was along the Jordan border.

PLANE SCOUTS STORM
New Orleans — (UPI) — A second hurricane hunter plane today scouted the season's first tropical storm which was reported showing weak signs of cyclonic movement in the southwest Gulf of Mexico.

Sgt. McKeon Said Within Normal Limits of Sobriety

Parris Island, S.C. — (UPI) — The government rested in the McKeon court martial at 11:53 p.m. (PST) today.

Parris Island, S.C. — (UPI) — A doctor testified today that Sgt. Matthew C. McKeon was "within the normal limits of sobriety" when he examined him just after the Parris Island death march.

Navy Lt. R. J. Atcheson, the doctor who gave McKeon a blood test for intoxication, told McKeon's general court martial he based his opinion on a sobriety test he gave the 31-year-old drill instructor at the request of military police.

Several Drinks Admitted
The MPs arrested McKeon after the sergeant took his platoon on a night march into a tidal stream to teach the men discipline April 8. Six were drowned. McKeon has admitted taking several drinks from a bottle of vodka prior to the march.

Lt. Atcheson said the sobriety test was a routine one in which a person's coordination is evaluated.

McKeon, he said, responded in a "perfectly normal" manner to a series of tests for equilibrium, double vision, gait, straight walking, speech, eye pupils, pointing and reflexes.

The doctor said, in answer to a question by chief defense council Emile Zerk Berman, that he did not have any confidence in a blood alcohol test, made about midnight April 8, McKeon had started the recruits of Platoon 71 on a march into the tidal water of Ribbon creek about 8:30 that night.

34th Prosecution Witness
Lt. Atcheson was the 34th prosecution witness in the ninth day of McKeon's general court martial on charges of manslaughter, oppression of troops, and drinking in violation of regulations. Atcheson is with the Parris Island medical detachment.

Washington — (UPI) — The Public Health Service has announced that the 1956 polio rate is running lower than in any other year since 1947.