

Russians Delay Trip To Czechoslovakia

London — Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Communist Party chief Nikita Khrushchev were reported today to have postponed a scheduled visit to Czechoslovakia because of "Poznan-style" unrest in that Communist country.

They originally were scheduled to arrive in Prague Tuesday but cancelled the trip without making a formal announcement. Soviet sources in Prague said they are expected to visit the Czech capital next week.

Some sources compared the current unrest in Czechoslovakia to that in Poland which resulted in the bloody Poznan riots a year ago.

Bulganin told United Press correspondent Henry Shapiro in Moscow last week he expected to be in Prague July 2, but Shapiro arrived there Sunday only to learn from Soviet sources that the trip has been postponed to July 9.

Potpourri

Washington, D. C., June 26—It happened. We attended President Eisenhower's press conference today—to the surprise of some of the veteran news men we talked to while waiting in the hall before the conference started—and it was tremendously exciting. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread, they say, and because we didn't know that hundreds of people try to get into a presidential press conference, and either wait months or never get in at all, we just wrote and asked our congressman, Charles O. Porter to arrange the matter for us. And he did. Well, one of his secretaries, Laura Olson, did.

When we talked with Miss Olson after our arrival Tuesday afternoon, she said the matter had been arranged, and that I was to present myself at the Northwest Gate to the White House, identify myself and proceed to Press Secretary Hagerty's office where a visitor's card would be issued. And we did just that. We took a cab from the Mayflower, presented our National Federation of Press Women's card to the guard; he took it and after a telephone conversation, gave us the card back and waved one taxi on. The Negro driver was impressed, and to be perfectly truthful, Potpourri was too.

Everything went on schedule. The door guard sent us on to Hagerty's office, a Betty Allen supplied the card and told Potpourri we were a little early, and to wait in the outer office for about 10 minutes before going across the street to the old State Department building where the conferences are held. A kind woman (everyone, absolutely everyone, was kind and helpful) who works for the United States Information Service, introduced us to Robert Spivack of the New York Post, and he escorted us across the street, and told us where to stand in line at the entrance to the conference room.

Everyone kept saying "Now, remember, you are not permitted to ask questions. Only the accredited correspondents are." To which we replied over and over that no one would need worry—Potpourri wouldn't dream of saying a thing.

Mr. Spivack wanted to know how I had managed to get into the press conference and when we answered truthfully that we just asked Congressman Porter to arrange it, and he did, Mr. S. raised his eyebrows high and said "Porter? And he's a Democrat, too." As time went on this conversation was repeated, in varying forms. A girl in the TEPS conference press room said in surprise that her husband worked on a newspaper in this vicinity had tried for months before he was permitted to attend a conference.

The guards finally checked us into the room, which the newsmen said was as hot as the Black Hole of Calcutta, and we took a seat between Mr. Spivack and David Broder of the Congressional Quarterly. The room was jammed, it was stiflingly hot and noisy with men talking, laughing and testing their cameras (by taking shots of their fellow newsmen). Before long the whisper went around "He's coming." We all rose and President Eisenhower walked briskly in, with a smiling word to those in the front seats.

The conference was underway at once. The President stood between a large desk and chair with the presidential seal on the wall above. As soon as the signal was given, a dozen men sprang to the feet saying urgently, "Mr. President—Mr. President"—he chose one, seemingly at random, and the questions began. In all our long years of newspapering we have never

seen a room with so tense an atmosphere and one where reporters worked so rapidly and so intently. The air fairly crackled—the cameras whirred and clicked and the pencils and pens flew over paper.

Marvin Arrowsmith of Associated Press wrote furiously, moving his entire arm, shoulder and body and flicked the pages over after each few words; Ray Scherer of NBC was just as intent, but wrote only with his hand; Mae Craig of "Meet the Press" fame also wrote busily; Martin Agronsky, formerly of ABC and now a special commentator with NBC, listened with care but did not appear to take notes. All through the room were men and women whose voices we've heard, and whose by-lines are familiar to millions, working as if the end of time approached.

Soon the men were stopping to mop their necks and faces and their hands; their shirts were soaked with sweat and clung to their backs and arms. The President, looking calm, fit and well dressed in a brown suit, inclined his head toward each questioner, almost as would a deaf person, and as soon as the question ended, began to speak with preciseness and authority.

He answered questions on his offer to suspend nuclear testing for a short period, saying he would not yield to the pressure of "eminent scientists" who want more time to work on development of a "clean bomb" and added that another reason advanced by the scientists asking for more testing time was that the tests must go on if the country was to get full value out of atomic science for peace time use.

Other questions concerned recent decisions of the Supreme Court justices, and the criticism which has followed in some parts of the nation. The President said he thought the nation should remember how carefully and thoroughly these decisions are formulated and that the justices and the decisions should be respected. Another question concerned inflation—the President said he was against price and wage controls during peace times and outlined his ideas on how management and labor could help hold down the inflationary spiral. Once or twice he smiled in a genial fashion, and at one point toward the close of the session he laughed outright when the United Press correspondent Dayton Moore, apologized for having interrupted him at the previous conference during a discussion of his vacation plans. "Where was I?" asked the President with a grin and the reporter said, "Sir, you had just said 'As I was about to say,'" and this brought a general laugh from the entire room. The President then continued his remarks about vacation, saying no definite plans had been made.

Potpourri had been warned to watch the clock and to be ready for the rush at 11 a.m. sharp, because the conference always ends right on the hour and the men and women fight for telephone lines out in the hall. We weren't trampled in the exit, and sought out Martin Agronsky, one of our favorite commentators. Mr. A. said he was more or less marking time until fall, with only a brief broadcast daily for NBC, and in

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MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

the fall is to make a series of special TV programs. In the hall he introduced us to Dana Schmidt of the New York Times and we listened with great interest as these two sharp news men discussed the conference, particularly the President's remarks on nuclear testing and fallout, with which there seemed to be some disagreement.

The rest of the day went in a whirl (believe it or not, Potpourri didn't eat any breakfast, there just wasn't any time, although we rose before 7 a.m.) and included luncheon with Congressman Porter, who was to leave tonight at midnight for Colombia, South America, for a three-day speaking tour; a visit to the House of Representatives, a talk with Alex Hamilton, who is working in the Senate postoffice and attending George Washington University; a TEPS conference speech and an Oregon open house in the apartment of Margaret Perry, Oregonian, who a few years ago was named McCall's magazine "Teacher of the Year."

More soon—O.S.

Search Continues For Missing Girl, 14

Littleton, Mass. — The search for a missing 14-year-old Roxboro girl entered the third day today. Some 300 Sunday searchers failed to find any trace of her.

The girl, Kristin Siemen, has been missing since she went for a horseback ride Friday. The horse was found tied to a fence but searchers aided by bloodhounds and helicopters have been unable to find the girl.

Philip Makes Slight Bobble on TV Show

London — Prince Philip gave a British television audience an expert introduction to Britain's role in the International Geophysical Year Sunday and made only one bobble during the 75-minute show.

The prince, who had appeared only once before on television, missed a cue and announced the cameras would switch to Greenwich for a demonstration of "earth wobbles." Instead, a picture of the Swiss Alps appeared on the screen.

"I'm afraid I made a mistake there," he said calmly. "I wouldn't have missed that Swiss sequence for anything."

PROFESSOR EMERITUS DIES Philadelphia — Dr. John G. Herndon, 68, professor emeritus of public finance at Haverford college, died Saturday.

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