

ROCKET FAILS

Examination Asked For Holdup Suspect

Attempt Made at Medford Branch of First National

Robbery Thwarted As Teller Sees Toy Gun

A sanity examination has been requested for a 57-year-old man who was arrested yesterday after an attempt was made to hold up the Medford branch of the First National bank.

The suspect is Charles Wesley Seaver, a recent arrival in Medford, and a former patient in a veterans hospital in Vancouver, Wash. He was arrested about 40 minutes after the attempted hold-up at 4:15 p.m., when City Police Officer Gene Dupuy saw he answered a description given of the holdup man by bank employees.

When asked to accompany the officer to the police station for questioning, a toy gun, similar to the one used in the holdup attempt, fell from Seaver's coat, Officer Dupuy said.

Robbery Thwarted

The robbery was thwarted when Mrs. Edna May McLeod, the bank teller, recognized the gun the man pointed at her as a toy. She said he pointed the silver colored cap pistol at her and handed her a handwritten note which said, "I want the paper money or death for you me."

She told authorities the pistol was "broken" as if for reloading. When she recognized it as a toy, she attempted to show the note to a nearby clerk. The clerk was busy, so Mrs. McLeod left her teller's cage and crossed the floor of the bank to the desk of C. Elwood Hedberg, the bank manager.

While Hedberg called police, Mrs. McLeod and Assistant Manager Allen Eames saw the man had left the bank. They ran out the Main st. entrance but were unable to locate him.

Bank Quite Busy

Bank officers said the bank was quite busy at the time the attempt was made, and that the man stood in one line, then changed to the line at Mrs. McLeod's window. They said he did not speak during the incident.

Police and federal bureau of investigation agents said this morning Seaver has made no formal admission of the holdup attempt, but that he did tell them he had written a note demanding money from the teller. He is being held in the county jail.

Doctors who examined Seaver this morning said they will ask the court to have him sent to the Oregon state hospital for a 30-day mental observation. A physician was summoned by police after Seaver was arrested because he was in a "very nervous condition."

Search Bank

A search of the bank yesterday revealed several "pactice" notes demanding money in a wastebasket. Officers said the notes were on the same type of paper as the holdup note, and seemed to be in the same handwriting.

Seaver told police he recently had been released from the VA hospital in Vancouver, Wash., and listed his address as 7312 S.E. Woodward ave., Portland. He said he has been in Medford since about Dec. 3, living at the San Louis hotel, 33 South Front st.

FBI agents said they are awaiting word from the U.S. attorney in Portland before proceeding further in the case.

Salem — Gov. Robert D. Holmes has proclaimed Dec. 10 as human rights day.

Council Authorizes Meter Use For Awning Supports

The city council last night adopted an ordinance to permit downtown merchants to use parking meter posts for awning supports. Such an awning is planned around the Fluhrer building at Main st. and Central ave.

The awnings will be of a plastic material to cover sidewalks from the building to the curb. City Manager Robert Duff said insurance rates for the city and buildings using the awnings may increase slightly.

Plastic used in the awnings is fireproof, according to tests by the building department. The ordinance provides that signs on such awnings must comply with the city sign ordinance, extension of parking meter supports



ARRESTS HOLDUP SUSPECT—Medford Police Officer Gene Dupuy holds the toy pistol said to be used by suspect Charles Wesley Seaver, 57, in an attempt to hold up the Medford branch of the First National Bank of Portland. Dupuy said he saw Seaver walking on South Central ave. about 30 minutes after the attempted holdup. When questioning him the toy gun fell from his coat. Seaver was lodged in the county jail on charges of attempted bank robbery.

Grange Group Studies Proposal to Include Hospital at CW Site

A proposal to expand the Camp White Veterans Administration Domiciliary into a combination domiciliary and general hospital is under investigation by a committee of the Eagle Point Grange.

The group this morning met with E. K. Ricker, manager of Camp White, to discuss the proposal, and to tour facilities at the domiciliary now unused.

Post 15, Medford American Legion, and other veterans groups have long been working quietly to see if the proposal can be placed into effect. The Grange became interested in the idea recently, and members have indicated that if expanded VA facilities cannot be obtained, other possible uses for the buildings will be investigated.

Conference This Morning

The conference this morning was attended by about 15 members of the Grange, and press representatives. Members told Ricker they had heard rumors of a VA hospital to be built in eastern Oregon, but he said they may have arisen from plans announced in 1946 to build a 200-bed VA hospital in Klamath Falls. The plan later was abandoned.

Ricker said the present number of members at Camp White is 861, and added that some 200 veterans are now actively seeking medical care there. He declined to estimate the number of hospital beds which could be accommodated should hospital status be given to the facility.

The nearest VA hospital to the south is at Oakland, and the nearest VA general hospital is in Portland. The VA hospital in Roseburg is for neuropsychiatric patients.

Constructed during the war as a general army hospital to serve two divisions in training at Camp White, the present buildings still have a clinic, operating rooms, and other hospital facilities.

Ricker said that general hospital costs total between \$18 and \$24 per day per patient to operate, whereas costs for a domiciliary are about \$5 per member per day.

Following the conference, the group left on a tour of the domiciliary, and of the unused hospital facilities.

Radio Moscow Reports U. S. Satellite Failure

London — Radio Moscow reported flatly and without comment tonight the U.S. failure to launch its first satellite.

The short announcement heard here said: "The much publicized U.S. artificial earth satellite Vanguard, which was to have been launched today, exploded with the carrier-rocket during the launching."

22 Appointments For Bloodmobile Listed

Red Cross officials reported today that only 22 appointments have been made for the regular visit of the Bloodmobile at the new Red Cross building on Hawthorne st. Wednesday, Dec. 11.

The Bloodmobile will be stationed at the building between 1 and 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Red Cross officials said 350 donors are needed to fill the 290-pin. quota for Medford. Appointments may be made by telephoning the Red Cross office at Spring 3-3813. They said walk-in donors would be welcome.

Ike at Gettysburg For Restful Week End

Gettysburg, Pa. — President Eisenhower was at his farm today for a long restful week end before his doctors determine definitely whether he can attend the NATO summit conference in Paris.

The Chief Executive arrived at his rambling farm home here Thursday.

Bulletin

Atlantic City, N. J. — The AFL-CIO convention today booted the Teamsters Union out of the merged labor movement for failure to remove officials charged with corruption.

The two-thirds vote necessary for expulsion was clinched when the million-member Steelworkers Union threw its weight behind the clear-up forces.

Bids Opened for Science, Heating Plant at College

Ashland — Bill Wiley, Ashland contractor, submitted the lowest base bid for the general contract for constructing a new science building at Southern Oregon college, Dr. Elmo Stevenson said today. Wiley bid \$232,150. Bids were opened in Portland yesterday.

Electronic Service of Medford submitted a low base bid of \$35,470 for electric service in the building, and Modern Plumbing of Medford bid \$73,340 on a mechanical contract.

Subject to Review

All bids are subject to review by the state board of higher education early next week, Dr. Stevenson said. Base bids do not include alternatives.

Weber Showcase and Fixtures company, San Francisco, submitted a base bid of \$31,125 for equipment in the science building, Dr. Stevenson said.

Graff and James of Medford submitted a bid of \$104,103 for construction of the heating plant and tunnels on the campus, and Modern Plumbing was low bidder on the heating plant mechanical contract. The firm bid \$154,800 to install steam lines, boilers, storage tanks and piping.

Ground Work

Dr. Stevenson said construction of both buildings is expected to start within 30 days after contracts have been awarded.

Other bids on the general contract were: A. S. McMurry company, Yreka, \$239,062; H. G. Carl Construction company, Salem, \$248,432; Graff and James, \$243,828; Bessonet Construction company, Medford, \$252,000; Myers D. Jones, Medford, \$258,000; Todd Building company, Roseburg, \$267,440; Donald M. Drake company, Portland, \$270,500; and H. Barnhart, Medford, \$280,525.

Other bidders on the heating plant were: R. I. Randolph Construction company, Salem, \$112,107; Todd, \$124,689; Ausland Construction company, Grants Pass, \$125,960; Bessonet, \$133,000; Drake, \$143,800; and Carl, \$164,832.

Bids for the mechanical work on the science building were: Rogue River Hardware company, Grants Pass, \$79,074; McLaughlin Plumbing and Heating company, Medford, \$79,998; Stuart Mechanical, Medford, \$85,000; Urban Plumbing and Heating company, Portland, \$92,874; and A. G. Rushlight company, Portland, \$95,030.



GASOLINE SPILLED—This gasoline truck, which was parked at Richfield Truck and Auto service, 2390 North Pacific highway, was struck about 5 a.m. today by a logging truck operated by Leonard D. Lewis, Medford, when he turned into the station to have a headlight repaired. A fist-sized hole (see arrow) was torn in the side of the tank and 2,800 gallons of ethyl gasoline spilled out on the ground and down a nearby drainage

grate. According to Fire Chief Gordon Barker, it will take a day or so for that much gasoline to evaporate and there is a potential danger of it becoming ignited in the drainage ditch. Lewis said that his truck brakes grabbed and the vehicle went into a skid as he turned into the station, according to city police. The gasoline truck, property of the Acme Transportation company, was badly damaged.

Stayton Man Killed In Rock Slide on Construction Job

Grants Pass — Charles M. Warnock, 50, of Stayton, was killed Thursday while working on a forest access road near Brownton in southeastern Josephine county.

Warnock, an employee of the A. L. Harding Construction company, was working with three other crew members on a shale rock face. Three of the four men jumped to safety when the shale above them began to slide.

Warnock, however, was crushed by several large slabs of shale before he could flee. He was crushed against a drilling rig.

Survivors include his wife, who is residing temporarily at Applegate.

Pick Drill Spot

Virgil Hull, Josephine county coroner, said that Warnock, Gary Bales, Larry Adams, and Willis Harding, one of the owners of the construction firm, were picking a spot to drill a hole for further blasting. Rock had been cleared by a bulldozer after previous blasting at the site.

Hull credited Adams with preventing additional loss of life. He said Adams saw the rock falling and yelled. Bales was knocked down by the slide.

The road is being built for the bureau of land management. Scene of the slide was on Steve's fork of Sturgis creek.

Milwaukie, Ore. — Thieves peeled open the safe at Milwaukie High school Thursday night and authorities said about \$260 in cash was taken.

Khrushchev Says US Has Sputnik Rocket

Moscow — Soviet Communist party chieftain Nikita Khrushchev said tonight that the carrier rocket of the first Soviet Sputnik plunged to earth over American territory last Sunday but "the Americans will not give it up to us."

Khrushchev made his declaration to foreign correspondents at a Finnish Embassy reception.

"We know the carrier rocket fell over the United States," Khrushchev said. "But they do not want to give it back to us."

"We relied on their decency, but they did not live up to it," he added. "We know it fell somewhere in the United States and will announce it publicly soon with a request that they return it to us."

He added that "should the Americans launch a Sputnik and if that Sputnik falls over Soviet territory, we would return it promptly."

When asked to comment on the American satellite, he said: "We have been waiting for an American Sputnik to be launched, and I am sure that it will be launched sooner or later."

Satellite Failure 'Not Too Surprising'

Washington — Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy said today the failure of the U.S. satellite launching was "disappointing" but "not too surprising."

McElroy discussed the launching failure just before taking off for Europe where he will attend the NATO summit meeting in Paris.

"Of course it was disappointing," McElroy said, "but it was not too surprising at our first full-scale trial."

President Eisenhower had no immediate comment.

But members of Congress reacted quickly and, in some cases, bitterly.

Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.) blamed the Eisenhower administration for failure of the Vanguard launching.

Blames Eisenhower

"It should never have happened," O'Mahoney told newsmen. "We have the scientists capable of doing the job but they were held back by the administration." He added that one of the first acts of President Eisenhower after taking office in

1953 was to cut back research and development budgets submitted to Congress by President Truman.

"Publicitywise and propaganda-wise, the failure was as disastrous to us as Russian Sputniks one and two," O'Mahoney said. Other congressional comment varied.

"Of course it's disappointing," said Sen. John L. McClellan (D-Ark.).

"It emphasizes the need for our concentrating with all our might and strength in the field of science and technology until we have advanced to where we are confident that our accomplishments are not inferior to any other in the world."

Too Much Publicity

Rep. Gerald R. Ford Jr. (R-Mich.), member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee looking into the missile-satellite picture, said the failure "indicates a good reason why it is desirable to proceed with the Army Jupiter-C missile as an alternative for launching a satellite."

Rep. Carl T. Durham (D-N.C.), a member of the House Armed Services Committee, said it was unfortunate the attempted launching "had so much publicity."

World Newspapers Jibe at U.S. Satellite Attempts

By UNITED PRESS

Slowness of the United States to get its earth satellite off the ground was reflected today in titles bestowed upon it throughout the world.

'Stallnik' in Mexico

In Japan it became the "Sputnik." In Mexico they call it the "Stallnik." In Germany it is the "Spaetnik" which can be freely translated into "Latenik."

French newspapers ranging from Figaro to the Communist Humanite called it the "Pamplousse" which is French for grapefruit.

Belgium newspapers used the same expression. To the Danes it is "Sprutnik," and "Sprut" is Danish slang for booze.

The usual German expression for it is "Spaetnik" but off the cuff it's either "Fluppnit" or "Klappnit" which is slang for "it does not work."

'Baby Moon' in Italy

Oslo's newspaper Arbeiderbladet headlined it "USAtellite."

The Swiss also settle for Spaetnik and play it straight-faced.

In Italy it's the "U.S. Baby Moon." In Helsinki it is the "Baby Moon."

The Zurich newspaper Tagesanzeiger calls it the "Yankee moon."

Vanguard Explodes As Flames, Smoke Engulf Missile

Several Weeks Seen Before New Attempt

Cape Canaveral, Fla. — A satellite-carrying U.S. rocket exploded on the ground today in a fresh failure of American efforts to meet Russia's Sputnik challenge.

The Defense Department announced its personnel and scientists at the scene escaped injury.

An orange ball of flame and billowing black smoke engulfed the gleaming silver Vanguard Navy missile at the moment it was fired, 8:45 a.m. (P.S.T.)

The rocket blew up on its launching stand.

Army Getting Ready

The Defense Department also said it probably will be at least several weeks before another attempt will be made to launch a test satellite.

The Army, also in the moon-carrying effort, is getting ready its own attempt to launch a satellite but it is not ready to fire.

The Vanguard, a thing of beauty on its launching stand, toppled into the water just before it exploded, an inglorious end to a magnificent endeavor.

Rocket Explodes

Dr. John P. Hagen, chief of the satellite project, said in Washington through a spokesman that the trouble developed two seconds after the Vanguard rocket was fired.

The spokesman said there was a "loss of chamber pressure in the first stage" of the three-stage 72-foot rocket.

"Then the rocket fell back on the stand, toppled over toward the water — that is toward the east — and exploded," the spokesman said.

Fire followed the explosion of the Vanguard but did not last long.

In non-technical language, what happened, according to the Defense Department, was that the power failed which hurls the rocket into space. Early diagnosis put the blame in the rocket's first stage.

Hagan quoted J. Paul Walsh, deputy Vanguard director at Canaveral, as being "naturally very disappointed."

Reporters could hear the dramatic last portion of the countdown preceding the firing—19-18-17 . . .

News of Failure

They got down to one second. All was tense in the public information office at Patrick Air Force Base.

Maj. Kenneth Grine was on the phone. He got to zero. Nothing happened. Then there was a pause. It was only seconds but seemed like hours.

The announcer at the cape on the phone said "All personnel stand by."

Then the news was broken that the rocket had failed.

Finally they passed around a little card with these words on it: "Exploded — No injuries."

But by then everybody knew. It was written on the face of the man on the phone.

Minutes later, pelicans wheeled over the base at Cape Canaveral, the only sign of aerial activity visible to hundreds of newsmen and spectators who had gathered on the beach to witness the event.

BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS

HELP FIGHT TB

15

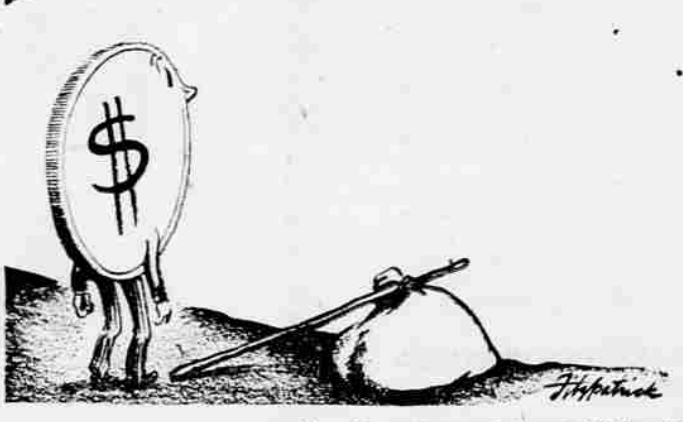
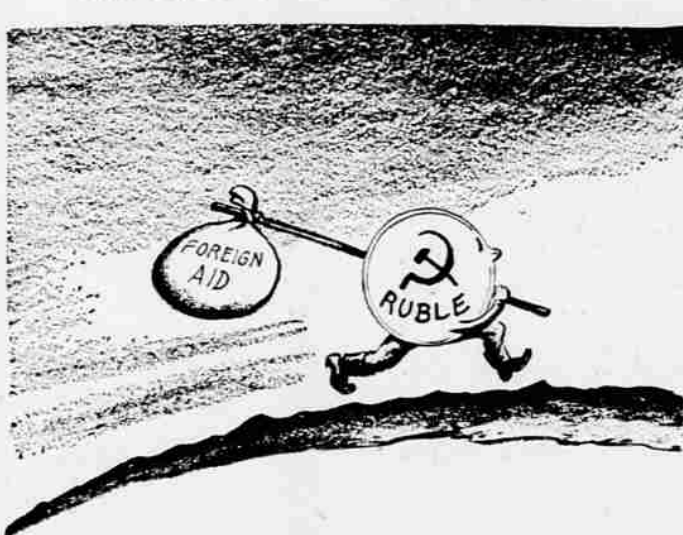
SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

CHRISTMAS

1957

GREETINGS

The Down-To-Earth Missile Race



(Herblock Is on Vacation)

WEATHER

FORECAST: Cloudy with showers tonight and Saturday. A little warmer. Low tonight 38-40. High Saturday 48.

Highest Yesterday 49
Lowest This Morning 36
Prec. to 10 a.m. Today .05

Our Skies Tonight

Sunrise 7:26 a.m.
Sunset 4:39 p.m.
Moonrise 4:37 p.m.
Full Moon 10:16 p.m.

PROMINENT STAR
Aldebaran, near the Moon.

VISIBLE PLANETS
Venus, sets 7:50 p.m.
Jupiter, rises 3:34 a.m.
Mars, rises 5:47 a.m.