

Congress: The Spring Junketing Season

By FRANK ELEAZER

United Press Correspondent
Washington—The light-
er side of Congress:

This is the happy time. This is the week for which our lawmakers cast a unanimous vote. This is the annual Easter recess, or spring junketing season. Today, in short, you could muster a quorum in the Caribbean quicker than on the floor of the House.

All this, no doubt, is as it should be. Anyway, it is as it has been since the memory of Congress would rather not run to the contrary.

There are differences, though. This year the members haven't simply waited for Easter. For the past three months they have been searching the sky in jets, plumb the depths in subs, and watching with envious eyes the flight of outgoing missiles bound for the kind of junkets which, even for congressmen, exist only in dreams.

Take Rep. James B. Utt (R-Calif.). He is among dozens of members who have been ferried down to Cape Canaveral, Fla., to see missile preparations and, if they are lucky, a launching.

Utt and his group recently sweated out a Vanguard count-down to within 35 seconds of zero. Then the fog rolled in and the shot was called off. But Utt didn't leave without learning something. He found there are 37,000 separate parts to the Vanguard, and said it's no wonder sometimes it won't work.

"As complicated as this missile is," he reported, "it was rather refreshing, as we approached the missile pad, to hear a workman call from the fifth deck, 'Joe, send up a screw driver!'"

Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland (R-Calif.) weighs about 220 pounds and might easily be elected the most down-to-

earth member of Congress. The Air Force nevertheless bagged him recently for a demonstration flight in a fast new jet.

Knowland's bulk was strapped in. This he expected. Oxygen mask was affixed. This was all right too. Takeoff came with a rush. And in no time at all, Knowland recalls, he and the pilot had shattered the sound barrier.

That, too, he was prepared for. At this point, however, the pilot leveled off and started really to fly.

Knowland won't say the trouble was caused approaching the speed of light, or even by breaking the heat barrier. But for whatever reason, the intercomsystem—or so the pilot claimed afterwards—wasn't up to the strain.

When it recovered a few moments later, with a roar and a bang, the pilot's voice came through loud and clear: "Okay, Senator?"

"Yes, fine," Knowland managed. With that the pilot went into a barrel roll. Knowland went into a sinking spell.

Plane, pilot, and Knowland turned over once. Knowland's stomach turned over twice. More, more of the horrible same, for five minutes.

"Was something wrong, Senator?" the pilot asked solicitously, back on the ground. "When I suggested trying some fancy stuff, you did say go ahead, didn't you sir?"

Vice President Richard M. Nixon is all set for a South American trip, and it looks like he may have to go further than he planned.

A bunch of Chilean congressmen were visiting the Senate last week and their presence was properly noted. Sen. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) was laying the welcome on in fine senatorial fashion.

"Our vice president soon will be visiting South America," he said, "and I am especially pleased to say one of the highlights of his journey will be a stop in beautiful Chile."

The Chileans beamed. Nixon gulped. Chile is one of two countries in South America he wasn't planning to visit.

Rep. Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) apparently is counting on the travel season's working both ways.

"I hope every resident of the Fourth Oregon District makes it a point to come see us when visiting the Capital," he told his constituents, hos-

Judge Threatens To Rule Mistrial For James Hoffa

New York — A federal judge today warned he would declare a mistrial for James R. Hoffa, accused of wiretap conspiracy, unless the Mc-

Clellan Rackets Committee discontinued its Teamster Union hearings until after the trial.

Trial Due Monday
Hoffa, Teamster Union boss, and two others are scheduled for trial Monday before Federal Judge John M. Cashion. A Senate committee on improper activities in the labor and management fields has scheduled a hearing in Philadelphia next week involving the Teamsters' Union.

Cashion said that he wanted to see Hoffa get a fair trial. "I can't be any more explicit and I can't be any fairer," Cashion said. "Hoffa and the Teamster union are bound together just like links in a chain and I don't think there should be any hearings involving them until this trial is over."

The judge added: "I can't control the committee but I can control my own court. Because I understand the two are bound together I won't hesitate five minutes to declare a mistrial."

Follows Motion
The declaration by Cashion followed a motion by defense counsel to dismiss because of the release of a recent interim report by the subcommittee that put Hoffa and Teamsters' Union in a highly unfavorable light. A second motion for dismissal was based on a speech made by Committee Counsel Robert Kennedy in Detroit, in which he referred adversely to Hoffa.

Hoodlum Drive Given Impetus
Washington — Justice Department sources said today that a newly announced stepped-up drive against the nation's 100 top racketeers actually has been under way for some time but was given additional impetus by the Senate rackets investigation and the Mafia "crime convention" at Apalachin, N. Y. last November.

They cautioned, however, that it may be a "long time" before any of the crime leaders are indicted.

Attorney General William P. Rogers announced late Thursday that the government was intensifying a campaign to bring top criminals to heel through the coordinated efforts of the FBI, Narcotics Bureau agents and other law-enforcement agencies.

Rogers put the drive under direction of Assistant Attorney General Malcolm Anderson, recently named head of the department's criminal division. He said Anderson's right hand man will be Milton Wessel, New York City lawyer who recently became Anderson's special assistant.

Coroner Identifies Remains of Woman
Burlingame, Calif. — The nude body of a woman found near a lonely lovers' lane has been identified as that of Marilyn Miller, a red-haired San Francisco woman with a record of prostitution arrests.

Coroner Paul Jensen said a comparison of dental charts clinched the identification. Miss Miller's dental charts were on file at Sonoma state hospital for the mentally retarded, where she was once a patient.

Her body was found Wednesday by three boys in a clump of weeds near Skyline blvd. She had been strangled by a gag that was rammed deep into her throat. Her wrists were bound with sashcord.

Doctors concluded that Miss Miller had met death about a year ago. She left home shortly after her arrest in April, 1957, as a suspected prostitute but was released.

Court Rules Ballot For E-R Dispute
Salem — The Oregon Supreme Court Thursday upheld Multnomah County Circuit Court in ruling that the controversial measure calling for erection of the Exposition Recreation center at the Delta park site in Portland should appear on the May primary ballot. The city is going ahead with plans at the Broadway-Steel Bridge site.

Oral arguments on the suit were heard before the high court here Wednesday.

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France Inaugurates Polar Air Route

Paris — France inaugurated a direct passenger air service to Tokyo via the polar route Thursday night in a bid to strengthen French commercial and cultural ties with the Far East.

A Lockheed Super Starliner took off from Orly Field for the first flight expected to take 30 hours and 10 minutes. The plane was scheduled to stop only once — at Anchorage, Alaska for 75 minutes to refuel.

CUE FOR TOYNBEE

Lexington, Va. — Historian Arnold J. Toynbee takes world history in stride, but he threw up his hands at the complexities of getting cues from a system of multicolored lights during a filming of a lecture series. Now he starts talking when the producer waves a bright confederate flag.

CHURCHILL A BOOTER
West Hartlepool, England — Winston Churchill will be one of the stars of a forthcoming soccer game between a British and a West German team. Winston, no relation to Sir Winston, is a 17-year-old plumber.

Soviets Indemnify British Widows

London — The Soviet government has given \$14,000 each to the widows of two British union leaders killed in a traffic accident in Leninград last November, it was disclosed today.

The two men were President T. Hollywood of the National Union of Railwaymen and the NUR general secretary, James Campbell. An NUR spokesman said checks to the two women "have nothing to do with legal obligations, and are purely voluntary gestures."

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