

Comptroller General Spends Millions To Save Large Amount for National Treasury

Washington - (UPI) - Comptroller General Joseph Campbell is a public paradox. He spends money and saves more than he spends.

This year, Campbell, a 58-year-old accountant, will spend about \$33 million of the taxpayers' money. By doing so he will recapture perhaps three times that amount for the Treasury.

Campbell heads the General Accounting Office. His agency, functioning as an arm of Congress, is chief auditor for the government's \$79-billion-a-year spending budget.

Cast by capital cliché as the Congressional "watchdog" on spending, Campbell belongs to the breed which muzzles the bark the better to apply the bite.

From a shiny modern headquarters building here, Campbell directs the activities of some 5,300 GAO employees. He runs 19 field offices in

United States plus offices in Paris, London, Frankfurt, Rome, Madrid and Tokyo.

Ride Herd

Accountants and investigators from those offices ride herd on the expenditures of most government agencies. Only a few, such as the super-secret Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Reserve System - otherwise audited - close their doors to Campbell's men.

But Campbell, watchdogging in Washington where few hesitate to blow their own horns, makes little noise. His agency has no press officers and no newsroom. He shuns interviews and makes few public speeches.

When his accountants put the bite on a defense contractor for a refund - or take the hide off a government official for an administrative lapse - some congressional committee usually discloses Campbell's

findings and steals the GAO's thunder.

That suits Campbell. He believes that his agency speaks best to the Congress and the agencies it audits through its carefully detailed reports which are prepared at the rate of several hundred a year.

Single Term

Appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate for a single 15-year term, the comptroller general can only be removed from his \$22,500-a-year post by congressional action. Thus insulated from the partisan resurges which beset other public officials, Campbell can well afford to issue his reports and let the chips fall where they may.

Generally the views of the GAO are much respected throughout government-even when those views are highly critical. Traditionally GAO auditors give first priority to getting mistakes adjusted, preferring correction to criticism.

Campbell and his aids are sometimes criticized, however, for pushing their audit inquiries into policy questions. The Air Force, for example, recently refused to give the GAO a full copy of an inspector general's report criticizing missile activities on grounds that such action would be against the nation's best interests.

The history of the GAO offers some insight into its current role in government and its attitude toward such disputes. Although the government has had an auditing agency almost from its creation, the present General Accounting Office was not established until 1921. For years it stressed paper audits in which its Washington accountants were satisfied to make sure that each expenditure was supported by a proper voucher.

Emphasis Changed

With the advent of multi-billion-dollar budgets, however, the emphasis has changed. Since about 1950 the stress has been on audits conducted "on the site" where auditors can go behind the paperwork. The stupid as well as the corrupt have come increasingly under GAO scrutiny.

So, while the GAO claims no policy making authority - for example - in deciding whether to send U. S. military aid to tropical nation X, it would thoroughly air the "policy" behind any shipment of arctic boots to troops who might be stationed there.

Just how much money is saved by GAO operations is hard to estimate. The agency's own collections run to about \$32 million annually but they are primarily refunds claimed on transportation.

Refunds Paid

Substantial refunds are paid to other agencies too. The GAO, in a 1957 report widely publicized by a House armed services committee, found that General Motors Corp. over-estimated its costs under an aircraft contract. The company refunded \$5 million to the Air Force and has offered to kick in an additional \$4,700,000 if the case does not go before the courts or the renegotiation board.

Moreover, the government profits through undetermined savings under contract improvements demanded by GAO and from the reports made by Campbell and his aides to Congress on pending legislation. And some payments to the government, won

by the Justice Department in court cases are based on data supplied by GAO.

Campbell himself, a greying lean-faced man who chews on a pipe like a professor, was vice-president of Columbia University supervising its finances when Dwight D. Eisenhower, a former president of Columbia, tapped him for a job as a member of the Atomic Energy Commission in 1953.

Democrats Opposed

He had decided to leave the commission to return to Columbia late in 1954 when Eisenhower named him comptroller general to succeed the much respected Lindsay C. Warren, a former North Carolina Congressman.

Because Campbell had not had legislative or legal experience and because he had voted, as an Atomic Energy Commissioner for the controversial Dixon-Yates power contract, some Democrats opposed his appointment to head the GAO.

One of the leaders in the unsuccessful Democratic drive against the appointment - Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) - has since stated publicly that he now believes his opposition to the appointment was ill-advised.



STANDING OUTSIDE HOME in El Cajon, Calif., are Mrs. Lois Pendergast and her four children, all of who were slashed to death, presumably by teen-age youth believed to have fled to Mexico. Children, from left, are: David, 9; Diane, 4; Allen, 2, and Thomas, 6. Father, Thomas J., 39, submitted to two lie detector tests as police sought clues.

Village in Connecticut Is Childhood Fantasy During Christmas Time

Christmas Village, Torrington, Conn. - (UPI) - When Christmas time rolls around, Torrington ceases to be an industrial center and becomes a little world of childhood fantasy instead.

The Yuletide spirit took hold this year on Sunday, Dec. 7, with the opening of Christmas Village, where Santa Claus and his elves are greeting thousands of kids and grownups from near and far.

Every day, until Santa leaves Christmas Eve on his Very Important Journey, the jolly old gentleman is "at home" to all.

He sits on a glittering throne near a crackling fireplace surrounded by all kinds of toys and stuffed animals. He chats gaily with the youngsters who call on him, and listens sympathetically to their secrets.

Talk With Children

In a nearby room are his elves, hammering, painting and decorating thousands and thousands of the toys that must be ready for delivery by Christmas Eve.

As they work, they talk with the children, answer their endless questions, show them where they sleep and eat. The walls and ceiling of the workshop fairly drip with toys, gar decorations and tinsel.

The elves, with their stocking caps, pointed green shoes and fuzzy beards, look the same as they do in the story books.

From the workshop, it's

only a stone's throw to the Christmas Village corral. That's where Santa's reindeer - all eight of them - are kept in readiness for Dec. 24.

In a little pink house there's Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and in a smaller pink house a baby reindeer-Snowflake.

Scene Depicted

A muted carillon arrangement of "Joy to the World" leads the children to the creche, where the nativity scene is depicted with nearly life-size figures of the Holy Family. The animals, the Three Wise Men, the Angels and the Guiding Star - all are there.

This year more than 50,000 youngsters and adults are expected to visit Christmas Village. Only local residents are permitted during the first week. But after that, everyone is welcome.

A special day - Telephone Day - is set aside for children who cannot visit Santa in person. And there's also a "Hospital Day" when Santa and his elves visit the shut-ins at Chiralote - Hungerford Hospital here.

Christmas Village is in its 11th year. It is a project of the Torrington Park and Recreation Department and was conceived by program director John Borzinski.

He thought of the idea to show the people his gratitude for their many kindnesses while he was seriously ill in a hospital.

Delight A Bride

Charming revival of an old tradition-record the most important day of the bride's life with this wedding sampler.

Personally hers-to treasure always! Pattern 7031: transfer of 12x16-inch sampler, color chart, framing directions.

Send THIRTY-FIVE cents (coins) for this pattern-add 5 cents for each pattern for 1st-class mailing. Send to Medford Mail Tribune, Household Arts Dept., P.O. Box 168, Old Chelsea Station, New York 11, N.Y. Print plainly NAME, ADDRESS, PATTERN NUMBER.

Our new 1959 Alice Brooks Needlecraft Catalog has many lovely designs to order: crocheting, knitting, embroidery, quilts, dolls, weaving. A special gift, in the catalog to keep a child happily occupied - a cutout doll and clothes to color. Send 25 cents for your copy of the book.



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Auto Tools Reported Taken from Garage

Auto tools valued at \$12.85 were taken from Kaye's Texaco Service, 1207 Court st., last Wednesday evening, according to a report to Medford police this week by Richard Brayshaw Kaye, the proprietor.

Kaye stated that three men and two women were in a vehicle driven into his lube room. He said they asked him if they could use his tools to tighten a valve cover. While he was taking care of other customers, Kaye related, the vehicle—with all five occupants and three of his tools—disappeared.

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An old favorite with a new touch. The gore styling gives you a foot-free feeling. Come in and try on a pair.

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3 Children Die In House Fire

Meyersdale, Pa. - (UPI) - Firemen recovered the charred bodies of three children early today from the ashes of a home on a Somerset county chicken farm near here.

Ronald Ansell, 5; Robert, 3; and Linda, 1½, burned to death Tuesday night when flames raced through the two-story frame house while their father was feeding chickens at a nearby farm building.

James Arnell, the father, said he heard an explosion and ran to the house to find it engulfed in flames. Crawling on his hands and knees, he tried to enter but was driven back by heat, smoke and flames.

The bodies of the youngsters were found huddled together at the foot of a staircase a few feet from the rear door. Firemen believe the boys, who had been watching television downstairs, rushed to an upstairs bedroom to get Linda when the fire broke out.

But the flames closed in before they could reach safety.

Opera Conductor Dies

Vienna - (UPI) - Prof. Rudolf Moralt, 56, first conductor of the Vienna State Opera died here Tuesday of a heart attack.

Centennial Plans Topic at Meeting

Cave Junction - Organization chairman appointed to work with the Centennial committee discussed the programs planned for the 100-day observance at a meeting of the Illinois Valley Centennial committee here recently.

Events being planned for guests include a pony express mail run over the old Crescent City-Waldo route by the 4-H Sage Saddleers; a Centennial flower show in June by the local Garden club; a display of minerals and rocks will be shown daily by the Minerals and Rock Hobby club.

The HEU plan to have sunbonnets and string ties for sale as Illinois Valley Centennial souvenirs; Chod Hoover of Kerby will offer horseback trail riding; the Methodist church is planning to stage a chuck wagon dinner once a week; tentative plans to have special day showings of the 100-year-old Masonic records are being considered.

What Every Boy Wants Official SCOUT GIFTS

Scout Flashlight - Sturdy brass-case flash has I-head, powerful beam, 3-way switch for night signals, belt clip. With bulb, batteries. No. 1278...**\$1.98**

Scout Knife - Brass-lined, 4-bladed knife has riveted frame, staggered handle, belt shackle. It's a jack-of-all-trades at home, outdoors! No. 1996...**\$1.50**

Scout Canteen - Rugged American-made canteen of heavy-gauge aluminum has welded, leakproof seams, captive metal cap, 1 qt. No. 1201...**\$2.50**

Scout Cook Kit - American-made one-man cook kit has fry pan, stewpot, cup, plate. Made of sturdy aluminum. Fit in carry case. No. 1200...**\$2.75**

Soft-Sole Moccasin Kit - It's easy to make a pair of soft-sole mocs with this kit. Has everything you need, just lace and wear. No. 1632...**\$2.95**

Vitt-L-Kit - Man-size knife, fork, spoon are made of stainless steel. They're rustproof, easy to clean. Clip together to fit plastic case. No. 1387...**\$1.75**



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Frederick Othman Has Heart Attack

Washington - (UPI) - Frederick C. Othman, Washington columnist for the United Feature Syndicate, suffered a heart attack Tuesday.

Doctors reported his condition Tuesday night as "pretty good."

The 53-year-old veteran newsman was stricken shortly after he had covered the morning sessions of a House elections subcommittee hearing looking into the defeat of Rep. Coya Knutson (D-Minn.), in the Nov. 4 election.

Doctors said he suffered what they described as a "coronary thrombosis with a myocardial infarct."

Othman became ill during lunch in the Senate restaurant. He walked from there to the Senate press gallery to rest and then went to his Washington home where he was attended by a physician and later removed to Doctors hospital.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Mobile, Ala. - (UPI) - Police jailed George A. Millon Tuesday on a charge of passing bad checks.

Henry Hudson discovered Hudson Bay in 1610.

TOP TUNE

London - (UPI) - Daily Telegraph columnist Peterborough claimed today he overheard a phonograph record salesman tell a clergyman when he handed him a record: "There you are, sir. 'Silent Night,' number seven in the top ten and climbing fast on the 'Two for Tea Cha Cha'."

HOT AND COLD

Edinburgh, Scotland - (UPI) - Lord Guthrie, judge of the Court of Sessions here, adjourned a case Tuesday because the courtroom was too hot. On Tuesday he adjourned another case in the same courtroom because it was too cold.

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7-light indoor set, equipped with import lamps. Each lamp burns independently. **SET \$1.29**

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Expansion style bracelets with photo holder. Sizes for men, boys, ladies and girls. Names engraved free. **EACH \$1.59**

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3 pair of nylon trimmed tricot panties in a plastic kiddy bag. Sizes 4-6-8 in assorted colors. **PER SET \$1.00**

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OUAKE SHAKES TOKYO

Tokyo - (UPI) - A brief earthquake shook tall buildings in downtown Tokyo today but there was no report of major damage.

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