

Klaus Fuchs Prepares for Release From Prison After Serving Nine Years

Many Americans To Earn More if Interests Raised

Washington—(UPI)—Some 40 million Americans stand to earn more on their U. S. savings bonds if Congress grants the Treasury permission to raise the interest rate on them.

The proposal was one of three involving the national debt sent to Congress Monday by the administration. The other two would boost the debt limit and abolish the 4½ per cent interest ceiling on new issues of marketable bonds.

3½ Per Cent Interest
The Treasury said that, Congress willing, it would pay 3½ per cent interest on new issues of series E and H savings bonds including those bought on or after June 1.

It proposed hiking the interest rate on outstanding E and H bonds as follows:

—Those originally bought at 2.9 per cent and 3 per cent would earn 3½ per cent from June 1 until maturity.

—Those bought at 3¼ per cent, the rate offered since February 1957, would earn 3¼ per cent.

Investors who cashed in bonds before their maturity would get less than the advertised interest rate. This is the so-called "lock in" device used for years to encourage people to keep their bonds.

The Treasury wants to sweeten savings bonds for two reasons. One is that with interest rates on other investments rising in recent years, the E and H bonds are not so attractive as they used to be.

Equitable Treatment
The second reason for asking an interest increase, the Treasury said, is to give "equitable treatment of all bondholders."

By adjusting the amount of time it takes a bond to reach maturity value, the Treasury can change the interest rate. Unchanged would be the dollar amounts. A \$25 bond still would sell for \$18.75 and a \$100 bond for \$75. One reason for keeping the dollar amounts unchanged is that about eight million people buy bonds regularly through the payroll savings plan.

Jury Trial Slated In District Court

John Arthur Atchley, of Sprague River, Ore., is scheduled to appear before a district court jury on June 18 at 9:30 a.m. on charges of assault and battery.

Atchley's request for a jury was approved by District Court Judge E. Roy Bashaw Monday. Atchley has posted \$105 bail. He is charged with striking Earl D. Bennett about the face and head with his fist.

Vincent W. Blaine, Camp White, was sentenced to nine months in the county jail by District Court Judge Bashaw for obtaining property under false pretenses. Transfer to Rocky Butte jail in Portland was recommended.

Blaine was charged with issuing a bad check on May 28. He had waived privilege of having an attorney and pleaded guilty to the charges.

James Vernon Dickinson, 123 North Riverside ave., was sentenced to one year in the county jail after he pleaded guilty to charges of petty larceny.

STAGE STAR DIES

London—(UPI)—Sonnle Hale, 57, a musical comedy star in Britain for more than 25 years, died Tuesday of a throat infection.

London—(UPI)—Klaus Fuchs, the brilliant German-born physicist whose muddled morals led him to betray Western nuclear secrets to Russia, is preparing for his return to society after serving almost nine years and four months of his 14-year sentence.

Fuchs, now 48, was sentenced on March 2, 1950, to the maximum 14-year penalty under the Official Secrets Act for passing atomic information to the Reds between 1943 and 1947.

Only the fact that Russia was not legally an enemy power saved him from possible execution for high treason.

In jail, Fuchs has been a model prisoner. He has earned the maximum time off for good behavior and is due for release the last week of June.

His present whereabouts are not exactly known—the government won't say—but he is believed to be in a "prison without bars" at Leyhill, near Gloucester. He spent most of his term in Wakefield Prison, not far from Leeds.

Conflicting Reports

There have been conflicting reports of Fuchs' future when he leaves prison. One newspaper here said the physicist, who was stripped of his naturalized British citizenship when jailed, would be deported. Other reports are that the government would let him stay here to work for British industry or research in a non-security post if he wished.

If Fuchs is deported, or if he chooses to leave Britain, he may decide to become a 1,400-sterling, (\$3,920)-a-year philosophy lecturer at Leipzig in East Germany. His 85-year-old father, Emil, is nominally a university lecturer on "Christianity and Communism" at Leipzig.

Fuchs himself isn't saying what he'll do.

Fears Demonstrations
It is known, however, that he fears demonstrations against him or his few friends if he works in Britain. On the other hand, lecturing on philosophy isn't likely to appeal to a man admitted to be one of the world's finest theoretical physicists. But once behind the Iron Curtain he probably would be offered something much better.

At the same time, Fuchs has admitted to a certain disillusionment with the Kremlin brand of Communism, and if it were not for the fact that his father still is in East Germany, he might choose to work in Britain—possibly under an assumed name, like Russian cipher clerk Igor Gouzenko decided to do in Canada.

Fuchs' father began his career at a Lutheran pastor at Ruesselsheim, Germany, where Klaus was brought up. Emil Fuchs later became a lecturer at the Academy of Pedagogics at Kiel. He was allowed to stay in Nazi Germany even though Klaus was forced to leave the country in 1932 for left-wing revolutionary activities. Emil continued to work in West Germany after the war, but was disappointed at not being given a higher educational post. When he was offered his Leipzig job in 1949, he jumped at the chance.

Good Student
Klaus Fuchs had arrived in England in 1933, after a short stay in France. He got his Ph.D. at Bristol University and his science doctorate at Edinburgh University. He was an outstanding student and in 1939 was awarded a Carnegie research fellowship.

In 1940, when there was a possibility of a German invasion of Britain, Klaus Fuchs was interned and sent to Canada. When conditions improved in 1942, he returned to England, took out naturalization papers and soon was given a nuclear research job, for which he had to sign a loyalty pledge.

At his trial, he admitted that he contacted Russian agents, through the Soviet Embassy here, as soon as he got the research job. He apparently felt that restrictions on giving secret information to Russia, a war-time ally, were wrong and that his beloved Communism should get all the benefits of his work—and the work of others.

He continued to relay information to the Russians through the war and until 1947. His enthusiasm began to wane then, and when his British friends showed their worth by helping him when he became ill in 1948, he may have given thought to breaking with his Soviet friends.

Placed in Soviet Hands
But the following year his father went to Leipzig, placing himself in Soviet hands. Western intelligence agents, checking on father Fuchs' relatives and friends, traced Klaus to the Harwell Research Station, where a security leak was under investigation. Confronted

C-47 DITCHES IN SEA

Tripoli, Libya—(UPI)—A U.S. Air Force C-47 transport en route to Tripoli from Germany was ditched in the Mediterranean Sea Sunday with the loss of one man, it was reported today. The plane's captain, identified only as Guy M. Allphin, 34, went down with the sinking craft and was presumed dead. Seven other crew members were found floating on a rubber raft and were saved by a rescue plane.

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by the agents Klaus made a full confession of his treachery.

After being sentenced, he was first taken to Stafford Prison. There he was put to work in the mail-bag workshop at sixpence (7 cents) a week. He soon became a workshop supervisor at two shillings sixpence (35 cents) a week, overseeing 100 men. He was responsible for the tools and materials, and quickly de-

veloped methods of saving material and speeding up work. His routine was much like that of any other prisoner, although he had a cell to himself and was treated with respect by prison officers often give "political" as compared with other criminals.

Fuchs was quiet and well-behaved, and kept to himself more than most.

He soon was transferred to Wakefield, where he became

head librarian, with three assistants. He became a "red-striper," a privileged prisoner with a red stripe on his uniform arm which showed he was permitted to move about the prison at will.

Fuchs began to mix more with the other prisoners. His sympathies at first were with the other "political" prisoners, notably Greek Cypriots jailed for terrorist activities. But he tired of them and gradually

stopped trying to cultivate them.

Taught Prisoners

He began to teach his fellow prisoners simple mathematics, physics and politics. He kept up with nuclear developments as best he could through books and magazines.

Fuchs later took over organization of the entire education system in Wakefield. He prepared the syllabus, arranged for outside lecturers, taught, and was one of the founders of the prison film society. He tape-recorded good radio plays for a Saturday-night group of prisoners who, like him, did not like television. His health generally was good, except for a brief recurrence of a lung ailment.

For the first time in his life, Klaus Fuchs in prison became a leader of men instead of a rather retiring research worker. His fellow prisoners admired him. He became known as "Doc," was accepted as unofficial arbiter for arguments, discussions and fist fights. Rarely was his decision questioned.

Good Dancer

Before his imprisonment, Fuchs was a good dancer, an excellent mountaineer and skier, used to the open places. He had few close friends, but his sparse frame and thick

spectacles attracted women. It was reportedly a woman Communist who put him in touch with the Russian spy ring.

He chain-smoked and was a hard drinker, taking neat gin by the tumblerful and drinking barmen under the table when on one of his periodic bouts. He was not an alcoholic, however.

In jail, all this changed. The skier preferred to sit in his library. The heavy smoker never finished his weekly ration of cigarettes. He always had cigarettes to lend, and refused to follow the prison habit of demanding two back for every one lent. One-for-one was his rule.

He had few visitors, if any, in his first seven years. His father visited him in 1957 and

has each year since then. The Harwell security officer, Wing Commander Henry Arnold, who had helped Klaus wind up his affairs during and after his trial, also visited him.

Few Visitors
But apart from police and intelligence agents interviewing him, his visitors were few and far between.

Klaus Fuchs has a few weeks before finishing his legal debt to society, but will his conscience be clear?

One thing must be on his mind constantly.

At his trial, Fuchs claimed that President Truman decided to go ahead with construction of the H-bomb only when it became known Fuchs had given away the secret of the A-bomb to Russia.



SAWING THROUGH BARS, four convicts make small hole in window (top right) at Fort Madison, Ia., prison and escape after holding two guards captive before flight.

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