

Soldier in Hitler Army Finds Success As Salesman in U.S.

New York—UPI—Curt Thiele gets impatient with those who say the United States is no longer the land of opportunity. He should know. He came here from Germany as recently as 1952, and he started behind a pretty big eight-ball. In just seven years, Thiele, 38, has become a star salesman for one of America's top insurance companies, earning an annual salary in five figures.

"It couldn't have happened any place else in the world," Thiele says. The slightly built, energetic young German's personal eight-ball was the fact that he fought for the Nazis, as a corporal in the German Afrika Corps. Before making the grade here, he had to live down his past.

Thiele was captured twice by the British in North Africa. The first time he escaped and walked back through the British lines 180 miles, masquerading as an Arab. The second time he was shipped to a prisoner-of-war camp in this country, and was held two years.

It was as a prisoner that Thiele decided America was the place for him.

Thiele, a promising young soccer star when he entered the German army in 1940, had studied English in school, so he had that much of an advantage when he was sent to the United States as a POW.

But what particularly "astonished and delighted" him was the informality and friendliness of the Americans he came up against. "Even the lieutenant called me Curt, which no German officer ever did," he recalls. By the time he was sent back to Germany in 1945, Thiele was thoroughly sold on the U.S.

For seven years, he worked as an interpreter, chief clerk and professional soccer player in his home town of Hamburg—"the pay was sufficient and there was much prestige," he says. But just before Christmas of 1952, he packed off to America with his wife and four-year-old daughter.

A New York bank hired him as a clerk but he also had to work as a part-time janitor and a waiter to supplement his \$4-a-week salary. In 1953, he answered an ad in a German-language newspaper for an insurance underwriter.

Now, although most of his customers are Germans "and Germans are not used to carrying insurance" (his father never carried any), Thiele sells more than 200 policies a year. His company says of him that he is one of the hardest-working and "best-liked" underwriters in the firm. Twice he has made the company's honor list of top salesmen.

"I can greatly appreciate what it means to be an American," says Curt Thiele. "Most Americans do not appreciate this enough. I do."

Head-on Collision Kills Roseburg Man

Roseburg—UPI—State highway department employee George Southman, 56, of Roseburg, head of the department's maintenance office here, was killed instantly late Tuesday when his car collided head-on with another car on Highway 42 near Winston. State police said Southman was alone in his state vehicle. It collided with a car driven by John Wright Renard, 39, Winston, who was injured and taken to a Roseburg hospital.

Quotes From the News

United Press International

Ennis, Mont.—Mrs. Irene Bennett, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, describing the earthquake and collapse of a mountain top that killed her husband and three of her children: "Suddenly we all heard that terrible rumbling. I saw my husband yelling. He told me to grab a tree. I saw him grab a tree, but I never saw him again."

Little Rock, Ark.—Joe McCoy, a 15-year-old white student at Central High school, contradicting a report that there had been a fight between whites and a Negro student, Jefferson Thomas: "There has been absolutely no trouble at all. Some shout names at him as he walks down the hall, but I have never seen anyone hit him or molest him in any way."

Santiago, Chile—Secretary of State Christian A. Herter, speaking at the close of the American foreign ministers conference that agreed on a declaration condemning dictatorships: "The Declaration of Santiago and accompanying documents are among the outstanding papers in the history of inter-American cooperation. The United States will do its part in translating them into action."

Oconomowoc, Wis.—Clyde Pfeiffer, 32, promising to stand by his wife as she is tried on charges of plotting with her married lover to kill him: "We had nine wonderful years together. I am not going to throw that away for one bad one."

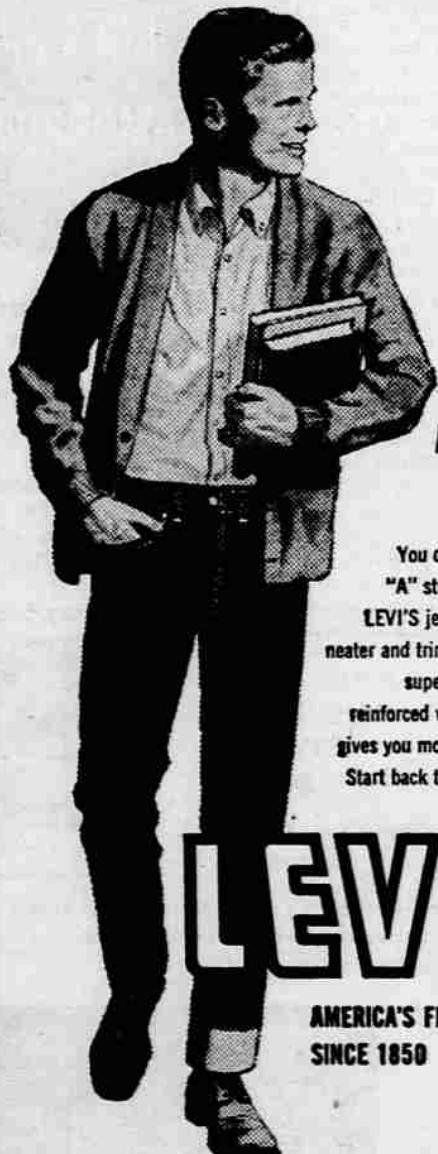
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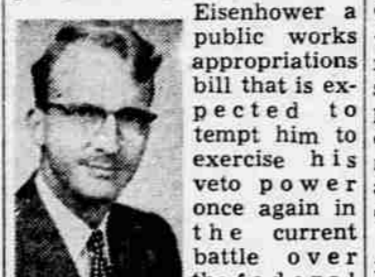
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Congress Readies Public Works Bill; Ike May Be Tempted To Exercise Veto

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Washington Correspondent



Washington (Special)—Congress is set to send President Eisenhower a public works appropriations bill that is expected to tempt him to exercise his veto power once again in the current battle over the federal budget.

The compromise bill worked out between House and Senate last week runs about \$30 million over the President's budget recommendations for the various water and power agencies—Army

Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, Bonneville Power Administration, etc. What may cause the president to send the bill back without his approval is the fact that it contains funds to start construction of 52 new projects and to start planning over 30 other new projects—none of which were listed for any money in his budget recommendations.

Dropped from the list of new projects earlier approved by the Senate was Green Peter dam (the project which to rename Douglas McKay a dam), which was listed for \$1.5 million in the Senate bill. The conference compromise also dropped \$18,000 from the Hood river boat basin and \$23,000 for planning a navigation channel on the Millcoma river above its confluence with the Coos river east of Coos Bay.

Another cut made by the conferees was in the deferred maintenance fund of the Corps of Engineers, from which the money was expected to come for channel dredg-

ing and south jetty repairs at Siuslaw harbor, near Florence. The engineers informed Rep. Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) they would be unable to finance this work out of the \$6,382,000 approved in the bill due to demands of higher priority projects elsewhere. Nothing short of about \$15 million would have been enough to cover the Florence project, they estimated.

New projects left in the compromise bill included: 1. Redmond-to-Burns transmission line—\$1,055,000 was approved to build a Bonneville power line to serve the Harney County REA co-op but it can't be started until the co-op has met conditions of a recent REA loan.

2. Yaquina Bay—\$100,000 to start making this a deep-water harbor. 3. Columbia river fishery research—an undetermined portion of a \$500,000 addition is to be used by the Fish and Wildlife Service for research in the fish vs. dam conflict.

4. Willow Creek flood control—\$18,400 for resurvey of this project near Heppner. 5. Coyote-Spencer creek—\$50,000 for planning this flood

control project near Eugene. 6. Clatsop County Diking District No. 6—\$55,000; and Woodson Drainage District—\$81,000. All of these are on the lower Columbia.

7. Malheur river—\$250,000 for the Vale unit construction for flood control. **Emphasis on Cost** President Eisenhower hinted that he might veto this appropriation bill in a letter to Rep. John Taber (R-N.Y.) July 20. He laid heavy emphasis on the eventual cost of the various new projects for which both houses had given token amounts this year to get under construction.

Congress, in the face of the administration's continuing ban on listing new projects in its annual budget requests, has used this foot-in-the-door technique. It will grant small amounts in the year it adds a project to budget, virtually forcing the administration thereafter to include this project in its budget in subsequent years because it would be uneconomical to stop construction.

John Day dam was added as a new project two years ago with a token appropriation of \$1 million. This year the budg-

et recommended \$20 million for John Day.

In addition to \$20 million for John Day dam, the compromise public works bill contains the following items as requested by the President's budget:

Corps of Engineers—Cougard dam, \$8,000,000; Hills Creek dam, \$8,300,000; The Dalles dam, \$7,000,000; Columbia river channel from Vancouver to The Dalles, 27-foot deep, \$1,611,000; Rogue river harbor at Gold Beach, \$1,500,000; Willamette river bank protection, \$500,000; interstate bridge from Portland to Vancouver, \$1,130,000; Multnomah County Drainage District, \$203,000; Blue river reservoir planning, \$105,000; and Fall Creek dam planning, \$202,000; Ice Harbor dam, \$32,000,000; Lower Monumental dam planning, \$800,000; Chief Joseph dam, \$1,100,000; Bureau of Reclamation—Rogue river basin, Talent

division, \$2,747,788; Crooked river project, \$2,833,000; Klamath project, \$522,000; Wapinitia project, Juniper division, \$39,700; Columbia Basin project \$8,000,000. Bonneville Power administration—\$22,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The President has only once before vetoed an appropriation bill. That was one last year covering various independent federal agencies. He objected to one item for the Civil Service Commission. Congress rewrote the bill as he wished and he signed it.

With his latest victory in the size of the housing bill (he vetoed the housing bill some two weeks ago, and the Senate tried but failed to muster a two-thirds vote to override the veto last week), Eisenhower has yet to have one of his many vetoes overridden by either house of Congress.

Mrs. Rockefeller Guest in Home of Son's Bride-To-Be

Sogne—UPI—Mrs. Nelson Rockefeller Monday night enjoyed an American-style lobster dinner at the modest farm home of her son Steven's future Norwegian in-laws.

She represented the advance party of the Rockefeller family and friends who will attend Steven's wedding this Saturday to pretty Anne Marie Rasmussen, at one time a maid in the Rockefeller home in New York.

Governor to Attend New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller announced that he and his daughter Anne would leave for Norway Thursday and that other members of the clan will have departed before then.

Six places were set in the Rasmussen home for Monday night's dinner. Anne Marie's parents and 19-year-old sister Torhild attended, as well as Mrs. Rockefeller and Steven. In Norway lobster usually is served cold, but the Rasmussen's served it hot-bolled with melted butter—as a special gesture to their newly arrived guest.

To Inspect Site Mrs. Rockefeller today planned to inspect the Kristianstad Klubben where the wedding reception is to be held.

Her arrival by plane Monday was treated as a national event by the Nordic press. However, one newspaper, the Oslo Aften Posten, headlined that "wholesome human happiness in the world has been shaken by reports of disaster" in the form of uncomplete happiness at Sogne.

The newspaper said Torjoerg Homme, a prospective bridesmaid and long time friend of Anne Marie, was ill with a kidney ailment that could keep her from the wedding.

Unemployment in Oregon Declines

Salem—UPI—Although an estimated 750 persons were off their jobs due to the Roseburg disaster, the Department of Employment reported today that only about 50 of them had filed for unemployment benefits.

The department said just about everyone was kept busy cleaning up the city. Throughout Oregon last week, 7,631 persons claimed unemployment—down five per cent from the prior week. Woods closures due to low humidities and recent scattered hill fires resulted in some layoffs.

Insured unemployment is over 50 per cent below the level of a year ago at this time, the Department reported.

Jack Benny Slates Charity Concerts

Hollywood—UPI—Comedian Jack Benny will haul out his famous violin to appear as a guest soloist in three charity concerts this fall. Benny's appearances, with proceeds going to the symphony funds, will be in St. Louis, Nov. 10; in Detroit, Nov. 13, and in Rochester, N. Y., Nov. 15.

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St. Louis—UPI—George Crowe's pinch hit grand slam home run for St. Louis Thursday night enabled the National league to break a record in that department. It was the fourth bases-loaded homer by a pinch-hitter this season.



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