



ACCUSED of killing two New York teen-agers, Miguel Castro (above) and a companion await court action.

The world "colorado" is Spanish for "ruddy or red." The state of Colorado was so named because of its red soil and rocks and the ruddy color of the Colorado River.

A 1,093-foot tower, described as the tallest independent tower in the world, has been opened to sightseers in Tokyo.

Boss of Soviet Union's Auto Production Plant Has No Worries About Sales, Design

Moscow — (UPI) — Picture an automobile manufacturer with no sales worries, no annual search for a new design and virtually no competition. That's the enviable position of lanky Victor Mikhailovich Polyakov, the 44-year-old boss of the Soviet Union's "Moskvich" auto production plant on the outskirts of Moscow.

The Moskvich is a small four-door, four-passenger sedan with a 45-horsepower engine. It can do up to 72 miles an hour and boasts folding seats that can be made into a car bed.

Demand Not Met

From the single final assembly line at the Polyakov-run plant, a new Moskvich is readied for shipment to the far-flung outposts of the Soviet Union and to foreign countries every six minutes of the working day, or 200 daily.

But the plant's annual output of 60,000 cars, station wagons and pickup trucks doesn't come close to meeting the demand and the average Soviet consumer must expect to wait anywhere up to two years for delivery.

Although Polyakov is striving to boost Moskvich produc-

tion to 100,000 annually by the end of the seven-year plan in 1965, he holds little hope for a sharp improvement in the internal market situation.

Not Priority Item

In a talk with Western newsmen, he indicated clearly that Soviet planners do not consider private auto production a number one priority item in the national development program.

Currently, one-third of the Moskvich production and a fair part of that of the three other Soviet cars — "Pobeda," "Volga" and the luxury "Zil" — are earmarked for foreign export.

The bulk of these sales, of course, go to the Soviet Union's Socialist neighbors. But Polyakov says the sturdy little Moskvich, which somewhat resembles the German "Opel" of a number of years ago, has also found a market in Scandinavia and Austria. And by the end of this year, he said, there is a possibility that 2,000 Moskvich cars will be shipped to West Germany.

One of the prime reasons for the Soviet car export drive, Polyakov explained, is to get foreign credits so the U.S.S.R. can import machin-

ery it badly needs for developing other phases of its industry.

Latest Trends

Although Polyakov and other officials of the Moskvich plant haven't changed their design much since 1956 and don't plan to until 1963, they remain abreast of the latest trends in car development through trips abroad, avid reading of Western auto periodicals and outright purchase of new Western models.

Despite all his advantages, Polyakov admitted that the Moskvich does have its troubles.

Spare parts are one, he said. When Moskvich production first started it was not rare to receive anguished appeals from car owners outside Moscow who simply could not get the spare parts to repair even the simplest disorders.

But now, Polyakov said, 12 per cent of his plant's production is devoted to spare parts.

In the entire plant, the correspondents saw only one small assembly line — for boring and grinding engine blocks — that could be classified as automatic. Virtually all the work is done by men or women — girls make up nearly half the work force — at Soviet and foreign machines which are often of World War II vintage or before.

Polyakov, who has toured auto plants in the West, told reporters he was well aware of his plant's shortcomings but that he expected to improve both working conditions and techniques by the end of the seven-year plan.

Low-Priced Car

Currently, the Moskvich ranks as the low-priced people's car although it sells for 25,000 rubles, or \$2,500 at the official rate of exchange.

Polyakov, who said his factory has nothing to do with setting the price, a matter handled by the State, admitted that production costs were low enough to provide the factory with a healthy profit last year. Most of it, he said, went for workers' bonuses, plant improvement and employees' housing.

Laborers at the Moskvich plant earn relatively high wages by Soviet standards. Polyakov said the average salary of a factory mechanic was around 1,000 rubles (\$100) a month. Skilled engineers and designers might make three times as much and a factory director, Polyakov said, could make 10 times as much.

Ashland Police Busied by Thefts

Ashland — Investigations of two car thefts and one attempted car theft kept Ashland police busy during the week end.

Friday night, a thief apparently tried to take a 1950 Nash station wagon belonging to Virgil Lacy, 1280 Iowa st., Ashland. The thief rolled down the back window, climbed in but apparently failed to find a possible duplicate set of car keys in the glove compartment. He left the front car door open when he left, Ashland police said.

Saturday morning Ashland police were notified that a 1958 all-white Ford station wagon was stolen from R. E. Van Fleet, 734 Alkader st., while it was parked in front of his residence sometime during the night.

An accident Friday night in front of the Top Hat drive-in restaurant on Siskiyou blvd. revealed a car had been stolen from Visalia, Calif. A 1955 Pontiac sedan driven by Herbert Clarke, Highlands, Calif. and a 1958 Chevrolet hardtop collided. The unidentified driver of the second car left on foot, and Ashland police discovered later the vehicle was stolen.

Torrential Rain Follows Typhoon

Taipei — (UPI) — Torrential rains following on typhoon Louise's heels touched off flash floods on the Pescadores during the week end, causing some property damage but no casualties, police reported.

Two villages were flooded and another one partially inundated on the islands of the Formosa Strait after six inches of rain in four hours.

Police said nobody was killed or injured because the villagers were evacuated to high lands before the storm. Property damage was light as the floods receded quickly.

Heavy rains were also reported from Central Formosa which suffered from the island's record shattering flood Aug. 7.

One of the world's great ship canals, the 16-mile waterway from the North Sea to Amsterdam, was opened in 1876.

3-Year-Old Drowned In Backyard Swim Pool

Palm Springs, Calif. — (UPI) — Three-year-old Keith Baumgardner drowned Saturday while his parents were opening a house for the owner's return.

His mother, Mrs. Vern Baumgardner, saw his body floating in the backyard swimming pool. He had been playing near the pool with his two brothers while his parents, opened the house.

The United States Public Health Service reports that about 47 million Americans suffered injuries that required medical attention or caused them to restrict their usual activities for at least a day in 1958.

Researchers for a drug company found that there are nearly six times more homicide victims among divorced men than married men and four times more among widowers.



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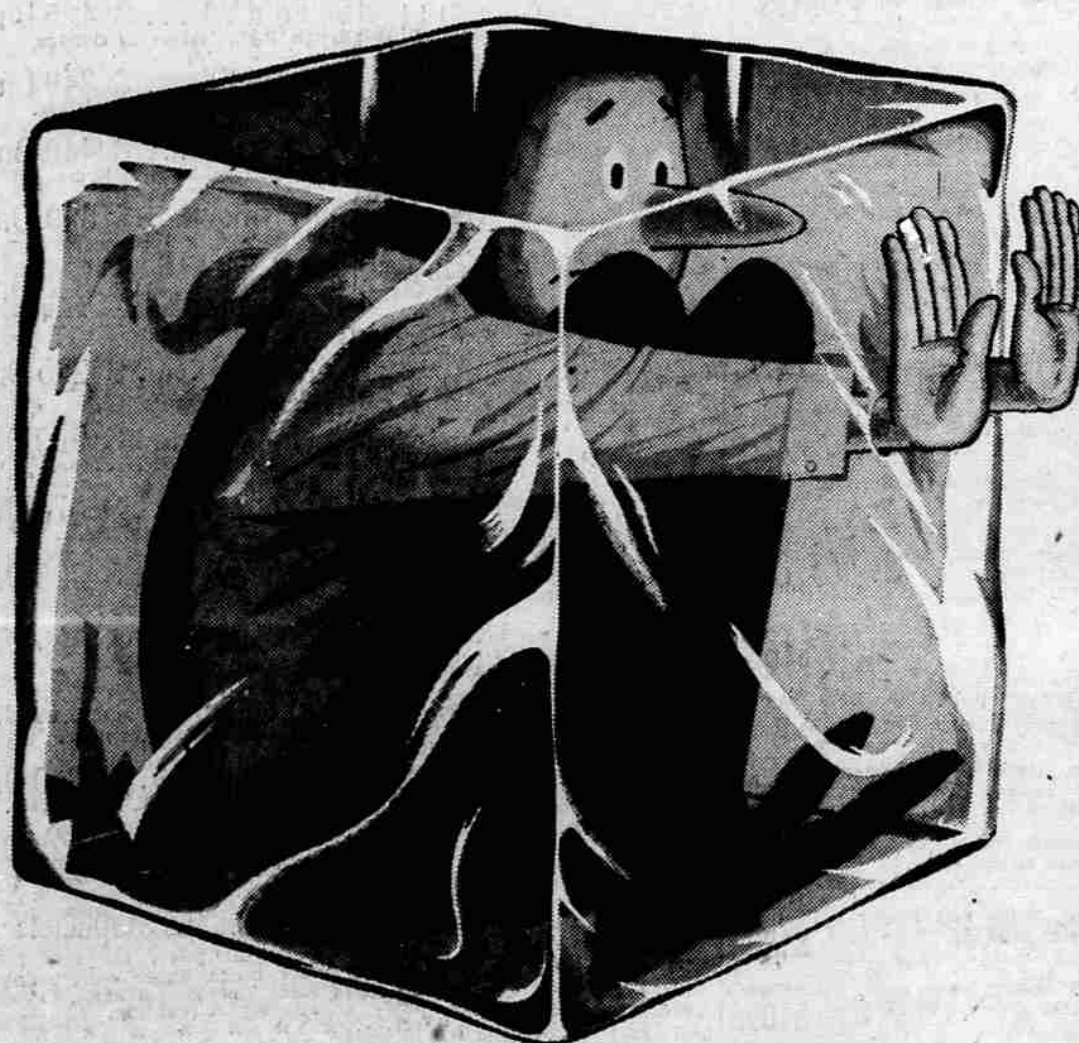
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