

Ex-Pentagon Man Held for Taking Papers

Redstone Arsenal Worker Arrested With Photographs

Columbia, S.C.—(UPI)—An air of almost genial mystery surrounded the arrest of a former Pentagon employee accused of stealing about 200 secret defense documents today.

For one thing, Arthur Rodgers, 38, said at his arraignment Thursday he planned to turn the secret papers over to the National Security Council of the Defense Department. For another, the FBI did not charge him with espionage.

Rodger's wife, at the home of her mother here, said "We weren't surprised when the FBI came to get him, but it was still a shock."

Rodger, held in the county jail under \$15,000 bond awaiting return to Alexandria, a, refused to talk about the charges "except to say that I think what I was doing was right, even though illegal."

No one else would say very much about the case, either, and no one appeared to be in any particular hurry to get Rodger back to Washington for trial. U.S. Commissioner Henry W. Kirkland, before whom Rodger was arraigned, said the "usual procedure" was to wait until officers collected "three or four prisoners going in the same general direction" before removing anyone out of the county jail.

Rodger, a native of Rock Hill, S.C., went to work in 1958 for the Institute of Defense Analysis in the Defense Department but left last Aug. 31 under what the FBI called a "reduction in force" and the Defense Department called his failure to measure up to "competence requirements."

He had top secret clearance, but he signed an affidavit saying he had destroyed all the classified documents in his possession.

He and his wife lived in the Washington suburb of Falls Church in a split-level subdivision of \$25,000 to \$30,000 homes. Generally, they kept to themselves.

The Institute of Defense Analysis is a private, non-profit contractor to the Pentagon which specialized in furnishing "intelligence, good sense and brains" to the government at attractive pay scales.

Rodger was charged with stealing government property and execution of false affidavits. He also had a government tape recorder when arrested. Conviction could bring a maximum penalty of up to 29 years in jail and a fine up to \$42,000.

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The store will include 25,000 square feet of floor space. It will contain a 100-foot meat counter and a walk-in cooler for beverage self-service and a delicatessen.

In front of the store will be a 2½ acre parking area. On the corner of Ross lane and West Main st., where the present market now stands, a service station will be built. Matlack said that a building to house two other businesses will be built to the east of the proposed super market.

Platinum Stolen
Ashton, R.I.—(UPI)—About \$150,000 worth of precious platinum was stolen today from a manufacturing plant.

Accident Victims Still Critical
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The couple were injured in an automobile accident Dec. 26 north of Roseburg. Killed in the accident were Robert Welch and a daughter, Edna Marie, 21.

Mrs. Welch is in a Cottage Grove hospital. Charles was taken to a Eugene hospital where he underwent facial surgery, local relatives reported.

Funeral services for Mr. Welch and Edna Marie will be held Wednesday, Jan. 4, in Oregon City.

First Blood Spilled in Riots Against Belgium Government
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Three Seriously Hurt
The first death in a week of violence came shortly after mounted police with slashing sabers charged into the mob, seriously injuring at least three demonstrators. One woman was carried away un-



TRAIN DERAILED—A 16-car Northern Pacific passenger train with 450 persons aboard jumped the track when the center two coaches jack-knifed and spilled into a Puyallup, Wash., street. The train's derail-

ment snapped off several power poles. No one was killed, but three persons were injured seriously enough to require hospitalization. (UPI Telephoto)

Shopping Center Is Planned in West Medford

Plans for a new shopping center in the Medford area to cost approximately \$750,000 have been announced by Ralph Matlack, one of the owners of Matlack's Super Market, 2300 West Main st.

The new center, to be known as Westgate of Medford, will be located to the rear and west of the present market. The present building will be torn down following the completion of the new building, Matlack said.

Articles of incorporation for the new center were filed recently in Salem signed by Matlack, Mrs. Lucella J. Matlack and Clifford Lewis.

No Par Value Stock
The articles state the firm will deal in foods and food stuffs of all kinds. Ten thousand shares of no par value stock will also be issued, according to the articles.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the structure are scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 3. The initial contract of \$252,000 was awarded the Ray Strand Corporation of Seattle, Wash. Architect for the center is Stanley W. Mar, Seattle.

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Appointments Made by County Court; Miller on Armory Board

The Jackson county court prepared for the new year by making a number of appointments to boards and committees today.

First appointment made was that of County Judge Earl Miller to the National Guard armory board.

Other appointments made were Earl Day, Central Point, to the county charter study committee; Michael Loftus, re-

appointed as county constable for a one-year term; Bill Bigham, Eagle Point, reappointed to the county fair board for three years; Dave Lowry, Phoenix, reappointed to the county planning commission; and Andy Hawver, Phoenix, and Dick Courtwright, Medford, both appointed to the planning group, all three for three-year terms.

No action was taken on the dog control board appointment due Jan. 8. Andy Bjornsen was appointed building superintendent. He is presently county courthouse building maintenance man.

Miller fills the position vacated on the armory board by outgoing County Commissioner Ralph James, and Day replaces Mrs. Vivian Adams on the home rule charter committee, who resigned.

Bigham has served on the fair board for several years and asked for the reappointment. He is present board chairman.

Ed Bolt, Gold Hill, and Robert Boyer, Medford lawyer, have served out their terms on the planning commission. Bolt and Lowry were the only original appointments left on the commission when the planning commission was formed four years ago.

Loftus has requested that his reappointment be made for only a year of the normal two-year term.

In recommending Bjornsen's appointment as building superintendent, Wendt said he does not have the time required for the job. Bjornsen has had several years in managing construction crews, and will do a good job, the county commissioner said. Although Bjornsen assumes more responsibility, no pay increase will be given at this time, Wendt explained.

No action was taken on the budget committee position vacated by Lyndel Newbury, Talent, who resigned following his appointment earlier as state senator by the county court.

Unidentified Object Seen in Area Sky
An unidentified object in the air was sighted early today by a state policeman and a resident in the Knowles rd. area, state police reported today.

Mrs. Howard Fowler, route 4, box 315, Medford, told state police she sighted a bright object westbound in the Stage Coach orchard area. It left a trail of smoke, made a big flash and disintegrated. It was not like a falling star, she said. One of the state police officers also reported he had seen it while on patrol about 3:35 o'clock this morning.

The Medford airport control tower said no reports had been made to the airport on any such object.

Decrease in Dogs At Large Noted
There is an obvious decrease in the number of dogs running at large in Medford, Chief of Police Charles P. Champlin stated this week.

The city's dog control ordinance, which went into effect Dec. 21, requires that owners must keep dogs on their own property, on leash or under the owners control when off the premises or muzzled if allowed to run at large.

Champlin said that the smaller number of dogs running at large has probably eliminated some of the complaints the department receives. Since Dec. 21, the police department has received only two complaints regarding dogs. One animal was impounded.

First offense penalty for the ordinance violation is \$10, second \$25 and any offense thereafter is \$25.

Salem—(UPI)—State police were alerted today for a 13-year-old Brookings girl who fled from Hillcrest School for Girls at noon Thursday.

Washington Studies Situation in Laos

Washington—(UPI)—The State Department is just about convinced that some form of international action is necessary in Laos to spotlight the increased intervention of foreign Communists in the civil war there.

Officials said today the brazen nature of the stepped-up Communist operations indicates (1) the involvement of Communist North Viet Nam and Red China is deeper than it had been previously and (2)

the intervention has the full support of the Soviet Union.

The officials declined to say whether the United States would call for a United Nations investigation, seek an inquiry by some other impartial commission, or bring the matter before the eight-nation Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, which has the responsibility of preventing Communist aggression in the area.

But, these officials said, the extent of the foreign Communist aid to the Red-led rebels fighting the pro-Western government of Prince Boun Oum is reaching such proportions that some action appeared likely.

U.S. officials had hoped that after Boun Oum forces wrested the capital city of Vientiane from the leftist and Communist forces, the outside Red intervention would be confined to relatively small-scale subversion and supply efforts such as the North Viet Nam have carried on for some time.

However, the continuing airlift of arms and ammunition in Soviet planes and the reports—which American officials believe but can't confirm—that North Viet Nam troops are being thrown into the fighting caused Washington to take a more serious view of the situation.

Christmas Tree Lift Set Monday
The Medford Moose lodge's annual Christmas tree lift will be held Monday, Jan. 2, starting at 1 p.m. in the Medford area, Moose officials reminded residents today.

Car dealers, who will provide pickup trucks, and the City Sanitary Service company, will cooperate with lodge members in the drive.

The lift is conducted each year by the Moose lodge to raise funds for some beneficial service. This year, funds donated during the lift will go to Sacred Heart hospital. Donations should be sealed in an envelope and attached to the tree. Checks may be made payable to either the Medford Moose lodge or Sacred Heart hospital.

Trees collected in the drive will be burned at a site at the end of Ellendale rd., off Barnett rd., about 7 p.m. Monday. Boy Scouts will assist in the tree lift.

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come members of the PP&L board.

Cummins, Copco president, and Glenn L. Jackson, now a vice president of the company, will become vice chairman of the board of the merged company.

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Copco, PP&L Agree to Merger Plan

Directors of the California Oregon Power company and the Pacific Power and Light company have reached agreement on the proposed merger of the two utilities, company officials announced today.

Confirmation of the tentative agreement was given by A. S. Cummins, president of Copco, and Paul B. McKee, chairman of the board of PP&L, following a news leak yesterday of the proposed merger. A press conference was scheduled for today at which time additional details were to be made known.

In a joint prepared statement officials of the two companies said: "Directors of the companies have reached the conclusion that it is in the best interest of all concerned to join together the two neighboring systems and integrate their power resources and development programs."

PP&L would be the surviving firm.

Discussed Some Months
The proposed merger has been discussed for several months. In anticipation of the merger, Copco stock has risen in recent months to a high of \$46 per share.

This represents an increase of more than \$8 since the middle of October. PP&L stock which is now listed at \$43.25 a share, is normally higher than Copco stock.

Subject to stockholder and regulatory commission approval, the merger would be effected by an exchange of stock. The two boards have agreed upon an exchange ratio of 1.2 shares of PP&L common for each share of Copco common stock.

Details of the proposed consolidation, including provisions for the exchange of preferred stocks, are to be worked out by a joint committee of the directors for submission to the 61,000 stockholders of the two utilities.

Rights Recognized
"Rights and benefits of Copco's 938 employees are recognized in the merger plan," McKee and Cummins said, "and it will be the policy of the surviving corporation to recognize the experience, seniority and qualifications of all employees on an equal basis, regardless of whether they have been in the employment of Copco or Pacific. This includes participation in retirement plans, medical and hospital insurance and group insurance programs."

The merger agreement will provide that most of the present directors of Copco will be retained.

Suit Filed To Break Up Hollywood Blacklist
Washington—(UPI)—Twelve Hollywood writers and actors filed suit in federal court here today against all the major film studios in the first legal step ever taken to break up the so-called industry blacklist of alleged Communists.

Two cars near the end of the streamliner telescoped and landed in the front yard of a home. Rescuers had to break open the windows of the coaches to free the passengers.

Nine coaches, the double-header engine and a diesel unit went off the tracks about 15 blocks from the center of the city. Two power poles were sheared off.

BOYCOTT RESUMES
Seattle—(UPI)—A boycott of Seattle stores selling Washington apples was scheduled to resume today, led by a Teamsters Union local in Yakima where employees of apple warehouses have been on strike since October.

WEATHER
FORECAST: Variable high cloudiness; otherwise fair through Saturday with patchy valley fog in morning. Low tonight 25. High Saturday 15.

Highest Yesterday 58
Lowest This Morning 21

Our Skies Tonight
Sunset today 4:18 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 7:41 a.m.
Moonset tomorrow 6:21 a.m.
Full moon Jan. 1

The planet, Mars, now rises at sunset and sets at sunrise and is thus visible all night. It is also now brighter than all the stars except Sirius.

"Here Goes A Beautiful Relationship"
A cartoon illustration showing a man and a woman in a car, with a speech bubble saying "Here Goes A Beautiful Relationship".

Ceremony Held for Outgoing Officials
Friday morning, as its last official meeting for 1960, the county court praised the achievements of outgoing county officials and particularly outgoing County Commissioner Ralph James.

"We are losing County Commissioner James who has served Jackson county faithfully for four years," County Judge Earl Miller noted. "It takes a special type of person to take on this responsibility in this type of government. He must have the ability and physical adaptations to stand criticism and smile about it."

He presented James a small plaque furnished by the county judge and County Commissioner Chester Wendt.

The court also praised Paul Rynning, retired county engineer, District Attorney Thomas J. Reeder and his deputies, Gerald Scannell and Brian Mullen.