

Fate of Imprisoned Pilots Could Depend on Next Diplomatic Move

Moscow—(UPI)—The fate of imprisoned U.S. RB47 pilots John McKone and Freeman Onstead may well depend on how Washington and Moscow play the next moves in their diplomatic chess game.

"Those boys may get free if Washington just doesn't rock the boat for a while," said one diplomatic observer here just after the Kremlin New Year's Eve reception at which Premier Nikita Khrushchev, toasting the hope for better relations with the Kennedy administration, indicated he'd be willing to forget the U2 incident as far as the new President was concerned.

According to that cautious diplomatic view, it means a minimum of newspaper drumbeating for speedy action is clearly impossible and a minimum of public statements reinforcing the old positions and trimming down the flexibility of maneuver.

Notably, on the Soviet side, it has been months since press or public statements have repeated the old claims that McKone and Onstead will stand trial.

In fact, the case has been mentioned sparingly and apparently is being allowed to sink out quietly from the public spotlight—possibly to ease the job of getting off the hook in the future.

(The U.S. claims the RB47 was shot down over the Barents Sea last July).

While the concern in the United States over the slow pace of the RB47 case is understandable, diplomats in Moscow feel that often the only way to get anything from the Soviets is to match them at their own game of patience and firmness.

There is considerable diplomatic opinion in Moscow that little by little the Soviets are trying to move toward some face-saving solution to the RB47 case.

This opinion holds that Washington's job is not publicly to keep the Kremlin leaders in a corner on the question, but discreetly to find out how far the Soviets are willing to go and for what price.

It was recalled, for instance, that Khrushchev, who had banked much of his foreign policy on an attempt to promote a personal friendship with ex-President Eisenhower, kept the door open after the U2 incident for Eisenhower to disclaim responsibility.

In the diplomatic shambles that followed Eisenhower's acceptance of such responsibility, Khrushchev often made the point that for reasons of prestige as leader of a mighty state, he could not meet the President without an apology.

Khrushchev's offer to bury the U2 incident as far as President John F. Kennedy and the United Nations are concerned was viewed here as

Back Stairs: JFK's Friend Manhandled

By MERRIMAN SMITH
UPI White House Reporter
Washington—(UPI)—Backstairs at the White House:

Leaving the Inaugural ball at the district armory the other after-midnight, President Kennedy spotted a friend in the crowd, waved to him and motioned the man to come to the side of his White House limousine.

The man moved at the president's behest, only to be leaped upon by four burly metropolitan policemen who gave the President's friend a brief but spirited pushing around before Kennedy called out of the limousine window.

Almost as though they had been cheated, the police slowly released the man who then talked with Kennedy for four or five minutes. As the President drove away, he called to the man, "I want you to come see me." The friend quickly disappeared in the crowd and his name was lost to history.

The above incident is rather unimportant by itself, but it does point up an interesting situation with the new President.

First, he is a most informal man. Secondly, he has worked around Washington for 14 years and naturally has a number of friends here.

The police would be well-advised—and this goes for the White House police and the Secret Service, too—to take it

easy until they can learn something about the President's large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Kennedy has an aversion to seeing anyone roughed up because of his presence. This was distinctly true during the campaign. He notices things like this.

And one additional bit of unsolicited advice to those assigned to the protection of the new President: Fellows, you'll simply have to do your job and take it easy, too. A hard order, to be sure, but if you want to avoid complications, always remember: This man likes to talk with people. He intends to keep doing it and you're buying trouble if you think he can be bent to your concepts of security and isolated in the manner of former

President Eisenhower when he was in public.

It was 3 a.m. the dawn after Inauguration and the President still was at the Georgetown home of columnist Joseph Alsop, reliving the exciting day with such old friends as Earl E. T. Smith, the former Ambassador to Cuba, and his wife, actress Florence Pritchard, and Mrs. John Fell and her family from Palm Beach.

Mrs. Fell, incidentally, is one of the more amazing grandmothers of our time. She's probably in her late 40s or early 50s and has the statuesque looks of a starlet. Terrible golfer, too.

The narrow street outside Alsop's Dumbarton Place home was choked with White House,

Secret Service, police and press association automobiles. Down the snowy street tramped an obviously irate man who trumpeted to police that he was "an owner," apparently of a nearby house.

Choking with rage, he reported that on the average of every week or two he received a parking ticket on his car right in front of his own home and here before his eyes was a veritable fleet of cars in violation of every known regulation.

"What," he shouted, "is going on around here?"

BILL PASSES HOUSE

Salem—(UPI)—A bill setting out means for a candidate to withdraw his name from elections has passed the House.

Cost of Hospital Care Has Dropped

Salt Lake City—(UPI)—The president of the American Pharmaceutical Association says the cost of a stay in the hospital is less than it was in 1940.

Ronald Robertson, Spokane, Wash., says that's because new drugs have shortened periods of hospitalization or even make it unnecessary.

An example, Robertson points out, is pneumonia cases. The ailment used to mean an automatic two-week confinement in a hospital. Now many cases are cared for in the home.

Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins
(Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1961)

Solo Flight for an Over-Anxious Youngster

Most of the time, when the opening in the tree showed bright, the little squirrel and his brother slept, but the time he had looked out, it was a wonderful sight. Out there was "outside," the place where mother went each night when the round opening showed black. Then, one night, just after she left, the youngster again crawled up and looked out into a forest bathed in yellow moonlight; a perfect night for flying squirrels.

Of course, mother knew when her offspring should venture out into the outer world, and so far she had not given her consent. So the anxious little one, being an

obedient squirrel, waited, although every fibre of his body cried out for a trip to the outside.

Little Conception
Of course he, like so many of us, had little conception of the hazards that await boy or squirrel when once they leave home-nest. Mother squirrel seemed to know she had a problem child, an eager beaver, a young one without judgment but with a firm determination.

Because he seemed so advanced, and so impatient, she decided to start his training. One night when the moon was full she permitted him to leave the nest. He crawled out on a nearby limb. His great, soft brown eyes surveyed the moonlight forest. Mother launched herself on a downward slant, just to show him how it was done. She scampered back to his side.

He thought he as ready. He had the idea he could step off, spread his legs and sail gracefully through the air to the base of a nearby tree; climb it, and again launch himself, thereby traveling across the forest. He could foresee no problem at all.

By some wild reasoning, Mother knew her child was a "show-off." She also must have known that folks like that usually "get their comeuppance." But, she thought, it's the only way he'll ever learn. She resigned herself to "whatever will be, will be," and gave the little guy the signal to "take off."

Sickening Sideslip
He confidently leaped off the limb; set his legs in what he thought was a graceful position. Inside of five feet he was in trouble. He lost his balance, and began a sickening sideslip. Attempting to right himself, he missed a large tree limb by inches. Suddenly he realized he was going too fast, and at too steep a slant. In fact he was completely out of control. He crashed headlong into a tree—not the one he was aiming for.

Stunned and bruised, with his breath knocked from him, he lay in a crumpled heap on the forest floor. By the time he regained his breath Mother was beside him. Slowly she climbed the home tree, junior painfully followed her.

Sheepishly, the little guy crawled back into the round opening in the tree trunk. Even a show-off flying squirrel began to realize that inexperience and disregard for parental advice can, and often does, result in a bruised nose.

Crude Oil Produces Variety of Products

Tulsa, Okla.—(UPI)—The major products made from crude oil are gasoline, kerosene, light and heavy fuel oils, lubricating oils, wax, asphalt and coke, the Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association says.

In 1959, the average 42-gallon barrel of crude produced 18.8 gallons of gasoline, 9.7 gallons of light fuel oil, 4.9 gallons of heavy fuel oil and 1.5 gallons of kerosene. The remaining 7.1 gallons included the other petroleum products.

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