

Masons Officers To Be Installed

Dale Edwards, worshipful master for Medford Lodge 103, AF&AM has announced that the annual installation of officers will be held at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, in the Medford Masonic Temple.

Ross Gilkinson will be installing officer, assisted by Vernon C. Turpin as installing marshal and Carl Oestreich installing chaplain.

Elective officers to be installed are Irvin Patten as worshipful master, Ronald Frost as senior warden, Rodney Witham as junior warden, Turpin as treasurer, and Carl Oestreich as secretary.

The ceremonies of the installation are open to the public. All Masons, their families, and friends have been invited.

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MEDFORD TRIBUNE
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Travel Services Specialize In Smuggling From Red China

By LEONEL BARRALHO
 United Press International
 Macao - (UPI) - Travel services in Macao have spread the word for over a year they could smuggle anyone from anywhere in Red China to Macao or Hong Kong provided those interested in having friends or relatives out could afford to pay a stiff price.

Many people from Hong Kong have contacted these travel services and have succeeded in getting friends and relatives out of the mainland after having assured the smugglers that sums demanded will be paid on a "cash on delivery" basis. Here is a typical case:

Last July, a Chinese businessman who fled Shanghai for Hong Kong after the Communist take-over, leaving behind a wife and two sons, came here to contact a travel agency to have his son smuggled into Macao.

His wife and other son had died in Shanghai between 1953 and 1955, while the other son, who was working for the Red government, was transferred from Shanghai to Shoochow in 1958.

During the exchange of letters between the businessman and the travel service, the price for smuggling the son out of China was fixed at \$2,000 but when the contract was signed the price had risen

to \$3,500, not including the price the young man still had to pay to be smuggled into Hong Kong from here.

One member of the travel service who negotiated the contract was alleged to have told the Shanghai businessman that, since his son was working for the government, it would be much more difficult to smuggle him out.

What really happened between the day the contract was signed and Aug. 10, when the youth arrived from Canton aboard the ferry boat Hung Sing, is perhaps difficult to estimate.

I met the youth and his father in Macao by pure chance. They were visiting a Shanghai family in Macao when I walked into the house to ask the owner if he had received any information about current conditions in Shanghai.

When I was introduced to

the father and son, they agreed to tell me their story when I promised not to write anything until the boy reached Hong Kong.

The young man of 25 said he had applied for an exit permit since 1960 but on four occasions Communist cadres had "convinced" him not to leave the country.

On Aug. 2 he was called to the visa department in Shoochow, where an official asked him: "Do you really want to go to Hong Kong to see your father, who is very sick?"

He was taken by surprise when the official continued: "If you want to go we can arrange it on humanitarian

grounds." He unhesitatingly replied "yes."

On the same day he traveled south with all the necessary documents. Upon his arrival in Canton he was met by a "friend" who gave him a ferry ticket for Macao and some money.

The young man told me that not until he reached Macao did he realize that his father had paid \$3,500 for his release. He said that life in Shoochow was not very difficult except that "I did not have enough to eat."

Asked what he intended to do in Hong Kong, the happy young man said he would relax for a while and then take care of the family business.

Savannah Due in Portland Jan. 4

Portland - (UPI) - The nuclear ship Savannah will dock in Portland Jan. 4 as scheduled, officials of States Marine Lines announced Wednesday.

The Savannah, the world's first nuclear-powered freighter, has been tied up at Long Beach, Calif., because of a labor dispute. States Marine Lines, which operated the vessel for the Atomic Energy Commission and the Federal Maritime Administration, said she will depart for Honolulu in the next few days and then leave for Portland Dec. 28.

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