

MEDFORD

United Press International—Full Leased Wire

TRIBUNE

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No. 238

Return of Cuban Prisoners Result Of Hard Work

Washington—UPI—It took 14 months of frustration, hard work and persuasion to make this a merry Christmas for 1,113 survivors of the 1961 invasion of Cuba.

It began last year when the Treasury Department handed down a routine ruling that the Cuban Families Committee for the Liberation of Prisoners of War, Inc., was a charitable group and tax-exempt.

Prisoners Vow Return; Others To Be Released

Miami—UPI—The 1,113 hard-gamed men airtight to freedom from 20 months of agony in Cuban prisons entered a joyous Christmas reunion today with impassioned vows to restore Fidel Castro's island.

Manuel Artimo, who once carried a \$500,000 ransom price, told a meeting here last night of the men and their families. "We have come to tell you with voices of the number of our dead that we are calling you to the war again in the names of the mothers who gave their sons."

As the last of the prisoners were checked in from the two-day airlift, Cuban authorities announced in Havana that about 1,000 relatives of the men would be freed at dawn Wednesday as a "Christmas bonus to the ransom deal."

The relatives were to leave aboard the freighter African Pilot, which delivered to Havana 1,800 tons of the food and medical supplies demanded by Castro as a \$53 million ransom price for the release of the captives.

James B. Donovan, the New York lawyer who negotiated the release, flew in to Miami with the last contingent of prisoners and declared he had a "firm pledge" from Fidel Castro for the early release of 23 Americans still imprisoned in Cuba.

In Palm Beach, President Kennedy hailed the freeing of the prisoners as "saving them from a slow death" in Cuban jails. "I know the American people are proud to welcome these brave men, who have endured so much in the cause of freedom, to our shores," Kennedy said.

Miami's vast Dinner Key auditorium was the scene last night of a tearful and stirring reunion, as the last of the freed prisoners were driven by bus from Homestead Air Force Base to meet their relatives and friends.

Two Persons Hurt In Head-On Crash

Two Medford men were hurt in a two-car head-on collision last night in front of 1170 West McAndrews rd., state police said this morning.

Kenneth G. Hill, 27, of 1103 Reddy ave., Medford, is being treated for a broken hip at Sacred Heart hospital where both men were taken by Medford Ambulance Service. Don P. Stanley, 67, Hanley ranch, is being treated for a broken leg. Both men were reported in good condition.

Police said the Stanley car was eastbound and the Hill car was westbound on McAndrews rd. when the accident happened.

\$53 million worth of food, drugs and medical supplies.

Working Behind Scenes
It took the efforts of untold numbers of private citizens, American industry and government officials of every rank, working behind the scenes.

The fact that the government, and particularly Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, played a leading role in the campaign to free the prisoners for Christmas was not disclosed until most of them were already released. It was feared that if the government stepped into the plan officially, Castro would stall even more or back out of the deal altogether.

The Treasury ruling for the Cuban Families Committee, made in September, 1961, was handed down after a State Department official told the relatives of the prisoners that a tax-exempt status would help them in their effort to raise Castro's ransom — then 500 tractors.

Stuck With Effort
That official, Robert A. Hurwicz, special assistant for inter-American affairs, stuck with the effort throughout. But the tractor deal fell through and the families started trying to raise their cash value — \$28 million.

The ante was almost doubled after a Cuban court set fines totaling \$62 million on the prisoners.

President Kennedy had personally helped set up the committee to trade tractors for the prisoners. "The President took personal responsibility for the failure of invasion," a Justice Department said Monday, "so he felt a personal responsibility for the safety of these men."

In June of 1962, the President's special adviser, Gen. Lucius Clay, headed a committee of 31 persons to help the families try to raise the money. He prompted Kennedy to make another statement of the government's sympathy for the private efforts.

More Objective Person
In August, Atty. Gen. Kennedy, who had been keeping close watch on the effort, suggested to the Cuban Families committee they needed a more objective person to negotiate with Castro—a negotiator without relatives at stake. He suggested James B. Donovan.

He had not yet met Donovan, but Donovan was the man who negotiated the release of U2 pilot Gary Powers from Russia.

Donovan promptly determined that Castro would take goods instead of cash, and negotiated the figure down to \$53 million. He told Castro's aides to send a list of what was wanted.

When it came, it contained more than 10,000 items, all of them in Spanish.

Two days later, the United States threw a blockade around Cuba and negotiations collapsed.

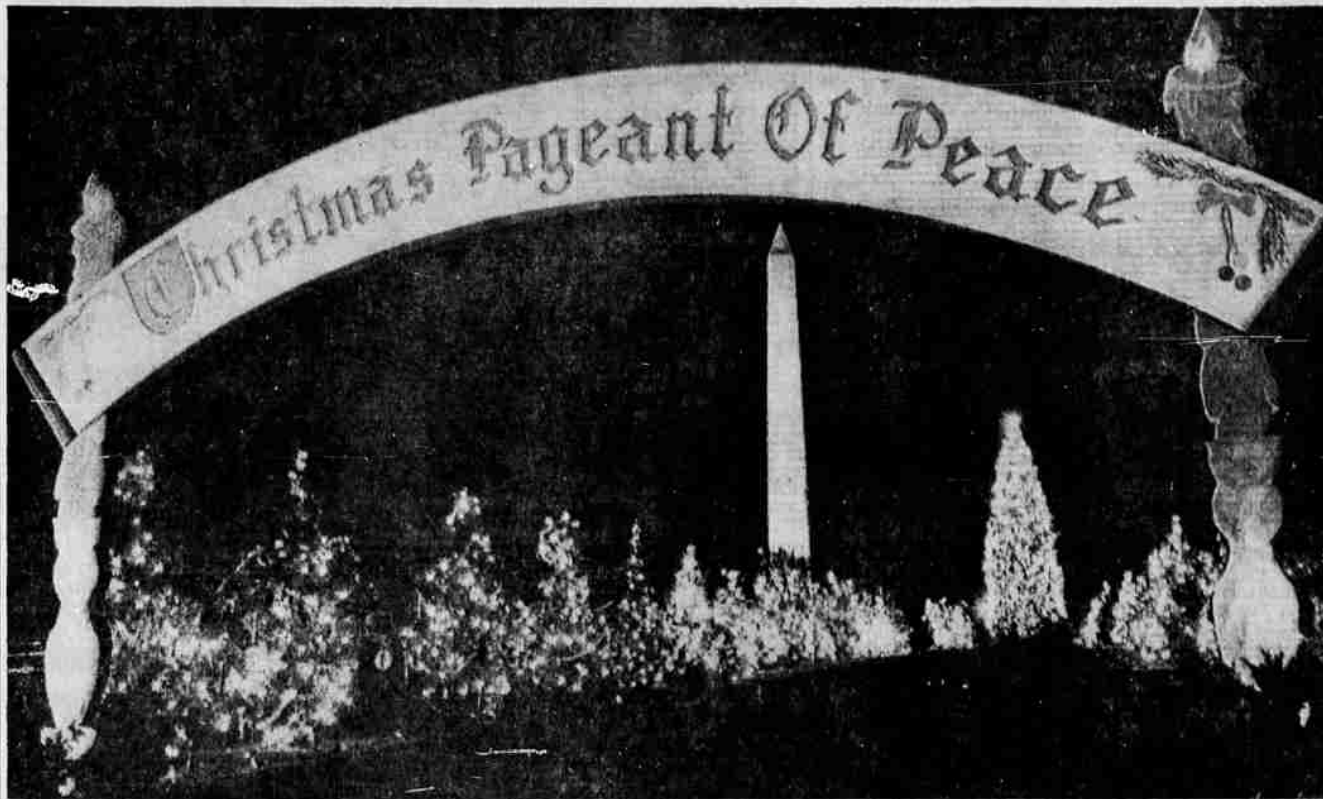
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American Army Units Plan Parties in Korea

Seoul—UPI—Church services, parties, shows and the traditional turkey dinner highlighted the U.S. Army's 18th observance of Christmas in Korea, but for most GIs the gaiety didn't compensate for the loneliness of a Christmas spent far from home.

Just about every American Army unit in Korea planned a party for Korean children.

Francis Cardinal Spellman visited Korea last week, and Bob Hope is here now with a Hollywood troupe which will give six Yuletide shows.



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS—This is the scene at the Pageant of Peace on the Ellipse across the street from the White House in Washington, D.C. The lights on the national Christmas tree, the large tree in the background, and the Washington Monument are visible. Each small tree represents a state of the Union. (UPI)

Traffic Deaths Pass 500 Mark Across Nation

By United Press International
The Christmas holiday death toll on the nation's highways increased sharply and passed the 500 mark today with the bulk of the homeward-bound traffic flow yet to come.

Snow and freezing rain brought hazardous driving conditions to much of the nation this Christmas day. Safety officials hoped the obvious danger of slippery highways and poor visibility would force drivers to slow down and be alert, and thereby hold down the expected final surge of fatalities.

The four-day 1962 holiday for a time appeared likely to go into the record books as the safest on record for motorists. The death count proceeded more slowly than expected during the first half of the holiday.

Speedup in Rate
But a marked speedup in the traffic death rate on Christmas Eve threatened to dash the National Safety Council's hopes that the final toll would fall short of its estimate as high as 200 lives.

Before the 102-hour holiday began, the council estimated that 150 persons would die before the count ends at midnight tonight.

The weather bureau warned of critical driving conditions from the Ohio valley to West Virginia and Tennessee, and also whipped into Iowa, Missouri and Kansas.

Freezing rain glazed streets and highways in the middle Atlantic states and the central Mississippi valley.

Breakdown of Deaths
At 8:30 a.m. (PST) the United Press International count showed 511 persons had died in traffic accidents since the 102-hour holiday period began at 6 p.m. local time Friday. The breakdown shows 11 deaths, fires 31, planes 11 and miscellaneous 84 for a total of 147.

California led the nation with 43 traffic deaths, followed by Texas with 41; Illinois with 36; and New York, Georgia and North Carolina with 20 each.

Christmas Another Work-Day in Russia
Moscow—UPI—Western diplomats and newsmen celebrated Christmas today, but for Russians it was just another working day.

The Rev. Donald Roberts officiated at a Christmas service for Protestants at the British embassy, across the river from the Kremlin, and Father Joseph Richard held several Christmas Masses for Roman Catholics in the Western colony.

Moscow was covered with a light layer of snow. During the day the temperature was 24 degrees.

The Soviet Union, which is officially atheistic, does not celebrate Christmas. Russians do observe New Year's.

Oregon Death Toll Soars To 11 With Christmas Crashes

By United Press International
An airplane crash and three Christmas morning traffic deaths today raised Oregon's accidental death toll for the holiday week end to 11.

Three were believed dead in the wreckage of the plane that was found today. Six died in traffic since the holiday week end started Friday and two in other accidents.

Lake Creek Family Involved
Presumed dead in the charred wreckage of their Cessna near Ashland were Reg Imperatrice, his wife and small daughter, of Lake Creek, near Eagle Point. The plane became missing Sunday on a flight from Ashland to Reno, Nev., in foggy weather.

Cuban Relatives To Sail Wednesday

Miami—UPI—A freighter which will be used to transport about 1,000 close relatives of the ransom invasion prisoners from Cuba to the United States will leave Havana Wednesday afternoon for Port Everglades, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., a spokesman for the American Committee of Steamship Lines said today.

Peter McChesney, here en route to Havana to work out final details of the move, said earlier plans had called for the boat to leave Havana early Wednesday for Key West.

"But we decided to delay the departure and go to Port Everglades so the refugees can arrive during daylight hours," McChesney said.

He said the refugees would be processed and given a hot meal at the Port, then turned over to their relatives.

McChesney said the refugees probably would arrive at Port Everglades "early Thursday morning."

Authorization for the refugees' departure was granted by Premier Fidel Castro, an Interior Ministry spokesman said Monday.

The government announced Monday night it had "unmasked" a plot "directed from abroad" against the pro-Western regime of strongman President Habib Bourguiba, who has been in power since July 25, 1957.

The announcement said a score of persons, including some military men, were being hunted. Informal sources said 30 to 100 persons were already held.

According to unofficial sources the plotters had planned the assassination of President Bourguiba, who left here Monday with his wife to spend his year-end holidays in Kef in the mountainous area of northeastern Tunisia.

IMPORTS LIMITED
Washington—UPI—The Interior department has limited the licensed imports of crude and unfinished oil and finished petroleum products in the United States and Puerto Rico during the first half of 1963 to 1,146,259 barrels daily.

John Collier Fager, 23, of Salem and Lynne Ellen Kofford, 25, of Portland were killed when their car smashed into a tree east of La Grande early today.

At Klamath Falls, Mary Sekack of Klamath Falls died this morning of injuries received in a Christmas Eve accident.

Airman I/C Gerald Kendall, 23, of Yelm, Wash., died in the same accident when the

Most of Nation Covered by Snow

By United Press International
Most of the nation got a white Christmas today, so much so, that a sleigh of old might have provided the fastest and safest way to grandma's house for dinner.

The weather bureau issued snow and hazardous driving warnings for a wide area of the nation. A sharp cold snap was predicted for the Midwest.

Heavy snow warnings were issued for Tennessee and West Virginia. Four to eight inches of snow were expected.

Two to six inches of snow were forecast for Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. The weather bureau said critical weather was occurring from Kansas to the upper Great Lakes.

Up to three inches of new snow already was on the ground today from Kansas to Wisconsin. The Chicago weather bureau issued a caution to drivers and said snow would pile up to six inches by nightfall.

Red Chinese Boss Attacks Russians
London—UPI—Communist Chinese Premier Chou En-lai used a dinner for visiting Mongolian leaders today to launch new attacks on Soviet leadership of international communism.

The New China News Agency reported in a broadcast monitored here that he repeated the Chinese attack on Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev for airing Communist problems in the open.

He said Mongolian and Chinese leaders must work together to build a spirit of peaceful coexistence between nations with different social systems.

He spoke to the dinner honoring Mongolian chief Y. Tsedenbal and his aides who arrived in Peking to sign a new boundary accord with China.

Mongolia is now one of the major test fields for Soviet and Chinese leadership within the Communist bloc.

Tunisia Presses Hunt for Plotters
Tunis—UPI—The government pressed a manhunt today for about 20 soldiers and civilians involved in connection with a "plot against the state."

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car he was driving went off a Klamath county road and flipped over. He was stationed at Kingsley Air Force Base.

Another Christmas Eve accident in Klamath county claimed the life of Rosemary Williams, 19, of Seattle.

Mrs. Williams, an expectant mother, drowned when a car driven by her husband plunged into a water-filled irrigation canal off U.S. highway 97 12 miles south of Klamath Falls.

The car plunged into 15 feet of water. The victim's husband, 22, escaped. The couple was visiting at Klamath Falls.

William Kneale, 37, Gervais, was struck and killed by a Southern Pacific switch train one-half mile north of Gervais Monday. State police said Kneale was sitting on the railroad tracks.

At Dorena in Lane county, Clarence Tye, 20, Cottage Grove, accidentally shot and killed himself when he dropped his rifle. Tye had been target shooting.

Alice Thompson, 26, a Eugene school teacher, was killed in a one-car accident on U.S. Highway 20 14 miles west of Burns Friday night.

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The prisoners will be fed in their cells since they seem to prefer it that way, the acting jailer said.

A prisoner, Odus Taylor, Medford, had finished roasting the turkeys this morning.

Young Father Is Held on Charge Of Beating Son

A three-year-old Medford boy is spending Christmas in Rogue Valley hospital today where he is recovering from a beating his father gave him for opening some presents too soon.

The boy's father, Robert Joseph Garcia, 24, of 113 Tripp st., an employee of a local radio station, has been lodged in the Jackson county jail on a charge of assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily harm.

Medford police were called to the Garcia residence about 5 p.m. yesterday by the youngster's mother, Julie Ann Garcia. She told officers over the telephone she was afraid her husband was going to kill the boy.

When police arrived they found Garcia standing over the boy, Jeffrey Norman, in a bedroom, beating him with a doubled-up leather belt.

Mrs. Garcia told police her husband had been abusing the boy intermittently since last Thursday when he discovered the youngster had opened some Christmas gifts without permission.

A similar incident occurred Dec. 10, according to police reports, when Mrs. Garcia called officers for help after her husband spanked the couple's 1½-year-old daughter, and drove the wife and boy from the house.

Hospital spokesmen said boy is in fair condition today. He is being treated for multiple abrasions and contusions.

Proud Owners of New Bicycles Purchase Licenses First Thing
Two proud owners of shiny new Christmas bicycles showed up bright and early this morning at the Medford police department to obtain licenses permits.

Desk Officer Gerald Butler typed out the forms for the two boys, Robert James, 12, of 910 West 11th st., and Dan Lee Cuddie, 14, of 415 Western ave.

James is a student at Lincoln school, and Cuddie attends McLoughlin Junior High school.

As he affixed the license to his new blue and white bicycle, Cuddie looked up and beamed.

"Gee, it's just what I've always wanted," he said.

WEATHER
FORECAST: Variable high cloudiness and cold tonight. Patchy fog over sunrise. Considerable high cloudiness Wednesday. Increasing Wednesday night. Low tonight 15-20. High Wednesday near 40.

Our Skies Tonight
Sunset today 4:43 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow 7:35 a.m. Moonrise tomorrow 7:17 a.m. New Moon Dec. 24.

PROMINENT STARS
Regulus rises 9:33 p.m. Visible planets: Mars, right above Regulus. Saturn, low in south-west. 3:42 p.m. Jupiter, in southwest 7:15 p.m. Venus, in the south-east 6:18 a.m.

Light Aircraft Wreck Found In Ashland Area

State police reported this noon that a party, including a state police officer, had reached the scene of the airplane accident, and that the pilot had been identified as Reginald Imperatrice.

Police said positive identification had not yet been made of the plane's passengers.

Ashland — A light aircraft believed piloted by Reginald Imperatrice and carrying his wife and child, all of Lake Creek, was found crashed near Ashland early this morning above the Ashland Mine rd.

The airplane was spotted by two Ashland men from the air.

Ashland City Councilman George Ward and J. H. von-Kuhlmann searched for the plane early this morning when they heard the plane had been missing since Sunday after leaving the Ashland airport.

They reported the plane had crashed and burned on a timbered ridge.

State police were en route to the accident scene this morning while the two Ashland men circled overhead in their plane to mark the crash scene.

Ward reported the plane apparently took off in zero visibility, and would have cleared the ridge if it had been 200 yards higher.

The airplane was described as a blue and brown Cessna 182 model. No flight plan had been filed, state police said.

Police have been making a routine check of nearby airfields to see if the plane could have landed unannounced.

Positive identification of the pilot and passengers in the plane has yet to be made.

Troops in Congo Spending Day on Special Alert
Leopoldville—UPI—A brief but savage battle in Katanga revived tension in the Congo and the 17,000 UN troops in the troubled nation spent Christmas Day on a special alert.

Katanga gendarmes exchanged heavy fire with Ethiopian UN troops and shot down a UN helicopter carrying a number of Indian UN troops near the big Belgian-owned copper smelter in Elisabethville Monday.

An Indian officer was killed, an Ethiopian soldier and five Indian soldiers were wounded and eight men aboard the helicopter were captured but later released. Four of the injured Indians were beaten by gendarmes and the fifth was reported "wounded on the ground"—presumably shot.

Despite the alert, the UN troops found time to celebrate Christmas. Trees had been flown in from Sweden, and Yuletide dinners were prepared according to the various tastes of the national contingents.

U.S. Ambassador Edmund Gullion was to join a large crowd journeying across the Congo river to Brazzaville, in the former French Congo, to attend the annual tom-tom Mass in the Church of St. Anne de Congo.

Other Leopoldville residents went to Brazzaville to sample the more luxurious—and expensive—fare in that city's fine restaurants.

Shops here were almost bare of Christmas gifts. Such holiday fare as whisky, champagne and cheese have not been seen here for months—except in UN canteens.

Pope John Pays Visit to Hospital
Vatican City—UPI—Pope John XXIII paid a Christmas visit to a children's hospital today and assured the young patients that his own health is fine.

The 81-year-old pontiff left the Vatican by car for a visit to the Hospital of the Infant Jesus. He spent about 45 minutes walking through wards and chatting with excited boys and girls.

"We are in an atmosphere of doctors here," he said in a brief speech.

"You may have heard that the Pope was ill. But now he is well, in head, eyes and ears but above all in his heart—and this is his greatest desire."

The trip was the Pope's first venture outside the Vatican since he was reported ill on Nov. 27. Pope John is suffering from anemia and stomach trouble, believed to be a bleeding ulcer.

Kennedy, Family Spend Traditional Christmas
Palm Beach, Fla.—UPI—President Kennedy and his family are spending a quiet Christmas day in all the privacy the White House staff and security personnel can provide.

Their holiday schedule included opening presents around a big tree in the living room of the C. Michael Paul residence, a spacious tropical mansion which the Kennedys also borrowed for the Yuletide last year. Then the President and his wife, with possibly other members of the family, planned to attend a special Christmas mass.

Traditional Dinner
A traditional Christmas dinner was set for early afternoon at the nearby home of the President's father, former Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy, and mother, Rose. The chief executive's two children,

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Western Europe In Grip of Cold
London—UPI—A chill wind from Russia brought a white Christmas — and record Yuletide misery — to Western Europe today.

From Glasgow, where snow fell on Christmas for the first time in 24 years, to the snow-bound mountain towns of central Italy, a midwinter cold wave gripped the continent.

The snow stranded 200 Swiss trains, blocked key passes and tunnels and cut off ski resorts from the outside world. Villagers in Obermatt, Switzerland, abandoned their homes when avalanches threatened the village.

Marseille, France, reported its heaviest Christmas snows since 1866. Temperatures dipping to 11 degrees below zero brought Austria its coldest Yule since 1940.

Winds up to 75 miles an hour lashed Trieste. Weather forecasters said icy blasts from Russia and Scandinavia would drive thermometers to new Christmas season lows across the continent.

Heavy snow in southern France grounded airplanes and halted trains and autos. Firemen were called out to dig stranded motorists from their cars.

Three-foot snows driven by 60-mile-per-hour winds blanketed Yugoslavia.

In the northern Adriatic, 80-mile gales led up shipping. International trains ran hours behind schedule.

Ice and snow also slowed road traffic and trains in Germany.

Retired Senator On Danger List
Providence, R.I.—UPI—The condition of retired U.S. Sen. Theodore Francis Green (D-R.I.), remained serious and unchanged today at Jane Brown hospital.

A hospital spokesman said the name of the 95-year-old millionaire remained on the danger list because he is "a very sick man."

Green, a bachelor, entered the hospital Wednesday after what doctors described as a series of slight cerebral shocks. He was in a coma for two days but has regained consciousness.

Kennedy, Family Spend Traditional Christmas
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