

Eight East Germans Escape in Armored Bus

Kennedy To Meet Defense Officials To Review Budget

Welfare Meeting Rescheduled Friday

Palm Beach, Fla. — President Kennedy plans to meet here Thursday with top defense officials for a year-end review of the nation's military position and final decisions on armed forces spending next year.

This was announced today by Press Secretary Pierre Salinger shortly after the arrival here of Treasury Secretary Douglas Dillon and other fiscal advisers to blueprint the administration's tax reduction proposals for 1963.

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara is scheduled to fly here Thursday with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Deputy Secretary Roswell Gilpatric for the defense status talks. A meeting scheduled for Thursday with Welfare Secretary Anthony J. Celebrezze to discuss his department's new budget was postponed until Friday.

Kennedy thus expanded the working agenda which previously had been announced for him at the vacation Ocean House, a borrowed ocean-front villa where he arrived Friday and is expected to remain until Jan. 7 or 8.

Take Yacht Cruise
Arriving with Kennedy's fiscal advisers and several White House assistants aboard a giant Air Force jet transport was Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield. He and Mrs. Mansfield joined the President and his family for an early afternoon cruise aboard the White House yacht Honey Fitz.

During their nautical lunch, the President and Mansfield discussed the forthcoming session of Congress.

Weather Takes Toll in Europe

London — (UPI) — Soaring death tolls dampened Christmas spirits today as Britain and the continent were locked in the grip of a bitter cold wave.

More than 200 persons died in violent storms on the roads, rivers and lakes, as well as in fires and weather-connected fatalities.

Ninety-seven died by 4 p.m. today in Britain, where the Christmas holiday began Friday. The Transport Ministry said it expected the toll to rise sharply as holiday travelers drove home tonight.

France led the continental tolls with 40 dead, 13 directly attributed to the freezing weather.

Italian officials reported 31 deaths, The Netherlands 15, Germany 9, Spain, Switzerland and Sweden 3 each.

Three dozen avalanches struck Swiss resort areas in four days but only one man was reported caught and he was dug out alive. One of the worst holiday accidents happened near Chateaufort, France, where a truck moved down and killed four pedestrians.

The snow and ice froze Holland's canals, lakes and even the ditches. Four skaters drowned.

Snow began falling at noon today in London where the temperature dropped to 23 degrees. London's 29-degree Christmas was its coldest since 1944.

Ashland Woman Gets Peace Corps Assignment

Portland — (UPI) — Two young Oregon women were scheduled to leave for Peace Corps assignment in Nigeria.

Barbara A. Baer, 23, Portland, and Grace A. Hamilton, Ashland, will be among a group of volunteers who are to depart Jan. 3 to work as school teachers.



WARREN R. AUSTIN, III

Warren Austin, First Ambassador To UN, Dies

Burlington, Vt. — (UPI) — Former Sen. Warren R. Austin of Vermont, the stocky, red-faced country lawyer who became the United States' first ambassador to the United Nations, died Tuesday at his home. He was 85.

Austin, a Republican, had been ill and partially paralyzed since suffering a stroke late in 1953. He had been seriously ill for the past several months. Death was caused by bronchial pneumonia.

Named By Truman
Austin was named UN ambassador in 1946 by former Democratic President Harry S. Truman and served through the stormy years of the Korean conflict. He retired in January of 1953 because of his health.

Straightforward and implacable, he once denounced Communism as "apple sauce." On another occasion he flatly accused then Soviet delegate Jakob Malik of trying to foist "a big lie" on the UN Security Council.

Since his retirement he had lived the quiet life of a gentleman farmer and steadfastly refused to speak on international affairs. When his health permitted he busied himself in his beloved apple orchards.

Austin's blend of Yankee shrewdness, frankness and integrity had made him a Republican leader in the U. S. Senate when President Truman crossed party lines to name him UN ambassador shortly after World War II.

Race With Train Ends in Deadlock
Pasco — (UPI) — A race to a railroad crossing ended in a tie here Tuesday night and Frank Hollenbaugh, 27, Pasco, was hospitalized in critical condition with a broken neck today.

Hollenbaugh's automobile was smashed by the engine of a Spokane, Portland and Seattle railroad train and carried 400 feet down the grade. Hollenbaugh moved here recently from Seattle.

The accident was one of 40 in the Tri-City area during the long holiday week end.

Academy Award Winner Arrested

Sherman Oaks, Calif. — (UPI) — Academy Award winning cameraman Lionel Lindon, 38, was booked Tuesday night on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon for allegedly attempting to strangle his wife with a scarf during an argument.

Mrs. Mary Lou Lindon, 34, was not injured, police said, and left the house to go to the home of neighbors.

Lindon won his Oscar for "Around the World in 80 Days," made in 1956.

Nina II Crew Welcomed at San Salvador

San Salvador, Bahamas — (UPI) — The Nina II, replica of the smallest ship used in Christopher Columbus' discovery of the New World 470 years ago, today completed a similar voyage 97 days after sailing from Palos, Spain.

Columbus did it better. His ships, the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria, reached San Salvador in 70 days, 27 days faster than the Nina II. Columbus sailed from Palos on Aug. 3, 1492, while the Nina II sailed from the same port last Sept. 19.

The Nina II crossed the Atlantic safely, despite fears it had foundered, become lost in a hurricane or sunk, and the crew reenacted Columbus' landing on this Bahamian island almost five centuries ago.

Impromptu Celebration
The vessel, a tiny, round-bottomed square-rigger which is a replica of Columbus' smallest ship, anchored off San Salvador late Tuesday night.

The crew came ashore and was greeted by an impromptu Bahamian celebration, including a brass band and dancing on the beach.

Navigator Robert Marks, the only American aboard, said the ship did not overshoot San Salvador as originally indicated.

He said the 40-foot sailing ship came along the southern tip of the island on Christmas Eve. But because it was after dark the crew planned to dock for the night off the community of Cockburn on the lower west shore.

This was done because landing ceremonies were set for Christmas day.

But, since the crew was unable to attract attention from shore by waving lights, the vessel was driven west by a strong east wind.

They did not have charts for the waters to the west, Marks said, so they decided to ask for a tow when an inter-island airliner sighted the Nina II about 16 miles west of San Salvador.

In response to their signal, the U.S. Navy sent a 26-foot launch to tow in the Nina II. Strong Wind

But the wind continued so strong that the tiny vessel could make no better than two knots even with the tow as it edged along to the opening in the beautiful but treacherous coral reef offshore of the point where Columbus first set foot in the New World.

Actually, the Nina II was

sighted Monday afternoon by a resident of the isolated community of Lynden Hill on the east shore. But by the time his report was relayed Tuesday morning, the Nina II was far out of sight and this report was considered a false alarm.

(See picture on Page 5A)

Last Hours of Holiday Prove Deadly on Roads

By United Press International

The last hours of the 102-hour Christmas holiday proved to be the deadliest and the total of highway deaths during the long week end passed 650, late reports showed today.

The final surge of fatality reports made the experts look tragically correct. The National Safety Council had estimated that from 650 to 750 persons would die in holiday traffic accidents. When the first hours of the holiday passed with a comparatively low death rate, the council revised its estimate to 550 deaths. But the hopeful second thought did not hold up.

Count Shows 652
The United Press International count from 6 p.m. Friday until midnight Christmas showed 652 traffic deaths.

The holiday death breakdown shows 652 dead in traffic, 102 from fires, 14 in air accidents, and 73 from miscellaneous causes for a total of 841.

An average of six persons died every hour in traffic during the holiday.

California Leads
California led the nation with 59 traffic deaths, followed by Texas with 55, Illinois with 43, and New York State with 34. Oregon had 13.

It was the second deadliest Christmas holiday on the highways on record. A total of 706 persons died in the four-day "Black Christmas" week end of 1956. In other four-day Christmas holidays, 594 persons died in traffic in 1958, 556 in 1952, and 539 in 1951.

FBI Agents See SF Bank Holdup
San Francisco — (UPI) — A young man who attempted to rob a downtown bank today was arrested by two FBI agents who happened to be in the bank at the time, the FBI reported.

Frank Price, agent-in-charge here, identified the suspect as Richard Dean Holtan, 27, originally from Watertown, S.D., and most recently from Huntington Park, Calif.

Agent Monte A. Hall was in the Hibernia bank at Jones and Market sts. at 10:15 a.m. on FBI business when he noticed Holtan. Holtan aroused his suspicions as he lingered behind a Christmas tree for several minutes, gazing around the lobby.

Hull watched as Holtan walked over to a counter, wrote something on the back of a withdrawal slip, and carrying a folded newspaper, got in line in front of teller Maureen Laval, 24.

Meanwhile, another agent, James E. Tarleton, walked into the bank and Hall signalled him to join him in line directly behind Holtan.

Miss Laval appeared nervous after Holtan handed her the withdrawal slip. She hurriedly slapped about \$1,400 on the counter without counting it. FBI Agent Hall yelled, "Have you been robbed?" and she could only nod speechlessly.

Hall and Tarleton grabbed Holtan and immediately recovered the money and the note. It read: "This bomb in the newspaper can blow up the whole block. I want \$1,500. Please be careful." The "bomb" was a transistor radio.

Holtan was to be arraigned later today on bank robbery charges before U. S. Commissioner Donald Considine.

Police said Holtan was on parole from a burglary conviction in Sioux Falls, S.D., and had a prior robbery conviction.

Medford Firm Bids Low on Dump Trucks

International Harvester Sales, Medford, was apparent low bidder this morning on six dump trucks for the Jackson county roads department.

Net bid was \$37,511.90 which included trade-in allowances for six old county dump trucks.

Only other bidder was Parsons Motor company, Medford, with a net bid of \$38,574 on six 1963 Dodge dump trucks including trade-ins.

The bids were submitted to the county engineer and purchasing coordinator for study of specifications and recommendation for awarding the contract Friday.

Oregon's Terms To Be Considered

Olympia — (UPI) — The Washington Highway Commission will meet in special session here Friday to consider ratifying the Oregon Highway Commission's terms of sale for the remaining \$12 million worth of bonds for construction of the Astoria-Megler bridge.

Oregon is responsible for building and operating the bridge on U. S. 101, and the Washington commission has the power to concur on the terms of the bond sale.

The Oregon Legislature in 1961 authorized a \$24 million bond issue to pay for the bridge. The additional \$12 million sale which the Washington commission will consider is the balance.

Washington will build approaches to the span on its side and has agreed to help pick up the deficit not to exceed \$200,000 per year if the bridge operation goes in the red.

The new 4.2 mile facility now under construction is expected to open in mid-1963.

ATTORNEY DIES

Portland — (UPI) — George Clark Durham, veteran Portland attorney, died Sunday. He was 65.

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WRECKAGE—The pile of twisted metal above was all that was left of the light plane that crashed and burned near Ashland Sunday with three persons aboard. Killed in the crash were Reginald Imperatrice, his wife, Jane, and their 10-year-old daughter, Mary Jane, Lake Creek. The plane crashed in the fire-blackened timber of the Ashland burn, and if the weather had been clear residents of Ashland could have seen the burning airplane on the ridge some 1,800 feet above town. State police officers and sheriff's deputies are shown in the background.

Hundreds Prepare To Leave Cuba Aboard Freighter

Havana — (UPI) — Relatives of Cuban invasion prisoners lined up by the hundreds today along Havana's waterfront, preparing to board the freighter African Pilot for Port Everglades, Fla., and freedom.

The first 600 of the 1,000 children, women and men waiting to join their fathers, husbands, sons and brothers waited patiently alongside the ship's dock.

American and Cuban Red Cross representatives worked feverishly to install 500 coats and 1,000 blankets flown in for use by the relatives on their overnight, 12-hour trip.

It was expected the ship would be able to sail by dusk.

An American Red Cross-chartered plane landed in Havana today from Miami carrying a medical team and supplies for the prisoners' relatives scheduled to leave aboard the African Pilot.

A doctor, seven nurses and a "co-ordinator" were aboard the aircraft as well as 500 coats, 1,000 blankets and odd supplies. The plane's cargo was unloaded immediately by American and Cuban Red Cross representatives.

Western diplomats here speculated that Premier Fidel Castro may follow up the release of the 1,113 invaders captured last year by freeing all of his foreign political prisoners and some Cubans as well.

New York Attorney James B. Donovan, who negotiated the release of the invaders, announced in Miami Monday that Castro had promised to free Americans imprisoned in Cuba for "anti-state crimes."

Although no full list of the American prisoners has been made public, sources here said there actually are only 22 Americans in Castro's prisons.

Investigation into Crash Continues by Two Federal Groups

The Civil Aeronautics Board and the Federal Aviation Agency continued their investigation today of a light airplane crash Sunday which killed a Lake Creek, Ore., rancher, his wife and daughter.

State police said this morning victims of the airplane crash have been identified positively as Reginald Imperatrice, 34, his wife, Jane Imperatrice, 31, and daughter, Mary Jane, 10.

The airplane crashed on a timbered ridge about two miles south of Ashland Mine rd. The wreckage was spotted by Ashland City Councilman George Ward and J. H. vonKuhlmann who conducted an air search of the area when the plane was reported missing en route from Ashland to Fresno, Calif., for the holidays.

A ground search party consisting of state police, coroner's deputies, civilian volunteers and two members of Rogue Flying Service, from which Imperatrice had rented the plane, arrived on the scene yesterday morning and removed the bodies late yesterday afternoon.

State police started a routine check of nearby landing strips and airports when the plane was reported missing. No flight plan had been filed, they said.

Visibility was reported as poor Sunday when Imperatrice took off from the Ashland airport. Observers said the plane would have missed the ridge if it had been 200 yards higher.

County Commissioner Chester Wendt said petitions contained the required number of verified signatures of property owners or contract buyers within the proposed district boundaries. The law requires that 25 per cent of the property owners or 200 residents sign the petitions, whichever is the smaller number.

The assessor's office showed 179 verified signatures of 556 permitted. However, it was estimated earlier the proposed district would include 200 residents within the 45 square mile area.

Although an Evans Valley rural volunteer fire department is now in operation, the proposal would set up a district with a board of directors empowered to levy a tax.

Court Sets Hearing Date for District

The Jackson county court today set Jan. 30 for a public hearing on the proposed Evans Valley Rural Fire Protection district.

County Commissioner Chester Wendt said petitions contained the required number of verified signatures of property owners or contract buyers within the proposed district boundaries. The law requires that 25 per cent of the property owners or 200 residents sign the petitions, whichever is the smaller number.

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London-Bound Train Wreck Kills One

London — (UPI) — A London-bound passenger train plowed into the rear of another passenger train tonight near the tiny Cheshire village of Minshull Vernon.

Railroad officials said first reports indicated one person was injured. Several others were reported trapped in the wreckage.

The officials said the rear coach of the first train was telescoped.

Minshull Vernon is a small town about 35 miles southeast of Liverpool and 150 miles northwest of London.

Officials said the two trains were crowded with holiday travelers.

The train struck from behind was en route from Liverpool to Birmingham. The second train was en route from Glasgow to London.

Two firemen were injured fighting the blaze.

The burned building was owned by Triangle Mills and occupied by E. J. Bartells Co., and Insulation and Wires, Inc.

Russia Officially Supports Charges Against Embassy

Moscow — (UPI) — The Soviet government today officially backed up newspaper charges against the U.S. Embassy here but indicated that three American embassy officers, accused of espionage, would be allowed to remain in the country.

The action came in a Foreign Ministry statement that did not order expulsions but demanded that the U.S. Embassy take measures to restrain its personnel from activities "incompatible" with their diplomatic status.

U.S. Embassy Acting Minister Richard Funkhouser, who was read the statement at the Foreign Ministry this morning, immediately rejected the allegations of misbehavior by embassy personnel as "unfounded."

Intensive Campaign
Soviet newspapers, radio and television have been waging an intense "spy scare" campaign here in recent weeks, accusing five embassy staff members, a British businessman and a high Soviet scientific official of participating in an Anglo-American espionage ring.

Two of the Americans already have left the country. The three who remain are U.S. Embassy doctor and assistant Air Force attaché Capt. Alexis H. Davidson, 31, Atlanta, Ga.; Second secretary Robert K. German, 35, Dallas, Tex.; and embassy attaché and security officer Hugh Montgomery, 39, Springfield, Mass.

AWARD PRESENTED
Portland — (UPI) — An award for more than 25 years of uninterrupted coverage under Oregon's workmen's compensation act has been presented to members of the Portland chapter, Associated General Contractors.

Portland — (UPI) — Mrs. Athilda M. Chioti, 57, Portland, was killed and another woman injured in a two-car crash here today.

Mrs. Tillie R. Bederman, 40, Portland, was reported in good condition at St. Vincent hospital.

Police said Mrs. Chioti's car apparently skidded out of control on an icy strip and careened into westbound traffic.

En masse picketing went into effect for the first time since the International Longshoremen's Association called the walkout Sunday night.

Police were sent to the docks in Galveston, Tex., to guard against a clash between a subsidiary of the IILA and a newly formed independent labor group, the Banana Workers Cooperative. But the situation remained orderly when 100 members of the cooperative crossed the picket line to unload bananas from

a Swedish vessel, the Brita Thordon.

Otherwise, all reports indicated that picketing elsewhere along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts were proceeding in an orderly manner.

Both the shippers and the IILA were reluctant to resume negotiations in the dispute which arose over a shippers' demand that the union reduce the size of work gangs from 20 to 17 men.

A move by Mayor Robert F. Wagner of New York City to persuade negotiators to return to the bargaining table by Thursday was ignored, and federal mediators had no immediate plans for scheduling more talks.

Freedom Seekers Evade Gunfire Of Border Guards

Escapes Carry Personal Items

Berlin — (UPI) — Eight East Germans rammed an armor-plated bus through Communist barricades and a fusillade of gunfire today in a spectacular escape to freedom in West Berlin.

Four small children were among the refugees, who were members of two families. One of the two men was the owner of the bus and the other was his driver.

Eight machine pistol bullets fired by Communist guards hit the bus, but the only injury was a glass splinter cut received by the driver.

Carefully Planned
The escape was so carefully planned that the families brought along their belongings, including a living room clock, five sofa cushions and a doll carriage.

The bus smashed through three barriers on the main highway to Berlin and made it safely to the U.S. Army checkpoint on the edge of the western sector of the city.

At a West Berlin refugee camp, the escapees said they had planned to flee on Christmas Eve but had to defer the venture because the radiator on the bus froze. They said they stayed up all night to thaw the radiator.

Sign Misled Police
As part of the plan, the refugees placed on the rear of the 30-seat bus a sign reading "repair shop car" to make police think it was under way on a repair job.

They said the Communists' vigilance apparently was relaxed over the holiday because the only time they were challenged in their 150-mile ride was just outside Berlin. Usually the Reds check travelers at several points on highways leading to the city.

"We threw ourselves on the floor to evade the bullets but one grazed my hair," one of the women said. "I was lucky. We armor-plated the bus, but the bullets came in anyway."

The bus belonged to the owner of a transport firm in the town of Neugersdorf, District of Sachsen, near Lohbau on the Czech border. The other man worked as a driver for the owner.

"We were not controlled once on the long trip from our home town," the wife of the bus owner said. "We hit the first control at the Berlin border."

The children, ranging from 2 to 10 years, were not told of the escape plan. They were not aware anything unusual was happening until they were told to lie down on the bus floor as the vehicle approached the Communist checkpoint.

Guards Start Shooting
As the vehicle neared the divided city, Communist border guards controlling heavy traffic to and from West Berlin opened fire with machine pistols.

Bullets broke the windshield. Others bounced off steel plates the refugees had attached to the sides of the vehicle for protection.

A glass splinter from the windshield cut the thumb of the driver, but that was the only injury.

Recommendation Made To Purchase Truck
Jackson County Purchasing Coordinator William Cochran and the Jackson county health department this morning recommended to the county court that a three-quarter ton pickup truck be purchased from Courtesy Chevrolet, Medford.

Courtesy submitted the lowest of five bids at \$1,977.88. The truck will be used in the county mosquito control program.

Dockmen Begin Picketing in Force

New York — (UPI) — Longshoremen began picketing in full force today at docks in Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports. Extra police were called in one city to forestall violence.

En masse picketing went into effect for the first time since the International Longshoremen's Association called the walkout Sunday night.

Police were sent to the docks in Galveston, Tex., to guard against a clash between a subsidiary of the IILA and a newly formed independent labor group, the Banana Workers Cooperative. But the situation remained orderly when 100 members of the cooperative crossed the picket line to unload bananas from

NEWS BRIEFS

RUSSIA ACCUSED OF 'ANTI-AMERICAN CAMPAIGN'
Washington — (UPI) — The State Department today accused Russia of conducting an "anti-American campaign" through its charges of espionage in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

Department spokesman Lincoln White, speaking at a news conference, added that the campaign "hardly jibes" with statements by high Soviet officials calling for improved U.S.-Soviet relations in the aftermath of the Cuban crisis.

BLACKLISTING OF CONTRACTORS SUGGESTED
Washington — (UPI) — Sen. Clinton P. Anderson (D-N.M.), has suggested that the Pentagon blacklist any contractor whose advertising divulges vital nuclear power information.

Anderson made the proposal last spring at a meeting of the House-Senate Atomic Energy Committee. The censored record of the hearing was made public Tuesday.