

# Fidel Castro Claimed Waging Struggle for Political Survival

## CUBA REVERSES POLICY ON RELEASES

Story  
Page  
2A



MEET IN FLORIDA — President Kennedy talks with Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Anthony J. Celebrezze on the patio of the vacation White House in Palm Beach, Fla. The HEW official and members of his staff met with the Chief Executive today to evaluate the requirements of his department in the coming year. (UPI)

### Kennedy Turns Attention To Medical Care, Aid To Education

Palm Beach, Fla.—President Kennedy swung his legislative planning for 1963 today to consideration of how to get Congress to approve two politically significant programs it spurned this year. Medical care for the aged under Social Security financing was understood to be high on the agenda for talks the President scheduled today with Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Anthony J. Celebrezze. So was federal aid to education.

The administration will try again next year for federal aid to public schools, as well as to higher education. This proposal has been batted down twice in Congress, but administration experts believe much passing year reduces some of the opposition.

Much the same thinking was behind the President's decision to push again for Medicare. He and his advisers sense what they regard as slowly growing public support for the plan.

This was Kennedy's third day of talks in the vacation White House.

The measure was passed by the city council at its meeting on Dec. 20. Without the mayor's signature, the ordinance will automatically become effective within 10 days of passage.

"I have declined to sign this measure," Snider said today, "because I wish to support the city manager in his recommendation against substantial improvement projects."

The city administration has a policy of recommending that streets be improved with paving rather than gravel. It had advised the council against passage of the measure.

FINED \$65 — Portland — John Franklin Forbis of Portland, who was involved in a fatal auto accident Nov. 13, was fined \$65 Thursday after being found guilty of being drunk on a public street.

UN. KATANGESSE FORCES CLASH — Elisabethville, Katanga, The Congo — United Nations and Katangese forces clashed today in a prolonged exchange of fire with rifles, machine guns, and heavy mortar shells. United States and British diplomats attempted in vain to halt the shooting.

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### Sweeping Change In Medical Care Program Lauded

Governor Predicts Extended Coverage

Salem — (UPI) — Sweeping changes proposed for the Oregon Medical Care for the Aged program today had the "enthusiastic endorsement" of Gov. Mark Hatfield.

The Governor predicted the changes would extend coverage under the program from the present 6,000 persons to "up to 15,000 older citizens."

The Governor's advisory committee on medical care for the aged recommended five major changes to broaden coverage under the program.

Hatfield said today "I have asked that appropriate legislation be drafted for early action by the legislative assembly."

Recommendations — The major recommendations call for: —Major medical protection, —Expanded availability of nursing home care for senior citizens of limited means, —More responsibility to the individual in using his own resources for meeting part of the cost of medical care,

—Use of qualified private organizations on a competitive bid basis for claims administration, and, —Fuller use of available matching federal funds.

The "major medical" proposal envisions the individual using his own resources for items of lesser cost such as the office call, and has the resources of the plan focused on items of larger cost such as hospital, nursing home, and heavy medical or surgical care, where the individual must have help if he is to avoid financial catastrophe and prolonged dependency.

Continuous Basis — It is recommended that nursing home benefits be increased and be available on a continuous basis to the eligible individual whose need for care requires the use of a nursing home facility for whatever length of time. The proposal would make the medical assistance for the aged program responsible for financial aid toward cost of necessary nursing care. Persons who formerly could receive this kind of help only through old age assistance, would be aided through medical assistance for the aged.

In recommending more individual participation, the recommendations envision individuals would pay for office visits or out-patient services except where a surgical service is provided or diagnostic x-ray is required after an accident.

This is in contrast to the present plan, which provides both minor office and in-hospital physician service up to an annual dollar maximum, but only after the patient has assumed responsibility for an initial \$50 physician expenditure.

Competitive Bid Basis — It is recommended that private insurance and health plan carriers be considered on a competitive bid basis for furnishing certain specialized administrative functions in connection with processing and payment of claims for hospital and physicians.

It was believed this would improve efficiency of administration, and make the plan more acceptable to patients as well as to doctors and hospitals.

Extension of hospital services to a maximum of 30 days instead of the present 14 days was called for.

Both now and under the proposed changes, the patient assumes partial responsibility for hospital costs. For a person staying in the hospital two weeks or less, the present plan requires assumption of somewhat less financial responsibility by the patient.

But for the longer stay, the present plan offers no help, while the proposed alteration would continue benefits at an undiminished rate up to a full 30 days.

The report noted that of all persons over age 65 who require hospitalization, approximately one-third must stay in the hospital longer than 14 days.

TRAIN DERAIL — Portland — Three cars of an Oregon Electric Railroad train carrying woodchips from Eugene to Portland derailed west of here today.

Regional Edition

## MEDFORD TRIBUNE

16 Pages

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1962

No. 241

57th Year Price 10 Cents

## Leaders in House Mustering Troops for 'Battle of Rules'

First Clash Tentatively Set For Opening Day

Number of Members On Committee Topic

Washington — (UPI) — Administration leaders in the House today began mustering their troops for the "second battle of rules." Opposing conservative forces launched their drive for recruits days ago.

The struggle, which President Kennedy has said may mean life or death for New Frontier legislation, is tentatively set for Jan. 9, opening day of the 88th Congress.

Technically, the question is whether the "traffic-cop" House Rules Committee shall be composed of 15 members or 12. Practically, the issue is whether Speaker John W. McCormack (D-Mass.) or Rules Chairman Howard W. Smith (D-Va.) will decide what controversial issues shall be put to a vote in the House.

Fought Same Battle — The same battle was fought, on the same ground, between Smith and the late Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-Tex.) at the start of the 87th Congress two years ago. Rayburn won, but on a close vote and after heavy blood-letting.

McCormack, until Thursday, had let Smith do all the talking. He finally made his announcement by indirectness. Through a routine caucus call he let the word go out that he was ready to fight.

Democratic House members were advised to attend a party caucus Tuesday, Jan. 9, to establish among other things a party position on rules of the 88th Congress.

This, in effect, was McCormack's notification that he will seek a showdown with Smith. According to party leaders the outcome will decide who is going to be the real boss of the House during the next two years.

Under its old 12-man makeup, the committee for some years had been under effective control of a conservative coalition of Smith, Rep. William M. Colmer (D-Miss.) and four Republican members.

Delayed Organization — With the coming of Kennedy's New Frontier in 1961, Rayburn decided to restore control of the committee to the Democratic leadership. He delayed organization of the House for almost a month while he put together the votes to enlarge the committee to 15 members.

Of the three additional members, he picked two pro-Kennedy Democrats, while the Republican leaders picked one member from their party.

That gave Rayburn, and later McCormack, a shaky 9-7 majority and sufficient control of the committee to obtain floor consideration of a number of key measures on Kennedy's must list.

To win his battle by a 217-212 vote, Rayburn limited the expansion proviso to a single Congress.

The letter was a reply to one written by Adenauer last summer at the time of a series of ugly border incidents along the Berlin wall, including the shooting of a teen-age East German refugee.

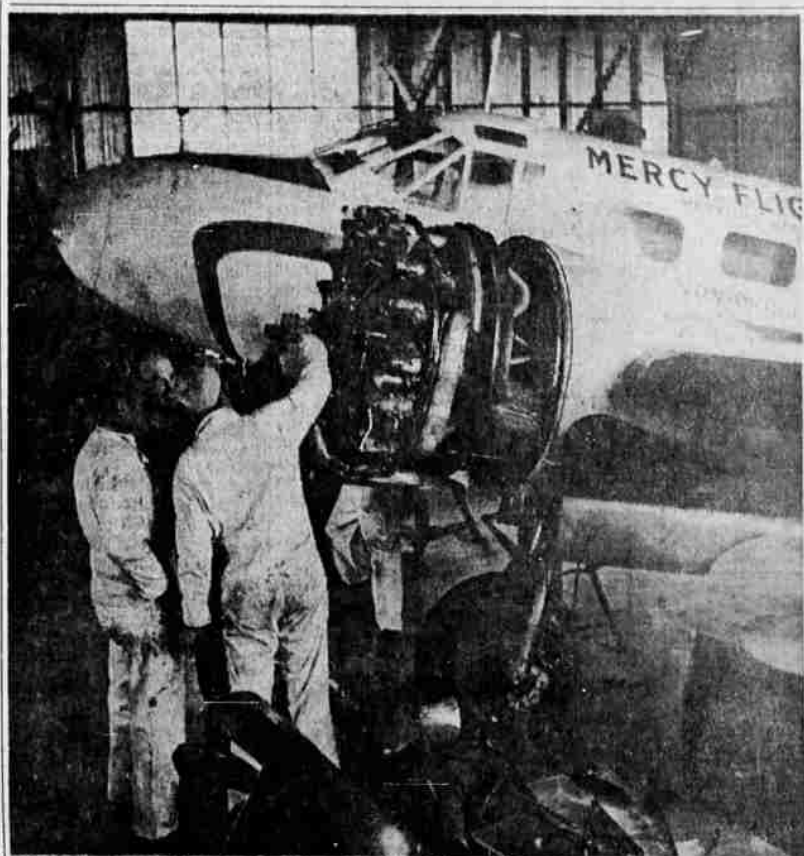
Bigger Ship Sought To Haul Ransom Goods — Miami — (UPI) — The Red Cross was searching today for a ship bigger than the 10,000-ton African Pilot to take more ransom goods to Cuba and possibly bring out another load of refugees.

And President Kennedy, after talking with leaders of the ill-fated Cuban invasion, was making plans to fly to Miami Saturday and address an expected 80,000 Cuban exiles in Miami's Orange Bowl.

Sheriff's Patrol Car in Accident — The Jackson county sheriff's office has reported that a patrol car wrecked in the fog Friday night near Eagle Point is still out of service.

Estimated damage is \$400 to \$500. Sheriff Paul Bettel said the car, driven by Deputy Clark Meers, failed to make a turn. The driver thought an obstacle was in front of him in the road, slammed on his brakes and swerved to miss it. The car went off onto a soft shoulder of the road and hit a railroad track.

Bettel said it was the first accident the sheriff's department had had all year with 13 cars on the road.



REPAIR AIRCRAFT — A Mercy Flights plane that skidded to a belly landing Thursday afternoon at Medford airport was "back on its feet" today as mechanics refueled and repaired damaged flaps. Above, George Milligan, chief pilot of Mercy Flights, discusses the extent of the damage to the twin engine Beechcraft with mechanics. Pilot of the plane, Eugene Burrill, accidentally pulled the wheel retraction lever instead of the flaps at the critical point of touchdown. Admittedly this was pilot error, Milligan said, but the blame moved bent propellers and damaged flaps. Above, George Milligan, chief pilot of Mercy Flights, discusses the extent of the damage to the twin engine Beechcraft with mechanics. Pilot of the plane, Eugene Burrill, accidentally pulled the wheel retraction lever instead of the flaps at the critical point of touchdown. Admittedly this was pilot error, Milligan said, but the blame moved bent propellers and damaged flaps.

### Khrushchev Said To Be Reviving Berlin Issue

Moscow — (UPI) — Premier Nikita Khrushchev today appeared to be reviving the Berlin and German issues with an eye toward the forthcoming East German Communist party congress.

Khrushchev, in a sharp letter to West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer released Thursday, accused the West of causing Berlin border incidents and repeated his demand for an East German peace treaty and the creation of a demilitarized "free city" of West Berlin.

Western diplomats said it was significant that Khrushchev set no deadline for a Berlin settlement. They said all indications were that no immediate Soviet moves on Berlin were in the offing.

The diplomats said the aim of the letter appeared to be to bring the Berlin issue back into prominence in preparation for the East German party meeting in mid-January. They said Khrushchev could be assuring East German Communist chief Walter Ulbricht that the Cuban crisis has not caused Moscow to forget its promise of obtaining a Berlin settlement.

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### Landing Gear of Plane Collapses While Craft Lands

No injuries and slight damage resulted when the landing gear on a Mercy Flights plane collapsed on landing Thursday afternoon at the Medford Municipal airport.

The plane was piloted by Eugene F. Burrill, a regular Mercy Flights pilot. Also in the aircraft were a co-pilot, Forrest Biggers, and Mark Powers, son of Eugene Powers, another Mercy Flights pilot. The three were flight-checking a new engine installed in the plane.

The accident apparently resulted when the pilot pulled the wrong lever, according to George Milligan, chief pilot for Mercy Flights.

He explained that the gear lever and the flaps lever are reversed on the Beechcraft C45H plane from those on the plane Burrill is used to flying. When he automatically reached for the flap switch, he pulled the gear switch instead. The plane skidded approximately 400 feet along the runway on its belly.

Two pumps were dispatched to the scene by the Medford fire department, according to Chief Gordon Barker. No fire resulted, although a quantity of gasoline was spilled, he said.

Damage amounted to less than \$1,000, Milligan said, resulting to the propellers, bottom of the engine cowls and flaps. The plane is expected to be flying again tonight. In the meantime, Mercy Flights has two other planes ready to fly.

Milligan said that a safety switch prevents this sort of accident if the plane is rolling on the runway when the lever is pulled.

The Mercy Flights plane, however, was just touching the runway and did not have enough weight on the landing gear to activate the safety switch. He added that this type of accident happens occasionally because of the manner in which the switches on the two-engine airplanes are reversed.

Eagle Point Youth Arrested by Deputies — Daniel David Hugo, 18, of 13 F St., Eagle Point, was arrested yesterday by Jackson county sheriff's deputies on a warrant from district court charging him with failure to stop for a school bus unloading children.

Hugo was released after posting \$100 bail. He is charged with passing the school bus on Dec. 20 near Eagle Point, striking two Eagle Point youngsters with his car.

WEATHER — FORECAST: Increasing clouds tonight. Occasional rain Saturday. Low tonight 24 to 32. High Saturday 45 to 50. Temp. Highest Yesterday 44. Lowest This Morning 18.

Our Skies Tonight — Sunset today 4:15 P.M. Sunrise tomorrow 7:15 A.M. Moonset tonight 4:30 P.M. First Quarter Jan. 2. The planet, Saturn, seen about the Moon tonight, will leave the evening sky next month and return as a morning planet early in March.

### Departures of Relatives Halted In Latest Edict

No Reason Given For Abrupt Switch

Havana — (UPI) — Cuba today abruptly banned any further departures of relatives of ransom invasion prisoners.

In an unexplained reversal of previously announced policy, a government spokesman said no more relatives will be allowed to leave Cuba aboard Red Cross-chartered ships used to deliver ransom cargoes to Havana.

No Reason Given — The decision was communicated to about 1,000 persons massed before the former American Embassy in Havana clamoring for aid in leaving the island.

There was no reason announced for the ban.

A spokesman for the Swiss Embassy which now handles American diplomatic affairs in Cuba, appealed to the crowd for patience.

He warned them that any demonstrations could harm their efforts to leave the country.

Representatives Assured — Previously, Premier Fidel Castro had assured prisoners' representatives on several occasions that all relatives of the prisoners could leave freely aboard the Red Cross ships bringing ransom goods here.

Informed sources said an estimated 5,000 to 6,000 relatives had filed petitions for permission to leave. In addition, more than 1,000 others stranded in Havana by the disruption in air service following last October's crisis, also have sought to use the Red Cross transportation.

### New Year's Holiday Will Start Tonight

By United Press International — Millions of Americans will take to the highways tonight for the start of the four-day New Year's holiday.

The National Safety Council estimated that from 420 to 480 persons would die and from 19,000 to 21,000 would be injured during the holiday period.

The holiday period begins at 6 p.m. local time and ends at midnight New Year's Day. State and local authorities, shocked by the number of highway deaths during the long Christmas holiday, went all out in promoting safety on the highways and streets this week end.

Howard Pyle, safety council president, said speeding and drinking are the main causes of New Year's accidents.

Pyle said in previous New Year's holidays speed was involved in more than half the accidents and drinking was involved in 38 per cent. He said during other times of the year speed is a factor in only 37 per cent and drinking in 30 per cent.

Milk Stabilization Regulations Repealed — Salem — (UPI) — An order repealing all regulations and orders drawn under the Milk Stabilization Act was signed today by J. F. Short, director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

The repeal order is effective midnight, Dec. 31.

Crater Lake Travel in 1962 Show Big Increase — Travel in Crater Lake National park this year increased 42 per cent over 1961, according to W. Ward Yeager, superintendent. The number of visitors in 1961 set a record.

Park officials expect the number of travelers to increase about 10 per cent each year. The great increase this year was attributed partly to the Seattle World's Fair and partly to two articles on the park which appeared in the July 1962 issue of National Geographic magazine.

A total of 592,424 persons traveling in 176,237 vehicles visited the park during 1962. Overnight visits totaled 87,238, an increase of 30 per cent. Daily and overnight visits comprise a total of 679,662 "visitor days" of use by park visitors, Yeager said.

Park officials do not expect use of the park in 1963 to equal that of 1962, but Yeager said the national park service will continue to develop the park to take care of steadily increasing numbers of visitors.

## NEWS BRIEFS

ITEMS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

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