

21 CUBAN PRISONERS REACH FLORIDA

Regional Edition

MEDFORD MALL TRIBUNE

20 Pages Two Sections

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, APRIL 22, 1963

No. 27

58th Year Price 10 Cents

Flames Continue To Sweep Through Tinder-Dry Forests

By United Press International

A fresh outbreak of timber and brush fires flared today from Kentucky to New York.

Tinder-dry forests blazed during the week end, killing at least three persons, injuring more than 200, and causing millions of dollars in property damage.

Ten square miles of Staten Island, N. Y., and 100 homes in the area were charred by wind-driven flames.

Marines, sailors, policemen, home owners and students joined fire-fighters and fore-

sters battling the ravaging flames.

In West Virginia 35 new fires broke out. Winds and dry woods posed serious forest fire conditions in southern and eastern West Virginia.

Fire raged through an amusement park in Hull, Mass., and endangered scores of homes. Gusty winds fanned flames which drove more than 100 persons from their homes.

Light rain Sunday night brought relief to parched Kentucky fields and forests. Forest Fire Control Chief H. W.

Berckman delayed a request to Gov. Bert Combs to order the closing of wooded areas in 25 counties. A total of 110 fires covering 7,730 acres burned in eastern Kentucky Sunday.

Rangers fought through the night to contain spectacular blazes in Virginia and West Virginia.

A fire in Morgan county, W. Va., raged out of control and swept eastward. Authorities said no communities were in immediate danger.

A blaze in Panther State forest destroyed more than 1,000 acres of timber by today.

A flaming ridge-to-ridge inferno near Welch, W. Va., was reported under control and another fire on the 7,000-acre forest property of the famed Greenbrier resort at White Sulphur Springs also was contained.

Shenandoah National Park in Virginia was declared on a fire emergency status while hundreds of volunteers, including soldiers, sailors and Marines, were aided by six airplanes in fighting about 250 fires throughout the state.

Foresters said some 10,000 acres of Virginia woodland were destroyed during the week end.

Hundreds of persons were left homeless when flames raced through pine forests in three New Jersey counties. Fire officials reported 238,000 acres destroyed. Two persons died fighting the towering flames. 98 were injured and 245 homes were consumed.

Five ravaged three factories and six homes at Bayonne, N. J., Saturday, injuring 27 firemen and touching off violent explosions.

Castro's Jails Apparently Clear Of U. S. Citizens

Six Others Go To South America

Homestead AFB, Fla. —(UPI)—Twenty-one Americans held prisoner in Cuba flew to freedom here today and six more went to South America, apparently clearing Fidel Castro's dungeons of American citizens.

New York attorney James B. Donovan, who arranged the release of the Americans and flew here with them, said three Americans and three Americans of Cuban birth chose to go to South America when they were released instead of coming here.

This was not immediately explained, and these men were not identified here.

One of the 21 who arrived at this air base south of Miami was a patient, identified as Richard Allen Pecoraro, 30. He was taken off the plane first, and the others walked off the plane under their own power. None of the 21 was a resident of the Far West.

Last To Leave Plane

Donovan, the red-faced New Yorker who has arranged the release of about 6,000 Americans, Cuban-Americans and their dependents in the past year, was last off the plane.

He announced before leaving Havana that he had also arranged for 1,000 more Cuban-American refugees to come to the United States this week by boat, probably Wednesday.

Austin F. Young, Miami, an American adventurer who helped Castro in the beginning of his fight against former Dictator Fulgencio Batista, was the "long-term" of the group which arrived at this base south of Miami. He had been in jail only six days short of four years, and originally was condemned to die for "acts against the state in Cuba." His sentence was later commuted to 30 years.

In Several Prisons

Young said he had been in several prisons in Cuba, including the notorious Isle of Pines maximum security prison.

"I'm very glad to be back," Young said.

In announcing Castro's decision to release the Americans Sunday, Donovan described it as "an action of clemency on the part of the Cuban government."

"It does not involve any further pledges of drugs, medicines or baby food to the Cuban people," Donovan said.

Gold Hill Mayor Dies While Fishing

Gold Hill — Milton Steinmetz, mayor of Gold Hill, died Saturday afternoon while fishing at Willow lake. Cause of death apparently was a stroke, according to Dr. A. Erin Merkel, Jackson county health officer.

Mr. Steinmetz had served as mayor since Dec. 5, 1955, when he was appointed to the post. He was reelected in 1958, 1960 and 1962. Previously he had served on the Gold Hill city council since March, 1951.

He retired as a civilian engineer with the United States government four years ago. Following his retirement he performed numerous engineering services for the city of Gold Hill on a donation basis.

As mayor he also brought maps of city streets and sewer and water lines up to date, working on his own time.

Born Feb. 4, 1893 in Bangor, Pa., he came to Gold Hill in 1913 from Canada. He served as a civil engineer in various parts of the United States. He and his wife returned to Gold Hill in 1939 and purchased their home on First ave.

Funeral service will be held Wednesday, April 24, at 1 p.m. in Conger-Morris downtown chapel in Medford. The Rev. D. E. Millard of the New Age church, Eagle Point, will officiate. Committal will be in Hillcrest Memorial park.

Fun Fair Attended By More Than 6,000

Between 6,000 and 7,000 persons attended the three-day Crater Lions Fun Fair over the week end, according to Lions President Wayne Saffley.

Saffley said that while the proceeds of the Fun Fair haven't been completely tallied, he regarded the results as "gratifying."



CHURCH DESTROYED—This picture, taken seconds after firemen arrived, shows Our Lady of Pompeii church in East Haven, Conn., engulfed in flames. Police said two boys at play started the fire, which completely destroyed the church. The youths, aged 9 and 10, face juvenile charges. (UPI)

Jordan Premier Issues Warning To Save Hussein

Amman, Jordan — (UPI) — Newly-appointed Premier Sharif Hussein Ibn Nasser warned today that Jordanian troops "will strike mercilessly" against any attempts to overthrow pro-Western King Hussein.

Hussein named Ibn Nasser to head a "transitional" government Sunday after dissolving Parliament and calling for new elections in an attempt to stem demonstrations for Arab unity under the banner of the United Arab Republic.

The 27-year-old monarch's loyal Bedouin soldiers broke up an anti-government demonstration here Sunday by firing over the heads of students who were demanding an end to the Hussein regime and union with the expanded United Arab Republic of Egypt, Syria and Iraq.

The army sealed off the capital, keeping out all traffic with roadblocks manned by desert troops on the main highway. Army units patrolled the streets but there was no curfew and the city appeared calm today.

Curfew in Effect

In the Jordanian sector of Jerusalem, where troops reportedly fired on demonstrators Saturday killing at least four, a strict curfew was in effect.

King Hussein, battling to hold his throne against the wave of pro-Nasser fever sweeping the Middle East, huddled with his top military and civilian advisers to study the crisis.

The new Jordanian premier is Hussein's uncle and no relation to Egypt's president.

Hussein dissolved Parliament Sunday after it toppled the government of Premier Samir Rifai on a no confidence vote, 32 to 28.



KING HUSSEIN (UPI) In Battle for Throne

Hussein dissolved Parliament Sunday after it toppled the government of Premier Samir Rifai on a no confidence vote, 32 to 28.

Thresher May Be Located Tuesday

Washington — (UPI) — The search for the submarine Thresher narrowed to six objects on the Atlantic Ocean bottom today and the Navy said it may discover Tuesday whether one is the lost nuclear ship.

Cameras will be lowered to the 8,400 foot depth at a spot 270 miles east of Boston from the oceanographic ship Atlantis II to inspect the suspicious objects found where the submarine disappeared April 10.

A submarine expert in the office of Adm. George W. Anderson, chief of naval operations, told newsmen it was "possible" that the atomic submarine will be located by the Atlantis II Tuesday.

Capt. C. B. Bishop said that "We certainly hope before the end of this week that we will know" whether the lost Thresher is one of the "anomalies" that a protracted search has pinpointed in a 100-square-mile area off the Massachusetts coast.

One Man Drowns, One Hurt During Boating Accident

Sheriff's deputies this morning were diving in the Rogue river near Horseshoe falls, 15 miles north of Medford, attempting to locate the body of Ralph Ferguson, 44, of route 1, box 33, Medford.

Ferguson is missing after the boat in which he was riding capsized after passing through the falls. Sheriff's deputies said they learned one of the three men in the boat stood up, then fell, causing the craft to capsize.

John Gomer, 2458 Nieto Way, Medford, is being treated at Rogue Valley hospital for shock. The other man in the boat was Ronald Clawson, no address given.

Clawson told deputies he got hold of the other two men and all three clung to the boat for awhile. Later Clawson and Gomer swam to shore. There they made their way to the William Bray ranch where sheriff's deputies were notified. Nobody has seen Ferguson since the two men swam ashore.

Filing Fee Tax Plan Proposed

Salem — (UPI) — An alternate income tax proposal centering on a 10 per cent surtax and a filing fee was urged today by Rep. Katherine Musa (D-The Dalles). Her husband, Senate President Ben Musa, at once endorsed it.

The House Friday approved a modified net receipts income tax bill that would raise \$35 million. It appeared the bill would face revision in the Senate.

Musa today indicated the Senate may substitute his wife's proposal for the bill which passed the House.

The "revised Musa plan" would raise about \$23 million a biennium, the Senate president said.

Mrs. Musa said if the House and Senate can't agree, she would suggest her plan to a conference committee.

Instead of revising the state income tax structure, the Musa plan would leave Oregon's personal income tax system as it is, but add a 10 per cent surtax on all present rates for two years.

The proposal also would add the earlier Musa Plan for a flat filing fee of \$5 or \$7.50 for all who must file returns in effect—a minimum tax that would pick up low income earners.

The new Musa Plan also would put a one per cent surtax for the next two years on corporations with a net income over \$25,000.

Burglars Take Second Safe From Company

Ashland — Burglars who broke into Jim Busch Ford Sales, 555 Siskiyou blvd., here Saturday night or early Sunday morning and made off with a safe are going to be in for a disappointment. Ashland police noted today. There was no money in the safe.

Both the safe and a small bus were found missing Sunday. Police said entry was made through a rear door. The safe was then apparently rolled out of a second floor office and down a flight of stairs to the bus.



RECEIVES AWARD—Dr. John T. Brandenburg, president of the board of trustees of the Public Library of Medford and Jackson County, accepted the fifth annual Book of the Month Club Award, a \$1,500 check, from Miss Eibert, state librarian. Miss Eibert attended the reception at the library and a luncheon at the Rogue Valley Country club. (Mildred Nelson photo)

'Printed Word' Said Potent Weapon in Struggle of Ideas

"The struggle today is not really a struggle that centers on missiles, space flight, and Polar submersibles, important as these objects are. The struggle today is a struggle of ideas, a struggle of books, if you will, a grim, determined, ideological war to gain possession of men's minds."

This message was brought to the Public Library of Medford and Jackson County Sunday afternoon by Dr. Richard H. Byrnes of Southern Oregon college, when he addressed the reception crowd gathered for presentation of the Book of the Month Club Award in memory of Dorothy Canfield Fisher.

Cat Control Bill Retrieved by Senate

Salem — (UPI) — A cat control bill, en route to the governor's desk, was yanked back today to the senate.

The bill authorizes local programs for control of stray cats.

The house agreed to a senate request to return the bill to the senate.

A senate spokesman said the action was taken for a technical correction and final passage of the bill still is expected.

Earlier today, the house had agreed to senate amendments to the bill.

Although the subject of some levity during its course through the legislature, the bill is meant to deal with a serious stray cat problem in some areas, such as Jackson county.

Counties say they now lack authority to conduct control programs.

The measure also clears up another point that has been clouded in present law. It makes cats personal property.

The bill contains a requirement that cats that are impounded must be held and given food and shelter for a redemption period of at least 10 days.

Chief sponsors were Reps. John Dellenback (R-Medford) and Grace Peck (D-Portland) and Sens. Lynn Newberry (R-Ashland) and Al Flegel (D-Roseburg).

"In that struggle, in that war," Dr. Byrnes cautioned his listeners, "the most potent weapon is the printed and spoken word. Whoever wins that war by means of using that weapon of ideas the most effectively will control the world."

"In the final analysis," Byrnes declared, "our weapon is not to be found in the material world. Our weapon, our ultimate resource is a man or a woman, a boy or a girl in a library — in a library with a book and an idea."

Lack of Influential Writers

Voicing regret that he finds a lack of influential writers on the American scene, the Southern Oregon college professor said:

"We can produce, we can engineer, but do we have ideas that furnish that initial spark? We are very good and quite efficient at organizing the assembly line, but it seems to me, in our bustle and haste, in our cars, machines, and television sets, we overlook the fact that all of these material things arise first from ideas; and that unless we have some means to garner in new ideas, to encourage the kind of thinking that produces new ideas, we are doomed to simply go on repeating ourselves, borrowing from other nations, and eventually coming to a standstill. And a standstill that means a defeat."

"It bothers me also that Greece had its Homer, Rome its Virgil, Italy its Dante, and England its Shakespeare, we do not have a writer that can be placed in the same group as these," Byrnes lamented, then added, "It may be that the ages of the great writers are ages in which a nation or a race had evolved a singular, agreed upon point of view or a unified interpretation. If so, perhaps we will produce our Shakespeare, but, it seems to me that he is long overdue."

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HEADS ASSOCIATION

Gold Beach — (UPI) — E. V. Nelson of Port Orford was elected president of the Oregon Coast Association at the close of the group's annual three-day meeting Sunday.

Real Estate Developers Object To Bond Proposal

Salem — (UPI) — Real estate developers and the attorney general's office clashed today in a House Planning and Development committee hearing over laws to regulate fraudulent land sales.

At the same time, Atty. Gen. Robert Y. Thornton revealed he is "conducting an investigation" in conjunction with the state real estate commissioner of land development plans.

Thornton said the probe was started "about 15 to 20 days ago." He said he had invited "anyone with data or information on fraudulent or questionable dealings" to contact his office.

Identify Declined

Thornton refused to specify what tracts were under investigation. He indicated the probe was concentrated in the Eastern and Southern areas.

Two members of the House committee, Reps. Bob Chappel (R-Portland) and Ken Maher (R-Portland) visited La Pine tract and other areas Sunday.

The clash between the real estate industry and attorney general is over drafting of a proposed law to protect unwary buyers from being defrauded in purchase of desert lands.

'Full Disclosure' OK'd

The real estate people agreed to "full disclosure" provisions which would require complete descriptions of the land and area to be provided before the purchase was completed.

Thornton wants strict "buy."

U. S. May Dispatch Troops to Thailand

Washington — (UPI) — High U.S. officials said today the United States might send military forces into Thailand if there is a collapse of the Geneva agreement guaranteeing the neutrality of Laos.

This possibility was disclosed after President Kennedy met with the National Security Council. The White House said Laos was the subject of the session between Kennedy and his top advisors but did not elaborate.

The officials emphasized that no decision has been made about sending troops into Thailand, which borders on Laos. They said that future U.S. moves in the situation would depend on developments in Laos.

Compensation Bill Due Wednesday

Salem — (UPI) — The Senate beat down a move to send a controversial workmen's compensation measure back to committee in a 20-7 vote today, then voted to make consideration of the bill a special order of business on Wednesday.

In another action today the Senate defeated a bill to allow smoking on air conditioned buses. However, after the vote was announced, Sen. Anthony Yturri (R-Ontario) announced he may move Tuesday to have the bill brought up again for consideration.

The move to send the workmen's compensation measure back to committee for specific amendments was spearheaded by Sen. Don Willner (D-Portland).

Willner charged "This three-way bill is bad for the public, bad for the working man, and bad for the small businessman."

Sen. Lynn Newberry (R-Ashland) said the real question involved was whether "we want a state monopoly or want to allow private insurance in the field." He argued against the amendments, charging it would make it a one-way bill.

Strip Area Votes To Join Coos Bay

Coos Bay — (UPI) — Voters in the strip area between Coos Bay and North Bend voted 115-97 Saturday in favor of annexation by Coos Bay.

The decision will add an estimated 385 residents to the Coos Bay population. The area will be added to the city as soon as the vote is canvassed and the required papers are filed.

Residents of the area turned down an annexation proposal several years ago by a large margin.

Good Fishing Reported For Opening Week End

"Some of the best fishing I've ever seen."

That's how resort operator Lloyd Morris reported opening week end angling at Willow lake.

"Everybody caught fish and most everybody limited," Morris stated.

Bank fishing, still fishing and trolling all had good results, he indicated. Fish were taking "just about everything." Catches ran from eight to 18 and 19 inches.

"Some nice kokanee were caught trolling."

Morris reported a good crowd both Saturday and Sunday with the turnout of an estimated 2,500 anglers on Saturday the largest.

Bank fishermen reportedly did the best over the week end at Howard Prairie lake and those still fishing in boats did better than trollers. Two sizes of fish were reported taken—small and large. The weather was cold but the traffic was heavy. In spite of the large crowd, all boats were launched quickly, it was reported.

"The weather at the lake this morning was bright and sunny with smooth water and lots of fishermen arriving," Johnston said.

Anglers mostly brought in smaller trout at the start on Saturday. The big ones did not start coming in until about 10 a.m., he concluded.

NEWS BRIEFS

RUSSIA LAUNCHES UNMANNED SATELLITE

Moscow — (UPI) — The Soviet Union today launched a new unmanned earth satellite in a move observers believed may be in preparation for sending a new cosmonaut, possibly a woman, into orbit soon.

The official Soviet news agency Tass said the satellite, named Cosmos 15, carried scientific apparatus "designed to continue research of outer space." It said all systems on board the satellite were "functioning normally."

COSTELLO WINS SUPREME COURT HEARING

Washington — (UPI) — Former crime czar Frank Costello won a Supreme Court hearing today in his fight against the government's efforts to deport him to his native Italy.

The court agreed to hear arguments on Costello's appeal sometime next fall or winter and then hand down a written opinion.

TRACKS SPUR SEARCH FOR YOUTH

Marsing, Idaho — (UPI) — Discovery of fresh boot tracks at a summer cattle camp in the mountains 20 miles south of Hometown led renewed hope today of finding Delford Sharp, 19, missing for a week.