

Kennedy's Death Completely Dominates Year's Top Stories

NEW YORK (UPI) — The assassination of President Kennedy — one of the top stories of the century — completely dominated a news year that ranked highest in drama and import of any year since World War II.

That was the consensus of editors who selected the "ten biggest news stories of 1963" compiled by United Press International.

The integration story in the U. S. A. was the overwhelming choice for second place on the list announced Wednesday night. The annual poll of editors represents hundreds of UPI subscribers in the United States and Canada.

The Pope John XXIII-Pope Paul VI story and the Gordon Cooper space flight contested closely for third place. The papal death-and-succession took third, Cooper fourth.

Here is the 1963 list:

1. Kennedy assassination.
2. Integration, U. S. A.
3. John VIII dies, Paul VI succeeds.
4. Cooper space flight.
5. U. S. A.-Britain-Russian nuclear ban.
6. Assassination of Premier Diem and brother in Viet Nam.
7. Atomic submarine Thresher lost.
8. Profumo sex scandal in Britain.
9. Supreme Court rules against reciting Lord's Prayer in schools.
10. Fischer Quintuplets.

The ban by the major powers on nuclear testing in the air held steady in fifth place throughout the balloting.

Fairly close to the quintuplets of Aberdeen, S. C., as runners-up but not quite big enough to make the list, were two stories of widely dissimilar import: The 14-day ordeal and rescue of two buried coal miners at Shepton, Pa.; and the widening split between Red China and Russia.

Those two finished in a virtual tie for the 11th spot. Others close in the honorable mention list were De Gaulle's veto of British membership in the



TOP STORY — The assassination of President Kennedy on Nov. 22 completely dominated the other news stories of 1963, according to a poll of newspaper editors compiled by United

Press International. In this photo Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy and Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy leave National Cemetery at Arlington, Va., after the President's funeral on Nov. 25. (UPI)

European Common Market, and the Russian launching of "twin" astronauts, one a woman.

Many editors remarked that list might have better included the 15, or perhaps 20, "biggest" since the war. Some said the UPI submitted ballots con-

taining 32 major events of the year for the consideration of editors. They usually base their judgments on significance, public impact, shock value, human interest, readability, and the amount of space the story occupied in the newspapers.

The "ten biggest news stories of 1963" list as voted by editors of UPI subscribers in Europe:

1. Kennedy assassination.
2. Pope John-Pope Paul.
3. Nuclear test ban treaty.
4. The Profumo affair.
5. French veto of British Common Market entry.
6. The German mine disaster and rescues.
7. Vaiont Dam collapse kills thousands.
8. and 9. (tie) Adenauer resigns, Erhard takes over; and Skopje Earthquake.
10. Macmillan resigns; Lord Home takes over.

Edged by narrow margins were the first woman in space, Kennedy's European tour, Diem assassination, Britain's train robbery, Soviet grain purchases, integration in the U. S. A., didn't place.

UMW, Soft Coal Industry Bargains Without Lewis

WASHINGTON (UPI) — For the first time in recent history, negotiations for a new contract between the United Mine Workers Union and soft coal industry appear to be proceeding without John L. Lewis.

The 83-year-old Lewis, a near-legendary figure in the union, retired from the top post early in 1960. Prior to stepping down, he negotiated the present agreement.

Union President W. A. (Cory) Boyle announced Tuesday he had started talks on a new contract with Edward G. Fox, president of the Bituminous Coal Operators' Association. The union seeks a wage increase for 150,000 miners.

The existing open-end contract, negotiated five years ago, provides for a \$4.25 basic daily wage in the soft coal industry.

About \$2 Expected
Informed sources speculated the union would seek an increase of \$2 or more since settlements in recent years have been concluded at or near that figure.

Under terms of the present contract, either side can cancel the agreement upon 90 days written notice. It was not known whether this had been done. In the past, the talks were conducted informally and such a letter had been sent only once since 1950.

The coal industry has been distressed in recent years but increased coal production apparently has encouraged the union to propose a wage increase at this time. Competition from other fuels and the decline of traditional coal markets have cut into coal sales.

Boyle also has indicated he may seek improvements in safety provisions of the agreement. He has said there may be risks in the use of new, automated machinery.

Hearing Slated for Milk Act Changes

SALEM (UPI) — Proposed changes in the milk audit and milk stabilization regulations will be aired at an Agriculture Department hearing called for Dec. 30, it was announced Wednesday.

The hearing will begin at 10 a. m. in the Agriculture Building here. Proposed are audit regulation changes to fit with the new stabilization program, and changes in stabilization regulations.

Just before the molting period, ducks and geese fly to bodies of water where they will be safe from land enemies. The reason is the fact that they molt their primary feathers all at one time and for a short period cannot fly.

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BEFORE COMMITTEE — Mrs. Gertrude Novak, widow of a former business partner of Robert G. (Bobby) Baker, strikes this pensive pose during an appearance before the Senate Rules Committee Dec. 17. Mrs. Novak testified that she and her husband put up all the cash, \$12,000, for a stock investment on which they and Baker each made a 100% profit of over \$27,000. (UPI)



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