



HEARING POSTPONED — Jack Ruby, left, and his lawyer, Melvin Belli of San Francisco, are shown during Ruby's bond hearing in Dallas, Texas. Ruby's hearing was postponed until Jan. 10. He has been charged with the murder of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy. (UPI)

New England Region Feels Fury of Winter's Wrath

A massive storm churned up the New England coast today, spraying highways with ice and dumping new snow inland across New York State and Pennsylvania.

The Southland, still shivering at the thought of its first white Christmas in years, struggled to clear snow-clogged roads and remove ice from airport runways.

Temperatures fell to record lows across Dixie. Tennessee became the nation's ice box.

An all-time low of 13 degrees below zero was recorded at Memphis, December records were set with a 1 below reading at Little Rock, Ark., and a 3 above mark at Fort Smith, Ark.

The storm dumped up to 16 inches of snow in parts of Virginia Monday. It left 6 to 8 inches of snow across southeastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey before changing to freezing rain.

Driving was still hazardous today through most of the snow and ice belt spawned through the Southland by the storm. Roads were clogged from Arkansas to New York state.

Memphis, Tenn., was paralyzed with its heaviest snow since 1892 and up to 2 1/2 feet of snow slugged mountainous areas of West Virginia. New York City declared a snow emergency when the storm moved its way and government employees in Washington were sent home early. Airlines canceled or rerouted flights from New York to Memphis.

Lush Farm Belt Chilled Mobile, Ala., on the Gulf Coast, recorded a 19-degree reading and the hard freeze extended southward into the lush farm belt of the Rio Grande in Texas.

The storm which dumped heavy snow across the South Monday churned up the North Atlantic Coast today sideswiping the shore with gusty winds and choppy seas.

Small craft warnings were displayed from Eastport, Maine, south to Florida.

Five inches of snow clogged streets and roads in the Boston area in six hours today and lesser amounts spread inland. The Weather Bureau said conditions would gradually improve during the day as the storm swings up into Newfoundland.

The bureau also said most of the nation would have "fair and seasonably cold weather" on Christmas Day. Precipitation will be limited to the northeastern and northwestern fringes of the country and scattered snow flurries are likely from the Great Lakes area eastward into the Appalachians.

Medford firemen were called back to the BMI cabinet shop, 94 S. Central Ave., Monday afternoon, but found no fire.

A passerby about 1 p.m. reported seeing smoke at the building, which was gutted by fire Saturday night.

When firemen arrived, however, they found the "smoke" was actually steam rising from the wooden remains of the building. The wood was drying out in the sun, which had just broken through a morning siege of fog.

Cause of the Saturday night fire, which virtually destroyed the cabinet shop, is still not known.

Portland (UPI) — The National Labor Relations Board announced today it has dismissed a petition by Sutherland Machine Works, Inc., for a union representation election among its workers.

The company's petition grew out of a labor dispute with the Lane-Coos-Curry-Douglas Counties Building and Construction Trades Council and four union locals last spring.

The council picketed construction of fuel storage and distribution facilities for Martin Bros. Timber and Container Corp. at Oakland, Ore., with signs which said Sutherland Machine Works employees were working under substandard conditions.

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HOUSE OKS WHEAT DEAL

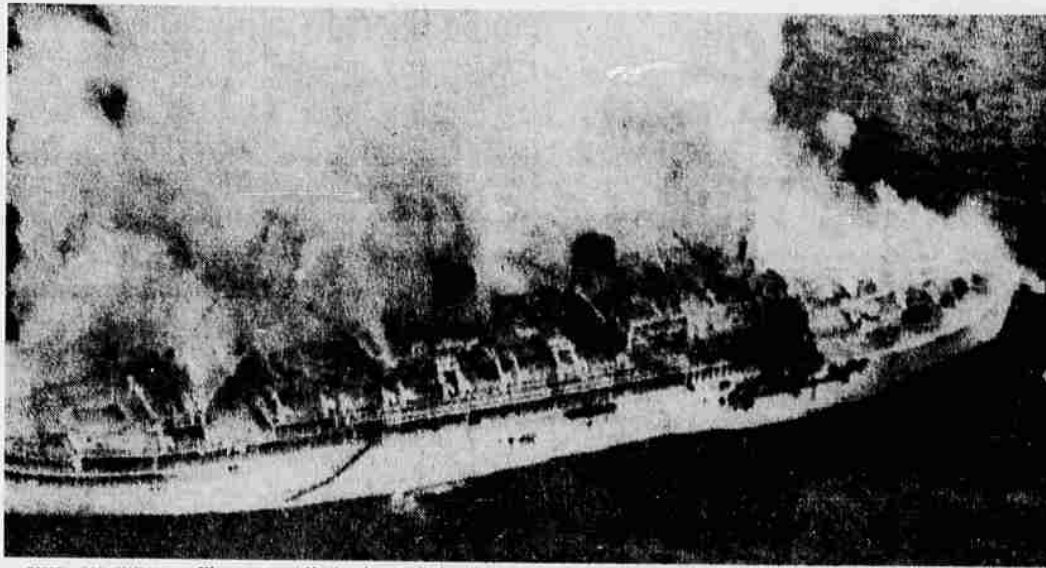
Crew of Stricken Liner Criticized by Survivors

Johnson Scores Major Victory After Wrangling

Members Adjourn Until Monday

Asked-for Ladders Didn't Appear, Passenger Claims

Lifeboats Said Properly Equipped



SHIP ON FIRE — Flames engulf the bow of the Greek 180 miles from its destination — the Portuguese island of Madeira. (UPI)

FUNCHAL, Madeira (UPI) — Three rescue ships brought 533 survivors from the Lakonia disaster to Funchal today. Some of the surviving passengers immediately criticized the actions of the crew after fire broke out aboard the Greek cruise liner 180 miles to the northeast.

"The crew were no help at all," one woman, who was not immediately identified, said after leaving one of the rescue ships. "We had to look after ourselves, getting into lifeboats. There were no ladders, and we had to get off as best we could."

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson today won his first major battle with Congress when the House voted in an unprecedented dawn session to abandon its attempt to curb wheat sales to Communist countries.

President Johnson, who laid his relationship with Congress on the line to get the victory, said "I am sure that the nation is grateful" to the lawmakers.

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson today won his first major battle with Congress when the House voted in an unprecedented dawn session to abandon its attempt to curb wheat sales to Communist countries.

Immediately after the bitterly contested vote, the weary House members agreed to adjourn next Monday. This meant that for all practical purposes the longest session in more than 20 years was over.

But the Senate then staged its own pre-Christmas rebellion when a handful of senators balked at postponing follow-up Senate action until Monday.

The unexpected Senate flare-up—obviously aimed at absent Sen. Wayne L. Morse, D - Ore.—forced a temporary recess in a supposedly routine Senate session to let Senate officials contact out-of-town leaders for further instructions.

The roll call vote on the wheat credit amendment to the \$3 billion foreign aid bill was 189 to 158. Voting in support of Johnson's stand were 187 Democrats and 2 Republicans. Voting against it were 133 Republicans and 25 Democrats.

The administration victory took 10 days, three tries and a lot of bruised feelings that all but destroyed the honeymoon with the White House. The House twice before had voted for the controversial amendment to the foreign aid bill but administration forces finally wore down opponents with tactics that included an all-night session Friday night.

The Senate still must give routine approval to the foreign aid bill but this is scheduled for Friday. Only the pending Senate vote prevented Congress from adjourning finally until Jan. 7 when the second session begins.

As a result, some House members will have to stick around through the Christmas holidays. Most congressmen, however, headed straight for the highways and airports.

Howard Prairie Not To Open Dec. 26

Howard Prairie recreation area will not be open as originally planned Dec. 26, Jackson County Parks and Recreation Director Neil Ledward said today, because of unseasonably warm weather at the higher elevations.

Johnson Pays Respects To Late Congressman

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) — President Johnson, enroute to a Yuletide visit to his home, came here today to pay his last respects to Rep. William J. Green Jr., R-Pa., long time friend and veteran Democratic politician who died last Saturday.

2,775 Trees Taken From Rogue National Forest

Christmas trees from the Rogue River National Forest await Santa Claus tonight in 2,775 homes.

That is the number of trees checked out in the family cutting on the forest this season, D. F. Kaiser, timber sales officer for the forest, reported today.

The greatest number came from the Union Creek Ranger District. Family trees cut to date total 1,606. Each year Union Creek is the most popular cutting ground and the fir the most popular tree, Kaiser said.

There were 428 trees cut on the Ashland Ranger District, 375 on the Prospect, and 366 on the Butte Falls District.

Cambodia Rejects Dean Acheson in Role as Mediator

PNOMPENH, Cambodia (UPI)—Cambodia today flatly rejected a United States proposal to send former Secretary of State Dean Acheson to Cambodia as a mediator in the strained relations between the two countries.

The secretary of the chief of state here called a suggestion by Undersecretary of State Averell Harriman that Cambodia invite Acheson an unacceptable "imposition."

The announcement said that if Cambodia officially invites Acheson to Cambodia as proposed, it would negate the condition for reconciliation already proposed by Cambodia, namely the convocation of an international conference on Cambodian neutrality.

Inviting Acheson, the announcement said, would give the impression that Cambodia had withdrawn its own conditions and was at fault in the dispute with the United States over American aid.

An open invitation to Acheson "would do nothing but give credibility to the American accusations against Cambodia and the Khmer people."

The Khmer people and their leader sincerely desire the re-establishment of friendship between Cambodia and the United States, but would not be willing to permit themselves to be charged with errors they have not committed and would not renounce all dignity in exchange for (American) friendship," the statement added.

Recreation Money Will be to Salem

SALEM (UPI) — Oregon's capital city Monday inherited a \$200,763 Christmas present.

The money was from a trust fund set up by the late Mrs. Lewis P. Aldrich, in memory of her husband who died 30 years ago today.

Mrs. Aldrich stipulated the money be used for a public recreation project in Salem for "wholesome recreation, especially for the boys and girls of the community."

Aldrich was an officer of the Ladd & Bush bank here for 27 years. Mrs. Aldrich provided for the gift in her will before she died in 1956.

Mt. Ashland Skiing Waiting for Snow; Bare Spots Noted

ASHLAND — There may be skiing on Mt. Ashland Thursday — but only if more snow falls in the meantime.

Officials of the Mt. Ashland Corporation wanted a dry December in order to expedite construction of the ski lodge and access road. They got one, but now the dry weather has posed another problem. It's causing the snow to melt.

There is still plenty of snow over most of the ski area, according to Alex Murphy, corporation manager, but there are a few bare spots which will make it impossible to open the slopes for skiing until more snow falls.

Strong southerly winds and 55-degree temperatures atop the mountain during the past several days have been responsible for the melting snow.

Change Planned in Light for Crossing

Medford City Manager Robert Duff today approved the removal of a school crossing light on East Main Street at Keeneway Drive.

The light, which has been a pedestrian operated push-button light for several years is being changed to a continuous flashing amber signal, he said.

The signal was installed about three years ago at the request of Parent Teacher Association groups. During recent months a number of requests have been made to eliminate the signal.

Because of its intermittent operation, many vehicles do not observe the red light, Public Works Director Vernon Thorpe said.

School children using the crosswalk have had a false sense of security because there has been a number of near accidents at the location, according to the report.

Indiana, Alaska Enter Into Agreement

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (UPI) — Indiana has entered into an unusual contract with Alaska whereby the Hoosier State will treat Alaskan mental patients charged with crimes.

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Service Planned at Intersection Tonight

The intersection of Main and Bartlett Streets in downtown Medford will be the scene of an unusual Christmas Eve service starting at 7 o'clock tonight.

Vehicle traffic will be blocked off from the area, starting at 6:45 p.m. The portions of streets set aside for the service will be so arranged as to form a giant cross.

The Medford Ministerial Association, City of Medford and various local businesses have cooperated with the group sponsoring the event, which may become an annual one.

Speakers will include the Rev. D. Kirkland West of the First Presbyterian Church of Medford, Capt. Kenneth Angel of the Salvation Army, the Rev. Robert E. Cull of the Assembly of God Church of Medford, Jack L. Willets, pastor of the Medford Friends Church, and the Rev. Katherine Bosworth of the Unity Church of Medford. Friends of Sacred Heart Hospital will serve coffee.

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Kennedy's Will Filed for Probate

BOSTON (UPI) — The will of the late President John F. Kennedy was filed for probate here Monday, leaving the bulk of his estate to his wife and children.

The total value of his estate was not known since no bond was filed. The 17-page will, dated June 18, 1954, was filed one month and a day after Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Tex.

However, it was believed the estate would total several million dollars.

The will was filed the first day after the period of official mourning.

Indiana, Alaska Enter Into Agreement

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (UPI) — Indiana has entered into an unusual contract with Alaska whereby the Hoosier State will treat Alaskan mental patients charged with crimes.

\$1 Million Mark Passed by Post Office in Medford

For the first time in its history the Medford post office has passed the \$1 million mark in year's business, Acting Postmaster Al Bradford reported Monday.

He expects business to exceed that figure by a substantial amount by year's end. Business reached the \$1 million mark one week ago today, Tuesday, Dec. 17, a survey of reports showed.

In 1962, which was a record year, business totaled \$915,000. The strange thing about the year's heavy business is the fact that it hasn't been helped much by the pre-Christmas mail. This continues to be 1 1/2 per cent below last year, Bradford said.

Record Mailing Day

One record day of mailing was realized Monday, Dec. 16. Since then the mail has been under last year's pre-Christmas figures.

Mail throughout the Northwest region has been below last year, Bradford said. Throughout the United States it has showed what officials believe is a depressed reaction to the assassination of President Kennedy.

There seems to be no other explanation as the year's business was up prior to the assassination.

Longer hours and more days in operation have been arranged to enable patrons of the post office to do their Christmas mailing here with less difficulty. But the response has not developed as anticipated, Bradford said.

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NEWS BRIEFS

ITEMS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

KENNEDY AIRPORT BECOMES OFFICIAL
NEW YORK (UPI) — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., the late President's youngest brother, leads a host of dignitaries today in dedication ceremonies changing the name of New York International Airport to the John F. Kennedy International Airport.

CONNALLY, JOHNSON SCHEDULE
AUSTIN, Tex. (UPI) — Wounded Gov. John Connally, who has spent most of the past month in a hospital bed, looked forward today to a Christmas visit with President Johnson at the LBJ Ranch, and a trip to the Cotton Bowl New Year's Day to see the football battle between Texas and Navy.

CYPRIOIS OPEN FIRE ON PALACE
NICOSIA, Cyprus (UPI) — Cypriots today opened fire on the palace of the president, Archbishop Makarios, and other fighting was reported in nearby areas of the capital.

CRASH KILLS 32
BUDAPEST, Hungary (UPI) — A passenger train crashed into a standing freight train in fog near Szolnok, Hungary, early today. The Hungarian news agency MTI reported. Thirty-two persons were reported killed and 36 injured.