

# Captain Crommelin's Bid for Hearing On Charges Gets Backing

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21 (AP)—Navy Captain John G. Crommelin, who would still like to present his arguments about Pentagon policy in formal court martial proceedings, found sympathy today on Capitol Hill.

Senator Bridges (R-NH), member of the armed services committee, told reporters that "Captain Crommelin is entitled either to be cleared or found guilty of the charges against him."

What the senator was referring to was announcement that the navy now considered Crommelin's case closed. This indicated there would be no court martial to supersede the formal reprimand administered the veteran of naval aviation. The reprimand questioned his fitness for command. Crommelin had expressed hope he would be given a court martial—but under navy regulations he could not demand such action.

**All Over Country**  
Bridges, in the capital for a brief visit from his New Hampshire home, told newsmen that "people all over the country are talking about this situation" and that advocates of the navy are "entitled to speak out."

The senator also wondered out loud about the reasons for the firing of Admiral Louis Denfeld, who with other admirals testified before the house armed services committee about the row of the navy with the air force and defense department. Secretary of the Navy Matthews ousted Denfeld from the post of chief of naval operations. Matthews' letter to the president, asking approval of that, said Denfeld no longer was qualified for the job. He noted that he earlier had approved reappointment of the admiral to the job.

**Real Reason**  
Bridges said he was convinced Denfeld was fired because of his testimony.

"How could he change in two or three months from being a damned competent man to run the navy to one who was not qualified," Bridges asked.

Then, going on from that point, Bridges said:

"How am I and other members of congress going to judge appropriations, for example, if a man can't come up here and tell us his honest convictions? There is no sense in holding hearings if all a witness is going to say is what he has been told to say."  
"Congress, in order to legislate, has got to have true testimony from these officers. They are our experts."

**Still Open?**  
Reporters asked Bridges whether he thought the whole bitter row might be opened up again next January when congress convenes and the senate is required to confirm

or deny the interim appointment of Admiral Forrest P. Sherman as Denfeld's successor.

Bridges answered that he didn't see how the senate could consider the nomination without getting into that question.

## Antlerless Deer Hunt Scheduled

PORTLAND, Nov. 21 (AP)—An antlerless deer hunting season for late December in the John Day country is planned by the state game commission.

Commissioner J. H. Van Winkle said an estimated 4000 mature does on a 30-mile sector between John Day and Prairie City face starvation this winter. He said a hearing would be held Wednesday at the offices here on a proposal to issue 750 special tags for the season.

Plans to create a game refuge and public shooting area in the Ladd marsh section south of La Grande have been dropped, the commission reported. The decision was made after civic and farm groups said the area was needed for crops and pasture. The commission said it would sell 250 acres of land it owns there.

## 18 Die in Mine Strike Fight

LAGOS, Nigeria, Nov. 21 (AP)—Eighteen persons were killed and 31 injured in coal mine strike disorders near here Friday.

A government press release today said strikers, using crowbars and mining tools, clashed with police at



**KEY WITNESS**—Prosecution attorneys in the Harry Bridges perjury trial in San Francisco have asked for an exception in the "exclusion rule" barring witnesses from court until their turn to testify to permit Bruce G. Barber (above) to remain at his place at the prosecution table. Barber, San Francisco director of U. S. Immigration & Naturalization Service, is expected to be a key witness against Bridges.

the IVA valley mine and the police opened fire.

The miners are striking for higher wages. The police were removing explosives from the mine at the time of the clash.

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## Another Reason Coffee's Up

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21 (AP)—Reduced Brazilian cultivation and higher U. S. consumption aren't the only reasons for record-high coffee prices in this country.

Fact is, the commerce department reports, South Americans themselves are drinking more coffee than they used to.

An analysis by the department said that "no immediate shortage" of coffee is foreseen in this country. It Pays to Use the Want-Ad!

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1939 Olds '8" 4-Dr. Sedan—Radio and heater		\$395
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