

NY Police Boss Raps Shippers

NEW YORK (AP)—The city's police commissioner has challenged the shipping industry here to replace "complacency" with "zeal" in dealing with the waterfront's 350 million dollar a year racket.

Commissioner George P. Monaghan, turned on members of the industry in a sharply worded statement last night.

He said shipping firms "encouraged lawlessness" on the piers, and he described as "sheer mockery" the testimony by some industry officials before the State Crime Commission that waterfront police protection was inadequate.

The commissioner's blast came after the Crime Commission had recessed until next Monday its hearings into crime on the 500 miles of docks in New York and New Jersey composing the port of New York.

Industry officials in the five days of public hearings said they were forced to hire ex-convicts under threats of wildcat strikes, that they found it necessary to make cash "gifts" to pier bosses for the preservation of waterfront peace, and that they closed their eyes to thefts and other rackets lest longshoremen quit work in protest.

Monaghan's statement last night apparently was occasioned by testimony to the commission on Monday by John E. Slater, president of the big American Export Lines. Slater said company officials were helpless and that reforms did not make sense unless there was assurance of "proper protection" by city and state "all the way down the line."

The commissioner said shipping officials' testimony falsely "implied that the source of their trouble was the failure to get such protection."

"It is complacency of the steamship lines and their acquiescence in improper practices that have made it difficult for authorities to enforce law and order on the waterfront," said Monaghan.

Many firms, he continued, "have preferred to hire thugs with criminal records as hiring bosses in the belief that these men could enforce order and discipline on their piers and have thus encouraged lawlessness and aided and abetted in the concealment of wrongdoing."

Industry officials had no immediate comment on Monaghan's statement.

Fighter Sets Speed Dash

MUROK, Calif. (AP)—The first faster-than-sound flight by an American fighter plane completely equipped for combat was announced here recently, it was announced officially Tuesday.

The flight was made by the XF-84, designed and built by Republic Aviation Corp., and piloted by Russell Roth, of Republic's flight test staff.

Other super-sonic flights have been made previously by purely experimental planes, but this was the first by a plane described as carrying armaments and ready for combat.

The XF-84 technically is still an experimental plane, but Mundy I. Peale, Republic president, commented:

"This is a combat-ready airplane. It is not a purely research plane."

The plane has a rocket-power engine in addition to a turbo-jet power plant.

The announcement, cleared by the Department of Defense, revealed the plane reached super-sonic speeds but restricted all other performance details.

The speed of sound is approximately 750 miles an hour at sea level. It varies according to altitude. The altitude or altitudes at which the plane flew were not disclosed.

MP Attacks Officers

LONDON (AP)—A Laborite member of Parliament says that British Army officers are selected for their accents and not for their competence.

The charge was made in the House of Commons yesterday by George Wigg, a one-time regular Army private who rose to the rank of colonel. He quoted an Army statement to the effect that 80 per cent of draftees granted commissions live south of a line drawn across the country through the Midlands industrial center of Birmingham.

British accents vary according to geographical locations. Wigg, himself, is from Dudley—a mile or two north of the Birmingham line.

War Minister Anthony Head agreed that most of the commissions were granted men from south of the Birmingham line. This is "a fact that has been known for years," he declared but gave no explanation.

Beck Approves Eisenhower

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—Dave Beck, president of the 1 1/4 million member AFL Teamsters Union, said last night in an interview that bonafide labor unions haven't anything to fear from President-elect Eisenhower.

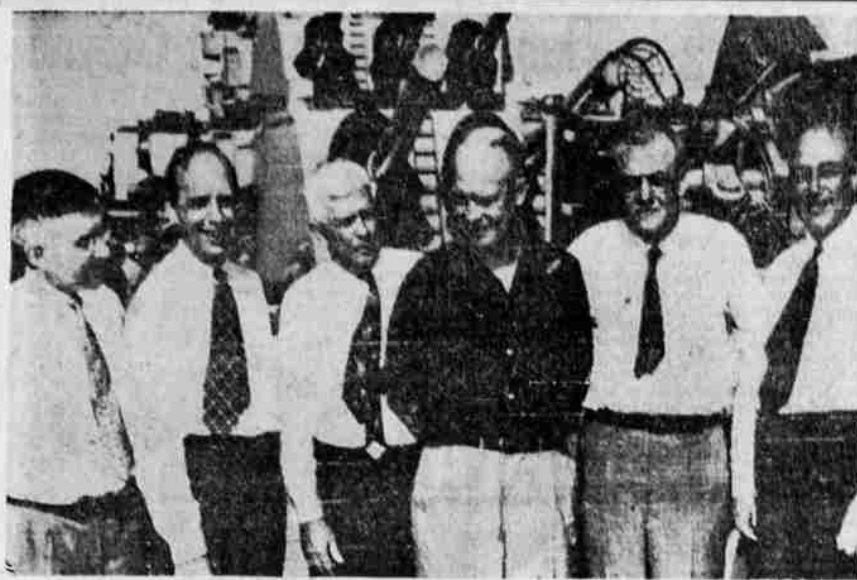
Beck, who succeeded Dan Tobin as leader of the teamsters this year, cited Eisenhower's designation of Martin P. Durkin, AFL union official, as secretary of labor, as evidence "the people who have consecrated themselves to the destruction of labor" are not guiding the President-elect's hand.

Beck, here for a dinner in his honor, said his union planned a organization drive aimed at bringing membership to two million in five years and three million in 10 years.

CRISP—TENDER DELICIOUS

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MID-PACIFIC CONFERENCE. President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower confers aboard the cruiser Helena in mid-Pacific with men who will be members of his cabinet. Subject of conference is means of ending the Korean stalemate without involving the U.S. in a costly expanded war. Left to right: Gov. Douglas McKay of Oregon, secretary of interior; Herbert Brownell, attorney general; Charles E. Wilson, defense; Eisenhower; John Foster Dulles, state, and George Humphrey, treasury.

Businessmen Call For End to Controls

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Truman administration worked to get its wage-price control machinery back on the tracks today in the face of a demand from a powerful business leader that it be de-railed for good.

Economic Stabilizer Roger L. Putnam promised to round up enough businessmen to fill vacancies caused by the mass resignation of industry members from the Wage Stabilization Board. That made the board inoperative.

But his task was made more difficult because Laurence F. Lee, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, signaled for a boycott of Putnam's efforts. Putnam termed that action "quite surprising." Lee expressed hope in a public statement that "no businessman will lend his services to any effort to reconstitute the Wage Stabilization Board."

"The crisis in the wage control program," Lee said, "clearly emphasizes the fact that wage and price controls should be dropped immediately by executive order so that the inequities of the present system can be wiped out."

"The administration's wage and price control program is but a sham and any service on the wage board would be a waste of time."

It was reported without confirmation that the National Association of Manufacturers was considering a similar statement urging businessmen to refuse posts on the WSB.

The wage board has been unable to operate—with 12,000 wage-increase cases awaiting approval—since industry members resigned last week end. They quit in protest against President Truman's reversal of a WSB ruling on a coal miners' pay increase.

Truman, en route to Washington by train from Independence, Mo., was represented by aides as hopeful that he could appoint a new set of WSB industry members. However, he and Putnam have declared that wage and price controls will be continued in any event.

If enough industry members can't be found to keep the WSB going, Putnam has said wage controls will be handed an individual, or agency, for decisions on pending cases without industry or labor advice.

A decision is likely to be made soon on keeping a wage board functioning, or adopting the one-man or one-agency approach. Putnam himself is quitting, planning to leave "for good" this week end and to visit relatives in the West until his resignation takes effect on Jan. 1.

A strong bid to keep price controls going—at least until their expiration date next April 30—was made last night by Putnam and former Price Administrator Michael V. Di Salle.

Di Salle, at Truman's request, made a study of wage-price controls. He said that in the course of it he had talked with more than 30 government officials, congressmen and industry leaders. He said the latter included Bernard Baruch, New York financier; Charles E. Wilson, former president of the former government mobilization director, and Marion Folsom, Eastman Kodak Company executive.

Di Salle said he found general agreement for keeping controls in effect now and at least on a standby basis—for quick use whenever new inflation threatened — after next April 30.

"Controls will be necessary until we are convinced Russia wants peace," Putnam added.

Jap Accuses US in Kidnaping

TOKYO (AP)—A Japanese leftist writer, Watru Kaji, charged before the Japanese Diet today that American Counter-Intelligence Corps (CIC) agents kidnaped and beat him and held him prisoner more than a year.

The U. S. Army has officially denied the accusation. Made originally two days ago it has created a furor in Japan.

The Army said Kaji, 40, was picked up late in 1951—before the end of the Allied occupation—held briefly for questioning and released. The Army added that no Army agency had detained any Japanese national since Japan gained her independence April 28, 1952.

Kaji charged Monday he was held prisoner by the CIC until Sunday night. He became a cause celebre of leftist groups opposing Premier Shigeru Yoshida's pro-American government.

Today Kaji's attorney, Kozo Inomata, leaving Socialist member of the Diet, read a written Kaji accusation which specifically named the CIC.

Today, at a press conference immediately preceding his Diet appearance, Kaji told Japanese reporters he personally had written the Monday accusation and all of it was true.

After the official Army denial, Japanese newspapers speculated that Kaji might have been held by some non-Army agency of the U. S. Some suggested the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) which has no Army connection.

The Kaji furor continued among left-wingers in the Diet, where earlier this week members jeered

then for the Chinese Nationalist government, and later switched to the Chinese Communist regime.

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