

Ruling Sought After Justice Clark Refuses To Testify

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. Keating (R-NY) goes before the House Judiciary Committee today for a ruling on whether congressional probes can force Supreme Court Justice Tom C. Clark to testify.

Clark yesterday turned down an invitation to appear before Keating's judiciary subcommittee. Such an appearance would involve the Supreme Court's independence, Clark said, adding that a justice must avoid "the strife of public affairs and partisan politics."

But Keating, in a statement after Clark's letter to him was made public by other sources, said he saw no question involving the prerogatives of the branches of government.

Rep. Hillings (R-Calif.), a subcommittee member, called Clark's refusal "unfortunate" and said the group will meet in closed session late today to decide whether to subpoena Clark.

Hillings' comment came before "eating" said he wanted it "authoritatively" settled whether a committee of Congress has the right to call a judge before it.

NOT CURRENT DUTIES

"The matters upon which the committee desires to interrogate Justice Clark have no relation whatever to his judicial duties," Keating's subcommittee has been investigating the Justice Department, which Clark headed as attorney general from 1945 until he was named to the Supreme Court by former President Truman in 1949.

From time to time, the subcommittee has raised questions about Clark's actions as attorney general in tax and other cases.

"The subcommittee should agree," Clark wrote Keating, "that the courts must be kept free from public controversy. . . I must

Britain Denies Shipping Reds

LONDON (AP)—Britain's government denies charges made before a U. S. congressional committee that British ships have transported Chinese Communist troops in Korean waters.

It also says it will continue to stand by the U. N. ban on shipments of strategic goods to Red China.

The conservative government's position was outlined Wednesday by parliamentary undersecretary Anthony Nutting in a written reply to questions from Laborite members of the House of Commons.

Referring to charges before the U. S. Senate Investigating Committee that two British ships had carried Red troops, Nutting wrote: "All information available to the government indicates that these allegations are completely unfounded."

Nutting said the two ships—the *Perito* and the *Miramar*—were under the Panamanian flag at the time of the incidents in 1951 and 1952.

Siskiyou Peace Officers Elect

WEED—New president of the Siskiyou County Peace Officers Association last Thursday night, is Judge Kenneth T. Stone, Judicial District Court.

He was elected last Thursday at a dinner meeting in Yreka, with retiring Pres. Olin Brown in the chair. Speaker of the evening was Asst. Dist. Atty. George Tyler.

Business of the sessions included the counting of the mail ballots for the election of new officers for the coming year. Taking office at the next session of the organization, to be held in Dunsmuir, July 10, will be in addition to Judge Stone, Rose Marie Rocchi, Police matron of the Weed Police Department and clerk of the local court, as secretary-treasurer; Deputy Sheriff E. M. Axtell, Yreka, vice president; James B. Simpson, California Highway Patrol for the Weed District, sergeant-at-arms; a Board of Directors, Assistant Police Chief Henry Watson, Yreka, and Deputy Sheriff F. A. Dobson, Tulelake.

ANY BODY SUSPECTED

HONG KONG (AP)—Two Roman Catholic missionaries just escaped from Communist China said Thursday that the Reds dug up the graves of other missionaries—some of them dead more than 20 years—in a search for contraband they charged was hidden with the bodies.

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Alaska Military Installation Severely Damaged By Fire

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Fire and explosions destroyed millions of dollars worth of military installations and supplies last night.

Autopsy Set For 6-Footer Afloat

PORTLAND (AP)—An autopsy was scheduled Thursday to try to determine the cause of death of a 6-foot, 1-inch man found floating in the Columbia River near Underwood, Wash., Wednesday.

The nude body was brought here for the autopsy after Sheriff Amos Reid of Skamania County, Wash., said there appeared to be a knife wound on the left side of the chest.

The body was nude, save for a leather belt around the waist. It was sighted by the conductor of a passing train.

Reid said the man appeared to be in his 30s and weighed more than 200 pounds. He estimated the body had been in the water 10 days.

at Alaska's main military port of Whittier, 72 miles southeast of here.

The rampaging, wind-blown flames in less than four hours destroyed three new warehouses, two docks and other buildings. Reports here and at Seward but not confirmed by the military said that a quantity of ammunition blew up.

Cause of the fire was undetermined and two unofficial versions were given. One said that a forest fire in adjacent timber swept into the town. The second said a boiler in one of the warehouses blew up to set off the blaze.

Three persons were reported critically injured in the boiler explosion. An Alaska Railroad yardmaster was believed to be the only other casualty, although hundreds of stevedore troops stationed there were used in fighting the fire.

Alaska Defense Command officials here said the port facilities were wiped out and no longer were usable. Many millions of dollars have been spent in developing the area, which serves as a port for the entire defense command sector.

Walt Welch of radio station KENI in Anchorage flew to Whittier and reported that smoke from the fire extended halfway to Anchorage. He said tight military security had been clamped on the port, making it virtually impossible to get a full picture of the situation.

The fire started at 5:45 p. m. and ate its way to the dock area

within a few minutes. Two hours later the roof of one of the warehouses collapsed and another warehouse had been dynamited.

Military officials declined to estimate the loss but admitted that it would run into the millions of dollars.

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