

# Hoover Commission Criticized

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Don Magnuson (D-Wash.) Monday criticized proposed investigations by the Hoover Commission's task force on water resources and power and suggested:

"... since we are practically assured in advance that the task force will issue a report saying the government ought to get out of the power business, we might spend our money to better advantage."

In a speech prepared for House delivery, Magnuson questioned whether the task force seeks to "promote economy, efficiency and improve service in the transaction of public business" as the act creating it specified or aims to recommend a new power policy for the nation.

Although he said he "cannot complain of the caliber" of the task force's 25 members, he said he wished that former President Hoover "had included at least one or two men who did not share his (Hoover's) well-known views against public power, and who could have given the task force a semblance of open-mindedness by writing a token minority report."

He noted that the task force has been criticized before for not including members favorable to public power while listing "a number of men who have actively opposed public power development."

Magnuson singled out one particular item for special criticism—that schedule of public hearings which will take the task force this spring into San Francisco, Denver, Chattanooga and New York City.

He said the Columbia-Snake River system of the Pacific Northwest contains 40 per cent of the nation's hydro-electric potential which the Hoover Commission "chooses to ignore."

"The task force on water resources and power has not scheduled a hearing within 500 miles of a single drop of water in the Columbia River Basin, he declared.

"I cannot understand how it hopes to achieve a thorough understanding of its subject if it fails to consider the most important water resource area on the continent."

# Israel Blamed By Jordan

JERUSALEM, Jordan Section (AP) — A Jordan spokesman charged today that Israel had launched an organized attack at midnight on a Jordan village two miles west of Bethlehem. First reports said nine Arab troops were killed and 16 wounded.

The spokesman, Maj. Mohammed Ishaq, senior Jordan military delegate to the U. N. Mixed Armistice Commission, said the Israelis also demolished some houses then withdrew to Israel after an hour.

Ishaq said the attack was made on the village of Nahalin in the Jordan of Palestine occupied by Israel since the 1948 war with Israel.

He said the Jordanian casualties included 6 National Guardsmen and 3 Arab Legionnaires killed, and 12 National Guardsmen and 4 Arab Legionnaires wounded.

The reported attack raised the threat of sharp Arab retaliation against Israel. Representatives of the seven Arab states said in Washington last week after a conference with U. S. Secretary of State Dulles that an aggression by Israel would be regarded as an attack "upon them all."

# AFL Refuses To Back Candidates

PORTLAND (AP) — The executive board of the State Federation of Labor (AFL) decided Saturday not to endorse any candidate for governor.

The board was sharply critical of the legislative voting record of Earl Newby, secretary of state and a Republican candidate for the state's highest office.

Gov. Paul Patterson, who also is seeking Republican nomination, was praised for his opposition to the last session's anti-picketing bill, but the board said he had not always supported pro-labor bills.

Joseph K. Carson, former Portland mayor and the only Democrat seeking the office, was criticized for his actions during the 1954 Portland longshore strike.

The board also announced these endorsements:

First Congressional District—Donnell Mitchell, Willamina, Democrat. Rep. Walter A. Norblad, a Republican from Stayton, was not endorsed.

Second Congressional District—Albert C. Ullman, Baker, Democrat. Rep. Sam Coon, also of Baker, a Republican, was not endorsed.

Third Congressional District—Rep. Homer Angell, Portland, Republican, and Mrs. Edith Green, Portland, Democrat. Not endorsed were Tom Lawson McCall, Portland, Republican, and C. S. Johnson and H. H. Stallard, both of Portland, Democrats.

Fourth Congressional District—U. S. Senator—State Sen. Richard I. Neuberger, Portland, Democrat. The board urged Republicans to write in Neuberger's name rather than vote for Sen. Guy Gordon.

State Labor Commissioner—No recommendation.

# Vandals Break 22 Windows

City police and juvenile officers are investigating vandalism that occurred over the weekend, when it was reported that 22 windows had been broken out at the Corger School, and a boat set afire and burned on Link River.

G. J. McClary, Conger School janitor, reported that he had gone to the school about noon Sunday, and discovered the windows broken out.

Owners of the boat, Bill and Pete Shaddock, 2211 1/2 Blehn, told officers they saw two boys playing around their boat which was tied at the edge of the river near California Oregon Power Company's log boom. Shortly afterward they discovered the boat burning, but the boys had disappeared.

Value of the boat, which was completely destroyed, was said to be about \$350.

# Red Agents Said After Atom Ashes

TOKYO (AP) — The newspaper Asahi asserted Monday the tiny fishing port of Yaiyu, 100 miles southwest of here, has become the scene of an atomic secret tug-of-war between Communist and United States agents.

The report came as Deputy Prime Minister Taketora Ogata stated in the Diet that any stockpiling of American atomic weapons in this country is "not a problem Japan ought to interfere with."

Asahi said Red agents were trying to steal radioactive ashes and clothing from the fishing boat Lucky Dragon and her crewmen, who were showered with contaminated ash from the March 1 hydrogen blast at Bikini. American secret agents are out to stop them, the newspaper said.

Foreign Minister Katsuo Okazaki says he heard rumors of such cloak-and-dagger activity.

U. S. diplomatic and military sources have said nothing on the subject but it was assumed intelligence agencies were alerted.

The Provincial Health Office indicated that anyone wishing to steal the crewmen's clothes would have quite a task — it was collected by government officials and is kept under lock.

There are more than 30 Soviet representatives here, all in the unrecognized Soviet mission that operates from the old Russian embassy buildings.

The Russians also are aided by large numbers of Japanese Communists.

Ogata's statement on atomic stockpiling came in answer to a question by leftwing Socialist Shichiro Hosumi, who had asked whether Japan could bar such stockpiling.

"It is the U. S. security forces own atomic weapons, that's their business. It is not a problem Japan ought to interfere with," Ogata replied.

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# Pope Pius Holds Private Service

VATICAN CITY (AP) — For the second consecutive day Monday convalescing Pope Pius celebrated mass in the private chapel of his Vatican apartment.

Returning strength allowed the 78-year-old pontiff to celebrate the mass for the first time Sunday after two months of illness. During that time mass was read by priests, either in the chapel or at the Pope's bedside.

His increasing activity indicated steady, although slow recovery from the dangerous gastric ailment which struck him in January.

# Stage Award Given Young Actress

NEW YORK (AP) — Audrey Hepburn was awarded a "Tony" medal Sunday night for her performance in the stage play "On-Dine."

The award from the American Theatre Wing came three nights after she received an "Oscar" for her starring role in her first American movie, "Roman Holiday."

"On-Dine," the medieval fantasy in which Miss Hepburn portrays a water sprite, is her second Broadway play.

# Crime Death Rate Lower In 1953

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fewer persons were put to death for crimes in the United States last year than in any previous year.

The Federal Prison Bureau, which considers that accurate records go back to 1930, said the 1953 total of 62 executions was 20 fewer than the previous low set in 1950.

# Dog Wins Annual Acting Award

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — A shaggy-haired collie, Laddie, is the 1954 winner of the annual Fatsy award as filmdom's top animal performer of the past year. He received the honor for his work in the film "Hondo."

Second place went to Francis, the talking mule, for his performance in "Francis Covers the Big Town."

# Tuna To Be Inspected

ASTORIA (AP) — The Columbia River Packers Assn., largest importer of Japanese tuna in the Pacific Northwest, assured its customers Monday that "exhaustive" U. S. government inspections are made on all tuna cargoes entering Japan following the Bikini H-bomb explosion which contaminated a cargo of Japanese albacore.

"We have every confidence in the ability of the U. S. Food and Drug administration to properly protect the American consumer," T. F. Sandos, president of CRPA, said.

Also, he said, it was the policy of his company to exercise "the greatest care in the packing of canned fish."

The firm said that none of its present canned stocks had been obtained since the March 1 Bikini shoot which contaminated a Japanese fishing boat and its cargo, some 71 miles from the blast.

# Attorney To Defend Kidnaper

PORTLAND (AP) — James Valentine, 41, indicted on three charges in connection with the attempted kidnaping March 19 of George Brice III, got an attorney to defend him Sunday.

He is Fred Jensen of Portland, who has represented Valentine previously—"mostly on narcotics addiction" charges.

Jensen said he was convinced Valentine was innocent but that he was taking the case only with the understanding that if he develops evidence linking Valentine to the crime, the evidence is to be turned over to authorities.

Jensen after interviewing his client Sunday quoted Valentine as saying, "I swear on my mother's grave I didn't do it."

Valentine was identified by the boy's mother, Mrs. George Brice Jr., her maid, Lizzie May Brown, and a teacher at Catlin-Hillside school as the gunman who made the unsuccessful kidnap attempt.

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Neither Ogata nor any American officials have said whether any atomic weapons are stored in Japan.

The Diet is considering approval of mutual security agreements signed on March 2, which would give Japan more American arms and ships.

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