

Morty Meekle



Jury Begins Deliberation In Hughes Perjury Trial

NEW YORK (AP)—A federal court jury today begins deliberating the perjury case of Paul H. Hughes, whose claim of being a tool in political plot has come under heavy fire from prosecution witnesses.

In summing up yesterday, defense counsel Martin Erdmann admitted Hughes was "vocal, greedy and unethical" but said he was the dupe of political foes of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.).

U. S. Atty. Paul W. Williams, in his summation, termed Hughes' testimony "the mere imaginings" of a "strange, deluded man."

Hughes, 38-year-old World War II veteran, went on trial Jan. 16 on six counts of perjury stemming from testimony before a federal grand jury probing Harvey M. Matusow, former Communist who turned informer and then repudiated his testimony.

Hughes allegedly told the grand jury that Matusow became a turn-about witness after being financially prompted by a number of anti-McCarthyites—including Joseph Rauh Jr., head of Americans for Democratic Action, a pro-New Deal organization, and Clayton Fritchey, deputy chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

Rauh and Fritchey denied on the witness stand that they ever had anything to do with Matusow. But both men admitted being hoodwinked by material submitted by Hughes concerning alleged "illegal activities" of McCarthy while he was chairman of the Senate Permanent Investigations subcommittee.

Rauh said he gave Hughes more than \$10,000 in loans and payments for derogatory information about McCarthy. In 1954, Rauh tried to interest the Washington Post (now the Washington Post and Times Herald) in the material. After checking, the newspaper convinced Rauh and Fritchey that the information was false.

Hughes testified the information was phony. His counsel contends Rauh, Fritchey and others knew the information was bogus but were willing to use it anyway.

Erdmann further argued that Rauh and Fritchey were convinced that if the "rotten blow up" Hughes' word would never be believed against theirs.

Of Rauh and Fritchey, Williams said:

"If they wanted to concoct some cock-and-bull story they didn't have to rely on this young amateur."

"But this young man sold them a bill of goods. Actually he was of value to them only if he was genuine. If he was not genuine then he was a downright liability, a danger and a threat not only to them but to the ADA, the Democratic National Committee and the entire Democratic party."

Erdmann, admitting his client "was a louse engaged in filthy practices," charged that "evidence adduced from major government witnesses here (at the trial) was deliberately false."

If convicted, Hughes would face a possible maximum of 30 years in prison plus a \$12,000 fine.

FDR's Letter Sent To Ike

WASHINGTON (AP)—A famous letter Franklin D. Roosevelt wrote 19 days after the Pearl Harbor attack to "the President of the United States in 1956" has been delivered at last to Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The World War II President's letter asked consideration for "the merits of a young American of goodly heritage" who had been named for appointment as a cadet in the United States military at West Point.

Young Kelly—then an infant and now a 6-foot, 15-year-old high school sophomore—is the son of Capt. Colin P. Kelly Jr., the United States' first hero of the war, killed in a bombing mission in the Pacific a few days after Pearl Harbor.

Colin III lives at Concordville, Pa., near Philadelphia, with his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. J. Watson Pedlow. He attends Watson Friends School, a Quaker institution.

The White House said today that official inquiries, made with the approval of President Eisenhower, indicate the youth "is interested in going to West Point."

But he will have to wait at least another year and a half, when he will be 17, to be eligible for admittance.

Shortly after Roosevelt wrote his letter Dec. 17, 1941, it was sent to the National Archives here for safekeeping.

About two weeks ago the national archivist, Wayne Grover, dug it out of the files and sent it through White House channels to Eisenhower, a 1915 West Point graduate.

In a telephone interview from her home, Colin's mother said the youth—known as "Corky"—does want to attend West Point, and "so far as I know has never thought of anything else."

Mrs. Pedlow discounted the idea that he might decide to go instead to the new Air Force Academy in Colorado.

She made a direct appeal that there be no "excessive amount of publicity."

"Please," she added, "just let him grow up normally. He is entitled to that."

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Neuberger said Patterson's death "deprives the state and nation of an outstanding citizen." He described Patterson as a man of "warm human qualities...nobody could dislike him on a personal basis."

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Stevenson Ignores Blast

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Adlai Stevenson ignored a "bossism" blast by Sen. Estes Kefauver's supporters Thursday and concentrated his California campaign on what he termed major failures of the Eisenhower administration.

Lyle Cook, Kefauver's Northern California chairman, renewed charges that most state party leaders were aligned against the Tennessee senator's entry in the June 5 presidential primary. Nearly all ranking Democrats are pledged to Stevenson.

Stevenson headquarters said there would be no comment on Cook's latest assertion that "political bosses" have "hand-picked and chosen" Adlai's 66-vote delegation to the Democratic National Convention.

The 1952 Democratic nominee, on an eight-day California tour, mixed criticism of the Eisenhower administration with a good word for organized labor, students, professors and "eggheads" in a speech Wednesday night climaxing a series of appearances in Oakland.

He said this country can't do its job as a world power with "alter-nate hot and cold declarations" on foreign policy.

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Macrae Named In Damage Suit

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Singer Gordon Macrae has been named defendant in a suit for \$125,000 traffic injury damages.

Mrs. Marion Dunn, film studio secretary, alleges she was injured when Macrae's car struck another machine, which was pushed into a third car. The third car struck her, Mrs. Dunn says. She alleges Macrae was under the influence of liquor when the accident occurred Dec. 1 in North Hollywood.

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