

Cuba Turns Focus To Outside World

HAVANA, Cuba (AP) — Cuba's revolutionary government after a hectic three-week organizing period is turning its attention to the outside world.

A good deal is certain to be heard from provisional President Manuel Urrutia and his Cabinet ministers on Cuba's economic and political role in international affairs.

Urrutia's regime has been overshadowed by revolutionary chief Fidel Castro and his war crimes trials of ex-dictator Fulgencio Batista's lieutenants.

Castro's visit to Caracas may have coincided with the end of the new government's most difficult period.

Urrutia has had to find qualified personnel to fill civil posts vacated by the mass cleanup of Batista supporters. He has had to act quickly to meet such urgent problems as getting the vital sugar harvest underway and repairing war-damaged highways, railways and communications.

A harassing factor has been foreign criticism of the speedy military conviction and execution of so-called war criminals and the carnival atmosphere in which the public trials opened in Havana last week.

The second Havana trial was scheduled to start this afternoon. But reliable sources said it would be held at Camp Columbia, the army headquarters outside the city, and not in the 17,000-seat Sports Palace.

The next defendant is a Batista army captain, Pedro Morejon, 38, accused of assassination, homicide, and robbery.

The first Havana defendant, Maj. Jesus Sosa Blanco, was convicted and sentenced to die before a firing squad after a 13-hour trial which was broadcast, televised and interrupted repeatedly by the jeers, hisses and laughter of thousands in the audience.

Over the weekend there also was a moratorium on executions, an indication that the judgment of war criminals will proceed at a more deliberate pace. A further indication was the Supreme Military Tribunal's decision not to hear Sosa Blanco's appeal until Tuesday.

Despite the uproar over the trials, Urrutia and his Cabinet have been conferring day and night, trying to work out the government's future course of action.

Only in the past few days has Urrutia completed his cabinet. In a news conference Sunday, Foreign Minister Roberto Agramonte outlined the government's position on several matters.

Agramonte disclosed that a ministerial committee has been set up to study Cuba's position toward renewal of the sugar act now pending in the U.S. Congress.

He said the cabinet has been studying the economic situation in Cuba, and that the government is working to improve the country's economic position.

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Herald and News

Price Five Cents—12 Pages

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1959

Telephone TU 4-8111

No. 6302

Sedition Trial Begins Today In Bay Area

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Powell sedition trial, only court case of its kind to come out of the Korean War which Congress never declared, begins today with selection of a federal court jury.

Chief U.S. Dist. Judge Louis E. Goodman is presiding. The case has taken almost three years to reach trial stage. John W. Powell, 39, his wife Sylvia, 39, both of San Francisco, and Julian Schuman of New York were indicted April 25, 1956.

Powell published a magazine in postwar Shanghai. The China Monthly Review. He kept it going after the Chinese Communists came to power, with his wife and Schuman as associate editors. All three returned to the United States in 1955.

They are charged under the Sedition Act of 1917 with conspiring to obstruct the war effort and incite mutiny among U.S. forces by circulating copies of the magazine in the United States. The government says the conspiracy consisted of publishing charges that the United States waged germ warfare and obstructed truce negotiations. This was conspiracy, says the government, because the defendants knew the reports to be false.

Powell was born in Shanghai but educated in the United States at the University of Missouri. During World War II he worked for the office of War Information in Washington and in China. His wife, the former Sylvia Campbell of Pendleton, Ore., was a post-war UNRRA worker in Shanghai. Schuman, Boston-born, was a radio correspondent in Shanghai before he joined the Review's staff.

Defense efforts to obtain evidence and other maneuvers have delayed the trial. First the defense, led by Los Angeles attorney A. L. Wirin, sought to bring Chinese witnesses to the United States. The Red government refused to allow this unless the United States would sign a mutual legal assistance agreement.

Then the defense got the agreement to send Wirin to China to interview witnesses. He returned saying he could produce a thousand witnesses, including scientists.

Latest legal snarl has been the defense attempt to subpoena certain American documents connected with the Korean War which it said would bolster the defense case.

U.S. Atty. Robert H. Schnacke said, meanwhile, that while the United States was capable of waging germ warfare during the Korean War no materials or weapons left the country.

Pope Slates Conclave; Seeks Christian Unity

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John XXIII will convene a great assembly — the 21st Ecumenical Council in the 2,000-year history of the Roman Catholic Church — to seek unity of the Christian forces of the world.

Return to the fold of the Eastern Orthodox Church's 129 million members was seen as a prime object of the conclave. But there are great obstacles to any formal reunification, particularly the Roman Catholic dogma that the Pope is supreme and infallible in matters of faith and morals.

Reaffirmation of the church's stand against communism may be another major subject of the Ecumenical Council, the first since 1870. Pope John already has expressed grave concern with the plight of Catholics in Communist lands and particularly in Communist China, where the Red regime has been trying to foster a national Catholic Church that denies allegiance to Rome.

The council will bring together Roman Catholic cardinals, archbishops and bishops from all over the world in what may well be the most immense gathering of its kind in Christian history. More than 2,500 are eligible to attend.

Representatives of other Christian communities, in addition to Roman Catholics, are likely to be invited to attend.

The 77-year-old pontiff announced his intention to convene the council Sunday after a mass in honor of the conversion of St. Paul the Roman Jew and persecutor of Christians who was struck to the ground on his way to Damascus.

The Pope did not announce a date for the council. Because of the gathering's great size and possibly long duration, the preparation may take many months.

Ecumenical means worldwide, representing the whole church. The 20 previous Ecumenical Councils were called to deal with major problems facing the church, such as heresy and schism, to resolve questions of faith or to establish dogma.

The Vatican announcement said: "Regarding the celebration of the Ecumenical Council, this is the thought of the Holy Father looks not only to the edification of the Christian peoples, but is intended as an invitation to the separate (Christian) communities to seek unity which so many desire in all parts of the world."

Legislature Plans Defense For Virginia

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Virginia's Legislature will meet in extraordinary session Wednesday to seek new defenses for the state in its battle against integration in the public schools.

Gov. J. Lindsay Almond Jr., called the special session Sunday night—six days after the courts had dealt a knockout blow to "massive resistance" laws enacted in 1956.

Without these laws, under which nine schools have been closed, the state is powerless to prevent or delay integration where it is ordered by federal judges. In one school in Arlington, it has been ordered for no later than Feb. 2.

Almond indicated he will offer the Assembly only a stopgap program designed to meet the most immediate problems—when he addresses the state Senate and House of Delegates in joint session Wednesday noon.

The governor said he still plans to appoint a committee of legislators to formulate a long-range anti-integration program.

Almond declined any hint of specific measures he would recommend. He said "it would serve no useful purpose" to disclose whether he will offer a plan aimed at staving off integration in Arlington and in the localities where closed schools may have to be reopened on a racially mixed basis.

Norfolk, Charlottesville and Front Royal.

In Arlington, plans have been laid to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court the order of U.S. Dist. Judge Albert V. Bryan that four Negroes be enrolled at Stratford Junior High School for the semester starting Feb. 2. School board attorney J. H. Simmonds said Sunday he will confer with a representative of State Atty. Gen. A. S. Harrison today or Tuesday.

Norfolk, where 10,000 pupils were affected when six schools were shut down last fall, may find out today whether the schools must be reopened. The City Council has voted to deny operating funds to all grades above the sixth effective early next month. This move, which would close white as well as Negro schools, was to be challenged today before U.S. Judge Walter Hoffman.

'We Need Hawaii' Says Cabinet Aide

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton told Congress today "we need Hawaii as an equal partner as much as Hawaii needs statehood."

Seaton was the first witness as the House Insular Affairs Committee opened hearings in a new congressional drive to make Hawaii the 50th state.

He said the Eisenhower administration favors immediate passage of statehood legislation but recognizes that Congress must set its own schedule.

"The grant of statehood to Hawaii will prove to the world—and particularly to Asia—that we practice what we preach," Seaton said in prepared testimony.

"I say we need the participation of Hawaiians in our councils, and their advice and experience in dealing with the peoples of the Orient."

He pointed out that Hawaii is the only incorporated territory now, and its 39-year apprenticeship in territorial status is longer than was required of any of the present states.

Long before annexation in 1898, he said, Hawaiians were thoroughly imbued with American ideals and American culture and the Americanization has continued at a rapid pace since incorporation.

He rejected arguments that Hawaii is susceptible to control by Communists.

"The fact is that the people of Hawaii, time after time, have utterly rejected the Communist philosophy and every attempt of Communists to influence their government," Seaton said.

"The people of Hawaii wrote into their proposed state constitution a far-reaching prohibition against any Communist holding public office or public employment of any kind."

Seaton said Hawaii is economically and politically qualified for statehood and has a population of about 635,000, larger than that of six of the present states.

To the argument that Hawaii is not contiguous to the rest of the United States, Seaton said: "The admission of Alaska provides an excellent rebuttal. Contiguity is not, in this day of jet transportation, essential to preserve our union."

New Jetliner Spans States

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A new jet airliner flew to New York in four hours and three minutes Sunday then turned around and flew back against 105 m.p.h. headwinds in six hours and 22 minutes.

The 707 Boeing Jetliner carried 112 passengers and a crew of eight on each flight.

American Airlines' Capt. Hamilton Smith said the winds he bucked on the return trip at times reached 137 m.p.h.

"They were about the worst I've ever faced over a period of time," Smith said after landing at International Airport.

Westbound flights usually take longer because of prevailing winds. Scheduled flight time for propeller-driven planes on the New York-Los Angeles trip is about nine hours.

An American Airlines spokesman said the jet's schedule called for it to make the return hop in five and a half hours.

The round-trip started American's coast-to-coast jet service. The company plans one flight daily in each direction.

National Airlines began the first jet service from New York to Miami Dec. 10. Pan American World Airways started the first jet service by an American company to Europe Oct. 26.

Judge Must Answer Court For Withholding Record

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — An ex-state judge who doggedly withheld voter records from the U.S. Civil Rights Commission must answer today for his defiance of federal court.

Former Circuit Judge George Wallace could get anything from a reprimand to a jail term and fine as he appears to show why he should not be punished for contempt of court.

The fate of Wallace, a private citizen now practicing law in his home town of Clayton, Ala., rests in the hands of a former law school classmate, U.S. Dist. Judge Frank Johnson Jr.

Wallace, 39, must explain his conduct in giving the voter records of Barbour and Bullock counties to hurriedly called grand juries in his court.

He was under orders to make the records available to civil rights investigators, who were looking in to complaints Negroes in those and other counties had been denied voting privileges.

Agents eventually gained access to the files through the grand juries, but Johnson still cited Wallace for contempt. He said Wallace failed to comply with his order, and used devious methods to make the voter records accessible.

The contempt citation came two weeks ago. Wallace's term expired a week ago and his brother, Jack Wallace, succeeded him. George Wallace ran for governor last year and came in second.

Officials Seek NY Kidnaper

NEW YORK (AP) — A canvass of all out-patients who visited Metropolitan Hospital last Wednesday is the latest phase of the frustrating search for the kidnapped Tavaraz baby.

Forty investigating teams—each composed of an FBI agent and a city detective—began the house-to-house check Sunday, hoping to locate the woman who abducted baby Johnny.

Hospital employees also were being interviewed in the effort to find up-to-date trace of the missing child, taken from his home Thursday when he was 23 days old.

The kidnaper apparently first saw the baby Wednesday at the hospital, where the mother, Doris, 31, had taken him for treatment of a lingering cold.

The woman, who gave her name as Gladys Garcia, went to the Tavaraz' tiny West Side apartment with the mother and child and returned the next day with a Bronx address where she said Mrs. Tavaraz could find more spacious living quarters. She offered to baby-sit with Johnny.

The Bronx address turned out to be a post office. When Mrs. Tavaraz returned home, the woman and child were gone.

Several hundred African youths denied admission to a government sponsored political meeting Sunday in the Belgian Congo city of Matadi.

A Belgian police officer and some Africans were injured before order was restored.

Police Break Up Nationalist Mob

BLANTYRE, Nyasaland, (AP) — Police broke up yelling mobs of rioting African nationalists here and in the adjoining town of Lilongwe Sunday night. Nyasaland is a British protectorate.

The riots came after an emergency meeting of the African National Congress had reaffirmed Dr. Hastings Banda as its president. Banda favors secession of Nyasaland from Britain's Central African Federation.

Yugoslav's Tito To Visit Nasser

COLOMBO, Ceylon, (AP) — Yugoslav President Tito sailed westward today after a tour of the neutral nations of Indonesia, Burma, India, and Ceylon. He said he was convinced they are going to avoid entanglement with either side in the cold war.

On his way home in his yacht, Tito will pay a visit to President Nasser of the United Arab Republic. He also will visit Ethiopia and Sudan before returning to Belgrade.

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