

Trade Pact May Be Key To Berlin For Commies

BERLIN (AP) — "There are some weapons of the Communists," said the trade expert, "that you can't fight with tanks. Bills of lading, for instance, and insurance policies."

That was his way of warning what may happen if the West German-East German trade pact, due to expire Dec. 31, is not renewed. He thinks the business life of isolated West Berlin could be slowly strangled without an issue arising that would call for armed force.

Not all experts agree. Many think that if the Reds try to strangle Berlin, there will always be some point where the issue is clear and the West can take a firm stand.

This expert is Dr. Kurt Leopold who for years has been dealing with the Communists about trade on behalf of the Bonn Government.

On Sept. 30 Chancellor Konrad Adenauer canceled a pact that had been running nine years. The trade it covered is expected to reach a record \$500 million this year.

It was canceled as a reprisal against the East German Communists who ordered Germans coming from the West to apply to them for a special pass to visit East Berlin.

If the Communists decide to play it rough, strange things could happen on Jan. 1. Small sections of West Berlin, and of West Germany, may suddenly find themselves short of gas, electricity and water.

A more serious crisis might come because of the bills of lading. Under a Big Four order dating back to 1946, these lists of freight must accompany most shipments across the 110 miles of Communist territory that separate Berlin from the West.

To the Germans, always impressed by documents, this has great importance. The East Germans may ask for impossible information and insist on elaborate inspections if they are not furnished.

"A lot of West Berlin's manufactures," explains Dr. Leopold, "are delicate precision instruments, carefully wrapped and packed. Suppose the East Germans start demanding that the truck driver and his helper take crowbars and open the cases. If they do that with only one truck out of 10, trade will be almost impossible."

Another annex includes an agreement on insurance, so that a West German car or truck is protected in East Germany. If the pact expires, the East Germans would be in a legal position to demand extra insurance coverage, at exorbitant premiums.

Western experts who think he exaggerates these dangers point out that the East Germans already control German traffic between West Berlin and the West. They once raised the rates for use of the superhighway and the West could only protest.

If the Communists decide to strangle West Berlin, these experts argue, they can always make excuses.

Western officials think the Communists will not allow the trade pact to expire. They believe the Communists have too great a need for West German iron and steel.

The West Germans are trying to forget the matter of passes to East Berlin as quietly as possible.

This gain for the Communist side may be significant. If it is maintained, it will mean that the Western powers have tacitly allowed the Communist regime to decide who may come and go in Berlin—which the West insists is under the rule of the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain and France.

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NAMED FOR TOWN
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Suspended Term Given Junk Man

A Bend junk dealer received a suspended sentence Tuesday in Chilgoquin Justice Court for illegal possession of slot machines.

Justice of the Peace Walter Zimmerman suspended a \$100 fine and 60-day sentence against Fred Carr, 40. Carr was arrested Nov. 11 by Ken Schoonover, Chilgoquin police officer, and Alvie Youngblood, deputy sheriff. Three slot machines, partially covered by a deer hide and a canvas, were found in the back of Carr's pickup truck. The junk dealer was finally charged in the Chilgoquin court after being released from the Klamath County Jail.

Carr told Justice Zimmerman that he had picked the machines up at the Chilgoquin dump and that he was going to sell them for scrap.

Mrs. Kennedy Eyes Wardrobe

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Mrs. John F. Kennedy has recovered sufficiently from the birth of her first son to devote some attention to her wardrobe as the future first lady.

High-fashion designer Oleg Cassini spent three hours with Jacqueline Kennedy at Georgetown University Hospital Wednesday, going over sketches, apparently for her inaugural wardrobe.

Artistic and attractive Mrs. Kennedy has a flair for fashion and has been whiling away her convalescence by doing some dress designing.

A few weeks ago she requested Bergdorf Goodman, a New York department store, to design her inaugural ball gown, based on sketches she had done herself.

Called Unfair

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Federal Trade Commission today accused the manufacturer of "Kirby" vacuum cleaners of using "scare tactics" and other unfair practices to promote the sale of its cleaners.

The FTC said the Scott Fetzer Co., 1260 W. 114th St., Cleveland, Ohio, was one of the largest vacuum cleaner manufacturers in the industry, with sales of more than \$15 million in 1966.

The complaint charged the company tried to "scare" prospective purchasers by saying that the "Kirby" would correct a dangerous germ-infested condition of their rugs and mattresses.



ELY SCHOOL YOUNGSTERS took a "show me" trip to remote areas recently to get a better grasp of their current soil, timber and wildlife conservation studies. They were accompanied by Mrs. Gene Christensen, Mrs. Walter Camberon and Mrs. Otto Olson, teachers. Fred Murphy drove the bus. Herbert Hadley, fire control officer, Fremont National Forest, was narrator. — Photo by Olive Hall

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