

By FRANK JENKINS

Up in Portland recently an interesting controversy has been raging. It concerns a century-old elm tree that — as old trees will do — has been playing hob with the pavement and filling the nearby sewers up with roots.

The pragmatic modernists in the neighborhood wanted it cut down. Cracked pavements, they argued, have to be repaired — and repairing the pavement at too frequent intervals tends to cause taxes to rise uncomfortably. And cleaning out clogged sewers costs a LOT of money.

Get rid of the tree, they urged.

The sentimental traditionalists, on the other hand, wanted the old tree left standing. Trees, they contended, are objects of beauty that are visible for blocks around and whose branches cast a welcome shade in the summer season.

If the pavement cracks, they said, it can be fixed at no staggering expense. If the sewers fill up with roots, they can be cleared out — and maybe if the sewers are built right in the first place the roots won't be able to get through the joints in the pipe.

KEEP THE TREE was their plea.

What came of it?
Your first guess will be the right one.

The pragmatists won out. It occurred to one of the councilmen that if the tree blew down in a windstorm and killed somebody it would be tragic.

The tree will come down.

I suppose the decision was the right one. Human life must be safeguarded. Still, a lot of us will go on agreeing with Joyce Kilmer:

"I think that I shall never see
"A poem lovely as a tree."

From trees, let's skip to tourists. President Kennedy thinks we need more of them. Especially FOREIGN tourists.

Why FOREIGN tourists?

It's like this:

Americans abroad spent well over a billion dollars MORE last year than was spent by foreign visitors to this country. That's a billion dollars off our balance of foreign payments, which was already getting badly out of kilter because of the vast sums we spend abroad in foreign aid and in maintaining our troops in foreign countries. As a result of this imbalance in foreign payments, our gold supply is being drained away at a rather alarming rate.

President Kennedy thinks that if we could get more foreigners to come to us as tourists it would help to balance the exchange.

Question:
Why don't we get more foreign tourists? Our country is certainly worth seeing. Why don't more foreigners come over to see it?

The answer seems to be that it is fantastically difficult to get a passport to this country. Foreigners apparently refuse to submit to the humiliations involved in getting permission to visit the U.S.A.

Again the question: WHY?
The answer seems to be that we're afraid too many foreigners will come here to make their fortune — or, perhaps, to be brutal about it, to acquire a residence and get onto our welfare rolls. So . . . we make it as difficult as possible for foreigners to visit us. We are afraid too many of them will WANT TO STAY.

The truth is that times have changed. Western Europe is HIGHLY prosperous. It is doubtful if very many of its people would come to us as tourists would WANT to stay on as residents. Their own countries are doing quite well indeed.

Maybe we'd better make it a little easier to get into our country. We could USE THE MONEY, in these days, that Western Europeans would spend with us as tourists.

Rocket Fired Into Space

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Blue Scout rocket successfully propelled a package of instruments about 1,500 miles into space today to study radiations which pose a threat to manned space travel. Included in the payload were radio telescopes and a simulated piece of human skin.

The sleek, 75-foot rocket raced away from this spaceport at 11:02 a.m. Its four solid-fuel engines fired in rapid succession and shot the 172-pound payload to its planned altitude.

The Air Force reported the successful performance of the rocket.

Coinword Game Starts Today!

Herald and News

TWENTY TWO MINERS DIE IN BLAST

Sub Tender Runs British Blockade

HOLY LOCH, Scotland (AP) — The U. S. Navy tender Proteus ran a comic blockade by a pacifist canoe armada today and moored safely at this new missile submarine base.

Thousands of spectators lined the loch as the 18,300-ton tender for nuclear missile submarines was towed to her anchorage by three tugs.

While this was going on, British naval and police launches darted around the big River Clyde basin chasing the pacifist canoes.

In the end, all six of the blockading canoes were swamped and the occupants arrested.

The pacifists don't like the idea of a missile base here.

The Patrick Henry, first of the U.S. Navy nuclear subs for which the Proteus will act as mother ship, is already en route from America, Prime Minister Harold Macmillan told Commons Thursday.

Government Blocks Sale

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The administration has blocked the sale to Russia of \$1.5 million worth of machine tools used in making parts for the guidance systems of missiles and spacecraft.

Commerce Secretary Luther H. Hodges announced Thursday the government had permanently revoked the export license of a Vermont firm to ship the 45 machines.

Hodges said the Defense Department would buy the high-speed, ball-bearing manufacturing equipment.

He disclosed the decision in a telegram to Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, D-Conn. Dodd, Sen. Kenneth B. Keating, R-N.Y., and other legislators previously had persuaded the Commerce Department to delay the shipment pending a study of its strategic value. Secret testimony has indicated Russia may badly need such tools.

Dodd said Hodges' decision to revoke the export license would "serve the interests of our country and of the free world."

The tools, built in Springfield, Vt., are used to make miniature ball bearings. Dodd said there are only 72 such machines operating in the United States, and virtually all their production is used in miniaturized guidance systems for the Defense Department.

Dodd and other senators claimed the tools could aid greatly to Russia's military potential. It was revealed that the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee had consulted a panel of experts who doubted the wisdom of permitting the shipment to go through.

Urge Paying Of Klamaths

PORTLAND (AP) — The Oregon Journal said in a special dispatch from Washington, D.C., Thursday that the House Appropriations Committee has been urged to pay Klamath Indians \$68 million owed them for federal purchase of their reservation timberlands.

The government is purchasing the land under a program of terminating federal control over the reservation. Each of the 1,600 Klamath Indians is to receive \$44,000 as his share of the reservation assets.

Fred Massey, assistant Indian Affairs Commissioner, said the Indians need the money now since they have been without sufficient funds since 1958.

Major Effort Set For Nuclear Testing Ban

WASHINGTON (AP) — Britain and the United States were reported fully agreed today to make one more major effort to negotiate a treaty outlawing nuclear test explosions with the Soviet Union.

The Kennedy administration is understood to be prepared, along with Britain, to offer Moscow some compromise proposals on the international inspection system which would be set up under the treaty to police the test ban.

But authorities here said that major concessions by the Soviets on their present insistence on minimum inspection will be necessary to meet the British-American policing requirements.

U. S. and British disarmament experts have agreed they should know by late May whether the Soviet government is seriously interested in making a test ban agreement. President Kennedy has told officials, and reportedly has told the British, that he is determined to get an agreement if the Soviets will accept reasonable inspection safeguards against cheating.

The next round of negotiations between the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union will start in Geneva March 21. If within two months the talks prove fruitless, Kennedy will be under very heavy pressure from the Defense Department and the Atomic Energy Commission, authorities said, to order resumption of nuclear test explosions.

Tests were halted 2½ years ago when the Geneva negotiations opened. The moratorium now in effect has no inspection provisions.

British experts headed by Ministry of State Davis Ormsby-Gore have been conferring here for a week with U. S. experts headed by Kennedy's top disarmament adviser, John J. McCloy. They are now in the final stage of the present series of talks, though other consultations are expected before the Geneva negotiations resume.

McCloy is directing a thoroughgoing review of all U. S. disarmament policies followed during the Eisenhower administration. With respect to the nuclear weapons tests problem, it is understood that he and Kennedy have decided in the main to follow the broad policy lines worked out since 1958.

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Members of the British campaign for nuclear disarmament stuck posters along the loch's seafloor with the legend: "You've never had it so radioactive" — a dig at Prime Minister Harold Macmillan's election slogan "You have never had it so good."

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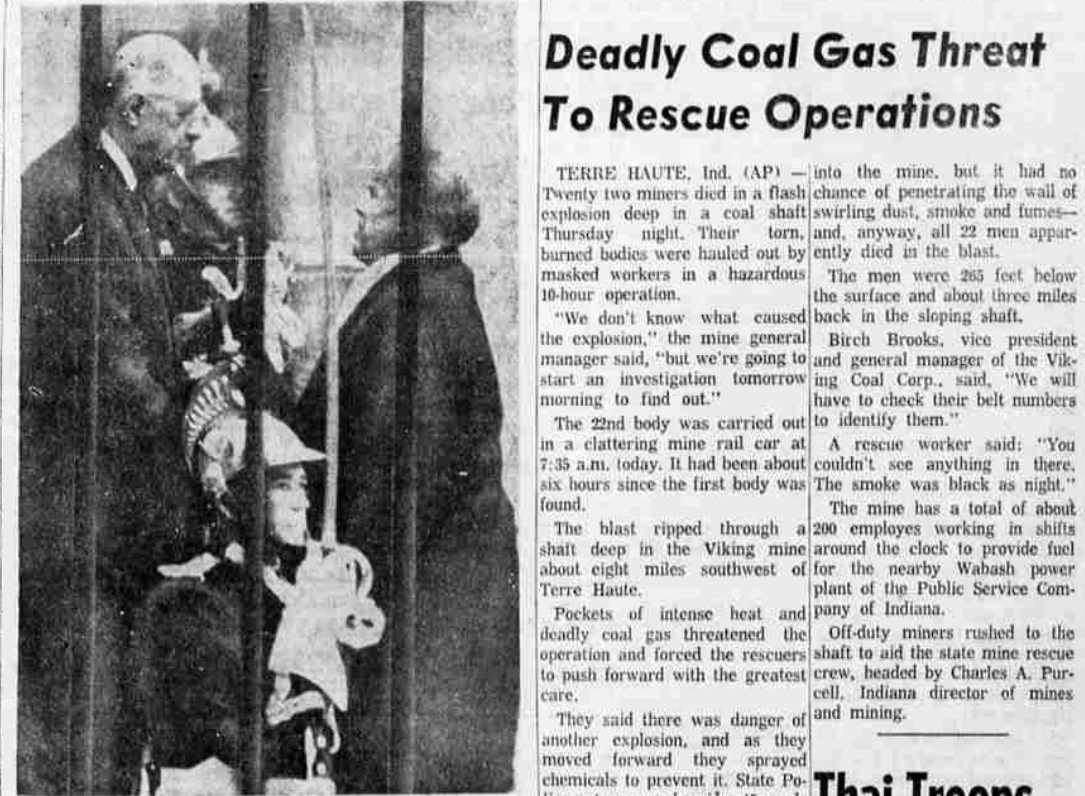
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THIS MEETING between French President Charles de Gaulle and Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba has sent hopes soaring for an end of the long and bloody conflict in Algeria. The pair held a two-man summit conference designed to find a way of bringing peace to the conflict-torn Algerian territory. This photo, taken with a telephoto lens, shows the two leaders and guard through the bars of Rambouillet Castle.

Secret Meetings On Algeria Peace

PARIS (AP) — Algerian peace feelers moved underground today. Embassies from the French government and the Algerian rebel high command are believed meeting in secret.

Both sides were moving cautiously after the rebels' acceptance of French President Charles de Gaulle's offer to negotiate an end to their 6½-year war for independence from France. Neither wants a lull in the endgame of success.

Algerian rebel officials in Tunis — site of their government-in-exile — said only "technical details" remain to be cleared up for open negotiations.

The leader is Mohammed Ben Bella, captured by the French in 1956. He holds tremendous prestige among the Nationalists and before his capture was known as a moderate. The rebels named him honorary deputy premier in his cabinet, formed after his capture.

Both sides are still hampered by their own extremists — Algerians seeking revenge after years of war and repression, and Frenchmen demanding that Algeria remain under French control forever to protect the interests of one million Europeans in Algeria against nine million Moslems.

The Europeans know that the Algerian elections proposed by De Gaulle after a cease-fire would almost certainly bring a majority vote for independence.

In Oran Thursday night, more than 2,000 Europeans clashed with Moslems. The violence in the big Algerian seaport on the Mediterranean was touched off by the torch deaths of two French women at the hands of a Moslem mob Tuesday.

Moslems were roughed up and eight persons were reported injured, one seriously. Four vehicles were overturned and set afire in retaliation for the deaths of the women, who had been trapped in a burning car by the Moslems.

As the Europeans marched in from the burial of one of the women, their number grew and a Moslem crowd began gathering. Police set up barricades to separate the two groups and restored order.

LEAVES MOSCOW

LONDON (AP) — East German Premier Otto Grotewohl left Moscow for home Thursday after two months of medical treatment. Moscow radio reported. The Soviets have not disclosed what ails him or his condition. He is 65.

Deadly Coal Gas Threat To Rescue Operations

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. (AP) — Twenty-two miners died in a flash explosion deep in a coal shaft Thursday night. Their torn, burned bodies were hauled out by masked workers in a hazardous 10-hour operation.

"We don't know what caused the explosion," the mine general manager said, "but we're going to start an investigation tomorrow morning to find out."

The 22nd body was carried out in a clattering mine rail car at 7:35 a.m. today. It had been about six hours since the first body was found.

The blast ripped through a shaft deep in the Viking mine about eight miles southwest of Terre Haute.

Pockets of intense heat and deadly coal gas threatened the operation and forced the rescuers to push forward with the greatest care.

They said there was danger of another explosion, and as they moved forward they sprayed chemicals to prevent it. State Police put up rope barriers 15 yards from the shaft to keep grieving relatives from danger.

The explosion was so far underground that nobody heard it, and mine officials were unable to pinpoint the time.

Just when the explosion was discovered was not clear, either. Apparently the first indication came about 7:45 p.m. when an air pressure gauge on the surface dropped to zero. An official attempted to telephone the miners and got no response to repeated, frantic ringing.

Then coal dust was seen billowing from the shaft.

Twenty-two other miners in another section were immediately ordered to the surface.

What touched off the explosion was not known. There was speculation that the miners broke through into an old shaft in which deadly coal gas had accumulated.

As soon as the explosion was discovered, fresh air was poured into the mine, but it had no chance of penetrating the wall of swirling dust, smoke and fumes — and, anyway, all 22 men apparently died in the blast.

The men were 265 feet below the surface and about three miles back in the sloping shaft.

Birch Brooks, vice president and general manager of the Viking Coal Corp., said, "We will have to check their belt numbers to identify them."

A rescue worker said: "You couldn't see anything in there. The smoke was black as night."

The mine has a total of about 200 employees working in shifts around the clock to provide fuel for the nearby Wabash power plant of the Public Service Company of Indiana.

Off-duty miners rushed to the shaft to aid the state mine rescue crew, headed by Charles A. Purcell, Indiana director of mines and mining.

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Thai Troops Hunt China Nationalists

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Thai government troops today hunted Nationalist Chinese irregulars roaming the mountainous jungles of Southeast Asia.

The guerrillas have caught the United States in a diplomatic dispute.

The irregulars — reportedly numbering about 1,000 in Thailand alone — are remnants of Chiang Kai-shek's troops that spilled over China's southern borders after the Communists took over the mainland in 1949. Many settled down in villages of Northern Burma, some to a life of banditry. The Thais and Burmese now are trying to disarm them.

Burma, lying north of Thailand, has also attempted to evict the troops and has made strong protests to Chiang's Nationalist Chinese government in Formosa.

Last month thousands of Burmese rioted in front of the U. S. Embassy after a U. S.-built plane was shot down and the Burmese claimed it had a Chinese crew and was carrying modern U. S. arms, presumably funneled from Formosa.

The United States promised to investigate and the Nationalists denied supplying the irregulars.

In Washington, the United States officially expressed its concern to the Nationalist Chinese Embassy about the irregulars in Burma. The situation came up in the United Nations in 1953 and 1954, and the United States helped fly out several thousand of the irregulars at that time. Since then, Washington sources said, U. S. concern has been made clear a number of times.

Under pressure in Burma, some of the guerrillas headed into Thailand recently. About 5,000 have also been reported in Laos, which is studying ways to disarm them while engaged meanwhile in a civil war against pro-Communists.

Thursday night the Thai government, a staunch ally of the United States, reported it had dispatched 8,000 troops to northern Chiangmai Province. If the Chinese do not surrender, the government said, "The Thai forces will have to take forceful action."

Governor To Be Released

PORTLAND (AP) — Gov. Mark Hatfield will be released from the University of Oregon Medical School Hospital Saturday.

That announcement was made Thursday by the governor's press secretary, Travis Cross.