

By FRANK JENKINS

From Washington this morning, Russia has informed the United States that "several thousand" Soviet troops will be withdrawn from Cuba in the next three weeks, diplomatic informants reported yesterday.

That prompts two questions: 1. How many thousands are "several" thousands? 2. How many Russians are in Cuba now?

As to Question No. 1, this morning's dispatches from Washington say:

The number of troops which would be withdrawn under the new Kremlin assurance was not precisely known, but speculation turned on the point that SEVERAL thousand would mean at least 3,000.

As to question No. 2, the latest Washington dispatch says: "Official administration estimates are that there are about 17,000 Russians in Cuba now."

Which is to say: There are 17,000 Russians in Cuba now.

It is "speculated" that several thousand would mean at least 3,000.

In other words: It is presumed, or at least hoped, that the number of Russian troops in Cuba will soon be reduced from 17,000 to 14,000.

Let's put it this way: From the standpoint of the safety of the Western Hemisphere, which includes the U.S.A., that is 14,000 TOO MANY.

One more question: Why are these Russian troops in Cuba?

There is, of course, no guaranteed answer to that question. Only the Soviet Union KNOWS why they are there—and why they were sent there in the first place.

But it is assumed that the purpose is to make of Cuba a training ground where communists from all over Latin America may be sent to receive instruction in the latest methods of infiltration and sabotage.

The purpose of such a program would be the eventual winning of ALL OF LATIN AMERICA for communism.

That appears to be about the long and the short of it.

Kennedy Snobbery Row Erupts

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Press coverage of White House social events was "in abeyance" today as a result of a brief uproar that elicited charges of snobbery from a Republican congressman.

It all began when the White House announced a clamorous coverage of presidential social events. A few hours later the statement was reversed and the matter left open.

But in the meantime, Rep. Abner W. Sibal, R-Conn., became irate.

"The Kennedys are not the owners of the White House," he said. "They just have a four-year lease. The American people own it and are interested in who is being wined and dined there by the First Family."

"This is 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, not Buckingham Palace. There is no place in America for a royal family. The White House is not a private residence—it is the center of social entertainment for the entire nation, a shrine that belongs to all of us."

Pamela Turnure, Mrs. Kennedy's press secretary, first announced that there would be "limited" press coverage of a Kennedy reception for the diplomatic corps Thursday.

The limitation applied to the practice of allowing reporters to mingle with guests. Miss Turnure said it was felt the reporters interfered with the guests' freedom to meet the Kennedys. She said newsmen would not be allowed to mingle.

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Weather

Table with weather statistics: High yesterday, Low last night, High year ago, Low year ago, High past 14 years, Low past 14 years, Precip. past 14 hours, Since Jan. 1, Same period last year.

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KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1963

Telephone TU 4-8111 No. 7063

Weather

Klamath Falls, Tulelake and Lakeview — Variable cloudiness and mild through Thursday with a few showers. Fog or low clouds early Thursday. Generally light winds. Lows tonight about 35. Highs Thursday near 50.

Powell Brands Criticism 'Lies'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Rep. Adam Clayton Powell says it isn't so. The controversial New York Democrat Tuesday broke a silence of several weeks about criticism of his operations in and out of Congress.

"Inaccuracies, misstatements and in some instances lies," the Negro congressman said of charges by Sen. John J. Williams, R-Del., that the Kennedy administration was going all-out to give him favored treatment.

"Vindictive," he called efforts by some of his House colleagues to cut his request for \$897,000 to run the House Education and Labor Committee.

"I don't want to have any more than any other congressman," he said. "But by the grace of God, I'm not going to take any less."

Reversing a "closed door" policy toward reporters in his office, Powell gave all comers his views of the criticism that has been piling up about him for weeks.

He said a more complete answer to his critics would come later.

Gets Some Support Powell also got some support in his rejection of Williams' Feb. 5 charges from Atty. Gen. Robert



EARLY DAY FIREMEN — Some of these men are still members of the community. This view was taken in the early days of fire protection for Klamath Falls. Can you identify them? The story of these early day volunteers and the fire department will be carried in the Progress Edition which will be published this Sunday, Feb. 24. Be sure you order your extra copies in advance.

Elimination Of Children's Aid Asked Of Legislature

SALEM (UPI) — Elimination of the aid to dependent children program in Oregon, now helping some 1,000 families, was called for today in a bill by Rep. Robert Jones, R-Beaverton.

"The program has encouraged indolence rather than productivity," Jones said.

The federal help program was set up in 1961 during a period of high unemployment to help the children of jobless parents.

Two-thirds of the ADC funds are federal, as contrasted with the general assistance programs where all the money comes from the states and counties. Jones said the original idea was to shift some general assistance cases to the ADC program.

"This has failed to happen," Jones said. "In spite of ADC, the general assistance rolls in Oregon have increased."

He said because of lower residence requirements and higher benefits, ADC has attracted families who would have made a greater effort to find work if the only alternative were the stricter general assistance program.

In the country's midlands a new and bitter cold wave was moving in. The sunrise temperature at International Falls, Minn., was 29 below and the mercury was expected to go near 30 below to night in northern Minnesota and North Dakota.

Areas as far south as northern Illinois were warned to bundle up for 30 below weather.

The New England storm got its start in Dixie Tuesday and was blamed for a total of five deaths—2 in Massachusetts and 1 each in Pennsylvania, Florida and Virginia.

Snow depths included 11 inches at Worcester, Mass., and Hartford and Windsor Locks, Conn., and there was 8 inches of new snow at Portsmouth, N.H.

Fires broke out in the Boston area as home owners stoked their furnaces beyond capacity. All commercial flights were cancelled at Bradley Field in Windsor Locks and 85 per cent of incoming and outgoing flights were washed out or diverted at Boston's Logan International Airport.

The 11,000 clerks are seeking job assurance in the face of automation, which is eliminating the necessity of many jobs in the rail industry.

Cuban Withdrawal Situation Plagues Kennedy's Officials

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's promise to withdraw "several thousand" of his troops from Cuba by March 15 left a number of unanswered questions today to plague the Kennedy administration.

It was obvious that the Russian offer, couched in general terms, would not lessen appreciably the congressional pressure on the issue at this time. The Soviet note, which came through normal diplomatic channels, gave no hint as to the actual number to be pulled out or the type of personnel to be withdrawn.

The administration apparently found itself in something of a bind on the matter. The White House and the State Department withheld official comment or public acknowledgement of the offer lest premature declarations embarrass Khrushchev and make it difficult for him to accomplish the pullout.

At the same time, however, Kennedy's aides had to represent the move as sufficiently encouraging to warrant a reduction in the noise level in Congress.

While officially silent, the State Department was understood to be withdrawing.

But I do not think we should establish a steady income for these people," he said, "because this fosters dependence on welfare and destroys the individual's creativity."

Rep. Eugene Hulett, D-Eugene, today announced a bill calling for far-reaching reorganization of county governments. It includes elimination of the office of county constable and transfer of many of the duties of the sheriff to other officers.

Two Senate measures called for construction of a Department of Agriculture building, and urged Congress to provide sufficient funds for a water pollution control program at Oregon State University.

MOUNT SHASTA, Calif. (UPI) — The bodies of two men, one identified as that of a wealthy young Bay Area businessman-rancher, were found Tuesday in the wreckage of a light plane on Mt. Shasta.

The victims were identified as David Belcher, 22, half-owner of a Fairchild ranch and in the building industry in Berkeley, and Lt. Michael Gooch of Mather Air Force Base, Calif.

A family spokesman said he understood that Belcher was a great grandson of the late sugar magnate J.D. Spreckels.

The two-place plane left Napa Airport Monday afternoon en route to Montague in Siskiyou County. It was piloted by Belcher, who planned to visit a brother, Frank, a Montague rancher.

A cloud ceiling of 7,000-8,000 feet was reported at the time. The plane crashed about 200 yards above the end of the Mt. Shasta ski lift at the 9,500-foot level.

The wreckage was seen by a skier who notified the ski patrol.

HOME SHOW READY — Fred Ehlers, left, general chairman of the Kiwanis sponsored Home Show is shown as he signs up Merit Smith of Merit's Appliance for the last booth space in the show. The Home Show at the Klamath County Fairgrounds will feature displays on the very latest home appliances, home construction and home furnishings. It will open at noon on Friday, March 1, and continue from noon to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. There is no admission charge.

Betancourt Discusses Red Inroads With JFK

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President John F. Kennedy today discussed with Cuban Ambassador Armando Betancourt his ideas for checking Soviet penetration in Latin America.

He also will discuss bringing about "a change in depth of its economic and social structures."

The Venezuelan president arrived here Tuesday and twice heard Kennedy praise him as "a symbol of what we wish for our own country and for our sister republics."

The two presidents were scheduled to hold their second working session late this afternoon, following which a joint communique will be issued. The conversations were expected to cover means of strengthening the Western Hemisphere defense alliance and streamlining Alliance for Progress machinery.

Kennedy went out of his way Tuesday to give Betancourt full and firm personal endorsement. Welcoming him at the White House, Kennedy said "you represent all that we admire in a political leader."

At a White House state banquet Tuesday night, Kennedy repeatedly lavished praise on Betancourt. "We are," Kennedy said, "great admirers of yours. We wish the United States to be identified with leaders such as you...I hope that your visit here to the United States will remind the people of

Bids Called On Local Jobs

Three Klamath County projects are among 26 highway items on which bids will be opened March 12 by the Oregon State Highway Commission.

The three local projects include work on the Midland-Worden section of the Dalles-California Highway; work on the Hager-California State Lane rock production project, and installation of overnight camping facilities at Collier Memorial State Park at Spring Creek, Ore.

These projects are among the group which is estimated at about \$7.8 million.

Flu Threat Faces West

Residents of the West Coast today were urged to take precautionary measures as a wave of respiratory ailments continued unabated in the eastern half of the nation.

Outbreaks of influenza remained at epidemic proportions in New York, Ohio, and the Southeast while thousands fell victims to common flu, Asian flu and just plain colds in the Midwest.

The West Coast thus far has been spared the misery of a flu outbreak. But authorities fear the sickness might be moving slowly toward the West Coast, possibly hitting in about two weeks.

At Los Angeles, the city health officer said the trend of outbreaks in other parts of the nation indicated the western movement of the influenza. He urged immunization shots as an effective means of combating the virus.

New York City apparently was hardest hit by the influenza bug. New York City Health Commissioner George James said Tuesday there were 984 more deaths than normal during the first seven weeks of this year. He said the situation was not as serious as the 1967 siege during which 750,000 persons were affected.

Six counties in West Virginia reported 1,000 new cases. Last week's count in that state was 18,944, more than a 100 per cent increase over the preceding week.

Alabama officials said the state showed signs of being in an influenza epidemic with 156 new cases reported Sunday and Monday. Michigan reported at least a half dozen confirmed cases of Asian flu, with absenteeism on the increase in Detroit.

Ohio sources said the first confirmed cases of the Asian type have been turned up in Columbus and Cincinnati since early in the winter of 1960.

Respiratory infections, none confirmed as Asian flu, also raced through Indiana where action was delayed in the House of Representatives due to missing members. Hundreds of school children missed classes.

Ship Hijack Story Ends

MACAPA, Brazil (UPI) — The eight-day saga of the Communist-hijacked Venezuelan freighter Anzoategui was ended peacefully today in this remote Amazon River port.

The Communist "pirates" who seized the 5,000-ton freighter shortly after it sailed from La Guaira, Venezuela, en route to Houston, Tex., a week ago Tuesday formally surrendered to Brazilian authorities Tuesday night.

Promised political asylum by Brazil, the Communist conspirators eluded pursuing Venezuelan destroyers and sailed into Brazilian territorial waters Sunday night.

Then they moved along the northeast Brazilian coast until they worked the vessel into the mouth of the vast Amazon River and moved to a remote mining company loading area.

Then, under direction of Brazilian officials who had boarded earlier, the Anzoategui anchored Tuesday night at Santana, 12 miles downriver from Macapa.

Five minutes later, a group of Brazilian marines boarded the vessel from an outboard motorboat without incident as newsmen watched from the shore.

Orlando Saboya, acting governor of Amapa Territory in this isolated northeast section of Brazil to which the Reds brought their hijacked vessel, followed the marines aboard as the civilian representative of the Brazilian government.

Saboya had orders to assume formal command of the freighter in the name of President Joao Goulart and take the rebels into custody, pending an investigation of Venezuelan charges of piracy for seizing the government-owned ship in the Caribbean last week.

Sheriff's Duties Slashed In Bill Slated For Hopper

A bill which is expected to be introduced in the legislature either late today or tomorrow will have a tremendous impact on the duties of the sheriff's office in Klamath and other counties of the state.

The measure which will be introduced by Rep. Gene Hewlett of Lane County, presently a guest in Eugene, but formerly a state policeman for over 18 years, would perform three basic functions.

It would transfer the duties of tax collector from the sheriff to the treasurer's office, would transfer all criminal in-



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Income Tax Repeal Tabled

SALEM (UPI) — The "Liberty Amendment" to repeal federal income taxes apparently has had its day in the sun in Oregon.

The House Committee on State and Federal Affairs voted 6-3 this morning to table the proposed amendment to the federal constitution.

The three dissenting votes came from representatives who said they had told their constituents another hearing would be held.



READY FOR RECRUITING — Klamath Falls Mayor Robert Veatch signs a proclamation observing annual National Guard Muster Day slated for Feb. 24. Local guardsmen are planning an open house at the armory Sunday and a regular training drill to be observed by city officials Wednesday at 8 p.m. Representing the local guard are, from left, 2nd Lt. Robert A. Pallas, B Battery, 2nd Automatic Weapons Battalion, 249th Artillery, 1st Lt. Ken Wandell, B Battery, and Capt. Richard Gilchrist, commander, C Battery. The men hope to recruit 30 new men in the local guard this week.

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