

CONG. BLAST RIPS U.S. BRASSY

Herald and News

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1965
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Weather

Klamath Falls, Telesite and Lateview
—Mostly cloudy through Wednesday, with
rain tonight, becoming rain showers
Wednesday. Continued mild. Low tonight
31 - 40. High Wednesday 51 - 55. Southern
High tonight 44 at 10:00.
Low this morning 31
High yesterday 45
High year ago 45
Low year ago 31
Precip. past 24 hours trace
Snow 1.2
Same period last year 4.08

17 Killed, 150 Injured In Suicide-Squad Blast

SAIGON (UPI) — A Viet Cong suicide squad bombed the U.S. Embassy today with an automobile load of TNT, killing at least 17 persons and injuring at least 150 others. Massive retaliation against the Hanoi Regime seemed a certainty.

The explosion of 200 to 250 pounds of TNT killed at least 20 Americans, one a woman, and 15 Vietnamese. Twenty Americans were hurt so seriously they were being flown to a U.S. Air Force hospital in the Philippines for emergency treatment.

The State Department in Washington said its latest casualty figures were 13 dead and 183 wounded. It listed two Americans and 11 Vietnamese dead, 7 Americans seriously injured, 35 Vietnamese seriously injured; 47 Americans with lesser injuries and 84 Vietnamese with lesser injuries.

Deputy U.S. Ambassador U. Alexis Johnson was one of the victims. He suffered a scalp wound and emerged from the rubble of the embassy with blood streaming down his face.

The death toll could be even higher. Conflicting reports said several terrorists were blown to bits when their carload of TNT exploded after a gun battle with Vietnamese police and U.S. Marine guards in front of the embassy.

Air Raids Follow
Less than four hours later, 40 U.S. and South Vietnamese bombers destroyed a North Vietnamese airbase at Dong Hoi, 65 miles north of the border.

In the first attack on an enemy air base of the Vietnamese war, it was not in retaliation for the embassy bombing, officials said, but retribution is expected to be swift.

There was heavier loss of life in previous terrorist attacks against Americans in Viet Nam. But the attack on the embassy—described as murder—was a direct affront to the United States.

President Johnson was informed immediately. He was to discuss the attack today with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara and Ambassador Maxwell D. Taylor, who flew to Washington this weekend to discuss the attack with the war cabinet.

Previous terror attacks led directly to U.S. retaliatory raids against North Viet Nam. Since then the raids have grown in scope and frequency and have moved ever closer to the North Vietnamese capital of Hanoi.

The dead in the embassy attack included two Americans—a woman killed in the explosion and a man who died later in the U.S. Navy Hospital in Saigon. The embassy itself was a mass of rubble from the bomb which broke windows for hundreds of yards around and tore a gaping hole in a concrete sidewalk.

Widespread Damage
The blast tore the northeast corner of the embassy building, smashed most of the first floor and broke nearly every window.

The explosion sent a fireball and a 300-foot pillar of smoke shooting high above the roof of the embassy building. Steel grills on the windows were blown back through the walls and across rooms. The concrete ceiling was destroyed. Tiles from buildings many yards away were tossed like confetti.

The dead and wounded lay in tangled heaps in the wreckage. More than 100 injured were taken to Saigon Hospital and more than 50 to the American Navy hospital. At least 20 Americans were reported so badly wounded they were being flown to Clark Air Base in the Philippines.

Attack Called "Murder"
Despite his earlier Deputy Ambassador Johnson met immediately with top civilian and military aides to discuss retaliation. In a statement he said the bombing was another example of the Viet Cong's readiness to attack civilians. The Vietnamese government called the attack an act of savagery—an act of war, but an act of murder.

At the same time it announced today's air raid. Vice Marshal Nguyen Cao Ky, commander of the Vietnamese air force, said the raid had been planned for some time and was not in retaliation for the embassy bombing.

Exploded in a Car
The heavy bomb exploded in a car driven to the embassy by a terrorist who planned the attack, without apparent regard for his own life. Another Communist flung the car on a motorcyclist.

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House Probers To Investigate Ku Klux Klan

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The House Committee on Un-American Activities voted unanimously today to conduct a full-scale investigation of the Ku Klux Klan.

Chairman Edwin E. Willis, D-La., said that his preliminary study of the secret society indicated that "shocking crimes" had been carried out by groups within the Klan known as the "Knock-Out Squad" or "Holy Terrorists."

LBJ Proposed Probe
The committee's decision followed a proposal by President Johnson that Congress investigate the activities of the Klan.

Willis said that "Klanism is incompatible with Americanism, that it is doing injury to our nation and, in particular to the South which it claims to protect and defend."

Willis made the announcement following a 90-minute closed meeting of the House group. Willis said he presented the committee members the results of a preliminary study of Klan activities which he began last month.

Cooperation Promised
The committee chairman said he had been told by federal officials that "Klan members have been involved in a number of recent murders and other unconstitutional acts of violence and terrorism."

He said President Johnson's call last Friday for an investigation also reinforced the committee's decision to hold public hearings "as an aid to the enactment of remedial legislation."

Johnson, in announcing the arrest of four Alabama Klansmen last week in connection with the slaying of Mrs. Viola Grey Liuzzo, said he would propose legislation to bring the Klan under the "control of the law."

Let's hope it won't wind up that way in Viet Nam. If atomic warfare GETS LOOSE, no one knows what will happen to the world.

Let's change the subject. It's too grim for comfort.

In Salem, a bill allowing high schools to provide free textbooks to students was beaten by a 15 to 14 vote in the senate yesterday. Sixteen votes were needed for passage.

The measure had passed the House by a vote of 44 yeas to 14 noes. Opponents of the bill charged that it would increase costs to taxpayers, rob young people of the incentive to go out and earn money and would result in the books being damaged more extensively.

Backers of the bill pointed out that Oregon now REQUIRES students to attend high school and argued that charging rent for the books violates the state's concept of FREE public education.

What to do about it? Seeking an answer, let's take (Continued on Page 3)

TOMORROW
READ
A variable Super Market of meats, LAWNS, GAR-DENS, PATIOS in the
YARD & GARDEN
Classified Section
It's time to spruce up... Keep Klamath green, clean and beautiful.
Wed. Classified



U.S. EMBASSY BOMBED — Blood-spattered victims of the terrorist bomb attack on the U.S. Embassy in Saigon are helped away from the scene of the explosion by passersby. At least 17 persons were killed in the suicide-squad raid on the embassy. Many of the attackers themselves were killed. Hundreds of persons were wounded by the blast. Only two of the dead were believed to be Americans. The attackers battled Marine guards and South Vietnamese police to approach the embassy with a car loaded with TNT. —UPI Telephoto

County Fires Another Supervisor

Another supervisor has been ousted from the County Board of Commissioners, marking the second instance since March 21 that a key employee has been discharged from that department.

The firing of Oberg, who said he had been informed by Kurth that his discharge was effected to promote efficiency in the department, was the fourth dismissal this year involving employees of the Engineer's Office and the County Roads Department.

One of the first officials severed from the county payroll was former County Engineer John Creed, who was relieved from his post by Kurth on Feb. 19 upon the direction of the county commissioners.

The board also directed the dismissal of Edward Evans, county public utility supervisor, who was discharged by Kurth on Feb. 19.

Replacement Told
In a later disclosure, Kurth remarked that Oberg would be replaced by Irvin Beck, former shop foreman of the Logging Company with 25 years' experience as a mechanic, and expressed belief that the "change would result in a more efficient and productive operation of the county road shop."

Don Kenyon, chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, said the firing was recommended by Kurth with the sanction of the board. Kenyon noted that the responsibility for hiring and firing personnel in the County Roads Department had been passed to the county engineer by the board after

Charles "Red" Wells, former county road superintendent, was discharged by the commissioners about two weeks ago to promote harmony in the department.

"Efficiency" Cited
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LBJ Discusses Viet Bombing With Advisers

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson, shocked by the terrorist bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon, discussed the situation today with top diplomatic, military and congressional leaders.

There was no word on what kind of response Johnson and his advisers might be planning in reply to the bloody attack by a Viet Cong suicide squad. At least two Americans were killed in the bombing.

Johnson was informed of the attack during a state dinner at the White House Monday night. The President conferred today with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, McNamara and other members of his panel of advisers on world affairs—the National Security Council.

Johnson was said to have been shocked at the boldness of the terrorists in penetrating the South Viet Nam capital and making their way to the heavily guarded embassy with such a big load of explosives. It was estimated in Saigon that 250 to 275 pounds of explosives were used.

There were indications that this latest Red attack, aimed as it was directly at the U.S. presence in South Viet Nam, had stiffened the President's determination to press forward with the military drive to force the Communists to stop fighting.

If the administration follows the course it has since last year, the terrorist attack in February, the embassy bombing seemed likely to result in new and possibly much heavier U.S. military tactics against Communist North Viet Nam.

But on this score there was no comment from U.S. officials. Taylor, who conferred with McNamara and Rusk, said he had no comment.

Both the Vietnamese announcement and the U.S. military spokesmen said all the planes that took part in the raid returned safely to their bases.

Communist China's new agency said five planes were shot down and many damaged in the attack on the Dong Hoi base. The New China News Agency dispatch, in a broadcast monitored in London, said jet fighters "bombed" "bombed and strafed" the Communist city "in several waves."

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Red Air Base Destroyed By Bombers

SAIGON (UPI)—South Vietnamese destroyed a North Vietnamese jet air base today at Dong Hoi in the first attack of the Vietnamese war on a Communist air base.

The joint U.S.-South Vietnamese attack came only hours after a Communist bomb shattered the U.S. Embassy here, killing and wounding more than 150 persons.

The Vietnamese government said the Communist air base 65 miles north of the border was "completely destroyed and can no longer be used."

The base was knocked out with a one-two punch. A military spokesman said "about 15 American" jets joined the blast attack by first going in to blast "completely ambushed" guns ringing the base just north of the 17th parallel—the dividing line between North and South Viet Nam.

Twenty-four Skylanders, manned by South Vietnamese pilots, then dived over the base, bombing runways, fuel depots, its control hangar and hangars. BARRACKS housing North Vietnamese crews and guards for the base were also hit.

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America's Rights Leaders Pay Tribute To Mrs. Liuzzo

DETROIT (UPI) — The nation's civil rights leaders gathered under overcast skies and near freezing temperatures today to pay their last respects to Mrs. Viola Grey Liuzzo, the "change would result in a more efficient and productive operation of the county road shop."

Four nephews and two Teamsters officials carried the heavy bronze casket from a funeral home to the waiting hearse. The procession then wound through the quiet residential section of the city to the immaculate Heart of Mary Roman Catholic Church where services were scheduled.

At the funeral home, King accepted a check for \$25,000 from the Liuzzo family. The money is to be used for the funeral home, King said.

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Boivin Asks SP Chief To Meeting

SALEM (Special) — Senate President Harry D. Boivin has invited the president of Southern Pacific Company to meet with a personal audience before a Senate committee to give his position on the "17th parallel" bill now under consideration.

The invitation which was issued to the railroad official, F. Biaggi, in a letter dated last Friday was in response to a communication from Biaggi urging that the "full crew" law be abolished.

Boivin sent the House-passed measure to the Commerce and Utilities Committee and passed on a subsequent referral to the Ways and Means Committee because of fiscal implications.

Biaggi told Boivin in his letter that repeal of the "full crew" law would mean an annual saving of \$4 million to the railroad. Boivin responded by asking if the Southern Pacific would be willing to pass on part of that amount to its customers in a rate reduction as other major utilities have.

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Sports Features

—Photos of the triumphant Klamath Union High football team and their local rosters in the state basketball tournament in Eugene on Page 11.
—Klamath Union High's wins a new football coach, Billie Wilford of Crook County, Page 6.