

# U.S. Scraps More Price Controls

## Lift Controls on \$50 Billion Of Business for Free Economy

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (AP)—The government today scrapped price controls on more than 50 billion dollars worth of business annually in a third major stride toward the return of a free economy.

The new flood of decontrol orders lifted price curbs on thousands of items—ranging from toothpaste to locomotives

—and left only 13 per cent of all articles in the government's cost-of-living index still under full control. Another 3 1/2 per cent remains under partial control.

Officials predicted some prices will rise slightly, but they said others are expected to remain on an even keel without being affected by the latest decontrol action.

**Service Charges Freed**  
Effective immediately, the list of newly "liberated" items includes milk, butter, ice cream and other dairy products, drugs, cosmetics, coal, lumber, and farm machinery.

Most service charges—such as for auto, radio and television repairs and parking lot fees—were also set free.

In an eleventh-hour change of signals, the Office of Price Stabilization decided to retain curbs on cigarettes and other tobacco products. Instead, the agency put dairy products and oleomargarine on the free list.

**Wages 'Out' Earlier**  
Price Director Joseph Freehill said the new order swept controls from about ten percent of all articles in the cost-of-living index. Two previous decontrol orders within the last two weeks had already set the pace toward fulfilling President Eisenhower's call for an end to price-wage controls by April 30.

All curbs over wages and salaries went out the window in the first order on Feb. 6.

**Some Rises Seen**  
Officials said it was still too early to estimate the total amount of price increases resulting from the lifting of curbs so far.

Freehill told newsmen that price hikes may be expected on some of the newly exempt items, notably on charges for services, with spotty increases on milk and dairy products, and general raises on many types of building materials.

### U.S. Bomber Blasts Own Lines; Kills 3

SEOUL, Feb. 17 (AP)—Delayed by Censor (AP)—An Allied fighter-bomber accidentally bombed U.S. troops behind their own lines Feb. 2, killing three soldiers and wounding five, it was learned today.

It was the second mistake bombing made known this year.

The bombs fell in the administrative section of a front-line battalion about 2 1/2 miles behind the main lines.

## Senate Group To Question Sec. Benson



Ezra T. Benson To give views

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (AP)—The Senate Agriculture Committee laid plans today to question Secretary of Agriculture Benson about his farm policies and hold hearings soon afterward on plans for stabilizing prices on perishables.

The senators agreed at the same time to inquire into two other matters:

1. How New Zealand beef came to be imported to the United States to sell wholesale at 17 cents a pound and retail at 39 cents, far under domestic costs, in a period of falling markets.

2. The methods used by the Agriculture Department's Commodity Credit Corporation in selling grain stocks last fall, a process which some senators have contended helped break prices.

Chairman Aiken (R-Vt) reported the committee's plans after a closed-door session, emphasizing that the invitation to Benson to testify does not in any sense represent an investigation of the agriculture secretary's policies.

Benson has been under sharp attack from some Democrats on the contention that he has failed to take needed action on falling farm prices.

## 400 Planes Blast Red Training Base

SEOUL, Thursday, Feb. 19 (AP)—Almost 400 Air Force and Marine fighter-bombers turned a sprawling Communist tank and infantry training center near the Korean Red capital of Pyongyang into a mass of "hellish fire" Wednesday in the second greatest all-jet strike of the Korean War.

At least 38 Communist MIG fighters, based in Manchuria, attempted to intervene but headquarters reported five Red jets shot down and two more were maneuvered into fiery crashes.

The massive day-long air blow by 379 planes shattered 139 buildings and touched off raging fires and secondary explosions at Kangso, 15 miles west of Pyongyang.

Pilots who unloaded 375 tons of bombs on the target reported it was pulverized into a mass of fire and twisted wreckage.

The jet battles produced the 26th U.S. ace of the Korean War, Capt. Manuel J. Fernandez Jr. of Miami, Fla. He downed two MIGs, his fifth and sixth, to enter the

elite circle of jet airmen. Fernandez was in a flight of four Sabres that took on 32 MIGs and downed four of them.

Shooting Stars and Thunderjets from four wings of the Fifth Air Force and Panther jets of Marine Air group 33 pounded in waves against the huge Red buildup area. They hit first in the morning and then returned in the afternoon for another smashing blow.

The target contained numerous buildings of all types, ranging from small troop billeting structures to a factory-size tank and vehicle repair shop. It also included a headquarters building, several administration buildings, and warehouses.

## Naval Blockade Against Reds Under Study

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (AP)—Secretary Dulles said today the State Department is giving "very careful scrutiny" to a possible naval blockade along with other measures to halt the flow of goods of military importance to the Chinese Communists.

The additional measures under consideration, he said, include tightening the existing United Nations boycott against the shipment of strategic materials to Red China and North Korea.

"There are a whole series of measures of varying kinds which could be adopted," Dulles told his first news conference.

The new secretary guardedly discussed administration hopes for ending the Korean conflict following President Eisenhower's statement yesterday that he personally was not considering a blockade although this was under study elsewhere in the government.

Dulles explained that such means of bringing pressure have been under consideration almost continuously since the Chinese Communists entered the conflict and that the new administration has renewed the study.

Points under consideration, he said, include feasibility of specific measures, "military consequences and the degree of political embarrassments and troubles that might be caused with our allies." Britain already has voiced opposition to a blockade as an extension of the Korean conflict.

## India Warned About Military

NEW DELHI, India, Feb. 18 (AP)—Without naming President Eisenhower or others, Prime Minister Nehru told Parliament today that military leaders are dangerous at the head of governments in times of world tension.

"A soldier is a very fine person in his own domain," Nehru said, "but this intrusion of the military mentality into the chanceries of the world presents a very great danger."

"As some Frenchman once said, 'War is far too serious to be entrusted to a soldier'—let alone peace."

"Peace now seems to be spelled W.A.R. We are becoming enveloped by the military mentality. Statesmanship is being more and more governed by military factors."

"This talk of a blockade of Chi-

## U.S. to Take Firm Stand On Korea

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Feb. 18 (AP)—The United States is planning a moderate but firm course on Korea in the coming UN General Assembly and will avoid any spectacular move at present, a diplomatic source said today.

This was reported by a man in a good position to know the U.S. intentions. It did not necessarily run counter to a Washington statement by Secretary Dulles that the State Department is studying possible actions, including a naval blockade, to cut the flow of goods to Red China. Military actions decided upon by the United States in the Korean War are not likely to be brought here for debate before such actions take place.

U.S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. called 15 Allied delegates whose countries have armed forces in Korea to a secret caucus at 11 a.m. EST, tomorrow to talk about the Korean problem. The Assembly will reconvene Tuesday and time is pressing for the West to make decisions on its strategy.

The Americans are reported preparing for an expected blast from Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Y. Vishinsky charging the United States with aggression against Red China in assisting Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist government on Formosa. The Assembly has refused to approve such charges in previous sessions.

The 16-nation meeting will be held in Lodge's conference room. Those invited were top delegates of Britain, France, The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, The Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Ethiopia, Greece, Columbia and Canada.

na or other such steps is obviously not talk of peace, whatever else it might bring."

The Prime Minister said the American announcement of the denaturalizing of Formosa "has caused grave concern not only here but all over the world."

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## Clearfield Miners Riot

CLEARFIELD, Pa., Feb. 18 (AP)—Fighting with bullets, stones and clubs, pickets and non-union coal miners battled for nearly a half-hour today at the Robert Bailey strip surface mine near here. A United Mine Workers organizer was shot.

The victim is John Lonetti, 40, police chief and president of the UMW local in his home town of Vintondale. John Ghizzoni, president of District 2, UMW, said Lonetti also is a special organizer for the UMW.

Ghizzoni said Lonetti had been heading an organization drive at the Bailey mine in nearby Grassflat for nearly two months. Dist. Atty. Joseph Dague of Clearfield, who launched an immediate investigation, said about 125 pickets and 36 miners were involved.

Dague said the fighting started when the miners met a line of pickets along a highway near the mine. Two autos were overturned and their windows and headlights smashed.

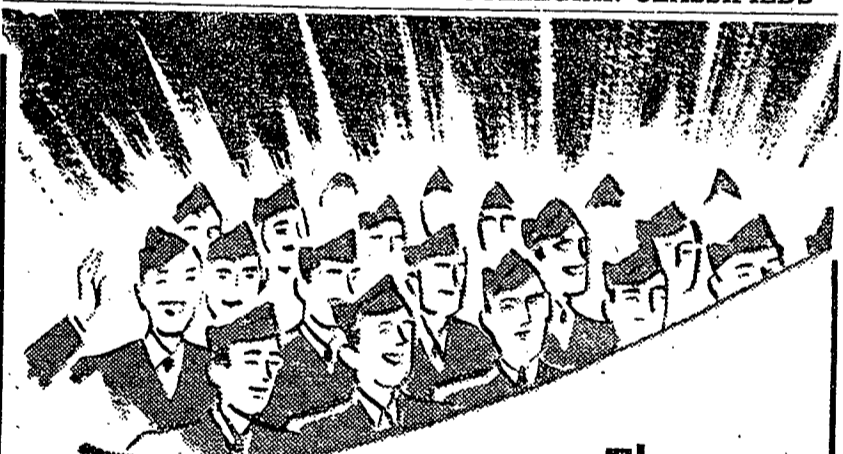
Workers began retreating up a hill, with pickets advancing toward them, when one of the miners pulled a revolver and fired two warning shots. Dague identified him as Roger Davis, 48, a dragline operator.

"I'm not going to take a beating and I want you to stop," Dague quoted Davis as saying. Then, related the district attorney, Davis fired again, striking Lonetti in the chest.



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