

U.S.-Cuban Relations Threatened by Castro

HAVANA (AP) — The United States indignantly told Cuba yesterday a deliberate attempt is being made under the Castro regime to wreck Cuban-American relations.

American Ambassador Philip W. Bonsal denied Prime Minister Fidel Castro's charges that Cuba is being air-bombed

Labor Injected In Crime Trial

NEW YORK (AP) — Defense lawyers for 22 Apalachin delegates injected the subject of the union labor movement into their federal conspiracy trial yesterday.

As selection of jurors continued through a second day, prospective panelists were asked if they held any prejudices regarding the labor movement. There were no explanations and this led U.S. District Judge Irving Kaufman to remark:

"I don't know at this point what the labor movement has to do with the case, or how deeply it enters into the case. Frankly, I do not know in what way this case will touch labor."

The 22 are among some 60 hoodlums and their friends who attended the Nov. 14, 1957, underworld conclave at the Apalachin, N.Y., home of the late Joseph Barbara Sr.

Federal, state and local investigators have failed in repeated efforts to discover the reason for the gathering. It has been suggested that gambling, narcotics and labor racketeering may have been subjects on the agenda.

with U.S. permission from Florida bases.

Bonsal emerged grim-faced from an hour-long visit with President Osvaldo Dorticos in the presidential palace.

Outside the palace Monday night Castro charged at a loyalty rally that the United States is tolerating bombing of Cuba by enemy Cubans self-exiled in Florida.

The Castro charges before about 250,000 Cubans massed at the palace pitched Cuban-American relations at perhaps their lowest since Cuban liberation from Spain in 1898.

Yesterday the State Department made a double-barreled reply: in Bonsal's 8-page statement to President Dorticos — who serves as Castro's choice for chief of state and in a separate statement.

Bonsal told Dorticos the United States is shocked and amazed at Castro's charges that planes were permitted to fly from U.S. bases to bomb Cuba.

Commenting generally on Castro's anti-U.S. attacks, the State Department said: "Not only are such charges utterly unfounded but they can only contaminate that atmosphere of good faith which should prevail in the relations of neighbor states."

Soviets Will Post Office Discloses Try to Up Production New Letter System

MOSCOW (AP)—The Soviet government announced yesterday a record high budget for 1960 and said defense spending will be frozen at this year's level. Funds for scientific development were increased 15.4 per cent.

Total income projected for 1960 — the second year of a seven-year plan in which the Soviet Union proposes to push production ahead of that of the United States — is 772 billion rubles.

Expecting to keep the book-keeping in black ink as the U.S.S.R. has done since World War II, Premier Nikita Khrushchev's government proposes to spend 744,800,000,000 rubles.

Except for 10-cent deals with foreign visitors, the Soviet Union regards the ruble as worth 25 cents and this official rate is considered reasonably accurate in the government's domestic operations.

But Finance Minister Vasilii Garbuzov told 1,335 members of Parliament — the Supreme Soviet — that defense expenditures are set at 96 billion rubles, the same as in 1959. He said the 12.9 per cent of the national revenue to go to the armed forces compares with 19.9 per cent in 1955.

More than half of the U.S. budget goes for defense. The U.S. Defense Department was allocated about 41 billion dollars in January. The Budget Bureau estimates total spending will hit nearly 79 billion. The 41 billion, however, represents less than 10 per cent of the total U.S. national income.

At the official rate, the money openly earmarked for the Soviet army, navy and air force totals 24 billion dollars. Other forms of military spending are hidden in civilian appropriations and cannot be estimated. Research on military projects comes under science and education. Construction of arms plants is included in capital investment spending.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Post Office Department disclosed Tuesday it is developing a system designed to speed a letter coast to coast in an instant — over microwave radio or coaxial cables.

Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield barely lifted the veil of secrecy that has shrouded the plan. He didn't say when the marvel might be ready for public use or what it might cost to transmit a letter.

His cautiously worded statement was issued only after word of the experiment circulated at the 55th annual meeting of the National Assn. of Postmasters of the United States.

There was no direct reference to the revolutionary mail system at the convention, but both Summerfield and President Eisenhower hinted at it in their speeches.

Eisenhower traced the history of the mail from the Pony Express 100 years ago and said mail now is flown coast to coast in about 5½ hours.

The prospects are, however, Eisenhower said, that it will be possible in the future to deliver mail long distance "almost in a moment."

Officials declined to say anything further about the experiments or to comment on reports that the department hopes facsimile letters can be sent for less than the current seven-cent air mail rate.

This would be less than the \$2 to \$4 a page Western Union Telegraph Co. will charge for a similar service it announced Monday.

On Dec. 1, Western Union will make available an intercity facsimile service linking Washington, New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

It was learned, despite secrecy, that the department last July awarded a \$140,000 research contract to International Telephone & Telegraph Co., to develop a high-speed facsimile letter service.

More Attention Needed For Education Problems

HARRISBURG (AP) — Unless more attention is devoted to solving education problems, the United States will be a second-rate power within a decade, a National Education Assn. officer said yesterday.

"We have billions for concrete, but not one cent for the kids," said Richard Batchelder, president of the NEA Department of Classroom Teachers.

Steel Strike At A Glance

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS SETTLEMENTS — Detroit Steel Corp. small nonstruck producer, follows lead of struck Kaiser Steel Corp. and signs contract with United Steelworkers.

NEGOTIATIONS — Union committees talk individually with 13 firms in Pittsburgh, others elsewhere. No industrywide bargaining held or scheduled.

REACTION — U.S. Steel Chairman Roger Blough terms Kaiser settlement too costly, asserts U.S. Steel and other companies won't settle on same basis.

COURT ACTION — U.S. 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals upholds Taft-Hartley injunction temporarily halting strike, but permits walkout to continue until at least Monday while union appeals to U.S. Supreme Court.

RELATED DEVELOPMENTS — U.S. Steel reports net loss of \$31,135,136 for third quarter, its all-time quarterly loss record; declares regular dividend.

IDLED — Half a million Steelworkers and an estimated 280,000 employees in other industries. Strike 106 days old today.

ISSUES — Union seeks wage-fringe benefit improvements which industry considers too costly. Industry wants to change local plant work rules.

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New Farm Program Outlined by Grange

BEDFORD, Pa. (AP) — A National Grange official yesterday outlined a farm program designed to give farmers bargaining power comparable to that enjoyed by labor and industry.

Roy Battles, assistant to the master of the National

Grange, told some 2,000 delegates of the 87th annual session of the Pennsylvania Grange at Bedford: "Our program is designed to provide producer-managed commodity marketing programs to enhance producer-bargaining power and to deter the accumulation of price-depressing stocks in the hands of the government and other non-farm groups."

Battles pointed out to the group that the government has helped develop the bargaining power of labor through legislation.

"Other federal laws have helped business regulate and control the production and marketing of its products and services," added Battles. "All of these things place farmers in a tighter and tighter cost-price squeeze."

In another talk at the opening day session of the three-day meeting, J. Collins McSparran, master of the state grange, said that government sanctioned programs protecting the income of non-agricultural society have farming problems of the nation.

"American agriculture does not want government running our business," said McSparran. "But we must have the same kind of government help as has been afforded industry and labor in developing programs for orderly marketing of products."

Army Missile Chief

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Army Tuesday chose Maj. Gen. August Schomburg, a weapons specialist for years, to succeed Maj. Gen. John B. Medaris as head of its missile command.

Rockefeller Meets With Ike Today

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York, a potential bidder for the Republican presidential nomination, will confer with President Eisenhower at the White House today.

But Eisenhower's press secretary, James C. Hagerty, said in announcing the appointment that the subject of the conference will be civil defense, not politics.

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Democrat To Fill P.U.C. Vacancy

HARRISBURG (AP) — Gov. David L. Lawrence said yesterday he was "pretty sure" he would name a Democrat to a \$19,000-a-year vacancy on the Public Utility Commission.

The appointment will be made before the 1959 Legislature adjourns finally, he said in declining to speculate on names.

The Republican-controlled Senate has held up since last April the confirmation of William F. O'Hara, Scranton, to a PUC post. With the recent death of Republican Henry Houck, Shenandoah, there are now two vacancies on the rate-fixing body.

The commission is now operating with three members, two Republicans and a Democrat. Any PUC action requires a positive vote by all three.

The addition of two Democrats to the PUC would mean removing Republican control of the agency for the first time in nearly 20 years. Some 300 patronage jobs are at stake.

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