

Kennedy Says AMA Confuses Public Estes' Warehouses To Lose U.S. Grain

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Kennedy was reported to have told congressional leaders yesterday that American Medical Association doctors fighting his medicare plan are trying to confuse the people and are not properly informed.

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota, assistant Senate Democratic leader, relayed this word to reporters after a White House breakfast conference of the top Democrats and the President.

HE SAID KENNEDY had repeated a previous charge that the doctors, who contend the provisions for financing health insurance for the elderly through Social Security taxes means socialized medicine, have not studied the administration measure.

The AMA mounted a nationwide televised counterattack Monday night against pro-medicare rallies held over the weekend—one of them addressed by the President. AMA leaders called the program a "cruel hoax" which would "heartlessly ignore millions" needing coverage.

Sen. Mike Mansfield, D-Mont., Senate Democratic leader, said some of the congressional party chiefs had watched the telecast, but White House press secretary Pierre Salinger said Kennedy did not. He said the White House had no comment on it.

THE MEDICARE issue, one of the most controversial before Congress, is under consideration by the House Ways and Means Committee.

Rep. Carl Albert of Oklahoma, House Democratic leader, said he is reasonably optimistic the committee will approve it and quite

optimistic House endorsement would then follow.

Humphrey agreed, but Sen. George A. Smathers, D-Fla., said in Tallahassee, Fla., he does not expect enactment this year. He is secretary of the Senate Democratic Policy Committee.

Humphrey said Kennedy had been told that if Ways and Means bottles up the legislation, a plan will be devised to put both House and Senate members on record on the issue. Administration leaders say they have sufficient votes for Senate approval.

Gov. Lawrence declared it is his administration's policy to support President Kennedy's medi-

care program as far as it can.

The governor told his weekly news conference that the state administration's support would not "use state funds in any respect whatever."

"BUT," HE DECLARED emphatically, "we are going to state the position of the state administration, how we feel about it, just as we intend to state the position of the Democratic Party."

The governor said, "there is nothing planned at the moment, at least" for use of Commonwealth personnel or officials to stump for the President's medical care for the aged proposal, which would be financed through boosted social security payments.

Space Flight Conditions Improve; Technicians to Start Countdown

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The weather odds for Malcolm Scott Carpenter's orbital flight improved to 60-40 yesterday as space agency officials reported no technical problems threatened a launching tomorrow.

Technicians were set to start the first phase of a two-day countdown before dawn today.

BARRING ANY new hitches, Carpenter, 37, a Navy lieutenant commander, is due to blast off between 7 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time tomorrow for three orbital turns around the earth.

A spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration said a pall of smoke from widespread forest fires in the Everglades, to the south, poses the only major problem.

BUT HE SAID weather experts expect westerly winds blowing off the Gulf of Mexico to prevent the smoke from rising to great heights over the Cape.

Although there probably will be some ground haze, the space agency said, camera coverage of the launch should not be greatly affected.

Tracking cameras up and down the Florida east coast are pointed to record the early stages of Car-

pen's rocket flight from this spaceport. To do their job properly, the cameras must have relatively clear visibility up to about eight miles.

A SPACE AGENCY weather report said little or no cloudiness is expected in the launch area.

Significantly, wind and waves in the Atlantic recovery areas were reported to have abated. Last week, before two separate technical flaws forced postponements, high winds churned up heavy seas that might have made recovery of Carpenter's capsule difficult and possibly dangerous.

The forecast for tomorrow called for varying degrees of cloudiness, gentle to fresh winds and light to moderate seas.

THE RECOVERY area, if Carpenter should make only one 90-minute orbit, would be some 500 miles east of Bermuda. A two-orbit flight would end about 500 miles south of Bermuda. A full three-orbit journey would bring Carpenter's Aurora 7 spacecraft down about 800 miles southeast of Cape Canaveral.

Elsewhere along the globe-circling project Mercury track, officials said normal seasonal weather prevails.

Former Governor Pleads 'Not Guilty'

LEWISBURG, Pa. (AP)—John S. Fine, former Republican governor and judge, declared yesterday he is innocent of tax evasion charges. His defense was rested in U.S. District Court after character testimony from 10 prominent witnesses.

Judge Frederick V. Follmer then rejected a defense motion for a directed verdict of acquittal and ordered attorneys for both sides to sum up their arguments today.


If the closing arguments and the judge's charge do not last too long the case will go to the jury today.

Heading the list of character witnesses during the most dramatic session of the nine-day-old trial were Gov. David L. Lawrence, incumbent Democrat; former Republican Gov. Arthur H. James; State Supreme Court Justice Benjamin R. Jones Jr. and Superior Court Judge Robert E. Woodside. Fine, governor from 1951 to 1955, spoke confidently from the witness stand in denying that he evaded \$38,446 in income taxes from 1955 to 1957.

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WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department, in a surprise move, said yesterday it will remove all government grain from elevators and warehouses owned or controlled by Billie Sol Estes.

The only explanation offered was that Agriculture Secretary Orville L. Freeman had decided

that the best interests of the department would be served by moving this grain out in an orderly manner.

Estes, 37, a Pecos, Tex., promoter, has declared his financial empire bankrupt and is under indictment on fraud charges.

So far there have been no charges of irregularities in Estes' grain storage operations, but there have been allegations that Estes received favored treatment in keeping his facilities filled while others in the area had available space.



Orville Freeman

Wife Spurns Turncoat Husband

ZELIENOPLE, Pa. (AP) — "I sincerely hope he gets a chance to start all over, but not with me."

That was the reaction of Mrs. Martha Webster yesterday to the return of her former husband, Robert, who defected to the Soviet Union in 1959, abandoning her and their two children.

"I don't have any plans for a reconciliation," Mrs. Webster told the Associated Press. "I haven't talked to him or seen him. I am not going to contact him. I will see him when he sees the children."

Webster is staying with his father, Charles, in Zelienople, but has not tried to see his former wife or talk to her since her return Sunday night, she said.

Mrs. Webster did talk to Robert's father though.

"There wasn't too much said," she commented. "He didn't say anything about seeing him. We just hope things can calm down so he can get a good start."

Webster, a 33-year-old plastics engineer, had been sent to the Soviet Union to set up a plastics exhibit for the Rand Development Co. of Cleveland.

FRANKLIN, Tex. (AP)—Medical Examiner Joseph Jachimszyk said after an autopsy yesterday it was his personal tentative opinion the death of Henry Marshall, a key figure in the Billy Sol Estes case, was not a suicide.

George A. Barnes, an assistant to Freeman, said the 42 million bushels of grain stored in Estes' facilities would be moved out through regular channels over a period of about 18 months. He said there would be no crash program to get it out.

McNamara Announces New Pentagon Program

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara said yesterday the Pentagon is making a five-year projection of military supply and research needs to help business, workers and communities gear their economic policies accordingly.

McNamara was speaking at a conference on national economic issues.

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