

the daily Collegian

Friday, August 3, 1973
Vol. 74, No. 18 6 pages
University Park, Pennsylvania
Published by Students of The Pennsylvania State University

'Prudent' measure, but mission continues

Skylab 2 rescue prepared

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Preparation of a rescue ship for the Skylab 2 astronauts started yesterday as a "prudent" measure after a very serious problem developed, space officials said. Unless more trouble occurs, the record 59-day mission will continue normally.

"We agree 100 per cent with what you've just announced," said Skylab 2 commander Alan L. Bean after being told of the decision. "everybody's happy up here."

Johnson Space Center Director Dr. Christopher C. Kraft told the astronauts "we feel fairly confident" despite a failure which has caused half of a rocket system aboard the Apollo command ship to be shut down.

"To be prudent, however," Kraft said, accelerated preparation for launch has started on the Skylab 3 rocket and Apollo craft which can be used to rescue the men of Skylab 2.

Skylab 2 astronauts Bean, Dr. Owen K. Garriott and Jack R. Lousma were in no immediate danger and continued experiments aboard the orbiting laboratory.

The problem is in two of four rocket propulsion systems which steer the Apollo command ship — the craft which ferries the astronauts between earth and the Skylab space station orbiting at 271 miles. The Apollo craft is docked at one end of the Skylab.

One of the rocket systems developed a leak

yesterday morning and had to be turned off. A leak earlier knocked out another of the thrusters, leaving only two rocket steering systems in operation.

"We feel fairly confident that we've got two quads rocket systems for attitude control should we have a problem with anything that would result in an immediate need for re-entry," Kraft told the astronauts.

Bean said he felt that even if new problems occurred, "we'd still have plenty of capability to return home safely."

A rescue craft, another Apollo ship piloted by two Skylab 3 astronauts, could not be ready for launch before Sept. 10, 15 days before the scheduled end of the 59-day Skylab 2.

Officials earlier did not express the same confidence Kraft showed when he was talking to the crew.

"At this point, it looks like the rescue mission is the direction we are heading," flight director Charles Lewis told newsmen. "Right now, we have no confidence in the command ship."

"It's a very serious problem," said Glynn S. Lunney, operations manager of the Apollo spacecraft program office at the Johnson Space Center. "If we did not have a rescue capability, we would be moving in the direction of getting the spacecraft down as rapidly as we could."

An Apollo spacecraft is currently being prepared at Cape Kennedy, Fla., for the planned launch of the

Skylab 3 astronauts who were scheduled to spend 56 days or more aboard the space station starting Nov. 9.

That craft could be converted to a rescue ship by removing some equipment and installing two extra couches.

A rescue mission would involve launching the spacecraft atop a Saturn 1B rocket with Skylab 3 astronauts Gerald P. Carr and William R. Pogue on board. They would guide the craft to a rendezvous with the Skylab and dock in an extra port on the laboratory. Bean, Lousma and Garriott would board the rescue ship for the trip back to earth.

Lunney said the main concern is that should the astronauts board the troubled Apollo and try to come home, there is a possibility that the third and fourth rocket thruster systems could fail, leaving the astronauts with no way to steer the spacecraft while rocketing out of orbit.

A master alarm warning of the thruster leak problem awakened the astronauts 25 minutes early yesterday. Bean scurried up to the Apollo command ship, linked to one end of the space station, to turn valves and isolate the leak.

Officials said the leak was allowing a chemical, nitrogen tetroxide, to escape into space. During normal operation of the rocket, this chemical ignites on contact in the rocket chamber with monomethyl hydrazine, another chemical. This provides jet thrust.

Vandals strike Beaver phones, University investigates damage

By STEVE OSTROSKY
Collegian Staff Writer

Vandals struck again in Beaver Hall causing an estimated \$250 damage to telephones on several floors.

This incident is the latest in the series of vandalism which has occurred in Beaver Hall this summer. A television set and a cigarette machine on the ground floor of Beaver were destroyed during the weekend of July 20 with damage assessed at \$500. The machine's replacement was destroyed last weekend. The automatic defrosting unit of the ice cream machine in Beaver was ripped out and the ground floor flooded with water last Saturday afternoon. All vending machines now have been removed from the ground floor of Beaver.

Luther Robb, head of the Telephone

Service at the University, said, "The matter is currently under investigation. These are the facts we have at the present time based upon information we have received."

"Sometime between 11:30 p.m. Sunday night and 1:30 a.m. Monday morning, one or more individuals went into Beaver Hall and smeared black shoe polish, vaseline, toothpaste and stick deodorant into the receiver set of telephones on the first, second, third and sixth floors of Beaver Hall.

"So far, we have identified some 24 or 25 telephones that have had this treatment.

"As of right now, the estimated total amount of damage done is \$250."

Robb said housing workers on the affected floors reported the damage to the housing office, which reported the incident to the telephone office.

Robb said, "We have a number of leads, all of which we are following up actively."

Robb said dormitory telephones have armored cord handsets, and the cord and the handset are one unit. On these telephones, the receiver and transmitter dust covers are anchored. When a substance is smeared into the holes in the dust cover and it can not be cleaned

out from the outside, the entire cord and handset must be replaced, he said.

Robb said, "What I am sure many students do not realize is the University leases its phones from Bell of Pennsylvania, and my office is responsible for any lost or damage of the telephones and we must reimburse the phone company."

The Telephone Service must pay Bell for cleaning and replacing telephones, Robb said.

"Our goal is to recover for the University the damages which it paid Bell," he said.

"What we attempt to do is to try to find out who is responsible for the damage. We then meet with Donald I. Suit, Director of the Office of Conduct Standards, to discuss what action should be taken," he said.

Robb said there are two ways of handling the matter:

— "Under the Pennsylvania Law Code, we could bring a charge of criminal mischief. In this particular case, the loss appears to be at the present time under \$500. It is therefore a summary offense, for which the maximum fine is \$300 and-or a maximum of 90 days in jail, plus restitution.

— "We could bring charges through the Office of Conduct Standards."

"If we can't find out who is responsible for the damage, we bill the Department of Housing. They will then assess the damage to the residents of the dorm where the damage took place," he said.

Robb said, "This type of behavior with telephones at the University, especially in the residence halls, is serious."

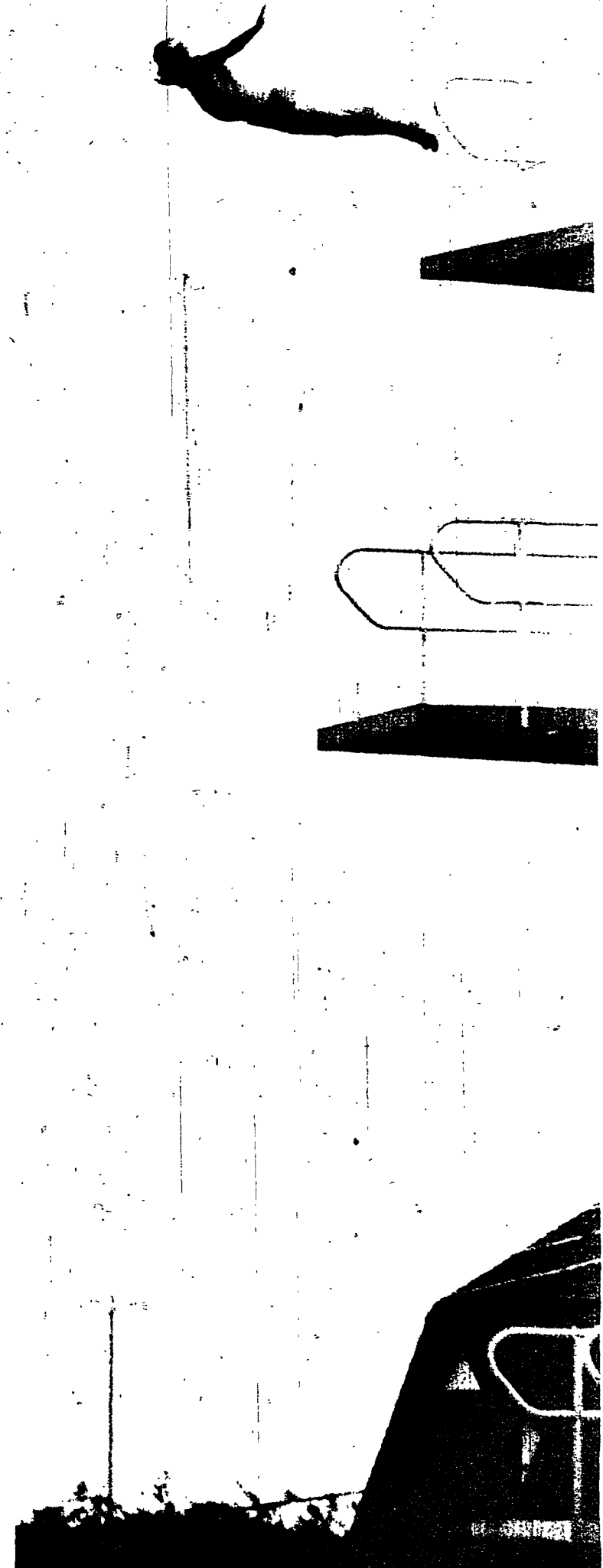
He said there are other kinds of telephone abuse which occur. Breaking of telephones, removing handsets, and removing the phones from the walls are other methods of telephone destruction which occur, he said.

Suit, who handles the disciplinary action resulting from misuse of telephones by students, said last year there were approximately 40 cases of telephone misuse reported.

He said most of the incidents occur in batches. Suit said once the matter is investigated most of the people involved are discovered.

Students often misuse the telephone system by calling long-distance from dorm telephones that break down and charging the call to a false University number, Suit said.

He said all of these incidents are violations of the Pennsylvania law as well as University laws. Charges can be pressed if damage is done to the telephones, he said.



'It's too late to turn back now'

THIS DIVER MAY have some last minute doubts, but there really is a swimming pool beneath him.

Photo by Rick Nelson

Former CIA director discloses retainer to Watergate larcenist

WASHINGTON (AP) — Richard Helms, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, disclosed yesterday that one of the men arrested in the Watergate break-in was being paid a \$100 monthly retainer at the time.

And Helms's onetime deputy told the Senate Watergate committee that John D. Ehrlichman denied to him that he had sent E. Howard Hunt to get CIA assistance for a White House "plumbers" assignment. Hunt later pleaded guilty to his involvement in the Watergate break-in.

Gen. Robert E. Cushman, a four-star general who is now commandant of the Marine Corps, said Ehrlichman's denial "shook up my recollection," but that a transcript of his tape-recorded meeting with Hunt confirmed it again.

"There is no question in your mind as you appear before this committee?" asked Sen. Lowell P. Weicker Jr., R-Conn.

"No sir," said Cushman.

The committee, driving to finish the current phase of the hearings and go on vacation by the end of next week, polished off its questioning of Helms and Cushman in a day. Not since the third week of the nine-week old hearings have two witnesses come and gone in the same day.

"The agency had no involvement in the break-in, no involvement whatever," said Helms, pounding his palm against the table.

Helms, now ambassador to Iran, said he resisted White House feelers to get the CIA involved in the Watergate coverup, saying "I want to lean heavily on the fact that I was trying to keep the agency clean and that I did not succumb, as long as I kept it clean I felt I was doing my job."

Cushman, who appeared in uniform with rows of ribbons on his chest, said that when Hunt came to see him July 22, 1971, he tape-recorded the conversation because Hunt requested they meet alone in his office.

The transcript of that conversation, given to the committee, showed Hunt saying "I've been charged with a highly sensitive mission by the White House to visit and elicit information from an individual whose ideology we aren't entirely sure of."

Hunt asked for "flash alias documentation" and "some degree of physical disguise" and Cushman ordered it done. Hunt was given "notional pocket litter documentation," which

included false identification cards, as well as a wig, a voice-altering device and a camera hidden in a tobacco pouch.

The key point of the transcript, however was a partial quotation from Hunt that began "Well, Ehrlichman said ..."

and Cushman's reply, "Yes, he called me."

Cushman said on last Dec. 13, almost a year after he became Marine commandant, he was told by CIA official William Colby that the agency needed to prepare a summary of their contacts with Hunt.

"He refreshed my memory on the Ehrlichman phone call. I couldn't remember in December who phoned me from the White House. I thought it was Ehrlichman but I wasn't sure."

Cushman said he dictated a memo on Jan. 8, but because he wasn't certain enough about the source, he wrote that it was either Ehrlichman, Charles W. Colson or John W. Dean III.

Ehrlichman telephoned and said, "Look, I can't recall this phone call prior to the 22nd of July, in fact my records show I was out of town," Cushman recalled. "This shook up my recollection even worse."

He said Dean, then the White House counsel, also telephoned to deny sending Hunt over.

Cushman said he then rewrote the memorandum, leaving out all names. Then, when he got the transcript of the tape, he went back to his original thought that the call came from Ehrlichman, he said.

"Is it your testimony Ehrlichman put no pressure at all on you to have his name removed," Cushman was asked.

"No, sire ... he didn't ask me to tear it up."

Both Cushman and Helms testified Hunt's demands mounted to the point where they cut off CIA help.

Cushman said he learned of the 1971 break-in of the office of Daniel Ellsberg's psychiatrist in May, while he was in Europe and long after he had left the CIA.

Helms said that his preoccupation in the months following the June 17, 1972, break-in of Democratic Party headquarters "was to keep the agency at a distance from all these problems."

He said he did not tell President Nixon of the pressure being put on him because "since we stood firm, it seemed to me to be adequate under the circumstances."

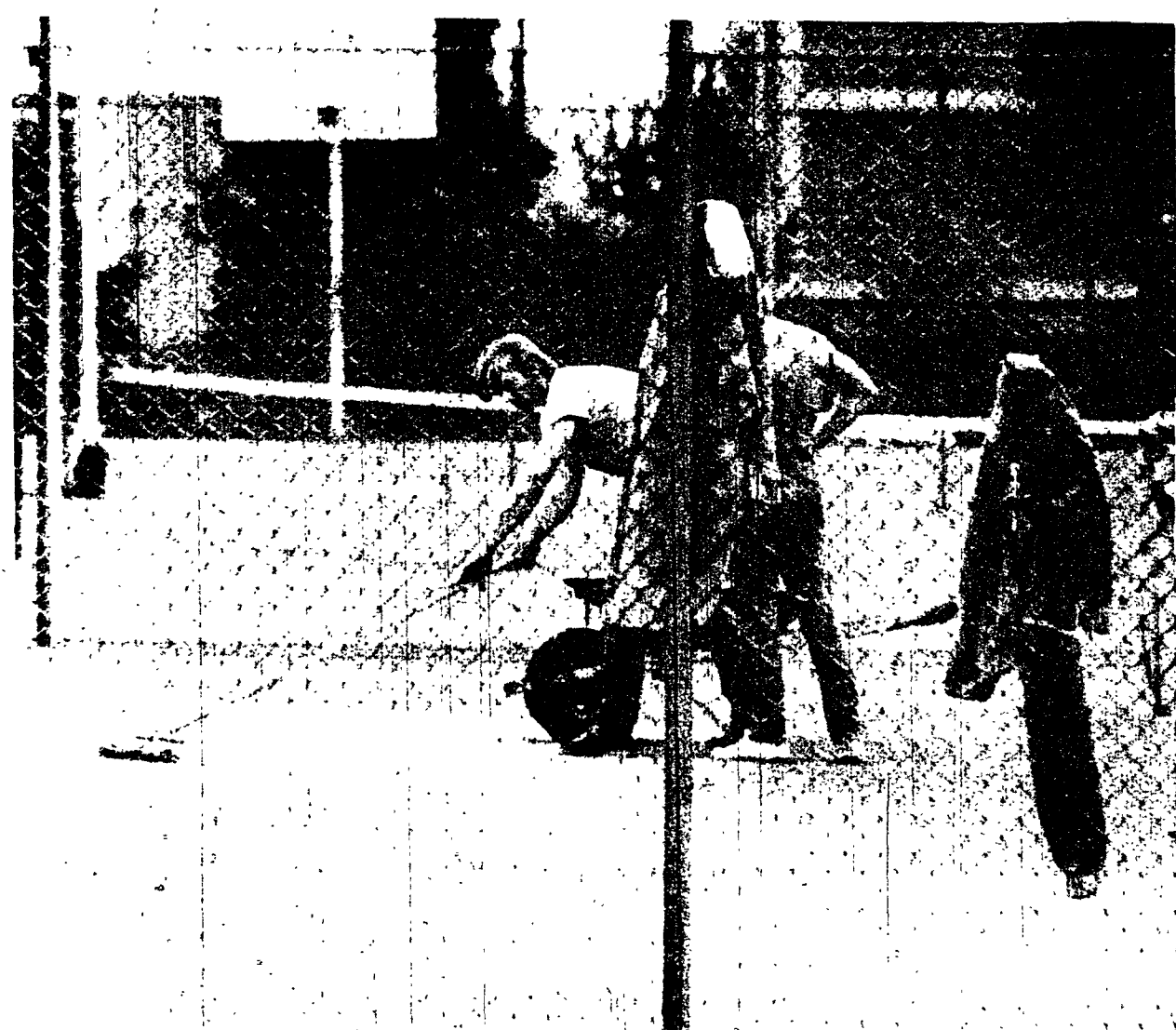


Photo by Rick Nelson

Don't fence me in

THESE WORKERS ARE resurfacing the tennis courts near East Halls across from Wagner Building in anticipation of the arrival of tennis players in September.