

From the wires News from the world and the nation

Irish politician's home attacked

BELFAST (UPI) — Gunmen shooting from a cruising automobile raked the rural home of a prominent Roman Catholic politician with machine gun fire late yesterday. Police said a guard was injured in the attack on the home of former Housing Minister Austin Currie at Donaghmore, 35 miles southwest of Belfast. Currie was not at home at the time, but his wife and three children were inside the house, police said. They were unhurt. It was the third attack in a year on the Currie residence. A year ago a gang of men, invaded the home, beat Mrs. Currie and carved on her chest the initials "UVF" — for the extremist Protestant Ulster Volunteer Force. Currie, a member of the middle-road Social Democrat and Labor party, lost his office when a 10-day general strike by militant Protestant workers in May overthrew the power-sharing government set up by Britain in a bid to solve the province's political problems.

Chile to release prisoners

SANTIAGO (UPI) — Chile's military government announced yesterday it will begin releasing political prisoners.

and again challenged the Soviet Union and Cuba to do the same. Gen. Raul Benavidez, the interior minister, said a list of the first 100 persons to be released would be turned over immediately to the International Red Cross and other refugee organizations for the prisoners' relocation abroad. Benavidez said the first 100 persons "do not make up the total of persons who will leave the country" and that successive lists would be presented until the amnesty program is completed. He did not say how many prisoners would be freed. Several thousand persons were arrested after the military coup that toppled the leftwing government of President Salvador Allende Sept. 11, 1973. Although many have been released, the exact number of prisoners has not been officially released.

The announcement came two months to the day after military junta leader Gen. Augusto Pinochet challenged the Soviet Union and Cuba to join Chile in the release of a similar number of political prisoners and send them to exile abroad.

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Israelis protest austerity program

TEL AVIV (UPI) — Riots and labor protests erupted yesterday in Israel for the second day in a row against the

government's stringent new austerity program but officials reacted sternly.

Hundreds of teenagers from the Hatikva slum quarter of Tel Aviv took to the streets yesterday night to smash store fronts and car windshields on Allenby Road, a major thoroughfare in the city's business district.

A police spokesman said 60 persons were arrested in and around the Hatikva quarter of southern Tel Aviv, including a boy, 9, and a woman charged with looting a smashed appliance store.

The disturbances followed a demonstration by the Israeli Black Panthers, an organization of Oriental Jews, who asked the government for immediate subsidies to needy families.

The austerity program, necessary because of defense spending and depletion of foreign currency reserves, included a 43 per cent devaluation of the Israeli pound and across the board increases in prices and taxes that hiked the cost of living overnight by 17 per cent.

Clothing workers picket stores

(AP) — American clothing workers, angry over imports they say threaten their jobs, demonstrated across the country yesterday, urging people to buy U.S. made garments.

"Work not welfare," "Save our jobs," read signs carried by about 100 members of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America who picketed two department stores in Springfield, Mass. Union spokesmen said imports had caused the loss of several hundred jobs in western Massachusetts in recent years.

New York garment workers called a rally and protest march to two large department stores that the union says have been selling large quantities of men's and boy's wear imported from Taiwan and South Korea. An estimated 5,000 persons turned out for the rally.

"In recent years, about 10,000 clothing workers have lost their jobs and many plants have been forced to close in the United States because of the competition from the foreign imports," said Burt Beck, a union spokesman.

The union had called for demonstrations in 60 cities.

Ford to receive energy plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Energy czar C. B. Morton said yesterday he hoped to send to President Ford by the end of December policy recommendations that strongly emphasize the need for energy conservation.

Morton, addressing a White House conference of industry executives, said "the only short-term option we have is a change in demand" if the nation is to achieve the President's goal of reducing oil imports by one million barrels per day in 1975.

Furthermore, Morton said, that achievement would be only "a milestone, which would be the first of several," warnings of still tighter fuel-saving goals for future years.

Morton also announced his decision to conduct public hearings on energy policy in a week to 10 days to collect opinions from various interest groups on the "Project Independence" study due for issuance today.

The secretary of the Interior said the study and the public hearings would be considered by the Cabinet-level Energy Resources Council, which he heads.

Flowers part of MIA protest

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Demonstrators threw 1,300 carnations over a fence onto the White House lawn Monday, one for each of the men they said are still missing in Indochina.

They also threw two extra carnations, one each for President Ford and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

They charged that Ford has not adequately responded to their demands for an accounting of the missing men and added that Kissinger was "a man constantly missing in action" on behalf of MIAs.

Some 325 members and supporters of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in South East Asia (POW-MIA) picketed the White House while three MIA wives read the 1,300 names and tossed one carnation over the fence for every name.



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