

U. S. To Seek 'No Time for Soviet To Ask for Handout,' Officials Agree

Americans Admit It's a Big Price And Will Change Present Red Policy

WASHINGTON, June 23.—The Soviet Union must lift its economic "iron curtain" around eastern Europe and let those countries return to normal trade practices with the west if the U. S. S. R. is to be included in the proposed European reconstruction program, it was learned authoritatively today.

That is the major "price" the United States probably will demand for participation in any aid program that includes the Soviet Union and her eastern satellites.

"This is no time for Russia to come around with her hand-out," one official said.

Is Price Too High?

American officials admit that it will be a big price—maybe too big—for the Soviets to pay. They recognize that it will call for a basic change in Soviet policy. And they also are aware Russia's answer will carry with it probably the answer to the whole peace-making problem—will it or will it not be worthwhile to hold any future council of foreign ministers meetings on the German peace treaty?

The answer that is hoped for is unequivocal evidence by Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav M. Molotov at Paris of Russia's willingness to relax her economic grip on Europe and earnestly co-operate in a recovery plan for all of Europe.

The answer that is feared is repetition of the old Soviet line which will leave only the alternative of organizing a recovery program for western Europe and so solidifying the already existent East and West blocs.

"We will not buy a pig in a poke," one high official said.

"We know that the U. S. congress now will not approximate a koppek for a program from which Russia or her satellites will benefit. Thus the Russians must show beyond any reasonable doubt that their interest is genuine; that they really want European recovery; that they are willing to make drastic changes in their European policy to attain it."

Secretary of State George C. Marshall is very much aware of the fact that even if the Russians convince him of their earnestness, it is still going to have a superhuman job selling the program to congress and the public in their present attitude toward Russia. But he is confident under those circumstances that he can.

Russ May Refrain From Balkan Veto

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., June 23 (U. P.).—Some United Nations quarters saw a chance today that Russia would refrain from vetoing the western powers' proposals for peaceful United Nations measures aimed at Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania.

While a majority still appeared to anticipate a Soviet veto, some diplomats reportedly felt the circumstances of the East-West diplomatic struggle over the Balkans might cause Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to let the council pass proposals opposed by Russia and its three Balkan proteges.

"If that happens, the council is certain to establish a semi-permanent Balkan border patrol and set in motion a plan to transplant minority groups in Greece and the three northern countries. At the same time it would cajole the government there into signing new frontier agreements."

Former Reporter To Edit CIO Paper

By Scripps-Howard Newspapers
WASHINGTON, June 23.—Allan L. (Pete) Swim, former Scripps-Howard writer, will succeed Len De Caux as C. I. O. publicity director and editor of the C. I. O. News, July 15.

This was announced today by Philip Murray, C. I. O. president. Mr. De Caux intends to make his home in New York and to spend the next few months completing a book.

Mr. De Caux has been identified with the leftist faction of the C. I. O. Mr. Swim has been known as a member of the opposing group.

Mr. De Caux has been with the C. I. O. since its inception a dozen years ago. His successor has been public relations director for the C. I. O.'s organizing drive in the South for the last 13 months. He resigned from the Memphis Press-Scimitar, a Scripps-Howard newspaper, to take the C. I. O. position.

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U. S. Renews Maritime Ship Operation

Truman Signs Bill To Meet Oil Problems

WASHINGTON, June 23 (U. P.).—President Truman today signed into law legislation which will enable the United States to continue to meet some of the problems in the domestic and international oil situation.

Mr. Truman signed a measure authorizing the U. S. maritime commission to operate or charter until next March 1 government-owned ships of which about 250 are tankers. About 60 of the tankers are in domestic operation.

Unless the law had been passed operation of government-owned ships in the merchant marine would have ended June 30. Government-owned ships now are being operated by Congress extended the maritime commission's authority on the grounds that the ships are needed for transport of oil, coal, grain and other supplies.

Meanwhile, a three-point program of congressional action to remedy the oil shortage was under way in the wake of a navy department warning that oil reserves for the fleet are dangerously low.

The senate continued until July 15 the government's controls over exports and imports.

Alvin F. Weichel (R. O.), of the house merchant marine committee, proposed strict controls on all petroleum exports. And Chairman Owen Brewster (R. Me.) called for a probe of the entire oil situation.

Appropriation Bill Sent to White House

Congress sent to the White House its first regular 1945 appropriation bill—the \$12,402,688,671 grant for the treasury and post-office departments.

With the start of the new fiscal year just three days away, the house and senate face a load of 11 major supply bills.

To guarantee continuance of salaries to government employees and benefits to veterans, the senate approved a resolution authorizing departments to keep spending at present rates until action on the appropriations is completed.

Favorable House Action Expected on Succession

The house was expected to act favorably next week on senate-approved legislation to make the House Speaker next in line for the presidency after the vice president.

Chairman Earl C. Michener (R. Mich.) said he was confident his house judiciary committee would approve the bill and he predicted it would have overwhelming support from the full house.

The senate passed the measure yesterday, after rejecting an amendment that would have given the presiding officer of the upper chamber precedence over the Speaker of the House.

Vote Fraud Probe Hits Another Snag

The proposed senate investigation of alleged vote frauds in Missouri's "purge" primary encountered another snag.

Chairman Homer Ferguson (R. Mich.), of a senate inquiry subcommittee, looking into the justice department's conduct of the vote fraud probe, failed to get approval of his colleagues to report to the full committee.

Senator Pat McCarran (D. Nev.), a member of the subcommittee, contends that a senate inquiry would merely duplicate the efforts of the FBI. But Mr. Ferguson said he might report to the full committee Monday, even without Mr. McCarran's approval.

Street Cleaners Return Refuse

PALERMO, Sicily, June 23 (U. P.).—The street cleaners had their revenge today.

Their pay increase demands rejected, they paraded downtown yesterday, redistributing all the garbage and refuse they had collected the previous day.

Bellaire Methodist Plans Lawn Service

The third annual lawn concert of Bellaire Methodist church will be held at 8 p. m. tomorrow on the church lawn, 4902 Crittenden ave.

The chancel and chapel choirs of the church will furnish music assisted by Mrs. Hazel Jochum, Charles Hollowell and Esther Carter Schilling, soloists. Betty Bowers will accompany the choir.

La Porte Sailor Drowns

PHILADELPHIA, June 23 (U. P.).—A La Porte, Ind., sailor, veteran of the Byrd Antarctic expedition last winter, lost his life yesterday in an attempt to "jump ship" by swimming the Delaware river.

16 Accused as Pro-Reds Fight Contempt Conviction

WASHINGTON, June 23 (U. P.).—Sixteen leaders of the joint anti-fascist refugee committee, alleged Communist-front outfit, prepared today to fight to the supreme court, if necessary, their contempt of congress conviction.

A federal court jury found them guilty yesterday after only 65 minutes of deliberation. Charges resulted from their refusal to supply the house un-American activities committee with records of their organization.

The defendants, all New Yorkers, include Dr. Edward K. Barsky, surgeon; Howard Fast, novelist; Herman Shumlin, Broadway and Hollywood producer-director.

Carl Aldo Marzani, discharged state department employee, got one to three years in jail for defrauding the government by concealing communistic ties in order to stay on the federal pay roll.

Slain Gangster's Ex-Wife May Help Solve His Murder

Calls Siegel 'Thoughtful Father, Fine Husband'; Questioned for an Hour by Los Angeles Police

By PATRICIA CLARY, United Press Staff Correspondent
LOS ANGELES, June 23.—Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel's romances with the childhood sweetheart he married and a red-haired divorcee who gave him a gold key to her home were described today to police investigating his gangland slaying.

Mrs. Esther Siegel said she and Siegel "both felt as though our divorce had never taken place." Police said she gave them information that may help solve Siegel's murder.

Charles Hill said the dapper gang leader was violently in love with his sister, red-haired, mysterious Virginia Hill.

Hill was present when Siegel was assassinated a week ago last night in the palatial Beverly Hills home his sister rented. He said Miss Hill always had plenty of money but he didn't know where she got it.

Quarrelled Frequently
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Brush Pile Saves Baby As Mother's Car Crashes
NOBLESVILLE, Ind., June 23.—A 4-month-old baby girl cooed contentedly in her home here today, with only a scratch to show for an auto crash in which she was catapulted from a car.

The infant, Joy Hamblin, daughter of Mrs. Lora Hamblin, was found nearly buried in a pile of brush several feet away from her mother's car, which had been struck by a car driven by Earl Rushon.



GANGSTER'S EX-WIFE

Mrs. Esther Siegel, former wife of Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel, who gave valuable information on her former husband to Los Angeles police.

Link Siegel To Drug Ring

Million-Dollar Racket Revealed by Police

MEXICO CITY, June 23 (U. P.).—A police official hinted today that Benjamin (Bugsy) Siegel may have been murdered in Hollywood because of his leadership of an international narcotics gang.

The gang helped build the drug traffic between the United States and Mexico into the largest in the world.

Ignacio Mancilla Vega, assistant chief of the judicial police of the federal district and territories, said Siegel might have been killed as a result of a fight within the gang, known as the "million-dollar ring."

Siegel's ring controlled most of the drug traffic between the United States and Mexico, Mr. Mancilla said. Mexico has become the chief supplier of the United States, the largest user in the world.

Deported to Italy

Charles (Lucky) Luciano, former U. S. gang leader, tried unsuccessfully to gain control of the narcotics traffic more than a year ago, Mr. Mancilla said. Luciano, deported to Italy from the United States, was later deported from Cuba also at U. S. request.

He said he doubted that Luciano or his agents had anything to do with Siegel's murder.

Luciano came to Brownsville, Tex., from Cuba and established contact with Chinese poppy growers in Mexico, Mr. Mancilla said, but failed to make a deal.

Mexican and U. S. police had known about the activities of the "million dollar ring" for several years, Mr. Mancilla said. Like other gangs, it reportedly used various types of transportation—airplanes, boats and automobiles.

Mr. Mancilla said the head of the ring in Mexico was Max Cossman, alias Max Weber, alias John Smith. Mr. Mancilla's jurisdiction includes Baja California, which adjoins the state of California.

Green Cool to Bid For Labor Bloc

WASHINGTON, June 23 (U. P.).—C. I. O. President Philip Murray's bid to form a united labor bloc for the 1948 elections and fight for repeal of the Taft-Hartley law today appeared doomed to failure.

A. F. of L. President William Green took a dim view of the new C. I. O. attempt to establish joint political action with the A. F. of L. and the railroad brotherhoods.

Mr. Green refused to comment directly on the proposal Mr. Murray announced last night. But he pointed to his statement of two days ago as expressing the A. F. of L.'s position on the issue.

Other Unions Shy
Mr. Green said then that the A. F. of L. would have a parallel political action program to repeal the Taft-Hartley law and defeat members of congress who voted for it.

But he emphasized that it would not be a program carried on jointly with the C. I. O.

Mr. Murray's plea for united action failed to win immediate approval from other branches of organized labor as well.

Doesn't Mean Third Party
The C. I. O. president made it clear that he was not thinking in terms of a third political party.

The C. I. O. executive board approved suggestions for a general labor law. It ordered the C. I. O. strike protest against the new P. A. C. strengthened and organizing intensified, and endorsed the East and Gulf coast strikes of shipyard workers for higher wages.

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U. A. W. Outlines Ford Pension Plan

7-Cent Pay Boost Granted Workers

DETROIT, June 23 (U. P.).—The United Auto Workers Union (U. A. W.) today disclosed some details of the precedent-smashing pension program—the first in the automotive industry—incorporated in a new wage and contract agreement with Ford Motor Co.

The new agreement was announced jointly yesterday by Richard T. Leonard, U. A. W. vice president and director of the union's Ford department, and John F. Bugas, Ford director of industrial relations.

The new agreement provides a flat pay boost of 7 cents an hour, retroactive to last May 31, when the 1946 contract expired. The company also agreed to pay an additional 8 cents an hour for the workers into the pension fund.

Follows Pattern
The total worked out to the 15-cent hourly pay hike which had set a pattern for mass production industries and settled 1947 wage demands of their unions.

However, Mr. Leonard told a press conference the union considered the increase as amounting to 21 cents. He said that in addition to the 7 cents raise, the company would be paying 14 cents hourly for the pension on an annual basis and for financing past benefits of Ford workers.

Mr. Leonard said the company would contribute \$200,000,000 needed for payment of actuarial benefits for the past 10 years, and spend \$20,000,000 a year to maintain the plan.

He said employee participation would amount to 2 1/2 per cent deductions from paychecks of workers making less than \$3000 a year and 5 per cent from those earning more.

Can Retire at 65
Workers will be eligible for retirement at 65. An employee who left the company after a minimum of 15 years would still be eligible for a pension if he had not withdrawn his accumulated benefits.

Martin Siegel, U. A. W. pension consultant, said pensions drawn at retirement would total between 50 and 90 per cent of workers' average earnings.

Ammunition Order Bolsters China

SHANGHAI, June 23 (U. P.).—China's feeling that she had been abandoned by the United States was turned into elation today by the state department announcement that surplus rifle ammunition would be sold to the Chinese government at a cut rate.

The Chinese had felt they had been let down when Secretary of State George C. Marshall announced the deadline for the half billion dollar export import bank loan to China would be allowed to expire.

But today, pro-government afternoon papers printed a Washington United Press dispatch on the arms sale under a banner equalling the one on the story about the loan.

The papers played up the angle that the sale signified support by the United States of the national government in its fight against communism.

Other observers, however, claimed the announcement was an "alibi," because it emphasized munitions were made for Chinese rifles before the end of the war under the lend-lease program, but had not been sent to China because of a shortage of shipping space.

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Confusion Reigns At Paris Over Marshall Aid Plan

Europe Thinks 'Support' Means Financial Aid; Countries Drawing Up Budgets

(Continued From Page One)

fully toned down official report," was published by U. S. embassy, press dispatches said.

But as matters stand, no one knows whether our top men are thinking in terms of \$15 billion or \$30 billion, or some smaller amount or no money at all.

And whatever administration is thinking, there's no assurance Republican congress will appropriate another time for foreign relief. (So far only \$100 million of Greek-Turkish aid fund has been made available—from RFC funds.)

FISCAL YEAR ends in two more days and for first time in history, not one appropriation bill for upcoming year has been made law.

It's because house appropriations committee is being tough about yielding to slightly more generous senate. First conference report to emerge indicates house is winning. It was treasury-post office bill and only \$15 million of \$40 million added by senate stayed in.

Look for house to win on interior appropriations and most of others. Meanwhile, government service is demoralized. Some offices are closed down as employees go on payless furloughs. Others limp along. Employees who remain are jumpy waiting for dismissal slips.

High Meat Prices

THOSE MIDWEST floods will take dollars out of your pocket for months to come through high meat prices.

Loss of corn means higher costs for feeding hogs and cattle. And less feed to place extra pounds on livestock, hence less meat for consumers.

Floods are one cause of recent spurt in meat prices but real effect of short corn crop this fall won't show up in meat till next year.

Though corn has chance to make comeback with favorable growing weather in July and August, crop has been damaged severely. Early frost could hand this country its first real crop disaster since 1938 drought. We've had seven years of exceptionally high per-acre yields. Agriculture experts are keeping their fingers crossed.

Look for some black market in fuel oil and gasoline in Midwest shortage areas. Already some dealers are offering contracts for fuel oil only to those who buy their particular brand of burner—at high price.

DESPITE LENGTHY senate hearings there'll be no new federal radio legislation this year. Senators and industry are far apart on what's good for radio, may not work out something even by 1948.

New Tax Bill

POLITICAL OVERTONES will help decide whatever's done about getting new tax-cut bill through congress.

Senate Republicans show scant enthusiasm and Democrats say it's because if bill is passed now, the Democratic side might grab much of credit. That's because enough changed votes to override new veto would have to come from Democratic senators. Actually, it's senate Democrats who are now pushing idea of tax revision effective Jan. 1.

Mr. Truman's fiscal advisers differ sharply on what he should do if new bill reaches him. Those who think he should sign are same ones who wanted him to base veto solely on argument that tax reduction was premature.

PRESIDENT will sign rent-control bill Monday, will send message criticizing it. Legally, he has until Wednesday to act, but present rent control expires at midnight Monday.

REPUBLICAN congressmen are critical of their senatorial colleagues for not calling up wool-bill veto for vote. "Abject surrender," they call it. Senate started work on substitute bill instead.

Recession 'Over'

BUSINESS NOTE: Fifteen prominent businessmen, from shirt manufacturers to rolling-mill operators, met at dinner here last week with Senator Taft's committee on the economic report.

Your entire satisfaction is our thought in the service we render. Electric refrigeration in our air-conditioned system insures comfort regardless of outside temperature and humidity.