

World Report

U. S. to Hurl Lie at Czech Spy Charges

May Demand Quick Release of One Accused Embassy Worker

By United Press

The United States today planned a blistering denial of Czechoslovak charges that five Americans ran a spy ring from the United States embassy in Prague.

The United States also was expected to demand the immediate release of one of the accused men, Samuel Mervin of New York, who was arrested by Czech police.

A long Czech note to the

United States said Mr. Mervin, three other American men and Louise Schaffner of Lancaster, Pa., described as "unusually attractive"—organized a spy network that reached far across Czechoslovakia.

U. S. Scriffs at Charge

The note said Czech members of the ring were equipped with radios, presumably to relay reports from distant parts of Czechoslovakia, which contains the largest known uranium deposits in the Communist world.

American officials, scoffing at the charges, linked the latest cry of "spy" with a growing purge of Czech and Polish government officials.

In addition to Miss Schaffner and Mr. Mervin, the other Americans involved were Walter Birge, St. Louis; Isaac Patch, Gloucester, Mass.; and Spencer L. Taggart. All except Taggart were regular embassy employees.

Czechoslovakia diplomatic sources charged today that the arrest of a U. S. embassy employee and expulsion of another American on spy charges was in reprisal for the failure of Czechoslovakia to win a United Nations Security Council seat.

Commentators recalled that a Communist officials and the press had attributed the Czech defeat in the United Nations to behind-the-scenes manipulation by the United States. The Americans vote went to Yugoslavia.

Other world developments:

Prague

Outbursts of violence, mass arrests of priests and intimidation by Communist officials in the south Bohemian diocese of Budweis were reported, today in a Catholic Church document.

The document, one of a series in which the church has expressed itself regarding its struggle with the Communist government, called the Budweis situation one of "sharpened terror."

Fairbanks

Gold fever hit Alaska again today as prospectors reported finding nuggets "the size of peas" in the territory's biggest strike since the Klondike—rush of 50 years ago.

The claim, kept secret until the news leaked out yesterday, was discovered this week in the Yukon river a bare nine miles south of the Arctic Circle.

Hong Kong

Reports from Kunming in southwest China said today the famed Burma Road was being repaired to supply Nationalist troops for a last stand along the Indo-China and Burmese borders.

Reliable reports here said that French authorities in Indo-China were negotiating with the Nationalists to form an anti-Communist buffer area in southwest China.

Sofia

The Communist government has created a special seven-man court for a mass spy trial which informed sources said today would include many cabinet ministers and high government officials.

Recent releases by the government press office indicated the trial would follow the same pattern as the one in Hungary in which László Rajk, No. 2 Hungarian Communist, was condemned to death.

London

British Navy rescue vessels off the Welsh coast sent up a ring of flares and other signals around the abandoned and sinking British freighter Cydonia today to prevent other ships from colliding with the derelict.

The 3598-ton Cydonia struck a mine last night in Cardigan Bay

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Attend the

Mental Health Forums

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October 24

YOUR JOB, YOUR FAMILY, YOUR LEISURE

AND YOUR SANITY

Moderator: Walter Leckrone, Editor of The Indianapolis Times

Panel: Monsignor A. R. Fussenegger, Director, Catholic Charities.

Mrs. Bert C. McCommon, President, Indianapolis Parent-Teachers Association.

E. H. Adriance, Personnel Methods Manager, Eli Lilly & Company.

John H. Greist, M. D. Psychiatrist.

October 31

"ALCOHOLISM—FLIGHT DOWN A BLIND ALLEY"

Moderator: Howland Allen, Personnel Director, L. S. Ayres & Company.

Panel: A Member of Alcoholics Anonymous

John L. McNells, former Municipal Court Judge.

William H. Book, Executive Vice-President, Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce.

Phillip B. Reed, M. D. Psychiatrist.

November 7

"PEACE OF MIND—GOAL OR ILLUSION?"

An address by

Richard Frank, M. D. Psychoanalyst, Psychiatrist and Lecturer of New York City.

Admission: 60¢ per session

Caleb Mills Hall, Shortridge High School

Mondays at 8 p. m.

Around the State— Pilot Crashes, Cuts Thumb On Fence

Barbed Wire Causes Injury on Return to Wreck for Parachute

BROOKVILLE, Oct. 22 (UPI)—An Air Force captain surveyed a well—bandaged and slightly throbbing thumb today and vowed to be more careful climbing a barbed wire fence the next time he crash-lands a plane.

Capt. Joseph Gillis, about 35, cracked up his P-51 trainer when a low gas supply, plus rain and fog forced him to seek a landing in a corn field about two miles south of here yesterday. He was on a flight from Romulus Field, Mich., to Cincinnati.

He walked away from the crash, which caused only minor damage, then cut his thumb climbing the fence on his way back to the plane to get his parachute.

BRAZIL, Oct. 22 (UPI)—Services were planned today for John J. Jones, 75, former coal miner who served two terms as mayor of Brazil. He died here yesterday.

Mr. Jones worked in nearby mines when only 14, later took up bricklaying and became a contractor, served two terms as city councilman and later was elected mayor. He was survived by his widow and one son.

Employees of the Frank Foundries of Muncie were notified today that they cannot collect unemployment compensation because the company shut down.

An Indiana appellate court ruling reversed a finding of the State Employment Security Division's board of review that the workers were eligible for benefits.

The high court ruled that a labor dispute was responsible for the plant closing a year ago last spring, and that the law denies jobless pay in such cases.

FT. WAYNE, Oct. 22 (UPI)—Donald L. Heitrich, 31, was under \$4000 bond today pending arraignment on a charge of misappropriating more than \$2500 in funds from the Columbia City post office.

Federal authorities charged that Heitrich made fictitious debit entries in the money order cash book over a seven-month period this year. He was indicted Oct. 14 by a federal grand jury in South Bend.

TERRE HAUTE, Oct. 22 (UPI)—Armand J. Trail, 44, Gary, considered himself lucky today. He fell beneath a moving freight train last night at a street crossing. But his only injuries, according to Union Hospital attendants, were three mangled fingers on his left hand.

BLOOMFIELD, Ind., Oct. 22 (UPI)—Coroner Sam Rotman of Greene County has returned a verdict of suicide in the poison death of Jesse E. Roberts, 43, prominent resident of Bloomfield.

Mr. Roberts was found dead in his cabin along Richland Creek Thursday night by Sheriff William Branstetter, who had been asked by relatives to look for Roberts. He had been missing more than eight hours.

MUNCIE, Oct. 22—The Indiana Sheriff's Association will institute court proceedings to get a ruling on Indiana Attorney General McManaman's ruling specifying that sheriffs be elected to four-year terms in all Indiana counties next year.

Delaware County Sheriff W. Peter Anthony, president of the Association, said Friday that the test case will be that of Edwin Kirkpatrick of Greenfield, Hancock County sheriff. Sheriff Kirkpatrick is serving the first year of a two-year term.

The Association has set aside \$5000 to get a court test and plans to take the matter to the Indiana Supreme Court. An attempt will be made to get a ruling on every possible situation involving Indiana's sheriffs, and there are several of them.

The Indiana Alcoholic Beverage Commission announced today that the beer wholesaler permit of the City Beverage Co., Inc., Logansport, had been renewed.

The permit expired last May 1. The ABC said it had been renewed "following a lengthy investigation and hearing."

The commission said there was "evidence of violations of the alcoholic beverage act (but) such violations were not serious enough to deny the permit."

However, the announcement said, "the commission . . . felt that the commission of the applicant was operated very loosely in the past."

The permit was issued to Howard Schmidt, owner of the company.

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