

World Report— Czechs Permit U. S. Clerk to See His Boss

Embassy Employee Held in Spy Case Granted Brief Interview

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28 (UP)—A U. S. embassy clerk, Samuel Meryn, spoke today for the first time since his arrest on spy charges with an embassy representative who said he looked fit and well.

The interview was limited to 15 minutes, and the discussion to purely personal matters. The Czech officials ordered every word translated into their language.

Carroll Parry, chief of the embassy consular section, said Mr. Meryn beamed and threw out his arms to greet his visitor. Mr. Meryn had been held incommunicado since he was seized by Czech police nine days ago.

Mr. Parry said Mr. Meryn showed no signs of any mistreatment. He said the prisoner wanted food and clothing, especially a clean shirt, and asked for a blanket "because he said last night had been cold."

Expects Visit of Wife

The Czechs allowed Mr. Parry to leave a bundle of clothes and food for the prisoner. Mr. Parry said he asked permission for Meryn's Austrian-born wife to visit him in Pankrac prison, and it was indicated that a visit would be arranged.

Mr. Parry said Mr. Meryn was under investigation by the state prosecutor's office. He said Meryn's being tried on spy charges.

He said Mr. Meryn would be permitted to select his defense lawyer from a list which would be submitted to him if he is tried.

Other world developments:

Bogota

Political fighting in Columbia is raging unabated in the countryside, with 176 persons killed in one 24-hour period in Valle Province alone, reports reaching Bogota today.

These reports said 150 Liberal followers, including women and children, were killed at Caltan when Conservative opponents from the surrounding Bugalagrande area set fire to the town.

Another 25 were killed in similar fighting at Villanueva, also in Valle Province, the reports said.

Confirmation on the latest reports of casualties would bring the number of those killed in recent weeks to more than 600.

The fighting is an outgrowth of political passions raised in campaigning for the Nov. 27 election.

Prague

President Klement Gottwald has freed 127 Catholic priests from prison after they pledged their loyalty to the Communist regime and requested pardons, the official news agency reported today.

The freeing of the priests was reported four days after the Catholic board of bishops announced that it had authorized priests to take a qualified oath of allegiance to the government and to accept the higher salaries it offered them.

In an official statement by the council, made public Tuesday, the bishops announced their willingness to resume negotiations with the state on their months-long struggle.

Rome

A high Yugoslav official said today that Georgi Dimitrov, Bulgarian premier who died in Moscow of a lingering illness early this year, was a strong supporter of Marshal Tito's anti-Kremlin views.

The official is Josip Vidmar, president of the People's Council of the Federal Assembly (parliament) of Yugoslavia and chief Yugoslav delegate to the world committee of the partisans of peace. The committee is meeting in Rome.

Asked whether Dimitrov died of natural causes in the hands of the Russians, Mr. Vidmar said ironically: "He was indeed a very sick man."

Tokyo

Officials of the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission revealed today that they reserve the right to "review and confirm" information in dispatches by Allied correspondents on the commission's work.

The commission is working on data for the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Hong Kong

The former gay Nationalist capital of Canton has turned into an austere city with night life and western dress virtually banned after two weeks of Communist rule, a traveler arriving here reported today.

The informant said the city has returned to peace and order but there are undercurrents of discontent with the new regime.

The Cantonese, he said, are indignant at both the Nationalists and the Communists, although they do not express it publicly.

The Nationalists' destruction of Pearl River Bridge in which hundreds were killed and the overnight evacuation of the city are the causes of Cantonese resentment, he said.

Lake Success

An Israeli spokesman said today that the Tel Aviv government sees no reason to continue negotiations with the Arabs through the United Nations' Palestine Conciliation Commission.

The statement appeared to take the problem of peace in Palestine out of the United Nations' hands.

The spokesman said the Israeli government felt that indirect negotiations through the United Nations commission during the past several months in Lausanne, Switzerland and New York had proved largely fruitless.

Berlin

Wilhelm Pieck, president of the Soviet Zone republic, said today that all German prisoners of war

Navy Chief Holds Firm on Denfeld Action

Secretary Denies Outfing Is Reprisal In Unification Row

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28 (UP)—Navy Secretary Francis P. Matthews today rejected suggestions that he back down on his decision to oust Adm. Louis E. Denfeld as chief of naval operations.

Despite snowballing congressional protests, Mr. Matthews told newsmen he is standing pat on the ouster move.

"I intend to go through with this," he said. "That's why I asked the President for the authority to do it. I don't ask for things just for the sake of asking."

The Navy secretary joined Defense Secretary Louis Johnson in denying that Adm. Denfeld's removal was in reprisal for the four-star admiral's congressional testimony, attacking unification as now administered.

Denies Vinson Charge

Mr. Matthews said the action was "not in the slightest" a reprisal, as has been charged by Chairman Carl Vinson (D., Ga.) of the House Armed Services Committee and other Congressmen.

Adm. Denfeld's testimony before Mr. Vinson's committee, Mr. Matthews said, was "not the deciding factor" in the ouster.

Mr. Matthews said a new chief of naval operations will be recommended to President Truman as soon as possible. But he said there was little chance of a recommendation coming over the week-end.

Mr. Johnson will not be back in the capital until Monday and Mr. Matthews is going to clear his choice for the post through the Defense Secretary.

Sherman Favored

Although Mr. Matthews would not discuss the matter of a successor to Adm. Denfeld, Vice Adm. Forrest P. Sherman, commander of the Sixth Task Fleet in the Mediterranean, was known to have the inside track.

Mr. Matthews did say that he talked to Adm. Sherman "several times" when the three-star admiral was here earlier this month during the House committee's investigation of unification and the Navy-Air Force row. Adm. Sherman has favored unification in the past, did not testify.

The three-star admiral reached Beirut, Lebanon, aboard the cruiser Des Moines, yesterday but had only "no comment, no press statement" in answer to reporters' queries.

An aide said that Adm. Denfeld himself believes Adm. Sherman is to be his successor.

Adm. Denfeld was given the week-end to consider whether he would step out of the Navy or take one of the undisclosed four-star "important" posts offered by Mr. Matthews.

It was speculated that command of all naval forces of the Atlantic Pact was among the posts offered Adm. Denfeld.

Belgrade

BELGRADE—The Communist Party newspaper Borba said today that more than 200 high government officials in Bulgaria were arrested in the past few days in a purge of anti-Communist elements.

The paper said Bulgaria was carrying out "mass purge" of Communist Party members and officials who disapproved of the government's pro-Kremlin policy.

Jury Votes Death In Iowa Slaying

WORKER TO HANG FOR
KILLING HOUSEWIFE

WATERLOO, Iowa, Oct. 28 (UP)—A district court jury today found Edward J. (Buddy) Beckwith guilty of the mutilation and slaying of a pretty Morrison, Iowa, housewife and recommended that he be sentenced to hang.

The jury of eight women and four men returned its verdict after more than 28 hours of deliberation.

Beckwith was charged with mutilation slaying of Mrs. Irma Jean Stahlhut, 22, Morrison, Iowa, last June 22. Her body was found in the tavern cooler, mutilated and nearly nude.

Beckwith, 29, Morrison factory worker, was accused of the murder after being captured in a corn field near his home, June 23. He admitted the slaying in a signed statement to Grundy County Sheriff John Meyers.

The prosecution had asked for the death penalty, which a jury can set if the defendant is found guilty of first-degree murder.

Under Iowa law, the judge must follow the jury's recommendations.

Beckwith's attorneys contended he was insane on the day of the crime and put Dr. Max Witte, superintendent of the State Mental hospital, on the witness stand to back up their argument.

Dr. Witte examined Beckwith shortly before the trial started Oct. 19.

However, two psychiatrists testified for the State that Beckwith was not insane.

Beckwith's mother who had attended every session of the trial, was not in the courtroom when the jury returned its verdict. Her husband, the dead woman's husband, was present.

Three Honors Won By Sigma Nu

Sigma Nu, Butler University social fraternity, today held three honors in Homecoming contests at the university.

Judges chose the fraternity house at 655 N. Hampton Drive as the best-decorated. Sigma Nu also received trophies for the best fraternity float in the parade yesterday and wood-gathering at the bonfire last night.

Pi Beta Phi Sorority received a trophy for house decorations at 831 W. Hampton Drive. Honorable mentions were awarded to Delta Tau Delta Fraternity at 935 W. 46th St. and Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority at 825 W. Hampton Drive.

Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority took top honors also in the float contest.

Public Service Co. Announces Dividend

R. A. Gallagher, president of the Public Service Company of Indiana, today announced regular quarterly dividends will be paid Dec. 1, to stockholders of record at the close of business Nov. 15.

The dividends were 40 cents per share on the company's common stock and 87½ cents on the 3½ per cent preferred stock.

Maio Ponders 'Leaf' Equipment

Brochures on leaf pick-up equipment are the latest interest of Street Commissioner Tony Maio. Some pieces, using suction hoses to pull leaves from gutters into trucks, are designed to be operated with two men only.

Current methods require five men per crew, to handle truck sprayers and sweeping equipment. Trucks are loaded by hand with shovels. Twenty-five trucks delegated to the job are running as high as 200 loads of leaves a day. About 2000 loads have been taken from the north side alone.

But the big problem facing the commissioner is money. The city can't afford the suction equipment.

Fire Razes New Church

LITHIA SPRINGS, Ga., Oct. 28 (UP)—A revival congregation's bucket brigade last night failed to save the First Baptist Church from destruction by fire. The church was dedicated only a week ago, after being built at a cost of \$65,000.

Officer Foils Bandits at Site Of 'Strip-Tease Robbery'

SHARPSHOOTING POLICEMAN KILLS 1 GUNMAN,
CAPTURES 2, IN WEALTHY NEW JERSEY HOME

PATERSON, N. J., Oct. 28 (UP)—Gunmen paid another visit to the bandit-plagued home of Eugene Lamont, whose blond wife said the last brigands stripped her to the waist and admired her operation.

This time the blazing gun of a dead-shot policeman broke up over a pool table to turn the light on a big burly fellow came out of the shadows and said: "Stand where you are or I'll shoot."

Patrolman Villekoup killed the gunman, identified as Vincent Avolina, 24, of Woodhaven, N. Y., with one shot through the heart. Patrolman Villekoup said he whipped out his revolver and fired with his arm straight out.

"You have to do that when you're shooting in the dark," he said.

Deserio and Tumbulo came out of the next room using Mr. Lamont as a shield, and started to ward the door.

"If you do that I'll fire," Patrolman Villekoup said, then stepped forward and disarmed them.

Their companion in the car outside escaped.

The Lamonts attracted attention after the alleged strip-tease robbery last April 7.

In court, Mrs. Lamont accused Harold Koenigsburg, 21-year-old former boxer of Bayonne, N. J., ripped her housecoat down to her waist during a two-hour break-fast time robbery.

She testified, "he pulled it down over my back and shoulders and then said, 'Oh, an operation. Was it a caesarian?' I told him, 'No, it was an appendix.'"

The jury acquitted Koenigsburg on his testimony that Mr. Lamont hired him to stage a phony robbery so Mr. Lamont could collect from an insurance company.

Hey, Buddy, Wake Up for Your Picture



Says one twin to the other: "Wake up, sleepy head, we're having our picture taken." These twin boys, weighing 7 pounds 14½ ounces each, were born Wednesday to Mrs. Thomas S. Patterson at Peoples Hospital in Akron, O. Mrs. Patterson came to Akron from her home in Venezuela specifically to have her babies.

Boy, 3, Reported 'Excellent' After Rescue From Well

3-Hour Effort of Scores of Workmen Saves Texas Child From Fate of Kathy Fiscus

AUSTIN, Tex., Oct. 28 (UP)—Three-year-old Bobby Gow awoke in Brackenridge General Hospital today with only a "slight skin abrasion" on his forehead to show for his three hours of terror 14 feet down in an abandoned irrigation well.

A fireman and two helpers fought their way into the earth, at times, and prevented a tragedy such as that which took the life of little Kathy Fiscus, who fell into an abandoned well at San Marino, Cal., last April.

Scores of workmen aided in the operation as hundreds of spectators stood by silently, praying for the little sandy-haired boy.

Physicians at the hospital said Bobby was in "excellent" condition after rescue workers last night pulled him from the eight-inch well casing in the backyard of his home.

Bobby plunged into the well while playing with his brother and sister, Jimmy, 5, and Peggy, 12.

Moments after Peggy reported to her parents that "Bobby fell in the well," firemen and construction workers wheeled giant earth-moving machines into the yard of the Gow's modest frame house just outside Austin's city limits.

Cut Through Casing

Bobby's whimpered cries spurred the rescuers on as they dug a crater alongside the shaft, then cut through the well casing to release him.

He was wedged in the pipe with one hand stretched upward and the other pinned against his body. A line, dropped over his extended hand, was held by rescuers during the operation to keep him from slipping deeper into the well.

The boy's father, James, knelt beside the shaft throughout the work to free his son.

Marshall Miller, a district fire chief working in the pit with two helpers, said the boy would cut a little bit now and then, but his father would tell him, "settle down, down there, we'll get you out in a few minutes," and then he would settle down.

Mr. Miller was the first to reach Bobby.

"We cut a hole above the boy in the pipe," he said. "We used a chisel and a hammer to begin with, then we finished with heavy tin snips."

When the hole was large enough, Mr. Miller reached a hand through the opening and grasped Bobby's extended hand.

Spectators surged against the police lines holding them back as the boy's tiny figure was lifted from the well. A gasping sigh of relief swept across the crowd as they realized Bobby was still alive.

Murray Lays Plans to Oust Left Winger

CIO Chief's Fight on Red-Tinged Unions to Dominate Convention

CLEVELAND, O., Oct. 28 (UP)—CIO President Philip Murray prepared today to toss all Communist-tinged unions out of his labor organization to prevent communism from capturing the American labor movement.

Mr. Murray will tell the CIO convention meeting here Monday that the American Communist Party is operating "a program of destruction... which the CIO wants none of," informed sources said.

Will Promise Action

In a report already prepared, the union chief will promise action to oust left-wing affiliates.

Mr. Murray will accuse the Communist Party of working through the left-wing unions to capture the entire labor movement. He will point out that the Communists' plan is evidenced by their "vicious and diabolical campaign" against his acceptance of a "no new wage increase" policy for the striking United Steelworkers Union.

The main question before the CIO convention will be the issue of supporting national CIO policy on all issues.

Has Ouster Power

Informed sources said Mr. Murray would tell the convention that the CIO executive board had both the power to charter unions and to kick them out of the CIO.

This came as Mr. Murray prepared to meet with leaders of two CIO unions, Longshore Boss Harry Bridges, and Cocks and Stewards President Hugh Bryson, this afternoon.

Sources close to Mr. Murray said the two left-wingers would not budge Murray from his position that the left-wingers either conform to CIO policies or face convention action.

Director's Wife Knows Who's Boss



Movie director Nicholas Ray has solved the problem of how to make his wife, Gloria Grahame, take orders without question during working hours. He made her sign a contract that makes him the boss, and no arguments about it, from 8 a. m. until 6 p. m. After that, of course, nature takes its course.

Life Sentence Given Click Leaves Case Still Tangled

Lobaugh, Christen Also Await Disposal Of Legal Snarls in State Crime Cases

FT. WAYNE, Oct. 28 (UP)—The electric chair at Indiana State Prison still waits for Allen County courts to untangle a series of rape-slaying and kidnapping cases involving three men charged.

Circuit Court yesterday checked off one of many charges with the sentencing of Franklin Click, 30, to life imprisonment for the kidnapping of a Ft. Wayne housewife.

He is one of three suspects who have confessed to one or more murders. Another suspect, Ralph Lobaugh, already has had seven stays after pleading guilty to two of the three murders with which Click is charged.

Lobaugh also has been found guilty of a third rape-murder, that of Dorothy Howard. Gov. Schricker granted him a virtually indefinite stay of execution while the courts seek out the truth.

But a third man, Robert Christen, convicted for the slaying of Miss Howard, has appealed for a reversal of his life sentence since Gov. Schricker has announced that no one will go to the chair until the courts clear up the slayings.

Student Press Group Elects

FRANKLIN, Oct. 28 (UP)—Tom Sargent of Muncie Central today headed the student division of the Indiana High School Press Association.

He was elected last night at the closing session of the association's annual convention on the Franklin College campus.

Other student officers chosen were Patty Finn, Lafayette Jefferson, vice president; Loretta Gough, Southport, secretary, and Alice Van Osdol, Peru, executive board member.

Advisers' division officers elected were Ann Arnold, Peru, president; Ben Ervin, Anderson, vice president; Ione Colligan, Indianapolis (Manual), secretary, and Helen Hinchshaw, Hobart, executive board member.

Still Seek Identity of Truck Crash Victim

State police today sought aid in identifying a man burned to death in a truck crash northwest of Kokomo last Monday.

The driver of the truck, George Metcalfe, Fort Wayne, also was killed instantly.

State police described the unidentified passenger as 24 to 35 years old, with light sandy hair. He wore a brown wool jacket and a leather belt bearing a buckle with a cowboy design.

The crash occurred on Ind. 35 at 1:30 a. m. The truck, operated by Field Transportation, was en route from Indiana Harbor to Cincinnati.

Logansport Loses PRR Division Status

LOGANSPORT, Oct. 28 (UP)—The Pennsylvania Railroad will abandon this division next Tuesday, consolidating it with the Chicago and Columbus, O., division.

Officials who announced the change said only 25 of the 1500 employees will be moved, however, and that the change will not affect the shops, engine house or terminal operations.

That part of the division beyond Anoka, five miles east of here, to Bedford, O., will be absorbed into the Columbus division and the Chicago section will take the balance.

AN 'OFF-SIDE TRAGEDY' READING, Mich., Oct. 28 (UP)—Marlin Potter, football coach at Reading high school, will be out of action for a while. One of his players missed a block in scrimmage and crashed into the coach, breaking his leg.

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