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Weather

WINSTON-SALEM and vicinity: Considerable cloudiness and warmer today, with occasional rain over the vicinity. High, 55. (Weather data on Page 16.)

24 PAGES PRICE FIVE CENTS

Russians Ignore U.S. Protests On Convoy Block Route From Berlin

BERLIN (AP) — The Soviet army ignored three strong protests Tuesday and the second day held up the passage of an American military truck convoy bound from isolated Berlin to West Germany.

U.S. Army authorities here viewed the incident as the most serious pressure on allied life-line since Moscow launched its campaign last November to block the Western powers out of West Berlin.

The four open trucks, loaded with jeeps, and five American soldiers have been stopped at the East German autobahn check-point at Marienborn, just across from the West German border, since early Monday morning.

The Russians demanded the right to inspect the cargoes.

Followers

Corp. Richard C. Masiero of West Chester, Ohio, was in command of the convoy, followed standing U.S. Army orders and waiting to let the Russians do any more than look at the manifest papers.

He ignored Soviet suggestions he receive the trucks back to West Berlin along the 116-mile autobahn, the only road link between West Germany and this city's Western districts.

Masiero and his men, muffled in blankets, slept in their trucks for the second cold night, determined to stick it out. They got hot food from a U.S. Army officer.

He was allowed to cross from the West German checkpoint at Hohenstein last 190 yards to the border, and talk with them.

No Chance to Talk

But a reporter, who drove from Berlin, said the Russians showed him through so fast and across the West German border that I didn't have a chance to talk with them.

The trucks were parked beside the highway.

Corp. Masiero the stranded Americans are Pfc. Benjamin G. Peoples of Theodore, Ala.; Pfc. Elwood F. Johnson of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Sp4 James E. Cook of Harlestone, S.C., and Pfc. Robert L. Love of Plain City, Ohio.

American authorities here said the blocking had been started by the Russians to create an incident—possibly timed with secretary of State Dulles' talks in London, Paris and Bonn to hammer out a unified Western policy on Berlin and Germany.

Make Protests

Three U.S. Army protests, and demands for release of the convoy to continue to West Germany were made to Soviet army authorities in Frankfurt and Berlin.

The Soviets have said only that they will take the matter under consideration," said a U.S. Army spokesman after the third protest was taken to Red Army headquarters in East Berlin by Findlay Burns, political adviser to the mission there.

A Soviet spokesman at the headquarters told a reporter the incident was prepared and presumably will be referred to the Hohenstein chairman.

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Nearly Buried Alive

Fellow-workers and firemen work to free Robert Raisley, 46, who was pinned in a cone-shaped clay bin yesterday at a brick company at New Brighton, Pa.

Raisley was covered by dry clay for a few seconds, and he was unable to get out of the bin.

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McElroy Predicts Missile Equality

WASHINGTON (AP) — By December the United States will have a few more ICBMs than the Russians, Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy said Tuesday.

McElroy told this to the House Armed Services Committee, some of whose members have voiced expressed confidence that Russia will be pulling away from the United States in the missile race.

The House chief said this country will have a few more ICBMs by July "and a few more by December 1959, which will be within a few missiles one way or the other of what he would expect of the Russians at the same time."

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Hewlett Is Selected; New House Speaker; Wins in Close Race

WASHINGTON (AP) — Carl Albert of Oklahoma was elected Speaker of the House in a close race Tuesday.

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Rock 'n' Roll Stars Die in Plane Crash

MASON CITY, Iowa (AP)—Three rock 'n' roll singing idols whose records and appearances stirred millions of teen-agers, were killed Tuesday in the crash of their plane in a cold, snow-covered Iowa field.

The four-plane crash within minutes after taking off in light snow from the Mason City airport. The pilot also was killed.

The three singers were Buddy Holly, 22, of Lubbock, Tex.; Ritchie Valens, 17, of Los Angeles; J. P. "Big Boy" Richardson, 23, of Beaumont, Tex.; Roger Peterson, 21, of Clear Lake, the pilot, was also killed.

The troupe with which the trio had been entertaining had an estimated 1,100 teen-agers and their parents at a ballroom in nearby Clear Lake Monday night.

The plane, chartered from the Dwyer Flying Service of Mason City, was to take the three singers to Fargo, N.D., in advance of the troupe's engagement there.

The others went by chartered bus. Holly, Richardson and Valens, who passed to popularity among the teen-agers in the past several years, chartered the plane in order to take care of advance arrangements.

Authorities tentatively blamed weather conditions for the crash. Besides the snow, the temperature was 18 degrees, and a southerly wind was gusting at 35 miles an hour.

The left wing apparently struck the ground first and flew off. Pieces of wreckage tipped off as the plane plowed across the field and piled up against a wire fence.

The plane came down about five miles northwest of the airport on the North Iowin farm.

Hollywood trade sources said the combined record sales of the three rock 'n' rollers was in the millions.

Valens, whose real name is Richard Pennell and who left a San Fernando, Calif., high school last year to seek a career singing, just recently finished his first movie picture.

Jack Frye Killed In Traffic Crash

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Jack Frye, 54, former president of Trans World Airlines, was killed Tuesday night in a traffic accident at an intersection south of Tucson.

Sheriff's deputies reported Frye was thrown 40 feet after his car crashed into the side of a car which pulled into the road in front of him.

Gates Quits As Secretary Of The Navy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thomas S. Gates Jr., secretary of the Navy, resigned Tuesday.

President Eisenhower picked Eisenhower who leaves the navy post June 1.

In a letter to the President, Gates said that for some time he has considered it necessary to resign from his post in the navy.

The president said he accepted Gates' resignation with deep regret.

A formal nomination of Gates as successor to Gates will be submitted to the Senate soon, the White House said.

The White House said Fred A. Gowder, assistant secretary in charge of materiel, will be nominated to succeed Gates.

Cecil P. Milne, now deputy assistant secretary of defense for supplies, will be nominated to succeed Gowder.

Gates has been civilian head of the Navy for two years. Prior to that he had served as undersecretary since 1953.

In accepting Gates' resignation, Eisenhower wrote: "Your departure from government service will be a great loss to the Department of the Navy and the Department of Defense but also to the administration."

He defined aerospace power as a role rather than a position, and he could operate in the earth's atmosphere and space above it.

These weapons include aircraft as well as missiles. He called for a broad program which "must be conducted as a matter of national policy."

McElroy said "we must concede superiority in certain fields, specifically in the thrust of rockets."

"As for intercontinental missiles, we have enough thrust to lend them 3,500 miles—or into Russia."

"Space Monkeys Steal the Show" WASHINGTON (AP)—A pair of monkeys visited Congress Tuesday but they didn't get a chance to do anything.

Morgan Says 'No Puppet' For Anyone

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Senators Give Nod To Morgan Gets President Pro Tem Post

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Addison Hewlett of New Hanover was chosen Tuesday night to serve as speaker of the House in the 1959 General Assembly.

Hewlett won out over Rep. Carl Venters of Onslow by a 63 to 51 vote in a Democratic caucus held on the eve of the formal convening of the Assembly at noon Wednesday.

Hewlett supporters began shouting the victory as soon as the count, called out by tellers, passed the number 58—the figure they thought was needed for a majority.

All 118 of the House's Democratic members were present at the final of the closest speakership race in years. The vote totaled 114 because neither Hewlett nor Venters voted.

Hewlett made a slow progress through the speaker's race, stopped by embraces and handshakes from well-wishers every step.

Vote Made Unanimous

Venters was one of the first to congratulate Hewlett. Then, Venters moved that the vote be made unanimous by his opponent, and the Democrats agreed with shouts.

Across the way in the Senate, Sen. Robert Morgan got the nod as speaker of the Senate by a vote of 26-11 in another close race.

Hewlett and Morgan will be elected Wednesday at the Assembly's convening session. Since there are only four House Democrats and one in the Senate, it will be a mere formality.

Hewlett told the House Democrats "our responsibility to North Carolina is to give the best government we can. I know right in every way we can."

Venters called the campaign "a good clean fight all the way." For his part, Hewlett said he was "feeling no regret. We will cooperate in every way we can."

U.S. Rep. George Uzzell of Rowan, one of the House's veterans, presided over the caucus.

Rep. John Kerr Jr. of Warren placed the name of Hewlett before the caucus. He called the nomination "a man of ability and character."

The nomination of Venters came from Rep. Floyd Phillips of Durham, who said Venters' experience as chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission qualified him as speaker's chair.

Civil Rights Bill Hearings Are Planned

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Constitutional Rights subcommittee will begin hearings March 18 on at least two major civil rights bills.

The date was announced here yesterday by Sen. Thomas C. Hennings Jr. (D-Mo.), subcommittee chairman.

Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) is a member of the group, a party they will take the matter under consideration," said a U.S. Army spokesman after the third protest was taken to Red Army headquarters in East Berlin by Findlay Burns, political adviser to the mission there.

A Soviet spokesman at the headquarters told a reporter the incident was prepared and presumably will be referred to the Hohenstein chairman.

The conviction was allowed past the checkpoint outside Berlin, then was stopped at the West German border.

ABC Stores For Orange County

HILLSBORO (UPI) — Orange County Hillsboro yesterday gave approval to the establishment of ABC stores. Complete reports from ABC stores completed 3,319 favoring the measure and 222 opposing it.

The University of North Carolina community of Chapel Hill and this county seat gave a mostly sufficient vote to override a generally "dry" vote in the remainder of the county.

Chapel Hill voters favored the measure, 1,633 to 617, and Hillsboro, 1,623 to 307. In favor: Carboro and nine other small precincts voted against the stores.

The last vote was in Orange County where voters in favor of ABC measure was defeated by 800 votes.

Ervin Is Member Of Subcommittee

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Judgeship Offer Made To Hewlett?

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Rep. Children Comes From Gaston In Ambulance To Vote for Hewlett

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