

BLISS

(Richard C. Hottelet substituting;
LT in Africa.)

Ray C. Bliss today held his first solo news conference as Republican National Chairman - designate. In it, he said first that the Republican Party is not dead, and second that it will not be a minority party for long.

His job, said Bliss, will be to ~~find~~ find qualified Republican candidates and to help them get elected. But he said he will not make many public speeches because - "I have always felt that it is my duty to build up others - not Ray Bliss".

One thing more - Bliss expects to have a "relatively free hand" in running the GOP party organization. He said that Republican running mates Barry Goldwater and William Miller - as well as retiring Chairman Dean Burch - have already given him their promise. They will not make any statements beyond those they made yesterday in Phoenix - at least for the time being.

PLANES

Two supersonic American fighter planes were shot down over Laos today. One pilot has been rescued. A search is underway tonight for the other. The Defense Department in Washington refused to comment on their mission. But there are reports that the two planes were flying combat missions against the Communist line-of-supply - from North Viet Nam through Laos to South Viet Nam. Since last June six U.S. reconnaissance or fighter jets have been shot down by ground fire in Laos.

WARSAW

~~According to a source~~ From Communist Poland
come reports that
today a U.S. Air Force attache has been asked to
leave the country - allegedly for spying. The officer
was identified as Colonel George Carey Junior, forty-
four, of Arlington, Virginia.

According to Secret Police, Colonel Carey
took illicit photographs of a Polish jet fighter base
during a visit there on January the fourth, and then
tried to resist arrest. Colonel Carey calls the
charges "blatant lies". He says he didn't even have
a camera with him.

[Ironically, Colonel Carey's companion
during the alleged picture-taking session - a Canadian
military attache - was not accused of anything, and
was not ordered to leave the country.]

Lowell Thomas tonight has a report on the brother of an old friend of his

HELLO EVERYBODY

Lawrence of Arabia - Lowell

I have just discovered one of the most interesting men of our time. A great archaeologist. As many of you know, Lawrence of Arabia had a number of brothers. Two were killed in the First World War. His youngest brother Arnold Lawrence - still living - a distinguished British archaeologist, with whom I have kept up an intermittent correspondence and who has been and there over the years. Recently, I suggested that it would be interesting if we could have a session of all the survivors of the Arabian campaign of World War One. The British officers and soldiers who fought with the Arabian army - a group of fantastic men. Just back from three months of archaeology study in remote parts of Greece, Arnold Lawrence tells me that so far as he knows, nearly all of his brother T. E. Lawrence's associates have now vanished. Vanished from the scene with the exception perhaps of one minor who lives somewhere in Saudi Arabia. Professor Arnold Lawrence speaks about dealing with the ruins of Yugoslavia. As an archaeologist, his interest is in the ruins of antiquity, not in the ruins of modernism. He says - that is the ideal building material for Communists. Lawrence, everything looks equally ancient.

LAWRENCE

HELLO EVERYBODY:

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Solong. . . .

IMMIGRATION

Following a strategy meeting with Mr. Johnson today, Democratic Congressional leaders indicated that ^{prime} ~~major~~ ^{today} provision/in President Johnson's immigration message top priority will go to two other Presidential proposals, ~~action~~ to Congress.

The President's proposed program would scrap the forty-year-old quota system based on national origin. Preference would be given in certain cases, but only to those prospective immigrants whose skills are badly needed or whose families are already in the United States.

Mr. Johnson's new program is almost identical to one presented to Congress by President Kennedy in 1963. That proposal died in Committee.

The outlook for this one: Good, but not certain.

CONGRESS FOLLOW IMMIGRATION

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 U.N. since the Christmas recess.

First on the agenda - a program of health
 But U.S. and U.N. officials both emphasized that the
care for the elderly, financed through Social Security -
 amount is far short of the total Russia must pay if it is to
otherwise known as Medicare. ^{Next}
~~Summit~~ - a program of
 escape loss of its vote in the General Assembly. Even with
federal aid to distressed Appalachian States - part of
 today's payment, they noted, the Russian obligation still
the President's war on poverty.
 stands at about sixty-one million.

After that, said Speaker of the House
 Moreover, most of that is Russia's bill for peace -
John McCormack, "every effort will be made to
 keeping missions to the Congo and the Middle East, which
expedite action" on the President's entire program, for
 the Soviets say they will never pay.
~~xx:Grant Societyx~~.

RUSSIA

The Soviet Union today paid another three and one-half million dollars on its U.N. debt. That makes a total of nearly five million that the Russians have paid into the U.N. since the Christmas recess.

But U.S. and U.N. officials both emphasized that the amount is far short of the total Russia must pay if it is to escape loss of its vote in the General Assembly. Even with today's payment, they noted, the Russian obligation still stands at about sixty-one million.

Moreover, most of that is Russia's bill for peace-keeping missions to the Congo and the Middle East, which the Soviets say they will never pay.

SCHWEITZER

Dr. Albert Schweitzer, Nobel Prize winning humanitarian, philosopher and medical missionary, will celebrate his ninetieth birthday tomorrow in deepest Africa.

But Dr. Schweitzer has already indicated that he will spend the day pretty much as he has spent the past half-century. That would be in the continued service of his native patients, at Lambarene Hospital, in the Gabon Republic.

In fact, when asked if he had any birthday message for the world, Dr. Schweitzer today said no - "I'm just a good old doctor in Equatorial Africa".

Now a word from Sir Noel -

EAGLE

The British aircraft carrier Eagle arrived at Singapore today - to further bolster Malaysian defenses against a threatened Indonesian attack. At the same time, additional British and Commonwealth troops were assigned to the tense Borneo border, where Indonesia has been reported massing troops.

In Jakarta, meanwhile, President Sukarno of Indonesia said that he has no intention of starting a war against Malaysia. However, he added ominously that if attacked, "the Indonesian people will strike back".

VACATION

Planning a winter vacation? Then you may be interested in this next item.

In London today, there was a special listing of vacation suggestions in a holiday ad section of the Communist Daily Worker.

One advertisement proclaimed the virtues - of Bulgaria - "gay, romantic and sunny." Another described Poland as "unforgettable". And East Germany boasted of its special appeal for "art lovers". For the more affluent, there were even Caribbean cruises. To Cuba - where else?

But Moscow's Intourist Organization laid it right on the line. The Soviet Union, said Intourist, is the place "for the best holiday in 1965 - by sea, air, rail, coach or car".