

FRI. JULY 12, 1968
(Dallas Townsend)

Good evening everybody.

The man wanted by New York police in connection with last night's fatal shooting of three men in the Bronx has surrendered in North Carolina. He is identified as Robert Rogers, alias Robert Pew, aged thirty-one. The man gave himself up quietly to a sheriff's deputy in Burlington, North Carolina. With him was a man who gave his name as Henry Rogers, brother of the suspect. He told police that his brother wanted to surrender - because, said Henry Rogers, he is the man who shot those people in New York. The identification has been verified with New York police.

POST OFFICES

Postmaster General Marvin Watson has ordered an immediate freeze on the extension of city mail delivery service to new subdivisions. Also, the post office department will close down two hundred and fifty fourth-class post offices August second - and nearly one hundred more on August 29th. These moves are made necessary, according to Watson, because of manpower restrictions imposed by the new tax bill.

POLITICS

Nelson Rockefeller has arrived in Miami, and Florida's Governor Claude Kirk has thrown his support to the New York governor. Kirk says the objective is to get the Republican Presidential nomination for a man who can win. Rockefeller is in Miami to meet with Florida's delegates to the Republican National Convention, and he hopes - win their support for his bid for the nomination. Governor Kirk - who has hopes of winning the Republican Vice-Presidential nomination - flew to Baltimore earlier in the day to escort Rockefeller to Florida. Maryland's Governor Spiro Agnew is preserving his favorite - son status for the time being.

Vice-President Humphrey cancelled still more of his weekend western campaign schedule today because of his bout with the flu, and One-Hundred-degree fever. Earlier, he had called off a trip to California and now he has cancelled appearances in Minnesota and North Dakota. In Washington, he issued a statement calling for reconciliation between East and West as one aspect of future U.S. foreign policy.

GALLUP

According to the latest survey by the Gallup Poll, Senator Eugene McCarthy - the underdog aspirant for the Democratic presidential nomination - holds a slim lead over both Republican contenders, Nixon and Rockefeller. Vice President Humphrey leads Nixon also, but is tied with Rockefeller at thirty-six percent each. The poll shows that third party candidate George Wallace has increased his percentage of votes since mid-June. He would capture eighteen per cent of the vote in a McCarthy-Nixon race, and twenty percent if McCarthy opposed Rockefeller. So says the Gallup Poll.

DEBATES

The prospect for a 1968 version of the 1960 Kennedy-Nixon debates on television has died in the House commerce committee. CBS News correspondent Roger Mudd reports that the committee - in closed session - decided informally to take no action on a joint resolution which would have suspended - from August 31st to November fifth - the Equal Time provisions of the federal communications law. This would have enabled the three networks to provide free time to the major party presidential candidates for a debate - without a requirement to give equal time to the minor candidates.

PHONES

Federal mediators are planning new efforts to settle the electrical workers strike that threatens to drive the Democratic National Convention out of Chicago. Both sides have set a meeting for tomorrow morning. The strike has been going for sixty-five days, and picket lines have kept supervisory personnel from entering the International Amphitheatre where the Convention is scheduled to begin August Twenty-Sixth. Party officials in Washington say they can wait about two more weeks before having to move the convention from Chicago. Both Union and Company spokesmen deny they are under political pressure to reach a settlement.

HIJACK

A young man who says he's a Pennsylvania school teacher, hijacked a single-engine charter plane at gunpoint today and forced the pilot to fly to Havana. The plane, a Cessna Two-Ten, was on a charter flight from Key West to Miami when its lone passenger, the hijacker, stuck a gun at the head of the pilot, Cletis Massangill. There was no immediate word as to when the plane would be allowed to return to the United States. This was the Seventh plane hijacking this year. Five were commercial airliners and the others were chartered aircraft.

VIETNAM

Two Viet Cong terrorists - riding a motorbike, shot and killed an American serviceman in Saigon today. The hit-and-run attack touched off a full-scale alert in the city where a new Communist offensive has been expected for weeks, but none developed today. On the other hand, allied forces are reported mounting offensives of their own in the Saigon area and the Mekong Delta.

Three captured American pilots failed to arrive in Vientiane, Laos, tonight on a plane from Hanoi, although North Vietnam had announced the three were being released "for humanitarian reasons." However, there is speculation that the fliers could have left Hanoi on a flight going in another direction.

SILVER

A peculiar shortage reported from Toronto. Silver coins have become so scarce there that merchants are offering soft drinks, free, to customers who bring in ten dollars worth of silver change. Reason for the shortage - ~~is~~ international smuggling of silver. Many Canadian dimes and quarters being smuggled into the U.S. - for melting down - because the silver now is worth more than the face value of the coin.

Warren....

ENDING

A businessman who climbs mountains - not so unusual - but today police blew the whistle on him in New York. Les Buckland was climbing down the outside of a Manhattan hotel. He says he and nine other businessmen are going out to the Hindu Kush section of Afghanistan to climb a 22-thousand-foot peak. And today, to get in practice, he started making his way down the outside of the Summit Hotel in midtown Manhattan. Whereupon up stepped the law - warning Buckland and the hotel manager that they would be arrested and charged with descending without a permit - a misdemeanor - unless Buckland quit at once, so he did .

Good Night.