

Refugees

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(Washington, D.C.)

When President Eisenhower confers with Congressional leaders of both parties on January first - he will give "top priority" to the refugee problem. So stated by Vice President Nixon - after talking with Mr. Eisenhower ^{the} at White House today.

^{Mr.} Vice President Nixon told newsmen - that no final decision will be reached - until after he reports back to the White House - after inspecting the refugee reception center at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, tomorrow. The Vice President ^{added} ~~and say~~ that there are three possible ways to admit more Hungarian victims of Russian brutality;-

increase the present quota of 21,500; - or establish a quota with no definite ceiling; or, finally, we could take a certain percentage of all refugees, without reference to numbers. ^{TP He went on to say that} ~~One thing Mr. Nixon repeated,~~ we should not concentrate on the Hungarians alone - because there are many thousands of victims of Russia - who have been waiting for years - for permission to come to this country. The point is, that changing the immigration laws - is up to Congress. And ^{the President} ~~the President~~ hopes to get new refugee legislation this year - with the conference of January first at the White House - as the starting point. Meanwhile, ^{he} ~~the President~~ has told government officials ^{that} he is ~~very~~ worried about the way public contributions to Hungarian relief - are falling behind ^{what is needed.} ~~schedule~~ The Red Cross, and other agencies - still not getting enough for their emergency funds. Otherwise, the movement of refugees by air and sea - is going along smoothly. The military air transport service reporting, that more than a thousand arrived by plane on Christmas Day. And the head of

Northwest Airlines, Donald Nyrop, announces that his firm will carry refugees free - from Camp Kilmer to their new homes - if the government approves.

I myself am in Washington for the opening here in the Nation's capital of the Cinerama production The Seven Wonders of the World. This premiere being sponsored by the Red Cross for the benefit of the Hungarian refugees, with top figures in Washington attending.

— the Kadar government —
Red Hungary is not eligible for a loan from the World Bank. ~~So says the~~

World Bank President Eugene Black *has* *ed* issuing a statement *ing* to deny that the Kadar

regime ~~government~~ in Budapest is asking the World Bank for a loan - Black *ing* pointed out

that Hungary is not a member of the Bank, and therefore is not eligible to borrow

from it. He added, that even if Hungary were eligible and did ask for a loan - he

would not recommend allowing the appeal - because he does not want to hand money

over to a Communist regime that is a puppet under the control of Moscow.

Estonia

A dispatch from Stockholm states that the Russians - have disbanded the army of Estonia. The Kremlin, attempting to suppress a possible uprising - in that captive nation on the Baltic. According to this report, Khrushchev and Co. - became frightened about what might happen in Estonia - after the Poznan riots and the Hungarian revolt. The Russians, fearing an outbreak in the Estonian Army. So ~~the~~ at Army ^{has been} broken up ^{and} Estonian officers, ^{have been} deported to other parts of the Soviet empire ^{all} Estonian troops ^{by} replaced ^{with} Russians.

Pravda

The leading newspaper of the Soviet Union - criticizes other Communist publications - for getting away from the party line. Pravda, attacking ~~these~~ ^{other Red} ~~papers~~ ^{publications} for what it calls "un-Marxist views." According to Pravda, one Russian literary magazine ^{has been asking} ~~has asked~~ for "creative freedom" - and an end to Communist party control ^{over} of Soviet writers. Pravda mentions the official publication of the academy of sciences - a journal called "Problems of Philosophy," and charges that the professors of philosophy who write for this journal - have taken an independent stand in some cases - even suggesting that there may be fallacies in Leninism. ^{They} Pravda finds ^{matters still} ~~the situation~~ worse - when it turns to publications in the captive nations of eastern Europe. ^{The no I} ~~The~~ Soviet news organ, furious with some of these - because they even reject the dictatorship of the proletariat.

PRISONERS

A thousand more Japanese soldiers are back home - after eleven years in Soviet slave labor camps. All captured in Manchuria - during that one preposterous week - when Russia was allowed to enter the war against Japan. Moscow claims that this group is the last of the Japanese prisoners of war - but Tokyo insists that 10,000 are still missing. Some of the repatriates told newsmen that when they left a slave camp in Siberia they were replaced by Hungarians - victims carried off recently. A couple of the Japanese prisoners say they knew two Americans while they were in Russia - but were unable to give their names.

GOLD

From Moscow - a story of a gang of gold thieves.

A pattern of robbery by comrades of the workers'

paradise - a pattern extending from the gold mines to the

once romantic city of Tashkent in Central Asia. Seventeen

in the gang. Some of them, laboring in the mines for the

glory of the Soviet state. Only they were not content

with that and started stealing the gold - smuggling it

past the guards - and turning it over to confederates who

transported it to Tashkent - where it was sold, undercover

The Moscow dispatch says that the gang got away with a

couple of hundred dollars worth before the plot was

discovered. One of the gang caught smuggling it - at

the mine. The police put the heat on him; he informed on

the rest - and now all seventeen are in prison in Siberia

- sent away for long terms.

Indonesia

In Indonesia, the government of Premier Ali Sastroamidjojo - received another blow, when one political party walked out of the coalition - that has been ruling the sprawling island republic of the far Pacific. ^{So, now there is} ~~The~~ rebellion within the Indonesian Parliament - ~~now~~ added to the military rebellion ~~of Colonel Satrio~~ on Sumatra. Apparently, the feeling against Sastroamidjojo is spreading. The political party involved ^{which calls} ~~calling~~ itself "defenders of the Indonesian Republic" - ^{and is backed} ~~is~~ a powerful force in Jakarta ~~and is backed~~ by the army.

Salvage operations in the Suez Canal are ready to begin following an agreement between Egypt and the United Nations. The agreement, worked out in discussions between the Secretary General of the UN, Dag Hammarskjold, and Egyptian Foreign Minister, Mahmoud Fawsi. The Foreign Minister gave in after the Secretary General announced he had received word that all Israeli troops would be

withdrawn from Egypt. Instructions were immediately sent to General Raymond Wheeler, head of the salvage project ordering him to begin moving the sunken ships that now block the canal. The General has set up his headquarters in a house

American

overlooking the canal ~~and~~ ^{from where} he says ^{he and} his staff will function, ~~in the house,~~

~~at the house~~ The salvage ships have been standing by, and now they ^{will} go into

operation, ^{so we hear,} ~~at General Wheeler's command. How long will it take to clear the Canal?~~

~~There's still no word on that. All we hear is that salvage work will go ahead as~~

~~rapidly as possible to get the vital artery open.~~



Israel

Israel is asking ~~our government~~ ^{us to do something about} ~~to help stop~~ ^{Israel's} Arab raids along ~~the~~ border.

The note from Tel Aviv, delivered to the State Department yesterday. The note charges that Egypt is violating the United Nations cease fire resolution - by sending more of the so-called Fedayeen suicide squads to create incidents in Israel. Israel claims that there have been nineteen raids this month - mostly from Jordan - but instigated by Nasser.

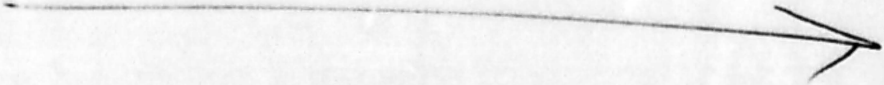
BUDGET

Officials here in Washington predict a heated debate within the Defense Department - when the President's budget message goes to Congress next month. The reason? The budget will call for a reduction of the number of wings in our Air Force. The current goal of the Air Force - 137 wings. President Eisenhower's new recommendation we hear will be 10 less than that. To save money. And then the administration will argue - that the strength of the Air Force will be greater than ever - because of new weapons, such as guided missiles.

The Air Force is expected to oppose the reduction - until such new missiles are ready for full scale use.

Dust Bowl

The Agriculture Department announces that our mid-west ~~is~~ ^{is} facing the danger of - another dust bowl. Two million acres, turned into powder by the worst drouth on record ^{land still} ~~with~~ no adequate protection against erosion by the wind. Another 29 million acres - liable to be damaged by the same combination of drouth and wind. The state hardest hit - Kansas. Lesser damage in Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.



But the outlook is not ^{all} ~~entirely~~ bleak for ^{the} ~~our~~ farmers. The Agriculture

Department has earmarked \$750 million - under the soil bank program for next year.

The money, to go to farmers who do not plant their full quota of staple crops -

cotton, corn, rice, wheat, and tobacco.

DESEGREGATION

Desegregation in the south advanced another step today when negroes were allowed to sit next to white passengers on buses in four cities. In Birmingham, Alabama, a Protestant minister led a delegation of Negroes onto a bus in which they all sat wherever they could find seats - strictly desegregated. But there was some violence - and the police arrested several negroes for violating the old Jim Crow law. Two other Alabama cities, Mobile and Montgomery - also had integration on buses - without violence. The same at Tallahassee, Florida, although this time some white passengers walked to the rear of the buses and sat by themselves.

Another story about buses - comes from Cleveland but this is a story of a criminal - a passenger, going berserk - killing the driver and another passenger. Wounding five others before he was shot to death in a gun battle with the police.

DEATHS

A new record for fatalities on our highways - 712 killed in the past four days. The National Safety Council notes that nature was partly to blame - rain, snow, and fog, making roads dangerous right across the country. But here were also those two old evils for which there is little or no excuse: "Too much drinking, and too many people in a hurry - speed!"

SATELLITE

Within the next week, our naval research laboratory will receive - a couple of spheres - resembling gold plated basket balls. This announcement refers to the artificial satellite to be hurled into outer space next year. The spheres mentioned are models of the satellite. Each 20 inches in diameter - weighing only about 21 lbs. The interior structure - made of magnesium - to keep down the weight. Each surrounded with a film of gold plate - to help retain heat. The satellite itself is still under construction. We are told that it ought to be ready soon - ready for its trip into the stratosphere and beyond where its instruments will plot things like temperature and cosmic rays - as it whirls around the earth at 18,000 miles an hour. However, building the satellite is the easiest part of the job. The hardest part - the rocket that will carry it to a region in space three hundred miles above the earth.

Fire

That fire at Malibu, California, may have been caused by an arsonist.

But fire officials say they're not sure of anything yet - except that this is the worst inferno to hit Malibu since 1935 - when 100,000 acres were razed, at a cost of \$5 million dollars. The fire now raging is eating up 500 acres an hour - about 10,000 acres, already gone. The high wind, whipping the flames forward - despite the efforts of 900 fire fighters. Property damage, estimated at \$2 million. Among the casualties - a number of homes belonging to persons famous in the movie world. And a thousand refugees, driven from their homes. Christmas of 1956 - not ~~very~~^{so} merry, for the inhabitants of the fashionable beach playground - California's Malibu.

FROGMEN

A Canadian frogman who tried to swim 50 miles down the St. Lawrence River - didn't make it. Louis Lourmais, giving up after 12 miles. Lourmais works as a frogman - on the St. Lawrence Seaway - exploring underwater at the sites of the great canals and dams - that will open the river to ocean going vessels. Lourmais' idea was to promote skin-diving - by swimming 50 miles downriver from Montreal. But he found it too tough. At this time of year, the St. Lawrence Valley is a cold region covered with mist; - and its current rushes toward the Gulf of St. Lawrence - at around 20 miles an hour. A combination too much for Frogman Lourmais. Henry, 12 miles of bitter cold and that 20 an hr. current and Frogman Louis Lourmais had enuf.