



5 SIGNALS MESS DINNER HELD

The annual mess dinner for the officers of the 5 Signals Regiment was held Saturday night at the Charlottetown Hotel. Guest speaker was Lt.-Col. J.D. Stewart, Provincial secretary who spoke on his trip to the North American defence headquarters in Colorado Springs last year. Special guests were Lieutenant-Governor F.W. Hyndman and Lt.-Col. J.G. Turney, CD, Command Signal Officer, who presented the GOC. Seen above left to right are Col. K.M. Johnston, Officer Commanding 5 Militia Group, Lieutenant-Governor Hyndman, Lt.-Col. Turney and Lt.-Col. E. A. McCarey, commanding officer, 5 Signals Regiment.

Nuclear Might For Canada Claimed Available In Hour

By GRAHAM TROTTER
EDMONTON (CP) — Prime Minister Diefenbaker spoke confidently about the outcome of the next federal general election and spelled out Conservative government policy on a number of issues Saturday in a whirlwind visit to the heartland of Social Credit.

"We look forward with anticipation to the election, however near or far it is," he told the windup banquet of the Alberta Progressive Conservative convention.

Earlier, at a press conference, he indicated that if war broke out Canadian forces would be armed with nuclear weapons.

"Should war come, are we going to arm Canadians with bows and arrows?" he asked. They he noted that Canada's 65 Voodoo interceptors and Bomarc missiles will be more effective with nuclear warheads.

Asked whether this country could get these warheads fast enough from the United States in the event of war if Canada did not already have them, he said he could not reply for security reasons. But he referred to a recent report that the warheads could be made available in 30 minutes to an hour.

PEACE GOALS

At the same time, the prime minister reiterated that disarmament is Canada's chief international goal. "We don't want to do anything that will increase the nuclear family of nations."

He dealt with a number of other subjects at the press conference.

1. Trade with Cuba: Canada's desire was for multilateral trade to the widest possible extent. "We are not concerned with the ideological views of the countries with which we trade."

Canada was not strengthening Cuba by trading with the Communist-oriented Caribbean republic in all but strategic materials. "They are not getting the dollars; we are." The trade balance was heavily in Canada's favor.

2. Federal budgetary deficits: Since 1957 the Conservative government had provided an extra \$300,000,000 to the heavy burden of the hospital insurance program, there would have been no deficits. "We'll be meeting the deficit situation in the very near future."

3. A second trans-Canada highway: Consideration must be given to this even before completion of the present Trans-Canada Highway work.

Later, at the Conservative banquet, Mr. Diefenbaker was in fighting trim in an hour-long address to some 800 delegates, detailing how his government had kept its promises and got the economy rolling again through its export and national development policies.

The Liberal, he said, had sung "a calamity chorus for four long years." They had been "talking unemployment as policy and little else since 1957."

Now Opposition Leader Pearson was saying "things are getting better, but we've got to watch."

"That's all they're going to do," Mr. Diefenbaker declared. "While I don't like elections—frequently—I do look forward to placing our record of national development before the people of Canada."

For Mr. Diefenbaker, who returned to Ottawa after spending 26 hours in Edmonton, it was his first visit to the Alberta capital in about two years.

Church Alarm Shown As Italy Goes To Left

By FRANK BRUTTO
ROME (AP) — It is called "apertura a sinistra," and it means an opening to the left.

Italy is stepping through that opening, after 16 years of middle road government, in a new collaboration between the ruling Christian Democrat party and the weaker Socialist party.

The Roman Catholic Church, Italy's state religion, shows signs of concern. Italy's Western allies are watching, though they have been assured of continued loyalty to NATO.

For the Christian Democrats and Premier Amintore Fanfani, it is a calculated risk.

For Pietro Nenni, the grizzled Socialist leader, it is a victory. His political career has involved him in the rise and fall of fascism, Spain's civil war and Italian communism's bid for power. Now he and his Socialist party will have the strongest position they ever held in Italy.

NEED HIS HELP

The new government will depend upon Nenni's Socialist votes for leverage to put across a broad program of social and economic reform. The Socialists have 86 seats in the chamber of deputies, where the Christian Democrats' 271 seats are 27 short of a majority.

Fanfani, who has long sought the turn to the left, speaks of a five-year program that includes nationalization of nuclear and electric power.

The platform also provides for expansion and improvement of the school system and for tightening of the tax structure.

Social reforms in some ways have not kept pace with the post-war boom that has given Italy the highest standard of living in its history. The boom has emphasized the spread between the prosperous and the poor.

Nothing has shown this more dramatically than the migration of hundreds of thousands of little farm owners and farmhands from their parched acres in Calabria, Apulia, Abruzzi, Campania and Sicily in the south to the big cities of Genoa, Milan and Turin in the north.

POPE SEEKS REFORM

Pope John has pleaded for social reforms and a more even distribution of wealth. It is no secret that the church would prefer to see this accomplished without socialist co-operation.

The Vatican's L'Osservatore Romano and Il Quotidiano, organ of Italian Catholic action, both have said: "No one can be a good Catholic and at the same time a true socialist."

But Vatican sources say the church has adopted a wait-and-see attitude. It wants to avoid the threat that all-out opposition to the leftist turn might split the Christian Democrat party and possibly make Palmiro Togliatti's Communists the most powerful party in Italy.

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MEET CONTINGENT ON PROGRESS

President Suggests June As Summit Target Date

Insists On Start At Lower Level

Icebreakers Battling Very Heavy Gulf Ice

SYDNEY (CP) — Overworked Canadian Marine Service icebreakers are fighting a grim battle against Gulf of St. Lawrence ice packs which are threatening to become the heaviest in recorded history.

Captain Ed Kelso, ice operating chief here, said Sunday the three icebreakers under his direction were struggling to free 10 big freighters trapped throughout the gulf in ice that ranged up to 30 feet thick.

He said one of the icebreakers may be called back here Monday to assist the CNR ferry William Carson into port at nearby North Sydney. The Carson arrived from Port aux Basques at 3 p.m. Sunday and almost was at a standstill in the harbor entrance by nightfall. She will make another attempt at daybreak Monday to enter the harbor under her own power.

Captain Kelso said ice conditions already had equalled last winter's grim record and were "bidding fair" to get even worse.

"If we don't get a warm spell soon there'll be ice around here in June," he predicted.

With only three icebreakers at his disposal, the captain said it was becoming increasingly difficult to cope with the heavy volume of shipping plying the ice-choked gulf.

The icebreakers usually escort freighters almost continuously from the time they enter the icefield off Cape Ray, Nfld., until they reach their destinations at various gulf ports.

Captain Kelso said that under present conditions, a round trip escort could go as high as 800 miles.

The escort job is a hazardous business at best and icebreakers can operate only in daylight hours.

SNOW IS BIG TORONTO JOB

TORONTO (CP) — More than 1,000 men on Toronto's snow removal force, tired, cold and wet after 12 hours on the job, staggered home for a short rest at noon Sunday before resuming the job of clearing streets of thousands of tons of snow.

Grant Taylor, streets division director, said the men were sent home "because they were out on their feet. They badly needed rest before going out again Sunday night."

The men have been fighting against the heaviest February snowfall in 26 years. A total of about 20 inches has fallen since the first of the month.

In the latest storm, late Friday and early Saturday, about five inches of wet snow, driven by winds of near gale force, was dumped on the city.

Headlight - high drifts were piled up by the winds and many cars were abandoned.

Castro Appears At Baseball Park

HAVANA (AP) — Cuban Premier Fidel Castro Sunday put in an unannounced appearance at a Havana baseball park.

He went on television between games of a doubleheader and later took a turn at the plate.

Castro's disappearance from public view two weeks ago had made him something of a mystery.

Truro Boy Dies From Injuries

TRURO (CP) — Paul Dryden, nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dryden, died Sunday of injuries received when he was struck by a taxi while tobogganing on a street near his home Friday.

The boy underwent an emergency operation in hospital here and died while en route by ambulance to hospital in Halifax.

Businessman Dies Suddenly

HALIFAX (CP) — John D. Wood, prominent Halifax investment dealer, died Sunday while shovelling snow at his home. He was 58.

Mr. Wood was Halifax manager and a director of Nesbitt Thomson and Company Limited of Montreal and president of Nova Scotia Textiles Limited of Windsor, N.S.

Seized Ship Is Expected To Be Freed

SAINT JOHN, N.B. (CP) — The 1,800-ton converted lake vessel Sandland, placed under arrest here Feb. 16 pending settlement of a claim for \$17,334 by H.B. Willis Incorporated of Charlottetown, is expected to be freed to sail for Sheet Harbor, N.S., Tuesday.

Legal representatives for the Willis company and the 37-year-old vessel's owner, Skipper J.S. Farnsworth of Sherbrooke, Que., and associates, said Sunday a settlement is expected shortly.

The company claims the vessel's owners owe it money for loss of cargo and other costs caused by delays. Registered in Nassau, the vessel brought a shipment of fertilizer here from Venezuela.

Ottawa Area Blazes Claim Lives Of Four

OTTAWA (CP) — Three young children and a 37-year-old man died in two Ottawa fires Saturday night.

The children were burned to death when fire believed started by an exploded space heater swept through a wooden, three-family dwelling at Gattineau, Que., 10 miles east of here.

Dead are Rolande Girard, 3, and her 11-month-old sister Michelle, children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Girard; and Richard Barbier, 8, son of Mrs. Aurore Barbier.

Thomas Baillie, 37, died when fire levelled his new frame home at Vernon, Ont., 18 miles south of here. His wife and daughter were visiting in Ottawa when the fire broke out.

Fire Chief James J. O'Farrell described the Gattineau fire as a "fierce, deep-seated blaze that raged out of control for more than two hours."

He said the building, converted long ago from a garage to an apartment building, was built of wood walls insulated by sawdust.

Chief O'Farrell said that when firemen arrived they were told all occupants of the building had escaped.

Shortly afterward there were reports that children were inside, but these were not confirmed until more than an hour later.

Terrorism Unabated Despite Peace Hope

CP from Reuters-AP

ALGIERS — Terrorist killings showed no sign of a letup Sunday despite hopes for an early cease-fire in the seven-year Algerian war.

At least 21 persons were killed Sunday, pushing the weekend death toll to more than 60.

Commandos of the European Secret Army Organization slammed bazooka rockets into a barracks of French military police Sunday night, setting raging fires in gasoline storage tanks.

Fire engines arriving at the scene in the Algiers suburb of Maison Carree were blocked with machine-gun fire for nearly an hour while flames shot toward the sky. The fire was put out after three hours.

Early reports said at least 10 persons were killed or wounded in the attack, one of the most daring and spectacular actions of the European right-wing terrorist group since it launched its desperate fight against Algerian independence.

TANKS MOVE IN

The French army moved six heavy tanks and a score of other armored vehicles into the area.

It was believed that the presence of a newly arrived anti-terrorist squad in the barracks was the main reason for the attack.

Among those killed in Algiers was a French air force major identified as Bernard Chabrier, commander of an air force base. He was shot point blank by a 22-year-old Moslem who was immediately captured.

On the outskirts of the tense European suburb of Bab-el-Queid police found the body of a Moslem killed by three bullets, each of a different calibre.

Searches went on through the night in that suburb, where a wave of violence killed more than a score of Moslems after the death of a European cab driver Saturday.

22 Lost In Crash Near Venezuela

CARACAS (AP) — A Venezuelan airliner crashed into a cloud-covered mountain while making a landing approach on the resort island of Margarita Sunday. Airline officials said all 22 persons aboard perished.

Reports of offshore fishermen said they saw the two-engine E-27 turbo-prop plane of Avensa Airlines burst into flames after it crashed.

The nationalities of the persons on board were not immediately known. The plane carried 19 passengers and a crew of three.

Margarita Island is in the Caribbean Sea about 15 miles north of the peninsula of Araya on Venezuela's east coast and about 165 miles east northeast of Caracas.

Reports from the island said the plane crashed about three miles from the landing field at the principal resort city of Porlamar. Weather at the time was bad, the reports said.

Missing Banker Telephoned Wife From Kingston, Ont.

MONCTON (CP) — Mrs. Robert M. Watson, wife of the 22-year-old manager of the near-by Hillsborough branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia who prompted a search when he failed to return home from a business trip to Saint John, N.B., Wednesday, said Sunday night he had telephoned her from Kingston, Ont.

"According to the way Robert spoke on the telephone to my brother and I we concluded that he had suffered some type of mental breakdown," she said.

Mrs. Watson told him of the search and he said he intended to start driving back to Hillsborough. He said he was going to inform Kingston police of his whereabouts.

Mr. Watson, who joined the bank 15 years ago in Charlottetown, was last reported seen when he left the main New Brunswick branch office in Saint John about 3 p.m. Wednesday.

He had been summoned to Saint John as a result of a routine call from the head office and intended to drive straight home again.

When he was reported missing Mrs. Watson said she was sure something was wrong because he was always "very thoughtful." Mr. Watson, who left Hillsborough Monday, called his wife from Saint John upon arrival to tell her he would be home Tuesday or Wednesday.

William Wood of Saint John, bank staff supervisor for New Brunswick, Friday described a remark by an RCMP spokesman in Moncton that he understood Mr. Watson had been a "small town rumor."

Mr. Watson served with the bank at Charlottetown, Bath, N.B., Canning, N.S., and Miramichi, N.B., where he was an accountant, before becoming manager of the Hillsborough branch. He was born in Saint John and moved to Charlottetown at an early age.

His wife is the former Joan Roop of Canning. They have two children. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Watson of Victoria, B.C.

Washington To Welcome Glenn Today

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bands will play, cheers will ring and oratory will flow today for the first American to orbit the earth — although occasional rain may fall during the celebration.

While the capital polished last-minute plans for the tribute to astronaut John Glenn, officials closely watched the weather forecasts.

There had been a possibility of wet snow or rain but in a late afternoon forecast the weather bureau indicated that only occasional rain might fall.

Nothing short of all probable cloudburst — neither at all probable — would be likely to cut into the crowd of 250,000 expected to jam the sides of the mile-long parade route from the White House to the Capitol.



GLENN GETS MEDAL FROM PRESIDENT

President John F. Kennedy pins NASA's Distinguished Service Medal on astronaut John Glenn during ceremony at Cape Canaveral, Fla. At left is Robert Geiruth, project Mercury director. At right are the Glenn children, Lynn and David. (AP Wirephoto)