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WARNING TO WORLD IN BOGOTA REVOLT PATTERN

Mass Fortress Flight To Germany
NEW YORK, April 13.—The United States Secretary of State (Mr Marshall) today flatly accused International Communism of having inspired the Bogota insurrection, states Reuter's correspondent in the Colombian capital.

Mr Marshall said the situation must be judged on a local basis, however tragic it might be for the Colombian Government and its people. The occurrence went far beyond Colombia. It was of the same definite pattern as the occurrence which precipitated strikes in France and Italy, and which were endeavouring to prejudice the elections in Italy.

"In the action we take here," he continued, "we must have clearly in view the fact that this is a world affair and not merely a Colombian or a Latin-American one."

Mr Marshall made the statement today in a meeting of delegates to the pan-American conference and repeated it at a Press conference at his residence.

He announced that the delegates would meet at 7 p.m. (GMT) tomorrow night in Bogota to discuss the situation. He expressed confidence that a large majority of the delegates would vote for this.

Mr Marshall disclosed at the same time that on Saturday he had made emergency arrangements for the meeting to continue in the Panama Canal zone, for 250 personnel to be evacuated daily, if necessary, and for American army rations to be made available to delegations which needed them.

Authoritative sources disclosed today that the chief opposition to the continuance of the conference came from the Argentine. Guatemala also opposed the continuance of the conference, declaring that it could not continue under the constant threat of violence.

Mr Marshall was adamant in his insistence that "show must go on" and that a special commission should be appointed to investigate the situation.

"As a precaution, the United States is flying in short-distance radio bombers in case local communications collapse," he added.

Mr Marshall declared that it was of the greatest urgency that an organic inter-American pact be completed this session. The majority of its work would be carried on by the conference's steering committee, on which were the chiefs of all the delegations. Problems would be thrashed out face to face instead of their being referred to the working committees.

The Colombian Government, in the meantime, has given the delegations an assurance that complete order can be restored in six days, but the real work of the conference will probably start again in private homes and other buildings before then.

HALT AIR TRAFFIC NEXT RED MOVE?

LONDON, April 13.—The British representative of the United States states that, according to officials of the RAF, air traffic between Berlin and the Western zones may have to be curtailed owing to increased activities by the Russian Air Force.

The correspondent adds that the British and American air force authorities have again been warned that the Russians will be carrying out manoeuvres near the corridor at a height of between 2000 and 15,000 feet.

British and American authorities have given orders for the immediate re-equipment of Berlin's biggest, electric power station, which the Russians stripped in June, 1945, states Reuter's Berlin correspondent.

The estimated cost of the power station is £1,000,000.

A British spokesman said new orders would go ahead despite the lack of agreement in the Commandant. British and American representatives on the Commandant had been trying for months to get four power agreements to re-building the power station which lies in the British sector in Berlin.

ANOTHER ROAD BLOCK
The British United Press representative at Vienna states that Austrian police have announced that the Russians have put a barrier across the road from the United States zone in Austria, blocking all traffic.

The Russian Commissioner in Austria (General Kourasov) has refused to arrange an interview which the British Commissioner (General Galloway) requested to discuss newly imposed Russian traffic controls to Vienna.

The British spokesman said that General Galloway, as a result of the action covering the British Zone, had sent a strong protest in which he told General Kourasov that the British would comply with the marching of British military trains.

The spokesman added that British military trains would be dispatched as usual to and from Vienna.

"Contact is being made with the authorities with the possibility of talking concerted action against the Soviet order," he added.

Govt. Intervention In Federal Wage Claim

MELBOURNE, April 13.—The Attorney-General (Dr Ewart) today intervened in the pending application to the Federal Arbitration Court for a basic wage variation, Chief Justice Drake Brockman said today.

The Attorney-General was taking this action, he said, in order to determine whether the proposed basic wage increase would affect many employers and employees throughout Australia. He had received notice today that the Attorney-General was intervening in the hearing now before the Federal Arbitration Court.

Industrial authorities said tonight that the Federal Government would make its intervention in the public interest. Its intervention would be an important one because the Government in the past had taken no active part in these hearings.

A Government official said tonight that one reason for the Government's intervention was a desire to ensure stability and national economy. By acting as a third party at the hearing it could also give independent evidence which would be of assistance to the court. It would also be able to lay practical arguments from the point of view of the general public.

"INIQUITOUS" TAX PROPOSAL

BRISBANE, April 13.—The City Council today unanimously endorsed a recommendation by the Co-ordination Committee that the Government be asked to review its proposed 4 per cent on gross revenue from the council's buses.

The Lord Mayor claimed that the proposal was unparalleled in the world. It meant, he said, that the municipal body charged with the responsibility of building and maintaining its own roads was being asked to pay for the privilege of running its own buses over them.

The Labour aldermen supported the protest, but said the Lord Mayor would have done better to have approached the Government in a conciliatory spirit.

Ald. Chandler said it was absurd that the Government should be able to lay its hands on local authority revenue, which was limited, while its own coffers were bulging. If it were right for the council to pay taxes on bus revenue to the Government it was infinitely more right for the Government to pay to the council rates on property it occupied in the city. If it did so, the rates would amount to probably £100,000 per annum.

"This bus tax is one of the most iniquitous ever levied in the State's history," he said. "It establishes a principle that will affect every local authority."

SMUGGLING REPORT PROVES MYTH

SYDNEY, April 13.—Air Force crews looking for vegetables and RAAF "Romeos" making rendezvous with farmers' daughters were the "gold-running smugglers" recently reported to be operating in the Northern Territory, a civil aviation official said on his arrival from Darwin today.

The official has completed investigation of reports which alleged that unidentified aircraft had landed on lonely emergency aerodromes in the Northern Territory for illegal purposes.

The official said that farmers living near emergency air strips had admitted that RAAF aircraft had landed to enable the crews to buy supplies of fresh vegetables.

He said he had recently taken a party of civil aviation experts to the Batchelor airstrip to inspect where marks said to have been made by large airliners from the East. The marks, however, had proved to be those of Wirraway training planes based at Darwin.

He would forward a detailed report if his investigation to Melbourne.

£40 FINE ON HEALY

BRISBANE, April 13.—Michael Healy, 31, secretary of the Queensland Trades and Labour Council, was fined £40, with £25/9/- costs, in the Supreme Court today on the first charge dealt with by the Industrial Law Amendment Act.

He was allowed one month in which to pay, in default three months' imprisonment.

Healy's fines and costs from charges arising out of strike incidents now total £100/9/-.

Forty-one other charges under the Act, against 14 men, including three more against Healy, have yet to be heard.

Healy today was convicted of having failed to comply with the requirements of a police direction to remove himself from Montpelier Road on March 11, Healy being a person whose presence was, in the opinion of Sergeant Schmidt, likely to influence persons who worked at the Shell Oil Company's depot to discontinue their work, which would have constituted their taking part in an illegal strike.

Mr A. Bennett, for the prosecution, told the magistrate that Healy's police history showed that his name was Francis McCracken, alias John Healy, alias Michael Healy, and that he was convicted of an armed robbery in Belfast (Ireland) in 1923. He was convicted of two relief frauds in 1935 in Brisbane. He had also been convicted recently of an offence under the Traffic Act.

Mr E. Green for Healy, said the suggestion that Healy had been convicted of armed robbery was an absolute falsehood.

Mr Wilson said that if any conviction were challenged it was up to the prosecution to prove it.

Mr Green: It certainly is challenged.

Mr Wilson: It is 25 years ago. It is challenged and I will not act upon it.

Mr Green said Mr Bennett had also seen fit to remark upon Healy's change of name. During the depression Healy had, found the name Healy was not on the roll, and therefore was not entitled to the dole, and, so that he might live, he used the name Healy.

Mr Green said tonight that Healy would appeal.

WATERFRONT LAG MAY CLOSE SUGAR MILLS

SYDNEY, April 13.—Two North Queensland sugar mills may become idle because of the low loading rate of the Lucinda Point waterside workers.

In Sydney today the Stevedoring Industry Commission was notified by the CSR Company, which owns the Victoria and Macandrew mills, that the mills would have to close unless the handling rate improved.

Shipping authorities said today that the Stevedoring Industry Commission was formed the sugar at Lucinda Point was handled by non-members of the Waterside Workers' Federation at the rate of 50 tons an hour.

The commission at the request of the federation agreed to limit the work to union members, but since then the rate of handling had dropped to only 25 tons an hour.

The authorities said that in the coming season both mills were expected to handle one-ninth of Queensland's total crop of 750,000 tons.

At present more than 27,000 tons of last season's raw sugar were piled up at Lucinda Point awaiting shipment to southern ports for refining.

The commission had discussed the question of increasing the number of waterside workers at Lucinda Point, but no decision had yet been reached.

Record Hearing Of Bank Case

SYDNEY, April 13.—The Banking Act would control all interstate trade and force traders to conduct all their business through a Government-controlled agency, said Mr G. Barwick, K.C., leading counsel for the Australian private banks, in the High Court today.

Mr Barwick said the Act provided for the outright prohibition of banking and was a complete denial of section 92 of the Constitution, which protected the freedom of the community.

Today was the 27th day of the hearing of the legal challenge by the States of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia and 11 private banks to the Banking Act, by which the Commonwealth seeks to nationalise the trading banks.

The hearing had been adjourned from Melbourne on April 2.

The Sydney hearing is expected to last about 10 days. Mr Barwick has now completed six days of his reply to the defence of the Act by Dr Ewart.

The case has already made new records. It has broken the record for the longest hearing of a case before the full bench of the High Court, the longest being that which lasted 30 days in April, 1910. Dr Ewart, who spoke for 17 days, established a new record for a single advocacy.

METEORITE SEARCH DROPPED

BRISBANE, April 13.—The meteorite search near Lynwood sheep station (South-western Queensland) on Sunday is now believed to have exploded in the air and not reached the ground. This morning residents in the district called off their plans to search for the meteorite, which they thought, landed about 25 miles from Lynwood.

A large black mark, measuring about 100 yards, showed where the plane had left the runway and stopped on the southern side in the dirt. The side of the cabin where the propeller had come off was spattered with oil.

Mr H. Stiff, supervisor of the aerodrome under the Civil Aviation Department, stated that there was a slight cross-wind at the time of the crash. The wind was blowing at 10 to 15 miles per hour.

POLICE UNION WANTS LEGAL ACTION AGAINST REDS

BRISBANE, April 13.—The Queensland Police Union wants legal action for criminal libel taken against the author of a pamphlet alleging attempted murder by the police during the railway strike.

The pamphlet was produced and discussed at a meeting of the executive of the Police Union today. It was headed "Attempted Murder of the People's Champion". The last lines read, "Issued by Claude Jones, State president of the Australian Communist Party, 171 Queen Street, Brisbane, March 18, 1948. Paste me up or pass me round."

It alleged that shortly after 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 17, "a dastardly crime" was attempted near the Trades Hall in Brisbane. "An attempt was made," said the pamphlet, "to murder in cold blood Fred Paterson, Communist M.L.A. for Eowen. Working to a preconceived plan, a group of police singled out and tried to murder him. They could not buy nor beat his brains, so the reactionists tried to bash them out."

It further stated: "Mr Paterson was armed with a pencil and paper. His attackers were armed with batons, which they used with ferocity. Protest against this vicious crime and brutal bashing."

members of the ARU, WFF, AEU and other unions. Rally to defend democracy, decency, and elementary human rights against those who are bent on the way to Fascism by creating a police State."

After the union's executive meeting this afternoon, the general secretary (Mr H. P. Talty) said the incidents associated with the railway strike were fully discussed.

"One of the strike's more serious aspects," he said, "related to certain pamphlets issued by the Central Disputes Committee and others regarding the strike. An executive was concerned particularly with one pamphlet, which accused the police of attempting to murder Mr F. Paterson, Communist M.L.A. for Eowen. In view of the serious allegations contained in that pamphlet, the executive decided to urge the Government to take action against the author of the pamphlet for criminal defamation."

LANDING MISHAP TO PASSENGER PLANE



Top: The airliner as it stood after the crash at Connor Park yesterday. The starboard wheel and propeller are missing and the wings are slightly damaged. It is lying just off the runway. Right: The starboard side, showing the 100-yard skid mark and the wheel and broken undercarriage; and a view of the port side, showing the distance the propeller flew from the starboard side. On the right of the bottom picture can be seen the fire tender. (Story below.)



Airliner Crash-Lands At Connor Park Drome

At 8.15 a.m. yesterday morning a Douglas airliner, one of A.N.A.'s fleet, crash-landed at the Connor Park Aerodrome. The plane was flying north from Brisbane and had 20 passengers aboard and a crew of three. No-one was injured.

According to several eye-witnesses the plane made a good approach on to the east-west runway. The landing appeared normal until the plane was settling down. It appeared to land heavily on the starboard wheel. At the same time a gust of wind caught the port wing causing it to rise, bringing the starboard wing down. It was at this moment that the starboard wheel snapped and came away from the engine and the plane veered to the left and skidded 100 yards before coming to rest, with the starboard wing stretched out over the runway.

The starboard wheel and undercarriage were lying about 40 yards away from the plane, in the middle of the runway. The starboard wing appeared to be slightly damaged. The propeller from the starboard engine had come away from the engine and was lying another 50 yards from the plane on the port side. When it broke away it tore a large hole in the fuselage under the pilot's cabin. Part of it was still embedded in the wires and wood-work just in front of the instrument panel. Several large holes were torn in the fuselage further back.

A large skid mark, measuring about 100 yards, showed where the plane had left the runway and stopped on the southern side in the dirt. The side of the cabin where the propeller had come off was spattered with oil.

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CHANGE SOUGHT IN C.Q. SHOP HOURS

BRISBANE, April 13.—The Industrial Court today reserved its decision on an application by the Employers' Association of Central Queensland for an alteration in the hours of retail shops.

The hearing was before Messrs Rioridan and Dwyer.

Mr J. W. Henderson, for the employers, asked that the hours should be 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on all working days except Saturday, when the hours should be 9 a.m. to 11.55 a.m.

The present hours are 8.15 a.m. to 4.40 p.m. from Monday to Friday, and 8.35 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. on Saturday.

Mr Henderson said he had sent out a questionnaire to 120 retailers in Central Queensland and the replies showed that the shopping hours requested were the most favoured and calculated to be more convenient to the shopping public than the existing hours.

He said that information he had received proved that virtually no business was done in the shops before 9 a.m. Many employees had complained about the earlier working hours. They had to get out of bed earlier, have breakfast earlier, and catch earlier buses.

Mr Henderson also claimed that at the towns of Alpha, Emerald, Emu Park, Keppel Sands and Yeppoon the weekly half-holiday should be on Wednesday, and that in the towns of Aramac, Springsure, Clermont and Capella the half-holiday should be on Thursday.

Opposing the application, Mr V. T. Hefferan, for the Queensland Shop Assistants' Union, said the employees were not in favour of any change in the present hours, because it would take away the only benefit they had from the 40-hour week.

MIGHT GET SURPRISE
He added that if the traders were prepared to meet the union with a five-day week they would not object.

Mr Henderson said he had not wished to make any disclosure at this stage, but if Mr Hefferan applied for a five-day week he might get a pleasant surprise.

Mr Dwyer: And that will be the thin edge of the wedge for the people in the south.

Mr F. C. Derrick, for the Queensland Grocers and Retail Traders' Association, said his association was definitely against a five-day, 40-hour week.

"Mr Henderson's announcement is a disappointment to us," he added.

On the suggestion of Mr Rioridan the parties went into a conference on the claim by the Shop Assistants' Union for increased wages from £8/11/- a week to £9 for adult employees and improved conditions for the Southern and Central divisions.

The hearing of the claim was adjourned until May 11.

Probe On Blair Athol Dismissals

BRISBANE, April 13.—The dismissal of 17 men at Blair Athol on January 31 had nothing to do with the raising of the price of the company's shares, said Mr W. Thomas, who applied to the Coal Owners' Association today, before Mr F. H. Gallagher, who was appointed by the Commonwealth Minister for Supply and Shipping to investigate the decision of the Queensland Coal Industry Reference Board, which had confirmed the dismissals.

Mr Thomas said it had been suggested to Mr Gallagher on the previous day that the dismissals were part of an attempt to increase the company's profit to get a higher price when the mine was taken over by the British Overseas Corporation. The value of the company's shares, however, was considerably lower today than before the strike, though there was nothing about these dismissals. In any case the agreement between the Queensland Government and the British company for the acquisition of the two Blair Athol companies had made it quite clear that the acquisition was to be on the value of the shares at the time the companies were taken over. If the companies wanted £1/8/- for their shares and the Government decided that they were worth only 1/2/-, then 1/2/- would be paid.

Mr Thomas objected to the jurisdiction of the tribunal on the ground that the decision of the Local Reference Board was not likely to lead to industrial unrest in any locality other than at Blair Athol.

Mr G. W. S. Grant, Federal secretary of the Miners' Federation, said the time was long overdue for Queensland to have a full-time instead of a part-time chairman of the Local Reference Board so that disputes were dealt with as they arose and could be investigated on the spot. The federation was mainly concerned that there should be no unemployment in Queensland, and it wanted to ensure that they did not go back to the days when men went working two or three days a fortnight. He was pleased to say that in New South Wales they were heading for some protection against this—a thing they had never had before. It had been suggested that the miners' Federation should appear before the tribunal here for the purpose of creating trouble. That was not their intention. They were free to bring to Queensland those conditions they were striving for in New South Wales.

"Don't let us have the conditions which have existed in New South Wales in Queensland. Mr Grant: I have been through the mines in Queensland and have seen conditions which were not there, but I want to see this State, and we are trying to improve them."

The president of the Queensland Colliery Employers' Union (Mr W. Miller) said the miners were definitely dissatisfied with the position of part-time chairman. A definite injustice had been done to the 17 men and there should be a full investigation on the spot.

Rail Case Before Court Today

BRISBANE, April 13.—The Central Disputes Committee today attempted to adjourn this afternoon to see the Premier (Mr Hanlon) on the Government's strike settlement terms. The committee paid a rush visit to the Premier's office after having earlier discussed features of the Government's offer with the Railway Commissioner (Mr Maloney).

Mr Hanlon was presiding over a meeting of the State Cabinet. The railway case is listed to come before the Industrial Court tomorrow morning.

The committee waited about an hour as the Cabinet was then still sitting. Mr Hanlon arranged to see them at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

The chairman of the committee (Mr M. O'Brien) claimed that the interview sought with the Premier was merely a formal matter about terms of settlement.

However, it was reported elsewhere that there had been a disagreement at the conference with Mr Maloney over the marginal rates offered by the Government for semi-skilled and unskilled workers. The object of the committee, it is understood was to try to obtain from Mr Hanlon the extent of the proportionate increases that the Government was prepared to pay semi-skilled and unskilled workers.

In its settlement terms the Government indicated that it would not object to a marginal increase of 12/4 for tradesmen, with proportionate rises for semi-skilled and unskilled.

Blair Athol Rail Route Still Undecided

BRISBANE, April 13.—Aerial photographs taken by the Air Force are being used in England to determine the route of the railway that will be constructed from Blair Athol to the coast.

Neither the route nor the port has yet been decided upon.

Authoritative sources said today that no experts were available to construct a more extensive port and a cheaper railway.

It was stated also that Mr T. Hirst, general manager in Australia for the Electric Supply Corporation, would visit the United States and Europe in search of machinery before returning to Queensland.

The problem would resolve itself into an economic one—whether it would be better to build a longer railway and a cheaper port, or to construct a more extensive port and a cheaper railway.

At least 12 possible port sites had been inspected between Broadmead and Bowen. It was stated, but each had advantages and disadvantages.

U.S. Coal Strike Ends

NEW YORK, April 12.—United Mineworkers' district leaders at Pittsburgh have ordered members to resume work tomorrow as a result of a settlement of the miners' pension dispute and advice from the union president (Mr John L. Lewis) that their contract is now honoured.

Mr Gallagher decided that he had full jurisdiction to deal with the case. He said he had agreed with Mr Miller's suggestion that it should be held at Blair Athol.

He added that, under the regulations, if Mr Thomas were correct, there was sufficient material to enable him to proceed with the hearing, which he adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Mr Gallagher said it was clear from the company's evidence that the circumstances of the case applied to the industry generally and might lead to industrial unrest in other localities.

Mr Miller said that on April 1 two men who had been on the day shift had been put on to the afternoon shift. That action should also be investigated by the tribunal. The union was not dogmatic in regard to the operation of a second shift where it was warranted. If that second shift were required, two of the dismissed men should have been given the work. These two men had been instructed to discontinue the second shift work and to present themselves for their ordinary work. They had done so and had been stood down.

Mr Thomas said there was a matter for the Local Reference Board and not for the tribunal. The work of the second shift required certificated men and the shift men did not have the qualifications.

Mr Gallagher said his reference did not cover the new development. He suggested that the stood-down men should present themselves for their ordinary work and if they were not employed, the matter should be brought before the Local Reference Board.