

EX-HOUSING CHIEFS MAY FACE TRIAL

Prosecutions Hinted
As Possibility

After Investigation
By FRED S. HOFFMAN

WASHINGTON (AP)—Housing Administrator Albert M. Cole says early criminal prosecutions may develop out of a "full administrative cleanup" of the scandal-shocked Federal Housing Administration. He also promises new top level firings.

Cole summoned to a strategy conference this afternoon key officials of the Justice Department, the Internal Revenue Service, and his Housing and Home Finance Agency which has jurisdiction over the FHA.

President Eisenhower yesterday armed Cole with a directive to all federal agencies to cooperate fully with the administration's probe of alleged multimillion dollar rackets under the FHA's loan insurance program in the home repair and apartment construction fields.

Two congressional committees are set to open public hearings next week in parallel investigations of the FHA, and the Eisenhower order directed federal cooperation with these groups also.

BOVARD ON LEAVE
Cole announced yesterday that Burton C. Bovard had been "placed on leave" after he had refused to quit as FHA general counsel. Cole said that "in the next few days we will make such arrangements as are necessary to insure a free, swift, uninhibited investigation of all relevant FHA matters."

Mentioning evidence already uncovered of "incredible official laxity," Cole said he expects "in a fairly short time . . . to develop cases possibly leading to prosecution and to take any additional steps needed for full administrative cleanup in the FHA."

Cole later confirmed published reports that gambling by one key FHA official had a part in setting off the investigation.

The Washington Post and Times-Herald said the FBI received a report that this unnamed official dropped as much as \$5,000 in a single night, roughly half his annual salary.

Cole said he knew nothing of a \$5,000 loss, but that "I do know one thing is known in some circles to be a gambler."

RESPONSIBLE JOB
This official, said Cole, is in a responsible job. He added: "I had his situation in mind when I began the investigation."

FHA leadership has been shaken around considerably since charges came to light Monday that some apartment builders raked in an aggregate of nearly millions of dollars by floating inflated construction loans guaranteed by the government under the act that ended during the Truman administration.

Also involved are allegations that fast-talking home repair salesmen roamed in packs from city to city, cheating housewives at their prompting obtained government insured loans to finance improvements.

Faith Called Only Defense

LONDON (AP)—Billy Graham, the American evangelist on a religious crusade in Britain, is telling Britons in a series of radio sermons the only defense against the hydrogen bomb is a deep faith in Christ.

The H-bomb and the anxieties it has aroused have been the theme of many of Graham's talks before the vast crowds that continue to gather to hear him at London's Harringay Arena.

The evangelist has listened to debates on the H-bomb in the House of Commons. He was stirred by the recent decision of the much-bombarded city of Coventry to give up its civil defense program because it was convinced there is no adequate defense against modern weapons.

To combat such frustration, Graham is urging his many thousands of listeners to seek strength and security in Christ, and to pray that horror weapons may never be used.

OUR WEATHER

Cloudy, windy and cooler this afternoon. Fair and cooler tonight. Sunny tomorrow and a little warmer in the afternoon. High temperature yesterday 77 degrees. High temperature expected today 64 degrees. Low temperature this morning 49 degrees. Low temperature expected tonight 42 degrees. Sunrise 5:49 a.m.; sunset 6:57 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 3-A



(News Staff Photo by Tom Franklin—Martin) 'HE IS RISEN' Tony Lingerfelt Sings An Easter Hymn

Scientist Called 'Loyal American'

WASHINGTON (AP)—A high-level member of the Eisenhower administration says he feels that Atomic Scientist J. Robert Oppenheimer is a "loyal American," even though the information in his file is voluminous and makes a . . . case of security risk.

This official gave his opinion to newsmen, but stipulated that his name not be disclosed. He has had contact with the Oppenheimer case since 1948 when the pioneer physicist credited with a leading role in development of the atomic bomb was questioned by a congressional committee.

Oppenheimer has been barred on President Eisenhower's orders from further access to U. S. atomic secrets pending a review of his case. A special three-man Atomic Energy Commission panel has been sitting in the case.

'BLANK WALL'
A "blank wall" was ordered placed between Oppenheimer and government atomic data last December after the AEC said it had received information that he was a security risk. The scientist denied this and asked for a hearing.

The administration official said it is up to the panel headed by former Secretary of the Army Gordon Gray, to decide whether Oppenheimer is a security risk. The official said he is "sure Dr. Oppenheimer will get a fair hearing."

TWO CHILDREN HELP FATHER PAY HIS FINE
ST. LOUIS (AP)—Lino DePaoli's \$18 traffic fine was paid yesterday with the help of his two children who raided their piggy bank of eight dollars in pennies and nickels.

City Judge Robert G. Dowd, who imposed the fine, dug into his pocket, and reimbursed the children after learning of their action. They are Thomas, 6, and Geraldine, 8.

The father was charged with driving his car to the left of a street—his first traffic offense in more than 10 years of driving.

Victim, Not Robbers, Winds Up In Cooler
CHICAGO (AP)—Two gunmen robbed Matthew Zaucha 35 of \$200 in his grocery store last night and then argued on whether to force him into his walk-in meat cooler.

They finally decided to put Zaucha into the refrigerator after he assured them he could get out without freezing.

EVENING PRAYER
Father in Heaven, men silenced the tongue of our blessed Lord when they put Him to death on the Cross. But the tongue that spoke peace and salvation and healing to men so long ago will ever speak through Thy Word and through Thy Holy Spirit to anyone who will hear. Thank you, God, that Thou dost continue unto us the ministry of Thy dear Son, Amen.

THE RAILROAD WAS HIS after the ballots were counted; and Patrick B. McGinnis gets an embrace from his wife in New Haven, Conn. The New York financier wrestled control of the half billion-dollar New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad from Frederic C. Dumaine Jr. during a tense all-night stockholders meeting. (AP Wirephoto)

Defenders Get Ike's Message
AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)—President Eisenhower, in a message to defenders of the French fortress of Dien Bien Phu, says they are demonstrating "qualities on which the survival of the free world depends."

The President's tribute was made public today at his vacation headquarters here. It was expressed in messages to President Rene Coty of France, and Bao Dai, chief of state of Vietnam, for relay to the Dien Bien Phu defenders.

James C. Hagerty, White House press secretary, told newsmen the Eisenhower messages were dispatched a week ago.

The President's message said: "In common with millions of my countrymen, I salute the gallantry and stamina of the commander and soldiers who are defending Dien Bien Phu. We have the most profound admiration for the brave and resolute fight being waged there by troops from France, Vietnam, and other parts of the French Union."

"Those soldiers, true to their own great traditions, are defending the cause of human freedom and are demonstrating in the most gallant qualities on which the survival of the free world depends. I would be grateful if you would convey to the commander of the gallant garrison of Dien Bien Phu this expression of my admiration and best wishes."

—Song And Sermon— Easter Sunrise Service Set

Christians the world over celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth tomorrow in churches, in city parks, on hilltops, in cathedrals and in cemeteries.

Charlotte begins its celebration of the Resurrection with community-wide Sunrise Services at 6:30 a.m. at Freedom Park and at the North Charlotte YMCA. Thousands will attend the services to confirm more

solidly their faith in Jesus Christ.

Bishop Edwin A. Penick of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina will deliver the 27th annual Easter Sunrise sermon at Freedom Park.

Participating in the musical portion of the service will be bands from Alexander Graham Junior High School, Central High School, Harding High School, Piedmont Junior High School and Myers Park High School. Chorus from Central, Harding and Myers Park High Schools will also participate in the program.

At the same time at North Charlotte YMCA the Tech High School band and choir will be participating in an Easter Sunrise service for that area.

Elwood Goodson will be in charge of tabernacle at the service at Freedom Park.

In the event of rain tomorrow the service, which is being sponsored jointly by the ministers association, the music department of the city schools and the Charlotte Park and Recreation Commission, will be held at the same time at Dilworth Methodist Church.

The ministers association members who completed plans for the service was composed of Dr. William Harrison Williams,

pastor of Fritchard Memorial Baptist Church; the Rev. Samuel Inman, pastor of Selayne Avenue Presbyterian Church; the Rev. Frank Jordan, district superintendent of the Methodist Church; and Dr. Herbert Spang, Little Church on the Lane.

After the sunrise services, individual churches will have

See CHURCHES on page 6-A

Statement Challenged By Lawmakers
Vice President Sees Step As Possibility

WASHINGTON (AP)—Vice President Nixon says American troops might be used in a last-ditch effort to save Indochina. The statement brought challenges from both Republican and Democratic lawmakers.

The Vice President said he does not believe such action will be necessary because he thinks Indochina can be saved from the Communists by other means. But in the unlikely event that French forces withdraw, he said, this country would have to send in troops.

Nixon expressed his views in an off-the-record address to the American Society of Newspaper Editors. He later permitted newsmen to report his remarks on condition they not be attributed directly to him.

News stories reporting his remarks first identified him as a high administration official.

LINKED TO STATEMENTS
But he was connected with the statements from several sources. The London Times said in its story a statement that the only high administration source making a speech here yesterday was Nixon. And the Niles (Mich.) Daily Star said Rep. Hoffman (R-Mich.), expressing opposition to the statement, had identified Nixon as its source.

Nixon himself was not immediately available for comment on the "leaks."

The disclosure that Nixon was the administration source in question lent added weight to the expression of policy, since he sits in with the National Security Council and at Cabinet sessions.

Whether his frank discussion of the issue would have repercussions within the administration remained unclear. Nixon has acted as spokesman for President Eisenhower on several recent occasions.

In outlining his views, Nixon repeated Eisenhower's words that the President's message said:

"In common with millions of my countrymen, I salute the gallantry and stamina of the commander and soldiers who are defending Dien Bien Phu. We have the most profound admiration for the brave and resolute fight being waged there by troops from France, Vietnam, and other parts of the French Union."

"Those soldiers, true to their own great traditions, are defending the cause of human freedom and are demonstrating in the most gallant qualities on which the survival of the free world depends. I would be grateful if you would convey to the commander of the gallant garrison of Dien Bien Phu this expression of my admiration and best wishes."

Report Made To Editors
Little Bias Seen in News Columns Of U. S. Papers

WASHINGTON, April 17 (AP)—The American Society of Newspaper Editors was told today there is "precious little" bias in the writing and reporting of news by the American press.

Norman Isaacs, managing editor of the Louisville Times, told 400 editors at their annual meeting here that expert studies of journalistic bias indicate that a handful of newspapers still have "their news stories."

"I regret to say that a few of these have considerable influence," Isaacs said, "but those are mavericks. They are not typical. We are progressing faster and faster in the direction of true professionalism."

Isaacs said that press association reporting shows no evidence of bias in domestic coverage. "In 99 per cent of the cases, writing and reporting has been accurate, careful and precise," he said.

In international coverage, Isaacs reported, some evidence of emotional writing has been seen. He noted that a press association official patch on the recent Berlin conference reported that Secretary of State Dulles "made a speech," fair trial.

but Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov "unleashed a tirade."

"We don't want the Pravda type of reporting here," the Kentucky editor said.

The editors also were told that proposals before the New York Bar Association to ban the release of pre-trial information on criminal cases would jeopardize both freedom of the press and the right of States Dulles "made a speech," fair trial.

Robert C. Notson of the Morning Oregonian, Portland, said "if this succeeds in the state of New York it will not be long before it is established in our states."

"The time to lick this thing is before it gets a hold," he asserted.

Notson attacked the proposal, in the current issue of the Society's Bulletin, as a "regression in democratic process" which "should be resisted by every citizen who believes in free institutions, including members of the bar."

The ASNE Committee on Freedom of Information yesterday listed the New York lawyers' resolution among recent developments in several states, which, the committee charged, threatened "the people's access to their courts."

SMEAR PHRASE
Notson said the alleged justification for the clampdown proposal is to prevent "trial by newspaper." This, the Oregon editor declared, is a "badly overworked smear phrase, frequently the alibi for losing counsel."

Actually, Notson said, "investigations of newsmen and their cooperation with law enforcement officers have resulted many times in the conviction of the guilty and the freeing of the innocent."

Without public knowledge of the evidence and the investigation, he added, the public cannot judge the work of its law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges.

Such a law as that now proposed could be very useful to arbitrary, stupid and corrupt officials in evading a proper accounting for their acts," Notson said.

WHAT'S INSIDE
A DUAL TRAGEDY is the conclusion to be drawn from The Tenth Muse. It's a new book about Mr. Republican written by William S. White. A review is printed on page 8-A with other comment on current fiction and non-fiction.

TAKING EXCEPTION to some recent remarks by Fred Allen, another man named Allen says that studio audiences give a big help to TV and radio comedians. It's Steve Allen's turn today as a guest columnist for John Crosby. He speaks his piece on page 2-B.

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DUNN GETS DUCKS, NOT MANNA, FROM HEAVEN
DUNN (AP)—It rained ducks here Friday. At least 26 ducks, each weighing about two or three pounds, plumed from a cloudy sky during a thunderstorm. The birds, black with crooked bills, fell on lawns in residential areas and some hit Broad street in the business district.

They fell a few moments after lightning had touched off a \$500,000 fire at a tobacco warehouse, causing speculation that they had been electrified in flight.

Planes Deliver Men And Supplies To Fortress
By LARRY ALLEN
HANOI, Indochina (AP)—Waves of Dakotas and Flying Boxcars dropped men and equipment to the besieged garrison of Dien Bien Phu today. The Communist attackers clung to dugouts only 800 yards from the heart of the fortress. They fell a few moments after lightning had touched off a \$500,000 fire at a tobacco warehouse, causing speculation that they had been electrified in flight.

Men parachuted in as reinforcements included a number of volunteers from the Red River Delta area. A French high command spokesman said they would be held in reserve for critical moments during the next Vietnamese assault. That blow, which would be the third big one, is expected soon before the Geneva Conference opens April 26.

Garrison soldiers, backed by planes and tank and artillery fire, counterattacked against the Communist rebels at all points.

Relentless French drives against infiltrating Vietnamese units entrenched on the northern part of Dien Bien Phu's main airstrip continued yesterday to route them.

At the airstrip, the rebels clung to dugouts just 800 yards from the bunkers where Brig. Gen. Christian de Castries, the fortress commander, has his headquarters.

The 56-year-old De Castries was hard at work directing the fortress' defenses when he received word the Paris government had officially boosted his rank from colonel to brigadier general.

A French plane parachuted to De Castries the two stars which the French use to designate a brigadier general.

WHAT DID IT? Richard Twetten, Anacortes, Wash., used car dealer, looks inside a car on his lot at peppered windshield (tiny shattered spots marked by circles), typical of hundreds of automobiles in Northern Washington State that have been similarly damaged by unknown sources in the last week.

Windshield peeping has also spread to the Seattle area. Vandals, atomic dust, and routine road damage have been offered as possible explanations for the marks. (AP Wirephoto)