

Army Backs Transferring Of Nike Plant

By EMERY WISTER
Charlotte News Staff Writer

Army officials today defended their action in transferring main production of the Nike Hercules missile from the Douglas Aircraft company's plant at Santa Monica, Calif., to its unit here.

Death Plot Stopped By Hired 'Killer'

MIAMI, Fla.—Two men who allegedly hired a third to kill a Washington, D. C., attorney and later planned to murder a New York lawyer and a Miami land-dry executive were held today on charges of conspiracy to commit murder and attempted murder.

State Atty. Richard Gerstein identified the men as Spiro William Halkas, 43, also known as Spiro Williams, and George Louis, 43, a contractor, both of Miami Beach.

Leonard McMillan, chief assistant to Gerstein, said Halkas is a gambler and that he admitted under questioning that he had a criminal record. McMillan said Halkas claims he was the former editor and publisher of a Greek language newspaper in New York.

They were arrested last yesterday by Gerstein's men after a Miami man, hired as a supposed killer but working as an undercover man for police, led authorities to a "perfid" meeting.

Gerstein, McMillan and assistant state atty. Arthur Hight questioned Halkas and Louis throughout the night. McMillan said the two men made statements but that the nature of the information would not be disclosed until the investigation is completed.

WOULDN'T TALK

Halkas supplied some "enlightening" information, McMillan said, but Louis declined to talk on advice of counsel.

An attractive retained woman, who gave her name as Marion Bond and later as Marion Wilson, was held as a material witness after appearing in the courtroom in a bathing suit to inquire as to Halkas' whereabouts.

SEE KILLER on page 3-A

GASTON GETS \$95,000 FOR INSTITUTE

RALEIGH.—The Senate today passed a bill to appropriate up to \$95,000 to North Carolina State College for the renovation of the Gaston Technical Institute property in Gastonia.

The Institute is operated by the State College Extension Division.

Under the bill, introduced by Sen. Pat Coker of Gaston, the Governor and Council of State will be authorized to allot a maximum of \$95,000 from the 1956-57 contingency and emergency fund to renovate the property.

The college under the bill is also directed to sell other property and repay the fund all proceeds of sale.

—MAN'S MEMORY LOST THROUGH INJURY— Mother Raises Son From Infancy—Twice

EL MONTE, Calif. (U)—Mrs. Melvin Werrett is a mother who has carried off a rare assignment. She has raised her son from infancy twice.

The second time has not been without its unhappiness—even weirs—moments. But Mrs. Werrett reports the boy is "completely along well" now after having again reached the age of 10.

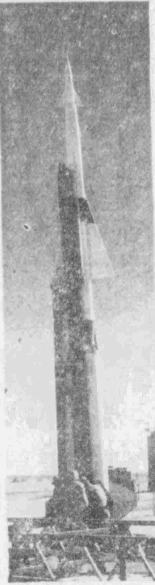
Mrs. Werrett's son, Melvin E. Hewitt, is actually 32.

On Oct. 3, 1931, he injured his brain in a fall. The injury almost killed him. In fact, he stopped breathing at one point. But doctors revived him by massaging his heart.

The accident thrust him mentally back into infancy.

"Washing and dressing and diapers, and all that," she said, remembering the baby job. "It's one thing with a baby, but with a full-grown man."

Mrs. Werrett And Twice-Raised Son Melvin



HERE'S A NIKE

Two Drivers Die In Fire

ASHEVILLE.—Two truck drivers perished in a fiery pickup of three big tractor-trailers 10 miles north of Asheville on U. S. 270 early today.

State Highway Patrol headquarters tentatively identified the pair as L. W. Bullard, 45, of Thomasville, and E. J. Tolbert, 37, of Winston-Salem.

Both bodies were burned to a crisp in a roaring three-hour fire that consumed two of the vehicles.

Tolbert said two Roadway drivers were traveling south and a third bound STA-WNC tractor-trailer and the leading southbound truck sideswiped, breaking the trailer loose from the leading Roadway vehicle and throwing it into the path of the trailing one.

The collision set off a fire that destroyed the tractor believed to have been occupied by Bullard and Tolbert.

Three other persons were injured in the wreck.

Our Weather

Partly cloudy and warm today, tonight and Saturday.

Low this morning... 55
Low tomorrow morning... 55
High today... 85
High yesterday... 81
High tomorrow... 85
Sunrise today 5:24 a.m.; sunset today 7:16 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 3-A

What's Inside

Business... 12A, 8B
Classified... 8-13B
Commodities... 13A
Crossword Puzzle... 13A
Earl Wilson... 10A
Editorials... 10A
Everyday Counselor... 11A
Obituaries... 8B
Radio-TV... 13A
Serial... 13A
Sports... 8-13B
Theater... 7B
To Your Good Health... 2-4A
Women... 7-13A
Worry Clinic... 11A

Colombian Dictator Is Ousted

BOGOTA, Colombia.—Dictator Gustavo Rojas Pinilla was swept out of power today.

Amid scenes of wild jubilation in which 30 persons were crushed to death it was announced he was turning over the presidency to a five-man military junta.

Rojas was overthrown by a flood of opposition from the Roman Catholic Church, the business community and the people.

He declared in a broadcast from San Carlos Palace at 9:30 a.m. "It would be impossible that I, who gave the country peace, should cause the country useless bloodshed."

CROWDS ASSEMBLED

Crowds began to assemble in the capital in anticipation of the announcement. They jammed the streets and Plaza Bolivar in front of the capital building. At least 30 persons perished in a stampede near the capital building.

Rojas declared he had given command to a military group. The armed forces continue in command of the country.

He announced a junta composed of Maj. Gen. Gabriel Garcia, Maj. Gen. Diego Restrepo, Rear Adm. Ruben Piedraza, Maj. Gen. Rafael Navas Pardo, and Gen. Luis A. Obando.

SWARM STREETS

Thousands of delighted joyful people swarmed into the capital in anticipation of the overthrow of the dictator.

"Liberators" they cried.

Only two days ago Rojas had maneuvered himself into a second term as president, due to start next year. This action crystallized the opposition to the former chief of Colombia's army.

The news that he was quitting the presidency became known just before dawn. Colombians ran through the streets, shouting the news. Then automobiles filled with youths began circulating, sounding three short horn blasts followed by the shout of "liberty!"

Sleeping Rogistas crowded onto the sidewalks and into the streets. Many went to the street in their night clothes.

Police and soldiers, who had maintained heavy patrols and cracked down on demonstrators for a week, were confined to barracks.

Only a few hours before Rojas fell, his government had threatened criminal action to crush a series of business strikes paralyzing Colombia's major cities.

"Rojas has been sent into exile with his family, Colombian sources in New York reported. The new military junta put Rojas on a Colombian Air Force plane which reached Jamaica at 7 a.m., these informants said. They added that the junta promised in a radio announcement a civilian government would be set up."

RELATED STORY

Hedlund's story was related to the Senate Rackets Investigating Committee under questioning.

He collected a third share of something over \$20,000 in brokerage fees on the investment of union funds in the mortgage market.

Sen. McClellan D-Ark., chairman of the committee, spoke of the payments to Beck as a "kick-back."

Hedlund testified that he, Beck, and the Teamsters Union lawyer, Simon Walpole, received the brokerage fees through The Investment Co. which in effect was an intermediary in the union's purchase of mortgages through the National Mortgage Co. of St. Louis.

With the account of Beck and Walpole, the committee recessed its hearings for lunch.

The story, as told by Hedlund, was that the Teamsters Union advanced the money to buy \$71,000 worth of mortgages. They were held by Beck and Hedlund for several months during which the mortgages were sold by about \$10,000 worth. They then were sold to the Leheny Memorial fund for some \$61,000.

Robert Kennedy, counsel for the committee, said Beck led other Teamsters Union officials to be-

Broken 'Solid South' New Target Of GOP



FIRE IS THE ENEMY as these soldiers charge into battle with trenching shovels near Plymouth, Mass. The soldier at right was momentarily overcome by smoke.

Fire Officials Fear Rising Mercury May Rekindle Blaze

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

A rising forest fire threat in the heart of Plymouth, Mass., historic home of the Pilgrims, was brought under control today.

Fire officials expressed fear, however, that the fire, one of many flaming in northern woods, might rekindle as temperatures rise and parched conditions continue.

Thousands of firefighters joined in halting the Plymouth fire, which broke out at a main highway between Boston and Cape Cod.

This was the 17th successive day of forest fires in the population northeast.

From Pennsylvania through New England and into Quebec and Ontario fires raged out of control. Some fires were checked only to mushroom up again as wind-whipped dying embers lit living flame.

Hot sunshine and strong, shifting winds kept parched woodlands explosively dry. Only prolonged, soaking rains could end the danger and forest fires would be in sight.

In Pennsylvania firefighters battled woods fires in opposite ends of the state. A fire Thursday about 25 miles west of Strasburg swept over 1,000 acres. Another 1,000 acres were scorched.

In Maine, forest fires fanned by tricky winds swept through more than 7,500 acres. Thirty buildings were destroyed.

Maine's major share was at West Kennebunk where fire destroyed 13 homes and possibly six more as it leaped through heavily wooded areas.

In Vermont five forest fires swept through the northeast section of the state at Barre, Peacham, Lyndonville, Lunenburg and Kirby—near the New Hampshire state line.

More than 200 firefighters battled wind-whipped fires in Vermont, said the state's fire marshal, William H. Messick Jr.

Gov. Lane Dwindell, after flying over a mile-long woods fire at Embury, south of Concord, the state capital, ordered all state parks and golf courses closed Thursday.

SEE INVESTIGATORS, page 3-A

By a series of 10 fires in Jefferson and Clarion Counties in the western part of the state.

TINDERBOX CONDITIONS

"Tinderbox" conditions were reported in New Jersey, where 11 small fires consumed 123 acres Thursday.

At Plymouth, more than 100 persons fled their homes and another 2,000 residents were alerted to move out at a moment's notice.

The fire broke out Wednesday in the Mylar Sundish State Forest south of Plymouth and has devoured 30 homes and buildings and blackened some 1,000 acres.

Another fire at Montague in western Massachusetts blackened two square miles of forest in an hour and a half.

Some 50 smoldering fires were reported in the Bay State Thursday.

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FIGURES RELEASED—

Billy's N. Y. Crusade Costly

NEW YORK (U)—Evangelist Billy Graham's six-week series of meetings here is expected to cost \$800,000, according to budget figures at his New York Crusade headquarters.

This would make the meetings, starting next Wednesday night, the most expensive crusade that Graham has conducted since the "Cross of Jesus" tour, Wampold and York.

"I'll accept that figure as correct," Hedlund replied.

Kenney said the total included the money advanced from the union treasury and gone to buy the mortgages ultimately sold to the memorial fund.

Actually, Kennedy said, Beck merely borrowed the union money, bought the mortgages, sold them to the memorial fund at a profit, then returned the original mortgage purchase sum to the Teamsters treasury.

The committee had difficulty coming up with the exact amount Beck may have received.

Kennedy, leading Hedlund through a mass of involved figures, cost sheets and purchase agreements, summed up: "This is a total of \$20,425.27 was split among the Union of Shipbuilders, Wampold and York."

EXPENSE ITEM

The highest item appearing on the New York expense budget was \$250,000 for "auditorium gladia rental and related ex-

Congress Control Top Aim

WASHINGTON.—President Eisenhower said today there no longer is a "Solid South" controlled by the Democrats. He urged Dixie Republicans to launch a political offensive in the party's drive to recapture control of Congress next year.

Eisenhower said there have been "impressive increases" in GOP strength in the South during the last 20 years.

The Republican Party is, of course, in the South to stay," he said.

Eisenhower sounded his call for renewed Republican activity in Dixie in a telephoned message to party workers attending a regional GOP rally at Louisville, Ky. Representatives from 12 southern and border states were on hand for the session, the fourth of a series of such rallies being held around the country.

On the political front, Eisenhower spoke first of "impressive increases" in GOP Dixie strength, and then said:

"There is no longer a 'Solid South' controlled by one political party."

GAINS LISTED

It's difficult to believe that in 1930 our party polled only 23 percent of the vote in the southern states in a presidential election. Since that time, each succeeding national election has seen an improvement in this ratio, and last year the Republican national ticket received 46 percent of the votes in these 12 southern states, and polled over 50 percent in six of them.

"That is good news," he said.

Calling then for a GOP political offensive in Dixie, Eisenhower said:

"I suggest as one of your goals for 1958 the correction of this situation. Certainly we cannot win a seat in congress from a district where we don't have a candidate."

Despite the absence of a full slate of candidates, Eisenhower said, Republican gains have appeared in the congressional races.

9 OF 11

"The total Republican vote east for Congress in all 12 states went from 19 percent in 1932 to 24.4 percent in 1954," he said. "We now hold nine of the 114 House seats from these states. That's a gain in the direction of a responsible two party system."

In the 1956 election, Eisenhower himself carried five southern states: Texas, Virginia, Florida, Tennessee and Louisiana—as compared with four in 1952 when he lost to House seats in 1952, but did not maintain the number they had previously.

In his talk today, Eisenhower urged the party workers to get young men and women interested in running for office—"not only for governor and for the Senate but for Congress."

SEE SOLID on page 3-A

Evening Prayer

"Teach me Thy way, O Lord, my walk in Thy truth. Unite my heart to fear Thy name. I give thanks to Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart and I will glorify Thy name forever." Amen.

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