



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

FINAL

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Crewmen Make Land

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Forty-five Chinese crew members of the 6,063-ton freighter Aloha which sank Sunday, were brought to San Fernando in northern Luzon today aboard the Japanese rescue ship Benzai Maru. Two crew members were injured.

Historic Flight

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP)—Four British airmen made history today by flying across Antarctica via the South Pole in a small, slow single-engine plane.

Some Clerks Strike

WASHINGTON (AP)—Clerks in a number of Montgomery Ward & Co. retail stores went out on strike today across the nation.

Cross Border

HONG KONG (AP)—Three American mothers crossed into Red China today to visit their imprisoned sons almost three years after the Communists first invited them to come.

Flood Threats

DALLAS (AP)—Continuing rains brought new threats of floods today in South Texas, where 1,800 persons have been evacuated.

Case Resumed

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Federal District Court resumes today trial of a suit by 13 New York Teamsters Union members to void the election of James R. Hoffa as president of the big union. The trial has been in recess since Dec. 20.

New Trial

NEW YORK (AP)—Retrial of James R. Hoffa, president-elect of the Teamsters Union, and two others on wiretap conspiracy charges is on today's Federal Court calendar. The first trial ended Dec. 20 in a jury deadlock.

Equality Asked

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A suit asking that segregation be ended on public transportation in Tennessee opens today before three federal judges.

POX AT 74

CHICAGO (AP)—Michale Byczynski has come down with the chicken pox at 74 years of age. "It's the oddest case I have ever seen," said the attending physician. He added that Byczynski's condition is not serious.

COURTHOUSE EXPANSION STEPS MADE

Commissioners Put Binder Of \$3,000

For Two New Lots

By JOHN JAMISON
News Staff Writer

County Commissioners today took their most significant step yet in expanding courthouse facilities by purchasing the two lots on the southeast corner of courthouse square.

Following a Local Government Commission ruling that the lots could legally be bought, Commissioner J. Herbert Garrison moved the county put a \$3,000 bond on the deal and pay the balance in June, 1958. Total price is \$57,500.

No indication was given immediately of what use will be made of the added space. Earlier resolutions of the board have said the county should have the two lots regardless of where it decides to put its \$2.5 million office building.

OFFERS COMPROMISE

Also at today's meeting A. J. Charles Wiley offered a compromise on the problem of where to put the building.

He said it "would be a logical solution at this time" to buy about half the block across E. 4th St. from the courthouse and put the building there.

Attorney James E. McMillan, president of the county bar association, also appeared at today's meeting to pass along recommendations of lawyers that the building be put across 4th St. and that an immediate temporary third superior court room be provided in the courthouse.

Commissioners, also in a spirit of compromise, set a meeting for 8 p.m. Jan. 20 for all groups of individuals interested in the county's expansion problems.

Mr. McMillan told the commissioners a third Superior Court room is needed immediately and he feels it should be provided on a temporary basis pending advancement of long-range building plans.

Ike Speeds 85 Miles In 2 Hours

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower returned to the White House in rush hour traffic today to meet with the National Security Council on the problems of east-west relations.

Rosy tints of dawn were touching the sky as the President left his Gettysburg, Pa., farm at 7:01 a.m. A bright, full moon still shone in the sky.

The President had stayed at the farm until just about two hours before he was due at the 9 a.m. White House meeting with his top advisers.

He made the 85-mile drive from Gettysburg and through the morning commuter traffic of downtown Washington in a little less than two hours and was in the White House at 9:02 a.m.

Profile Of The Accused



Frank Wetzel as he appeared at arraignment.

New District Judge Seated As Court Opens

By JOHN BORCHERT
News Staff Writer

Judge Edwin M. Stanley earned his spurs today.

The new federal judge for the Middle District Court at Greensboro sat on the bench here as the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals opened a three-week session here.

As a visiting judge, he joins the permanent members of the court in hearing cases through Jan. 24. Judge John J. Parker of Charlotte is chief judge.

With Judge Parker are Judge Simon E. Sobeloff of Baltimore, Md., and Judge Clement F. Hanesworth Jr. of Greenville, S. C. Judge Hanesworth is new to the court, having been sworn in this spring after Judge Morris A. Soper of Baltimore took a voluntary retirement.

Judge Stanley spent 23 years (1934-57) as a trial lawyer. In 1954 he became U.S. attorney for the Middle District, and from that post he stepped into the chair of federal judge, having been appointed Oct. 23, 1957, and sworn in Nov. 1.

"There'll be some difference," he commented about his new position, "but it's all in what you get used to. I had to make the adjustment from defending to presiding when I was attorney. This will be another adjustment."

SAVING OF TIME

He said through an evolutionary process, law is reaching a point where cases can be tried more rapidly and fairly.

"Preliminary hearings, which I have been conducting since taking office, are a tremendous help in cutting down the time of trials."

He said a trial which formerly would take a week, can now be heard in a few hours.

He said details upon which both sides can agree are settled in pre-trial conferences.

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Action By Grand Jury Awaited

By BILL HUGHES
News Writing Reporter

ROCKINGHAM — Frank E. Wetzel, almost certainly will be tried for the murder of Highway Patrolman Wister L. Reece in the session of Richmond County Superior Court which convened this morning.

There has been wide speculation that John T. Page Jr., Wetzel's court-appointed attorney, would seek postponement of the trial. An informed source, who declined to be quoted by name, said the attorney probably will not ask postponement.

The postponement, if requested, probably would not be granted, the source said.

Wetzel was not on hand as court sessions made routine preparations for opening the session.

The grand jury was expected to receive and act on a bill of indictment in the case this afternoon.

The morning session of court was taken up with a selection of the grand jury and the charge to the jury by Judge J. A. Rousseau. Officials said Wetzel would not be brought here from Central Prison in Raleigh until a bill of indictment was returned.

Crowds of spectators began gathering even before the 10 a.m. opening. The trial itself probably will not begin before tomorrow.

The state will contend that Wetzel was the driver of a 1957 Oldsmobile stopped by Patrolman Reece about 8 p.m. Nov. 5.

The driver of the car stepped out of his car and fired a pistol bullet into the patrolman's stomach.

About an hour later, as other patrolmen sped toward the scene of the shooting, Patrolman J. T. Brown pulled up behind a speeding car near Sanford. By radio he declined help from other patrolmen.

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Meeting To Decide Road Route

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Obituaries	9B
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Sports	12B
Theaters	7B
To Your Good Health	9A
Women	2-4B
Worry Clinic	7A

No Delay Is Expected In Trial For Wetzel

Wetzel's Defense Resting In Hands Of Ex-FBI Man

By News Writing Reporter

ROCKINGHAM — A former FBI agent who likes to tackle challenging legal questions will stand between the State of North Carolina and Frank Wetzel when Wetzel goes on trial for his life.

John T. Page Jr., already has shown his mettle by challenging the state's authority to keep the accused killer of two N. C. highway patrolmen in Raleigh's Central Prison prior to his Richmond County trial.

That attempt failed, but might have given the attorney grounds for having the trial postponed. All this could be part of his strategy. At any rate, the unusual move was characteristic of Mr. Page's bold thinking.

There is an element of poetic irony in the fact that Wetzel, captured primarily through the efforts of the FBI, will be defended by a former FBI agent.

The cheerful 33-year-old attorney did two "hitches" in the government agency. The first be-



ATTORNEY PAGE

gan a year after he received his law degree from Wake Forest College in 1949.

He returned to law practice after two years in the FBI. In 1954 he began another year's service. Since 1955 he has practiced law in his native Rockingham with his father.

Mr. Page's law career has not been spectacular. Nor has he been dull.

TWO MURDER DEFENSES

In criminal practice he figured in the defense in two murder cases. As court-appointed attorney for Joe Miller, accused with two others in the killing of Ida May Treadway more than a year ago, he entered a guilty plea for his defendant after the trial started.

Miller received a life sentence. Page also was appointed to defend Wetzel. He has said he "definitely" will not plead the New York guilty.

Mr. Page, in association with

See EX-FBI on page 2-A

They Have Death Trial Key Roles

By News Writing Reporter

ROCKINGHAM — Personalities in Frank E. Wetzel's trial: Judge J. A. Rousseau — Presiding judge, a veteran of the Superior Court bench from North Wilkesboro.

Solicitor M. G. Boyette — Carthage solicitor for the Thirteenth District in charge of presenting the state's case.

John T. Page Jr. — Rockingham attorney appointed to defend Wetzel.

Robert Terry — Negro lay preacher who rode with the slayer and law patrolman Reece shot down.

Samuel R. W. Goodman — Richmond County law officer who, with the Highway Patrol, will supervise Wetzel's custody and help keep order in the courtroom, which almost certainly will be jammed.

Annex L. Covington — Veteran clerk of court and administrative supervisor of court proceedings.

Three Escape Prison Camp

Three midwestern prisoners, each with a previous record of an escape, leaped a fence at the Hendersville Prison Camp and fled unharmed today.

A prison official said the three were returning to their cell blocks from the prison mess hall. Guards are not permitted to shoot when prisoners on misdemeanor charges make a break, the official said.

He identified the three as James Luther Pruitt, 19, of Thompsonville, serving 18 months for public drunkenness, an attempted burglary and a previous escape; Tommy Jackson, 26, of High Point, serving 26 months for assault and robbery and escape; and David Jordan, 20, 1805 Thomas Ave., Charlotte, serving 18 months for contributing to the delinquency of a minor and escape.

Bloodhounds were called out in an attempt to track the escapees; and Mecklenburg County Police broadcast an alarm.

The official was unable to give details of each man's previous escape.

Evening Prayer

Our Father, we thank Thee for the redeeming power of Christ, our Saviour. Give us that newness and radiance of life that comes only from the indwelling Christ. May He evermore live in our hearts. In the blessed name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, "Our Father who art in heaven . . . Amen."

At The Pentagon

Gavin's Action Spurs Shakeup

WASHINGTON (AP)—A spectacular one-man revolt by Lt. Gen. James M. Gavin spurred demands today for a shakeup in the military high command.

Gavin, chief of the Army's research and development program, told a reporter he is sticking by his announced intention to retire from the Army March 21. He will be 51 then, with 30 years service.

"I won't compromise my principles and I won't go along with the Pentagon system," he said.

Some members of Congress expressed concern at Gavin's move, and a Senate subcommittee planned to explore the matter promptly.

Sen. Kefauver (D-Tenn.) said Gavin's stand emphasizes what he called a need for Congress to consider overhauling the present military setup.

Sen. Stennis (D-Miss.) voiced a hope that Gen. Gavin will change his mind and decide not to retire.

Stennis, a member of the Senate Preparedness subcommittee investigating space flight and missiles programs, said he will seek to learn whether anyone "coerced" the general into resigning. "I hope we can develop fully the complete story of his retirement," he said.

Stennis told newsmen he thinks Gavin could be of greater service to the country in his present post than if he retired.

Gavin said that "I haven't been able to get much done, the system being what it is." Without elaborating on this, he said he is "not doing any good" inside the Army. "No I'll take a cut at it on the outside."

As a civilian, Gavin said, he would be freer to "recommend, to apply creative thinking to national defense."

Testifying before the Senate Preparedness subcommittee last month, Gavin said the Joint Chiefs of Staff system should be abolished for its present purposes of planning over-all military programs. He suggested that it be replaced by a planning group specifically representing the different armed services.

Gavin said at the time that he

See GAVIN on page 2-A

Sub Threat Gets Study

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.) said today the Senate Preparedness subcommittee is exploring thoroughly the potential threat of missile-firing nuclear submarines to the United States.

Johnson said the progress this country is making in nuclear submarine developments would be studied with Rear Adm. Hyman G. Rickover, who developed the type the Navy now has in operation.

Rickover was called for testimony at a closed session today. Previously the group was reported to have been told by Allen Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, that the Russians have submarines which could fire missiles on American coastal cities.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

Meantime, Sen. Jackson (D-Wash.) called for a special Navy program, headed by an official submarine officer, to speed this country's missile submarine program. He renewed his call for at least 100 such submarines a year.

Jackson, a member of the present Armed Services Committee but not of the subcommittee, said in a statement that "sooner than we think" the Russians will have "large numbers of nuclear submarines armed with 1,500-mile missiles."

By comparison, he said, "our present plans call for exactly one hunter-killer submarine to be operational in 1960."

Jackson said the Navy's intermediate missile Polaris is in a final testing stage but "will not be a real weapon until it is mated to the launching platform, a nuclear submarine."

The debate over the nation's defenses echoed elsewhere among officials and among Congress members returning for the start of a new session.

Sailor Says Marine Hit Him For Saying Prayer

YOKOSUKA, Japan (AP)—An 18-year-old American sailor today accused a Marine guard of beating him up for saying a prayer in the brig at Sasebo Naval Base.

Sgt. Robert J. Barbuti of Schenectady, N. Y., the accused guard, pleaded innocent before a general court-martial to 29 counts of cruelty and mistreatment toward prisoners.

Eight Marine guards at the brig were convicted previously and six were acquitted on similar charges.

Sgt. Barbuti was always hitting me, Fireman Carlos E. Vota of Amarillo, Tex., testified. Vota spent seven days in the brig following his conviction for insubordination to a petty officer. He told the court, "They (Sgt. Barbuti and other brig wardens) made me hold a ruler with hands stretched out. I was so weakened by previous beatings that I closed my eyes and started praying. Sgt. Barbuti called me a religious S.O.B. and struck me with his fist in the stomach . . . I almost passed out."



Judicial Lineup: District Judge Stanley (Left), Circuit Judges Sobeloff, Parker and Hanesworth

Today's Weather

Partly cloudy and continued rather cold today and tonight. Tuesday cloudy and cold.

Low this morning	16
Low tomorrow morning	25
High today	42
High yesterday	40
High tomorrow	42
Sunrise today 7:32 a.m.	
Sunset today 5:28 p.m.	

More Weather Data on Page 2-A