Portland Press Herald

VOL. 101—NO. 282 Second Class Postage Paid at Portland, Maine PORTLAND, MAINE, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 17, 1965 PRICE EIGHT CENTS ★★★★ 22 Pages

At Least 21 Dead In Viet Base Blasts

40 U.S. Planes Smashed, Damaged

BIEN HOA Viet Nam (AP) — A thundering chain of explosions described as another Pearl Harbor ripped the worst and destruction Sunday upon U.S. forces at this vital air base that air major Caucasian air

At least 21 dead and 100 injured, reported yesterday. Twenty-two of the Americans wounded required hospitalization and two were in serious condition.

A blast bomb buried in the wreckage of Sunday's devastating chain reaction explosion went off Monday while U.S. and Vietnamese engineers attempted to clean up the badly battered Bien Hoa air base.

No new casualties were reported. Officials feared the explosion might have touched off "unstable" high-power bombs stockpiled on the field by the original series of explosions.

Although the huge base 12 miles north of Saigon is a prime Viet Cong target, Maj. Gen. Joseph H. Moore commander of the U.S. Air Force operations in Viet Nam and Thailand said the explosions were probably accidental.

"I am satisfied no sabotage was involved," he said. "It was no accidental explosion of a bomb on one aircraft which spread to others."

Moore's comments, however, were based on a preliminary investigation. A special team was expected to continue the probe.

United States officials said the bomb that went off had been tallied about a B57 jet bomber for an attack against Communist guerrillas.

A fireball and, a shaft of smoke billowed from the explosion airstrikes—the 8d bomb detonated in the chain reaction. Ambulances and fire trucks swarmed by crewmen and civilians performed heroic rescue and fire fighting.

BLOODBATH MASS

Five military after the initial blast. Then came the ear-smouldering mass of debris from 750-pound bombs, napalm tanks, bombs and white phosphorus in progress when an ammunition dump exploded nearly three hours later. No new casualties figures were available.

An Air Force officer said one plane was already on fire when the first explosion occurred. Others were damaged by debris from the exploding dump. Another plane was destroyed when a fuel truck caught fire.

Disaster operations were still in progress yesterday afternoon as ammunition and ordnance passed up and down the runway. Assistant White House press secretary said President Johnson was informed promptly and he is distressed by the tragedy.

Ten of the destroyed planes were A4 Skyhawk jet bombers. Two others were propeller-driven U.S. Air Force fighter-bombers, one was

Continued on Page 6; 5th Col.

Bomb-Blasted Air Base

Smoke rises from fires in U.S. jet area of Bien Hoa air base in South Viet Nam after a bomb blast destroyed an American C-130 plane ramp at the base Sunday. At left other American and Vietnamese aircraft are still parked close to each other. Other planes try to get to the runway to escape destruction from bombs and fires. (AP Wirephoto)

Big Tank-Led Force Attacks Rebels

U.S. Urges Junta Resign

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — A high level White House mission met with Gen. Antonio Imbert Barrera Sunday night and reportedly urged the ruling military junta to resign.

Junta sources said Imbert had attended another meeting between Undersecretary of State Thomas C. Mann and Imbert was scheduled Monday.

Junta sources said the U.S. government was trying to get the junta to step aside so "that understanding could be reached with rebel constitutionalist leader Jr. a new government in the Dominican republic.

The White House mission also includes McGeorge Bundy, special adviser to the President on national security affairs; Deputy Secretary of Defense Cyrus C. Vance, and Jack H. Vaughn, assistant secretary of state for Latin-American affairs. It arrived Sunday morning.

As the White House mission talked with the junta, rebel forces units loyal to the junta renewed their attack on rebel military forces in the northern suburbs of Santo Dominico.

There were no official reports of the progress of the battle which had raged through Saturday night before diminishing Sunday morning.

Imbert said his forces sent 30 tanks into action in an attempt to clean out enemy pockets in the industrial area in the north of the city.

Manuel R. Monies Arzeno, armed forces minister and chief of the constitutionalist forces, said he knew nothing of any tanks

But he conceded Imbert's troops used mortars. He said the rebels still were loyal to soldiers, out of two truckloads of arms and one rebel leader.

Residents who fled the northern sector of the city told newsmen they saw Sunday morning.

The shrinking rain cut down traffic in and out of the capital area. The fighting earlier triggered a flood of refugees into the villages. Groups of poorer families carrying their possessions on their shoulders fled to the countryside.

Fighting raged across fields heading west away from the city.

Automobiles top heavy with refugees jammed roadways. Many were taken by ambulance to the Dominican Red Cross Hospital, where casualties were reported as they arrived.

Hospital officials said casualties so far appeared to be relatively light.

Under the huge banner of "United Nations of OAS to help" and "out with the Yankees" the anti-American troops are not in the action—although they have received some supplies—according to reports from the fire across the Ozama River during the night between rebels and paratroopers of the 16th Airborne Brigade.

Heavy gunfire also could be heard in the vicinity of the University of Santo Domingo, near where U.S. Marines are entrenched.

An official U.S. military spokesman reported, however, that only three Americans were wounded during the night. The spokesman said this was the heaviest action recorded for a 24-hour period since U.S. forces arrived.

Those who spent the night in the rebel-held zone said shooting across the Ozama River was heavy, but there was no recall Unit. of the 82nd Airborne Division, the nation's ready reserve.

It is known the rebel forces of Col. Francisco Caamano Deno have been pushed into a small area in which the rebels are encircled by the Americans, on the other side of the river. The Americans have been firing back with ordnance up to the recoilless 106mm tank killers. The water from a weir bank is a shambles with empty holes in most of the buildings.

Continued on Page 6, 1st. Col.

Homesick Youth Found In Crate Aboard Plane

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — A 16-year-old runaway from Wickiman who wanted to go home from Australia so badly he stowed aboard a Pan American World Airways plane inside a shipping crate was discovered Sunday after he managed to break out of his prison.

Pan American officials said he was Robson, N. Cardiff, South Wales, was discovered by a cargo handler who saw a beam of light shining through the crate.

The flight was from a flash-point in Australia to Los Angeles with stops in Fiji and Hawaii and also with co-d from Melbourne, Australia, to Great Britain.

Robson told authorities he had planned to remain in the crate until he arrived in Great Britain and then break his way out. However, he became weak from lack of water and food and decided to give up after hearing a cargo handler at Los Angeles International Airport.

A hammer he carried broke on the attempt.

A Pan American spokesman said that after he saw the light he peered inside the crate —labeled as an Alka Seltzer computer — and found the youth.

Robson, who had left Australia Wednesday, was unable to talk but the cargo handler was able to hand him some water.

PRELUDE TO WAR

The incredible story of the coming of World War II

9:00 ★ TONIGHT

CHANNEL 13

Challenger Enjoys Some Horseplay

By ROBERT H. GARDNER
District Correspondent

POLAND SPRING — A little horseplay around on a man's day off doesn't normally cause much concern anywhere at a time. But this wasn't the case Sunday afternoon here when horseplay between Boston heavyweight champion Sonny Liston and challenger Cassius Clay took on the aspects of a saddle-horse fracas.

Nobody seemed to be sure whether Liston actually threw Clay to the ground or a horseman or just got fired up watching Marshall Dillon on TV, but suddenly Cassius was the man took it onto his head and began scraping at the unfortunate and didn't seem to mind a bit that there was no saddle underneath.

He took a look at the good looking chestnut gelding and decided to mount. Three one leg over, and good leonine on top and all the while Mars Harold Conrad Sam Margolis and Bob Nilon of Inter-Continental Sports were holding their breaths and looking more than a little skeptical over the whole bit.

Hundreds of newspaper stories as well as hotel guests roamed the resort area. Some of them were in the corral, but for the most part they generally supervised.

Liston himself appeared to enjoy the day off and was pleased with the ride on a saddleman in spite of the fact he had no saddle. He actually looked relaxed and turned on some unbeatable charm when he met Gov. and Mrs. Reed.

He had a lot of fun and folks had fun with him. Many of the guests, apparently, didn't have to work with 1 p.m. Sunday as the group for his first sparring activities in the Mansion House ballroom in his quest to defend his title May 25 in Lewiston in a title fight with Cassius Clay.

Prayer For Today

O God help me to seek the truth that will make me free and able, in life and laughter, to love and serve my fellows. Save the world servants harbor-ers to hate and hearing to shameful prayer. May we see the truth in ourselves and in others that we may be set free. Amen.

Thoughts on the Day: Freedom is not a gift to be received, but a task to be performed.

Meditation: Lord, I am free when I am true to myself.

Thoughtfulness of Mr. Verbeck and a request to all other Air battalion of the U.S Berlin Command, reminded us again of days. They turned over Tykociński whose rank corresponds to that of a major general, to their German counterparts.

U.S officials said his request for asylum was considered carefully.

It was the first defection of a high-ranking diplomat from a Communist country in West Berlin in years.

Tykociński, senior foreign diplomat in West Berlin, was a friend among his colleagues and newsmen. He has been described as a jolly man, sick-named the "Grape Buster" for his character is Johann Sebastian Bach.

A non-German source who knew Tykociński well said he would be identified and he was not in favor at first, when he heard the news.

"It was quite a step for him to take," the source said. "But when I thought about it more, it was more plausible.

Tykociński is a man of extraordinary liberal sympathies, the source added "He told me on occasion that he was a socialist but not a Communist.

He is what we might call a good Pole and one who never agreed with Communism. He is

Continued on Page 6, 5th Col.

High Polish Diplomat Defects In Berlin, Asks U.S. Asylum

BERLIN (AP) — The chief of the Polish Military Mission in Berlin walked up to an unsuspecting American sentry Monday and asked for political asylum in the United States.

He was turned over swiftly to U.S. State Department officials who flew him to the U.S. Air Force base in West Germany.

The defector was identified as Col. Kazimierz Tykociński, who has a grasp of a man at 6-foot-3 and has developed a knack of greeting his foes with a black mustache.

A delighted U.S. military mission spokesman confirmed the defection and said this was the heaviest action recorded for a 24-hour period since U.S. forces arrived.

Tykociński, who spent the night in the rebel-held zone said shooting across the Ozama River was heavy, but there was no recall Unit. of the 82nd Airborne Division, the nation's ready reserve.

It is known the rebel forces of Col. Francisco Caamano Deno have been pushed into a small area in which the rebels are encircled by the Americans, on the other side of the river. The Americans have been firing back with ordnance up to the recoilless 106mm tank killers. The water from a weir bank is a shambles with empty holes in most of the buildings.

Continued on Page 6, 1st. Col.

Youngster Safe After 2 Nights In Woodlands

ATHOL, Mass. (AP) — A 5-year-old boy who spent two nights in the woods was found safe Sunday by searchers early Sunday.

Steven Ignasiewicz suffered exposure and minor injuries. He was treating at Athol Memorial Hospital where he was listed in fair condition.

Steven was found in a small clearing about a mile from his home.

He was wandering with his hands together as if praying, police said.

His father said later he was by the habit of getting on his hands and knees and talking when frightened.

Mr. Ignasiewski said Steven was "really scared and glad to get home."

Searchers found Steven at night when his parents reported him missing from his yard.

More than 400 police national guardsmen and volunteers were searching the dense, swampy woodlands.

Today's Chuckle

We just heard of a young fellow who got 87 shavers from a single razor blade. He's nine years old.

Lazy Sunday Afternoon

Thirteen-year-old Clark Reynolds of Buxton and his pet, Rascal, ignore a chill in the air on Sunday and have fun paddling on a pond. Because of a heavy cut off the ocean, the mercury didn't go above 51 here.

News, Features On The Inside

The Weather

Warmer, showers today. Fair and pleasant Tuesday. Complete report on Page 2.

COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES OUTDOING ONE ANOTHER — Stories of three leading institutions on Page 3.

SOUTH PORTLAND FIRM does vital work for West German corporation, as Frank Sleeper discovered on his trip to Europe Page 12

FIVE PROMINENT MAINE PERSONS, Boston physician named to Maine Medical Center Centennial Committee Page 2.

Classified	Deaths	2 Sanders	3 Theaters
18-21	Editorials	4 Insurance	3 Travel
Clearing House	Graham	5 Letters	12 News
Comics	Hospitals	12 Obituaries	12 Women's
Crossword	Jumble	18 Sports	13-15 Pages
		18 Television	3