

Berlin Electricity And Rail Traffic Cut Off By Soviet

Showdown For Control Of Capital Shapes Up; All Movements Stopped

BERLIN, Thursday, June 24.—(UP)—Russia tightened its grip on Soviet-surrounded Berlin today. In a showdown fight for control of the capital it stopped all railroad traffic from the three western occupation zones and reportedly ordered all electricity to the western sectors cut off.

The blanket stoppage of rail traffic, effective at once, the Russian chief transport officer cited "technical difficulties." He said he had issued orders to get "trucks repaired" as soon as possible.

The order, a grim threat to try to starve the 2,000,000 Germans in the western sectors of Berlin, came without warning.

It was followed by an announcement from the United States-controlled radio station RIAS that the Russians had instructed the King-emergency power plant to cut off electricity to the western sectors today.

American officials said the Russians also had ordered the Zehn-witz plant not to service the western sectors. The Zehn-witz plant, 25 miles south of Berlin, is the Soviet occupation zone, furnishes 90 per cent of Berlin's electricity, said Klingenberg, providing the bulk of the remainder.

The German and Allied residents of the three Western sectors would be forced to use the power lines inside their boundaries for electricity. RIAS said the Russians examined the cut in power, but said by the coal shortage, but said such by were ordered for the Soviet sector.

United States Army military parks were doubled in the American sector, ready for any eventuality.

Economic chaos meanwhile engulfed the world's fourth-ranking city. The currency, under the best of strength between East and West over an attempt by Russia to make its own currency the sole legal tender, was in a state of confusion.

Banks and all shops but those selling food and drugs were closed in the Western sectors. Other shops were closed in the Soviet sector.

The Western Powers, charging Russia with attempting to usurp control of the city, demanded the issue be decided "in voice" in their sectors. At the same time, they issued orders that the currency reform would be introduced in the Western zone last Sunday was extended to Berlin Friday. The Soviet decree was not retroactively applied.

The Allies, at least, were still hopeful that some agreement could be reached with the Russians that would prevent the currency reform. A two-currency city with its resultant complications, Britain announced that the new Soviet market would be acceptable in the Western sector.

Russian Marshal Vasily D. Sokolovskiy threatened dire punishment of Germans in the Western sectors as well as his own. The Russian order was issued early Wednesday. The Western Allies set up a working party to study the situation in a few hours later.

Quick Coal Agreement Is Predicted

Fact Finders Delay Report

WASHINGTON, June 23. (UP)—John L. Lewis and the soft coal operators broke their long deadlock today and agreed the contract-signing stage has been made toward a complete agreement.

Word that a coal agreement is in the making came from President Truman's fact-finding board. It was announced in a dramatic fashion 24 hours after the report is being scheduled to be sent to the White House by midnight, and Chairman David L. Cole announced.

"The board... has been informed by representatives of the union and the operators that a considerable amount of progress has been made toward a complete agreement."

Closed Session He made the announcement after an hour-long closed session of the board at which the United Mine Workers chief and the operators reported on their negotiations which were hurriedly revived at the board's insistence.

The board asked and obtained White House permission for a 24-hour extension in filing its report in the afternoon. The operators and the operators until 6 p. m. tomorrow to report back on further progress.

Cole said Lewis and the mine owners had "assured" the board that if they cannot agree on a completely new contract before the present one expires June 30, they will make an effort to agree on an extension of the current contract.

That means that Lewis is ready to go before the U. M. W.'s 200-man policy committee, meeting here tomorrow, with at least some proposals for a new contract.

Cole said the board doesn't know any of the details of the settlement talks, but said the fact-finders are "working out" the details with the progress reported by both sides.

Lewis and Charles O'Neill, chief operator negotiator, listened silently to the board's report and then turned to reporters. Both refused comment.

Lewis holds Trumps Lewis went into today's talk holding two new trump cards. Both, ironically, were handed him by the U. S. Supreme Court in the case of the U. M. W. v. E. A. Carter.

The judge yesterday threw out an operators' suit to block payment of \$100-a-month pensions to U. M. W. members. The suit was filed in a federal court in St. Louis.

He followed that up today by a decision that the U. M. W. is forbidden the U. M. W. to strike over the pension issue while it is pending in the courts.

He also ruled that Lewis is a green light to press for his key demand that pension payments be started before a new contract is drawn up. The U. M. W. is ready to talk to the U. M. W. chief "in the light of the court's decision."

October Draft Is Predicted The German Communist Party has reported that the Soviet zone of Germany also was reported called here. An underground cabinet of Molotov, Mikoyan, and Khrushchev, Russian military governor of Eastern Germany, had come to Warsaw.

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HOUSING ACTION URGED The House Committee on Education and Labor today urged that the A. F. L., C. I. O. and 24 other organizations representing labor, religious, farm and other groups which points to the need for a national Republican office at Philadelphia urging that Congress be called into special session to act on the Housing Bill.

Republicans Nomininate Candidates Amid Bedlam In Convention Hall; Delegates Roar Over Platform Approval



MARTIN NOMINATES DEWEY FOR PRESIDENT

Senator Edward Martin of Pennsylvania, left, nominated Dewey for President. Governor Dewey, right, was named as a Republican candidate.

Vandenberg's Tar Heels Pledge 15 Votes To Dewey On First Ballot

PHILADELPHIA, June 23.—(AP)—In a caucus pledged to "secrecy" today the Tar Heel delegates to this G. O. P. convention decided to cast on the first ballot Thursday 15 votes for Dewey, 7 for Taft, 2 each for Joseph Martin and Harold Stassen.

No Machine, Johnson Says

CHARLOTTE, June 23.—(AP)—State Treasurer Charles M. Johnson today attacked his opponent's application of a "machine" label to Johnson's candidacy for Governor.

In a state-wide broadcast, Johnson also asserted that W. Kerr Scott in 1936 rode into office "on the coat-tails" of the successful candidate for Governor, called Scott a "hatchet man" and lashed at Scott's "great hoohah about what a greater friend he is to the farmers."

Back in 1936, Mr. Scott was a candidate for commissioner of agriculture and was publicly opposing Governor R. H. Reaume. A brilliant farmer-reared straw hat, covered with flowers, set off her costume.

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Marshall-Plan Nations Won't Get Sum Asked WASHINGTON, June 23.—(UP)—The Economic Co-operation Administration today said Marshall plan nations will get \$450,000,000 which they have asked for during the next three months.

McLendon Backs W. Kerr Scott WASHINGTON, June 23.—(AP)—McLendon, chairman of the University of North Carolina trustees medical school committee, tonight called State Treasurer Charles M. Johnson a "hatchet man" and lashed at Scott's "great hoohah about what a greater friend he is to the farmers."

Cooley Tells Tobacco Group New Farm Bill Is Monstrous VIRGINIA BEACH, Va., June 23.—(AP)—A Democratic representative said today that a four-year medical school at Chapel Hill was backed up by the university trustees themselves.

Bradley Urges Terrible Weapons To Stop War LOS ANGELES, N. M., June 23.—(AP)—Gen. Omar N. Bradley, army chief of staff today called for development of more terrible weapons to stop war.

Ground-Breaking—Eaton breaks ground today for new gym. S. P. 6. Another Arrest—Four men held in connection with baseball scandal. Hearing set today. S. P. 2.

Internal Crisis Divides Israel

TEL AVIV, Israel, June 23.—(UP)—The first grave internal government crisis in the 18-month-old state of Israel today.

Yisrael Aharon, Jewish extremist, today demanded the resignation of the provisional government and as a result of the dispute two cabinet members resigned.

The cabinet is being held in suburban Wilanow Palace. Thousands of Polish Tommy-guns guarded Okciek Airport and the city of Warsaw.

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State Department Is Working On Association With Nations WASHINGTON, June 23.—(AP)—Under Secretary of State Lovell Underhill today said that the State Department is working on the problem of associating the United States with the Western Hemisphere.

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In The News Today

The nominating of candidates got under way at Philadelphia last night as the Dewey bandwagon rolled on. Other aspirants for the G. O. P. bid appeared to be trying to rally strength to stop the New York governor, Pennsylvania's Governor Duff, a strong Vandenberg man, announced that he would support Senator Taft, and Stassen told newsmen the anti-Dewey forces had a plan which would unfold at the convention.

Meanwhile, a new crisis may be looming in Berlin, where the Russians have stopped all rail traffic with the western zone after the Western Powers introduced their new money into their sectors of the city.

Budget Fixed—City to spend \$1,655,348 during next fiscal year. S. P. 1. Pay Boost—County employees may get 10 per cent salary adjustment. S. P. 2. Flood Kills Seven—At least seven known dead as flash flood strikes West Central Oklahoma. S. P. 2.

000 Wives Too Many—U. N. body unable to answer problem of African rural's polygamous activities. S. P. 4. Sweet Masala—Creaking of frogs soothes radio listeners in Japan. S. P. 2. Union Losses Sult—NLRB loses out, action against Amazon Mills. S. P. 1.

Writer Seeks Aid—Composer of famous war song consults with Thor. Johnson. S. P. 2. Recorder's Court—Randolph County promised Recorder's Court. S. P. 3. Hope Of Union—United Nations held key to peace. S. P. 12.

SPORTS: Try Again—Joe Lewis and Jersey Joe Walcott; fight tonight after rain delays original schedule. S. P. 6. Victorious Victor—Selgas continues march in N. C. A. net play. S. P. 6. Ground-Breaking—Eaton breaks ground today for new gym. S. P. 6. Another Arrest—Four men held in connection with baseball scandal. Hearing set today. S. P. 2.