

# Volpe Says U.S. Is Too Close To Proving the SST to Kill It

WASHINGTON (AP) — Accusing supersonic transport opponents of "at times almost hysterical sloganeering," Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe said Monday America is too close to proving the plane with actual test flights to kill it now.

## 2 Charged With Killing GI in Window Plunge

HANAU, Germany (Special) — Two men have been charged with murdering a 14th Supply and Services Bn soldier at Pioneer

Casern here Feb. 20.

In pretrial confinement at the Army Confinement Facility in Mannheim and charged with murder are Spec. 4 John T. McCain and Pvt. Vance L. Daye, both assigned to the 14th Bn.

They are charged with murdering Pfc. Edwin R. Nye, 26, of the 14th's A Co, who died of injuries suffered in a fall from the third-floor window of a barracks.

According to the charges, Nye was pushed from the window, a V COSCOM spokesman said.

V COSCOM officials could not be reached Monday afternoon for further details of the incident.

## West Berlin Sends Envoy To the East

BERLIN (AP) — West Berlin negotiator Guenter Struve went to East Berlin Monday at request of East Germany authorities who last week suggested East-West Berlin talks on such things as wall passes for Easter. A City Hall statement said Struve, Mayor Klaus Schuetz's assistant, went through the wall after a teletype message suggesting that he go over arrived from East Berlin.

The statement said Struve's mission was "to engage in a discussion over certain questions brought up in the exchange of letters between Stoph and Schuetz."

Willi Stoph is the East German premier. On Wednesday he wrote to Schuetz offering a general Berlin dialogue between the two halves of the divided city, with particular reference to visits by West Berliners to East Germany and East Berlin. Easter visits for them were suggested if more general talks were not completed by then.

Schuetz replied Friday, saying the Easter visit question should be taken up but that more general questions would have to await the appropriate stage in the current four-power talks on Berlin.

West Berliners have been without general wall passes for almost five years. They have been unable to go to East Germany proper since 1961, when the Berlin wall was built.

Stoph's letter has been greeted with cautious optimism in West Berlin, where the hope is that the East Germans are now willing to present a more accommodating front.

## Britain Offers Pact In Persian Gulf

LONDON (AP) — Britain Monday offered a new treaty of friendship and military support to the states of the Persian Gulf but left open the issue of withdrawing all its military forces from the region by the year's end.

Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home told the House of Commons that the future presence of British troops in the gulf will depend on whether they are wanted by the projected Union of Arab Emirates.

This union, sponsored by Britain, has been in the process of negotiation for nearly two years but appears to be foundering on the resistance of Bahrain to take part.

## Police Hunting SS Member's Son In Kidnapings

MUNICH (AP) — Police announced Monday an international manhunt has begun for Joerg-Hagen Roll, son of a former Nazi SS member, in connection with last week's kidnaping of Michael Luhmer, 7, and the abduction last year of Stefan Arnold, 5.

Munich Police Chief Manfred Schreiber said Roll, 33, was being sought in West Germany and abroad as the chief suspect in the two kidnapings. Police also seek two other men, as yet unidentified.

Schreiber said Roll was missing from his apartment, and there was an indication that he had fled.

In Bonn, a police spokesman said the Luhmer boy identified Roll from a photograph as one of the three kidnapers.

The boy was released Friday on payment of a \$47,900 ransom after being held four days. The Arnold boy was freed a day after his abduction on payment of \$6,830.

## Gandhi Plane Crippled

NEW DELHI (AP) — An airplane carrying Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on the last leg of her whirlwind national campaign tour made a forced landing in eastern Orissa state Monday after developing engine trouble, but no one was reported hurt.

## Trial of 3 Leftists Begins in Berlin

BERLIN (UPI) — The trial of three left-wingers, charged with attempted murder and other violence, opened before a West Berlin court Monday.

Hundreds of helmeted police, many armed with submachine guns, guarded the court building against possible attempts by revolutionaries to free the prisoners. At the court entrances police carefully frisked all those who entered for concealed weapons.

A black-bearded lawyer among the three handcuffed defendants refused to heed the judge's demand to stand up and

The best way to answer charges that SSTs will blot out the sun, cause skin cancer, shatter eardrums, melt icecaps and disturb animal life is the current program to build and test fly two SST prototypes, Volpe told Congress.

Ten years and \$1.1 billion have been invested in that program, Volpe said, and the test flights are scheduled for 1973.

"We have gone too far, invested too much and are too near our goal to let this all go down the drain with no tangible results," Volpe said.

Volpe's case before the House appropriations subcommittee for a full \$290 million to keep the SST prototype program on schedule launched a full week of SST hearings in the House and Senate.

A House vote on whether to halt funds and possibly kill the U.S. SST program could come in two weeks. Congress is supposed to make a final decision by the end of the month.

Volpe said U.S. technology has overcome the SST's noise problem—the government announced last week a breakthrough toward an engine as quiet as present jetliners—and said he is confident it can overcome any environmental problems as well.

But if the test flights and concurrent environmental research show the SST will do "irreparable harm to our environment," Volpe said:

"I will do everything possible to ensure that a U.S. SST does not fly in commercial service—and this is a commitment I make on behalf of this administration."

"This is the moment of decision for this program," Volpe said, "and in a larger sense for the nation's entire attitude toward the advancement of technology."

Opponents get their hearing Tuesday and will emphasize both the alleged hazards to the environment and disputed reports the British-French Concorde is in trouble, giving America no competition to match other than the Soviet Tupolev 144, which is scheduled for its first commercial flight late this year.

The hearings, three days in the House and then two in the Senate, are on the administration's request for full \$290 million funding this year to keep the SST alive.

Rep. John J. McFall, D-Calif., chairman of the House subcommittee hearings, said the request, possibly knocked down to \$255 million, could be ready for a House vote by March 16.

The question then would go to the Senate, which voted 52 to 41 last year to halt federal money for the SST.

identify himself. And after less than an hour, the defense counsel won a three-day adjournment, pending a court ruling on whether judges conducting the trial were prejudiced.

Before the court were lawyer Horst Mahler, 35, and two women, medical assistant Ingrid Schubert, 26, and student Irene Goergens, 19. Mahler, a lawyer who defended student leader Rudi Dutschke and other left-wingers who were active in West Berlin three years ago, sported a full black beard grown in jail.

The two women were charged

## 30 Will Fly Free In Salute to USO

By BOB UMPHRESS

FRANKFURT (S&S)—The Davis Agency will observe the 30th anniversary of the United Service Organization (USO) by supplying free round trips to the United States to 30 European-based servicemen.

The selected men will depart for New York from Frankfurt or London on March 12 and return on March 30.

EUCOM established the service quotas (USAREUR 21, USAF 6, NAVEUR 3) on the basis of the numbers of servicemen. The services, in turn, allocated spaces to their subordinate commands.

The only guidelines were that nominees be highly deserving EM and that they be prepared to provide for their own travel beyond and back to New York.

The Davis Agency, a commercial air charter firm with offices near all major U.S. bases in Germany and England, will send the plane tickets directly to the selectees after receiving the names of the servicemen from the Frankfurt USO office.

The New York office of the USO will arrange for free tickets to theaters or sporting events for those men wanting them on arrival.

## Nixon Says Bombing Must Not Close Capitol

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE (AP) — President Nixon called Monday's explosion at the Capitol "a shocking act of violence which will outrage all Americans," but said the buildings of Congress should remain open to all the people.

"This kind of sporadic act of violence, as deplorable as it is, should not lead to anything other than to continue to keep the Capitol open," Nixon told Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott by telephone from aboard the presidential jetliner.

Nixon called for increased security steps to guard the Capitol such as those that have been taken recently to protect the White House and foreign embassies, press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said. The President offered to lend Capitol police training help from the Justice Department and executive police.

"The President feels that the Capitol is a building that belongs to all Americans and symbolizes a form of government that for 192 years has provided a means of peaceful change," Ziegler said.

The President's message was relayed by telephone from aboard Air Force One as Nixon flew to Des Moines, Iowa.

Earlier, Ziegler said, Nixon telephoned FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover from the White House as soon as he was informed of the explosion on the Capitol's Senate side and received a full report on the damage.

Ziegler said Nixon first learned of the explosion from the White House 24-hour situation room and rechecked devel-

opments twice before going to bed.

"The President feels that this act of violence is totally deplorable and will be condemned by all Americans," Ziegler said.

## Senators React With Shock to Building Blast

WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of the U.S. Senate expressed shock and amazement Monday over an explosion that caused extensive damage to the Senate wing of the Capitol.

"Anyone who would plant a bomb like that any place, let alone the nation's Capitol, has to be a revolutionary or completely mad," Sen. Harold E. Hughes, D-Iowa, said.

Sen. Peter H. Dominick, R-Colo., had a similar opinion.

"Very Dangerous"

"I don't know what group it is, of course," Dominick said. "But any group that tries to destroy something with the history of this nation behind it is obviously out of their mind—and very, very dangerous."

Other comments: Sen. John Stennis, D-Miss.: "It might represent merely the act of a few individuals, but it is quite serious from any viewpoint."

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, who serves as president of the Senate, called the explosion "a calculated act of outrage which will be neither tolerated nor condoned by Americans who value our system and its institutions."

Sen. John L. McClellan D-Ark., who conducted extensive investigative hearings last year into the then-current wave of political bombings, said he was not greatly surprised at the explosion at the Capitol.

"I think there is an element in this country that wants to foment revolution," McClellan said.

After inspecting the damaged area, Foreign Relations Committee Chairman J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., said there is "no rational explanation for irrational actions."

"I don't know what they seek to accomplish by it," Fulbright added.

with attempted murder and using force in freeing left-wing arsonist Andreas Baader from a prison escort in West Berlin May 14.

Mahler was charged with being an accessory to the same two offenses and with illegal possession of a weapon.

The trial aroused exceptional interest because a revolutionary band with which the three defendants were purportedly associated allegedly plotted to kidnap West German Chancellor Willy Brandt and his minister for special duties, Horst Ehmke, last month.