

Waste, Inefficiency, Mismanagement Charged

Campaign to Eradicate Coal-Fire Pollution Probed in Pa.

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Pennsylvania's multimillion-dollar campaign to put out mine fires and burning refuse banks—smoldering piles of rock and low-grade coal that pollute the air—is being investigated because of allegations of "waste, inefficiency and mismanagement."

The investigation focuses on projects funded by the state in a \$50-million effort to erase scars left by the coal mining industry in the hard coal region of northeastern Pennsylvania.

State Auditor Gen. Robert P. Casey estimates that cost overruns will reach at least \$12 million unless changes are made in the remaining seven years of the reclamation program. Investigators say there already is evidence of losses to the state

of "possibly millions of dollars," and sources close to the probe say a number of former government officials may be involved.

The state Crime Commission already has questioned three contractors at a private hearing. Other sessions are expected.

The head of a company which received five of seven mine fire contracts awarded in the last three years is scheduled to meet this week with Atty. Gen. J. Shane Creamer to discuss the probe. A state Justice Department source said the contractor, John P. Dixon, requested the meeting.

Dixon Contracting Co. Inc., of Mount Carmel, has received contracts for \$14 million of a total \$16 million in state funds since the cleanup program

began in 1968. One of those contracts for \$4.5 million, was canceled earlier this month.

The only official statement by the investigating agencies—the Departments of Justice, Environmental Resources and the Auditor General—said: "Our joint findings thus far indicate that there may have been, at the least, waste, inefficiency and mismanagement by the former Department of Mines and Mineral Industries resulting in the loss of possibly millions of dollars..."

The former mines department head, Dr. H. Beecher Charnbury, and his deputy for the anthracite region, Gordon E. Smith, have declined comment while the probe is underway.

Charnbury's executive de-

puty, Mazie B. Gutshall, now a special consultant to the U.S. Bureau of Mines, said contracting procedures have not changed for the past 30 years. "Every set of specifications was approved by them before it was signed."

The current investigation was spurred, however, by discovery of a \$4.5-million burning refuse bank extinguishment contract which was approved contrary to the advice of the attorney general.

The contract, dated Jan. 18, 1971, bore the facsimile signature of Gov. Raymond P. Shafer, who left office the following day. Shafer denies authorizing the contract. Unidentified initials "J.H." appear next to the signature stamp.

Dr. Maurice Goddard, secretary of environmental re-

sources, canceled the contract with a letter earlier this month. It said: "The contract was not properly authorized or executed; bidding activities were not in accordance with law."

Dixon held the contract and received \$203,175 before it was rescinded.

Spoil banks consist of rock, slate and burnable materials, including low-grade coal which were frequently discarded during the more profitable days of anthracite mining. Fires start by spontaneous combustion or accident and sometimes reach flameless heat of about 2,000 degrees.

Gases and the rotten egg smell of burning refuse are prime sources of air pollution in the area.

One of Strategies

Black Politicians Favor Calling of Convention

NORTHLAKE, Ill. (AP) — Delegates to a closed meeting of several dozen of the nation's most influential black politicians favor calling a national black convention next year, inside sources said Saturday.

The sources said a black convention was just one of the strategies being discussed at the session, but other proposals—including a series of black favorite son candidates in state primaries—were said to be meeting considerable opposition.

Final plans have not been decided, and the only official statement on the weekend series of discussions by an estimated 50 black political leaders said "It has been agreed that there will be no public announcement at this time of proposals considered and decisions made at this meeting."

Talks with some participants disclosed, however, that the group was seriously considering "early next year" as a timetable for the convention. Goals reportedly would be a decisionmaking influence at the 1972 Democratic National Convention and a platform based on 60 recommendations the House Black Caucus has

made to President Nixon.

The recommendations center around drastic changes in domestic priorities, an end in the Vietnam war and a change in U.S. policy toward Africa.

Lady Fleming, 4 Others Going on Trial

ATHENS (AP)—Five persons, including Lady Amalia Fleming, the widow of the discoverer of penicillin, and two Americans, go on trial here Monday before a special military tribunal for allegedly attempting to assist the convicted would-be assassin of the Greek premier escape from jail.

The case has attracted international interest with legal observers from major European capitals scheduled to be present at the court-martial.

Particularly interested in the outcome of the trial are the British, since Lady Fleming holds dual Greek and British nationality.

She became a British subject in addition to her Greek citizenship after she married Sir Alexander Fleming in 1955. The Scottish scientist died two years later.

Charged with attempting to form a conspiracy and hide a prisoner are: Lady Fleming, 62, of Athens; Mrs. Athena Psychogios, 42, of Minneapolis; John Skelton, 26, of Yardley, Pa. and Constantine Androutsopoulos, 30, of Athens.

If found guilty, the four can receive from six months to five years' imprisonment on each count. However, it seemed certain that the Greek regime would expel both Americans and Lady Fleming.

In the case of Lady Fleming, it was expected that the government would first deprive her of her Greek citizenship before she is deported, presumably to London.

A fifth defendant, Constantine Bekakos, 21, a Greek soldier and former guard of would-be assassin Alexander Panagoulis, has been charged by military authorities with

failing to disclose the prisoner's escape plans.

Panagoulis tried to blow up a car carrying Premier George Papadopoulos in August 1968. He was sentenced to death by a military tribunal, but the sentence was not carried out following appeals from European leaders and Pope Paul VI.

Three other persons, including Panagoulis' brother, Stathis, who resides in Rome, have also been charged with complicity. The other two persons whereabouts are unknown. These three will be tried in absentia.

The tribunal consists of four ranking army officers and one judge from the civil courts. So far, three prosecution witnesses are listed to testify — an army captain, a corporal and a member of the Greek security police.

July 26, 1956, "turned white with rage," Iraqis at the dinner reported, according to Heikal.

"As Eden's position weakened... his temper grew more and more brittle. Nasser knew about his outbursts because from the time of nationalization until the invasion started the American CIA leaked constant reports on his physical breakdown and the effect of his illness on his stability," Heikal said.

"Nasser was suspicious of these reports at first. He thought that they were being planted by the CIA to make Egypt frightened," Heikal said, adding "whatever devious reasons lay behind the CIA's actions, they were certainly accurate."

Later, in October, when the U.N. Security Council had worked out a tentative settlement of the nationalization dispute based on six principles, Washington again tipped Nasser off, according to Heikal.

"In their efforts to persuade Egypt of the dangers of the situation and to agree to the six principles, the Americans had leaked to our envoy in Washington, Ahmed Hussein, the news that (British) General Keightley had been chosen to command an invasion of Egypt and that he was already training his men in Cyprus," Heikal said.

The Anglo-French strike, two days after the allegedly concerted Israeli invasion of Sinai, came Oct. 31.

Heikal also said Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and President Dwight D. Eisenhower in effect doomed to failure the September mission of Australian Prime Minister Robert Menzies to persuade Nasser to let an international body run the canal.

Heikal cited an Aug. 28 news conference at which Dulles said, "The Suez Canal is not a primary concern to the United States."

"He (Dulles) thus rendered Menzies powerless and President Eisenhower added to Menzies' discomfiture (by saying), 'We are committed to a peaceful settlement of this dispute, nothing else,'" Heikal said.

"When Nasser heard of this he said: 'That man (Eisenhower) puzzles me. Which side is he on?'" according to Heikal.

Escapes From Parking Strip With Girl

Anarchist Wounds 2 Cops in Southern Germany

FREIBURG, Germany (UPI) — Police Sunday lifted roadblocks set up for an anarchist gunman who shot two policemen, and the search for the man and his girl friend spread into neighboring West German states.

A policeman said the hunted man, Holger Klaus Meins, shot and wounded two traffic policemen when they questioned him and student girl friend Margit Schiller Saturday night in an unlit roadside parking strip on the Karlsruhe-Basel autobahn near Freiburg.

The spokesman said Meins fled on foot with Miss Schiller. One of the wounded policemen was able to call for reinforcements over the patrol car's

radio but despite the immediate establishment of roadblocks and the use of search parties no trace was found of the couple.

The spokesman said the roadblocks in the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg were lifted Sunday, but police in neighboring Bavaria and other West German states were alerted to watch out for the hunted pair.

Meins, 30, is a known member of the so-called Baader-Meinhoff group, the spokesman said. Members of the group, especially leaders Andreas Baader and Ulrike Meinhoff, are sought for a variety of crimes, including arson, sus-

pected bank robbery and attempted murder.

The police spokesman said Saturday's incident occurred shortly before midnight when the troopers noticed two unlit automobiles parked in the Bremgarten public parking strip and stopped to check the documents of the occupants. The drivers were Meins and Miss Schiller, he said.

As one policeman checked each automobile, Meins, who at that time had not been recognized, suddenly drew a pistol and shot the nearest policeman four times, the spokesman said. The other trooper was hit once, but managed to alert his Freiburg headquar-

ters. He later identified Meins as his assailant from police photographs, the spokesman said.

Miss Meinhoff and some other members of the group freed Baader from a West Berlin prison escort 14 months ago. While serving a term for helping set fire to two Frankfurt department stores Baader had been allowed out of the prison to undertake a social studies project. A bystander was injured in the incident.

Since then police, who estimate the anarchist group at about 30 persons, have been unable to find any of its leaders, although a number of lesser-wanted members have been caught.