

USO Probe

A team reports money and property were misused at clubs in Vietnam

WASHINGTON (AP) — A special USO investigation team reported Thursday that it found money manipulation and misappropriation of property at USC clubs in Vietnam during 1970 and 1971.

But, it said, it found no evidence to support other allega-

tions that USO personnel used or trafficked in dangerous drugs, misused military logistical support and displayed or sold obscene or pornographic materials.

The report was made by a committee composed of members of the board of governors

of USO, a civilian-run volunteer group.

The Pentagon is conducting a worldwide investigation of USO activities because of alleged irregularities. It has not issued a report.

In Congress earlier this year, Rep. Lee Aspin, D-Wis., placed

in the Congressional Record allegations from former USO employees of misconduct by USO officials in Vietnam.

In making public the investigation report, Francis L. Sampson, USO president, said no USO funds were embezzled and no USO funds are missing.

He said the USO clubs and USO bank accounts were used as a funnel or channel for black market currency activities.

The 45-page interim report and the names of several former USO employees are being turned over to the Departments of Defense and Justice, the Internal Revenue Service and appropriate congressional committees.

Sampson said "the names of individuals believed to have engaged in illegal activities while working in Vietnam are being withheld because of the possibility of future prosecution of these individuals."

He said, however, "none of these individuals is now employed by the USO."

No Evidence

The special team investigated the rumors and allegations regarding the possible involvement of Samuel G. Anderson, USO's present executive director and its executive in Vietnam until October 1970, and said it found no evidence of any illegal activities on his part.

The report said the money manipulation took place in five USO clubs in Vietnam—Saigon, Tan Son Nhut, China Beach (Da Nang), Golden Gate (Da Nang) and Di An.

"The principal vehicles for these transactions were nonexistent or inflated mail order, concession and USO operated retail shop sales," said the report. "Money changing also took place."

It also said: "USO property was misappropriated. The property involved, in varying quantities, included gift cigarettes, vehicles, air-conditioners, freezers and Class I supplies (meat)."

No Losses by GIs

The investigators said they also found that no material monetary losses were sustained by any servicemen as a result of money manipulation activities.

"These activities did not involve any funds of servicemen or of USO," they reported. "They related solely to the flow of illegally obtained MPC (Military Payment Certificates) through certain of the USO clubs. No serviceman was in any way damaged, defrauded or denied the services he could expect from USO."

USO national headquarters must share some responsibility for the problems caused by inadequately-trained and ill-qualified persons in key positions in Vietnam, they said.

Senate OKs Blue Collar Pay Boosts

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Thursday voted to boost the pay of federal blue collar workers despite Republican warnings that the added expense to taxpayers would result in a government work force reduction of at least 23,500 persons.

A different version of the bill was approved earlier by the House and the two measures must now be reconciled by a House-Senate conference committee.

Sen. Hiram Fong, R-Hawaii, the chief opponent of the bill, said the measure would be vetoed by President Nixon. The President killed a similar bill a year and a half ago.

More Pay Steps

The bill, which passed 56 to 19, would add two wage raise steps to the present three-step pay grade which governs the 650,000 blue collar employees, 80 per cent of whom are employed by the military.

The increases would lift the government workers' wages to 12 per cent above the prevailing pay rates given by private industry for similar work in their areas.

The House-passed bill was amended, however, by the Senate Post Office and Civil Service Committee to postpone the raises until April 30, 1973, or when the current wage controls are lifted by the President, whichever is earlier.

Sen. Gale McGee, D-Wyo., chairman of the committee, said the amendment was "a substantial compromise" by Democrats in an effort to win the President's approval.

KLM Reports Loss for Year

NEW YORK (UPI) — KLM Royal Dutch Airlines Thursday reported a loss of \$30.1 million in the year ended March 31, compared with a profit of \$13 million in the previous year.

'All Chiefs, No Indians'

Proxmire Nettles Military

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Sen. William D. Proxmire, D-Wis., charged Friday the U.S. military aid program is so top-heavy with brass it is nearing the point "where we have all chiefs and no Indians."

He provided these examples: —In India an American brigadier general heads the military aid mission, commanding nine U.S. personnel and seven Indians. The program dispersed \$234,000 in aid last year but cost \$357,000 to administer.

—In Pakistan, a U.S. brigadier general heads a program with a total of eight American personnel. Personnel costs are almost double the value of the \$243,000 military assistance program.

—In Brazil "we have three flag officers—an Army major general, a Navy rear admiral and an Air Force brigadier general—for a military assistance program estimated at \$988,000 with a total of 54 U.S. assigned personnel."

Proxmire quoted Lt. Gen. George M. Seignious II, who is in charge of military foreign aid, as saying there were no plans to remove the high-ranking officers. The Wisconsin senator said it was a case of "canonized conspicuous consumption."

"It is unequalled by any other government program in the proportion of extravagance and waste in its personnel policies," Proxmire said.

He said that in most cases a warrant officer could run the programs and "in some cases, a private first class should be in charge."

Proxmire said he intended to try to cut a \$1.7 billion foreign military assistance bill for the fiscal year starting July 1 which now is under consideration by the Senate.

That bill also includes an amendment by Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield that would cut off money for support of U.S. forces in Vietnam after Aug. 31.

VII Corps GI Gets 4 Months Hard Labor

STUTTGART (Army) — A VII Corps soldier here has been sentenced to four months at hard labor, a bad conduct discharge and reduction to the lowest enlisted pay grade following conviction at a special court-martial on charges of theft, illegal entry and indecent assault. The defendant was Spec. 5 Nathaniel Robinson, of the 34th Signal Bn.

The theft charge grew out of a Jan. 14 incident in Vaihingen when Robinson took 270 marks from a German national by force. The illegal entry and indecent assault offenses were committed March 2 in the Peterson housing complex at Kelley Barracks when Robinson forced his way into an apartment and molested an officer's wife.

Charter Airlines Face Hijack Threat

By J. KING CRUGER, Staff Writer

FRANKFURT (S&S) — German charter airlines have put stringent security precautions into effect following a warning that terrorists plan to hijack one of their craft as a ransom plane to obtain the release of jailed members of the Baader-Meinhof group.

A spokesman here for Condor Airline, the largest German charter operator, confirmed Friday that a warning has been issued by the German Aviation Ministry in Bonn that three terrorists, including Palestinian hijacker Leila Khaled, 26, would attempt to hijack a German charter aircraft.

The warning, issued Monday, identified the two other terrorists as an Arab male, Hasan Kamafani, and a Japanese woman, Fusako Sigenebu.

Miss Khaled has figured in two sensational hijacking attempts in the past, one of them successful.

The Condor spokesman said German airport authorities have tightened passport controls and are examining the luggage and

persons of all charter passengers as a result of the threat.

Some members of the Baader-Meinhof group, which has claimed responsibility for a number of terrorist bombings in Germany, reportedly have trained with Arab guerrillas in Lebanon.

The warning said the three plan to hijack a charter plane and hold its passengers hostage until the release of the members of the Baader-Meinhof group.

Grandson of Hirohito Marries Commoner

TOKYO (AP) — Emperor Hirohito's 27-year-old grandson, born in an air raid shelter in Tokyo toward the end of World War II, married the daughter of a real estate company owner here.

Imperial household agency officials said Crown Prince Akihito and Crown Princess Michiko attended the wedding of Nobuhiko Higashikuni and Miss Yoshiko Shimada, 28.

The Car Nobody Wants to Touch

MANTOVA, Italy (UPI) — Authorities suspect a stolen car abandoned on the Brenner superhighway may be a booby trap. So police are watching it from a distance and approaching every six hours to slip a parking ticket under the windshield wiper.

The tragi-comic case of the car no one wants to touch began four days ago. Police, the judiciary, the owner and the superhighway company have since been busy passing the ball.

A road patrol discovered the car, a Mercedes, parked in an emergency lane of the Brenner superhighway just outside Mantova at dawn Monday. Remembering an incident near Gorizia May 31 in which an abandoned car blew up killing three policemen, the patrol did not touch the car and reported to headquarters.

Police officials decided the Mantova car

might be another booby trap set up by left- or right-wing terrorists with the purpose of killing policemen. They said the fact the driver abandoned it on a superhighway and presumably walked away through the countryside looked suspicious.

Investigators found the car was stolen the day before from Gabriele Cucullo, who lives in Vacri, 370 miles away. They sent him a message asking permission to blast the car doors open with small charges of explosive which would set off any bomb there might be inside.

"If you blow up the car I will demand damages," Cucullo said in a telegram to police.

Prosecutor Mario Luberto tried another approach. He notified Cucullo the car was at his disposition waiting to be picked up — if Cucullo cared to open the doors himself.

Wrong, Cucullo telephoned. First of all, he had no time to come and pick up the car; and, secondly, the car was evidence of a crime — the theft — and police had a duty to inspect it before turning it over to him.

Donato Turrini, president of the superhighway company, tried still another way out. He told Luberto he found an auto-removal firm which offered to tow the car away safely by means of a special trailer. But could the prosecutor please tell him where it should be delivered.

Luberto said once the superhighway company moved the car it would be responsible for it. Nothing doing, Turrini said.

In the meantime, police guarded the car from a distance. Every six hours, a policeman slipped a 1,000-lire ((\$1.72) parking ticket under the windshield as a gentle reminder to Cucullo that something has to be done about the car.

Weather

Temperatures

H	L	H	L
83	67	86	59
91	57	100	72
82	58	91	76
58	44	82	63
87	64	83	70
92	65	87	72
67	48	81	79
90	58	77	59
86	66	68	55
88	76	89	71
83	65	83	68
88	68	84	60
78	69	90	67
84	47	82	60
81	71	103	79
86	63	85	89
79	58	75	51
76	65	66	59
81	65	86	60
81	68	74	51
82	52	68	43
81	57	89	48
80	63	85	69
53	45	87	60
73	65	92	65
93	67	91	73
63	43	73	63
78	53	66	51
87	74	66	56
86	75	90	72
90	73	83	53
85	63	95	68
58	51	86	71