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Thatcher to Become British Prime Minister

FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1979

By Leonard Downie Jr.

Washington Post Forci gn Service LONDON, May 4-M: argaret Thatcher, the Conservative F'arty's determined crusader against socialism, will become the first woman prime minister in Britain and in Ettrope following a comfortable but not overwhelming Conserv tive victory in Thursday's

British election. After more than th ree-fourths of the 635 seats in the Elouse of Commons had been decided by 5:30 a.m. (12:30 a.m. EDT) in the slow-moving count today, news organizations here estimated by computer that the Conservatives would win about a 30-seat majority in Parliament.

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With 496 constituencies countedand many safe rural Conservative constituencies not set to be counted until later today-the Conservatives had won 249 seats to 237 for the Labor Party, 6 for the Liberal Party, 2 for the Scottish Nationalist Party and 2 for the Welsn nationalist party Plaid

Overall. the Conservatives were winning nearly 43 percent of the vote, Labor 40 percent and Liberals 13 pertheir vote by 8 percent since the last election, in 1974, while Labor's vote feli sharply everywhere but in Scotland. The Scottish Nationalist Party suffered a severe setback in Scotland, losing at least four of its eleven seats in Parliament to Labor or Conservative challengers.

Although the middle-ground Liberals lost a significant portion of their 1974 vote nationally, they had lost only one of their 14 seats in Parliament by early this morning, former Liberal leader Jeremy Thorpe's seat in rural North Devon. Thorpe, who is to stand trial here next week on

charges of conspiring to murder for-mer male model Norman Scott, lost by a wide margin to a Conservative challenger after representing North

Neither Thatcher nor outgoing Labor Prime Minister James Callaghan would claim victory or concede defeat this morning, preferring to wait until the results are known in the more than 100, mostly rural constituencies where counting will not begin

"We were cautiously optimistic. Now we are optimistic."

Asked how she felt, she said, "I'm just aware of the very great responsibility, but it is exciting. But somehow one is very calm about it-it needs that calm. But the people who have helped me through all these days are still here, and they are still helping me."

Callaghan, speaking a few minutes later from the Cardiff, Wales, constituency from which he won re-election to Parliament, said, "I've been watching the results with very great interest. I've seen the trends. I shall have something more to say [later today] in London after it's entirely clear."

The regional differences in the results were sharper than in the recent past, with Labor increasing its grip on Scotland and northern England, while the Conservatives made their expected large gains in southern and central England. Conservatives increased their strength in suburban and rural areas, while Labor remained in control or most central cities.

Thatcher's new Conservative government thus will have a modest ma-

See BRITAIN, A34, Col. 1

A-Emission At Pa. Plant Revised Up

But U.S. Minimizes Health Dangers of Radiation Dosage

By Walter Pinctus

Washington Post Staff 'Writer The collective radiation dose to persons residing within 50 miles of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident was at least twice as high as previously estimated, but the level was still so low that almost no health damage should occur, federal officials said yesterday.

At a Senate subcommittee hearing yesterday, Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph A. Califano Jr. said that based on the new data "we would expect one additional cancer death" and "one nonfattal cancer" above normal among the two million persons living around the nuclear facility near Harrisburg, Pa.

He added that some scirentists using the same data would preflict as many. as 10 additional cancer deaths and 10 additional nontatal cancels.

At the same time, officials admitted, the data they have is so liketchy that they have no way of telling how much radiation any single person may have received. Thus, their estimates of health effects are just educated gues-

The difficulty in setting the extent of radiation exposure, they said, is because of the limited number of radiation monitors working outside the plant site during the first three days after the March 28 acceident when most radiation was released. As reported at the time by The: Washington Post, the 17 thermal lun linescent dosimeters (TLDs) maintained by plant operator Metropolitan Edison Co. were, during the initial key days, the only devices within 12 miles of the plant used to determine off-site expo-

The first of about 20() federal government TLDs were not, put in place until most of the radiation releases had ended.

The cumulative radiation exposure figure obtained from TLDs is important in setting dose rates, which in turn are needed to estimate future health risks to the exposed popula-

On April 4, before a different Senate subcommittee, Califano predicted that there would be "no additional cancer deaths" as a result of the low-

See RADIATION, .A12, Col. 1 A nuclear reactor mailfunction causes shutdown of Jersey pourer plant. A13.

cent. The Conservatives increased

Devon in Parliament for 20 years.

until later today.

"I am still not absolutely certain," Thatcher told newsmen at Conservative headquarters in London at 4 a.m.

Energy Dept. Hit On Massive Fraud By Oil Resellers

By Morton Mintz Washington Post Staff Writer

The Department of Energy opened the way to massive, proliferating frauds in the repricing of crude oil by failing repeatedly to enforce a 1973 law, the General Accounting Office has charged in a draft report obtained by The Washington Post.

DOE and its predecessor agencies, the report says, have consistently dragged their feet in sending cases of apparent criminal conduct to the Justice Department, even to the point of making prosecutions impossible in several instances.

The Energy Department thus far has sent Justice nine cases in which middlemen known as crude-oil resellers allegedly escalated prices by setting up dummy corporations purporting to "buy" oil from one another. But in eight of these so-called "daisy chain" cases. the draft says, DOE had indications of criminal activity for "one to three years" before referring the cases for possible prosecution.

In one of the eight cases, the fiveyear statute of limitations ran out last Jan. 31; in another, it will expire next

The GAO document goes beyond allegations made by a House Commerce subcommittee staff, which said last December that many of the middlemen had become "overnight DOE millionaires," grossing "nearly \$2 billion" in illegal overcharges since the passage of the Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act of 1973.

The technique allegedly favored by the middlemen is the use of dummy corporations to convert "old" oil to "new" oil, which has commanded a premium of as much as \$8 more per barrel. All told, DOE has estimated, their combined overcharges in a single day have ranged as high as \$2.6 mil-

Copies of the draft have circulated for several days in DOE, but a spokesman said it will not comment until a final version is issued by the GAO, which is the investigating arm of Con-

At the request of Sen. John A. Durkin (D-N.H.), the GAO investigated enforcement by DOE and its predecessors of the 1973 law, which Congress passed to prevent gouging triggered by the steep increases in the price of crude suddenly demanded by foreign producers.

Specifically, the law sought to block profiteering between the wellhead and the refinery by assuring that the

See FRAUD, A14, Col. 1 Mobil breaks with its peers in recom-

Prices Rose 0.9% in April By Art Pine Continued overheating in the econ-

Wholesale

omy and a big jump in energy prices pushed wholesale prices up 0.9 percent in April, dealing another sharp setback to the Carter administration's anti-inflation program.

The April rise compared to 1 percent increases in the two previous months, with the "improvement" coming entirely from a decline in food prices. Non-food prices, a better indicator of inflation trends, speeded up

The April figures showed strains in the administration's six-month-old wage-price guidelines program. Earn. prices are exempt from formal restraints, but the guidelines were supposed to help slow non-food prices.

Jody Powell, President Carter's press secretary, said the April decline in consumer food prices-the first recorded in a full year-showed that "the worst of the bad news on food prices is behind us.'

However, Powell conceded that the April price rise was "not encouraging." He admitted that "it is apparent that the U.S. will have several months of bad news on the inflation front."

And several economists, both in and out of the government, expressed serious doubts that the wage-price guidelines would be able to withstand the strain if the price surge continues much longer.

George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, issued a statement warning that workers and consumers would not be able to stay within the administration's 7 percent wage guideline if prices continued to rise at this pace.

Meany also took the opportunity to urge Congress to block Carter's oil decontrol plan or risk still-sharper inflation in coming months.

And John Layng, assistant commissioner for price trends at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, said yesterday's figures offered little hope that the inflation rate would begin to taper off

The April report brought inflation at the wholdsale level so far this year to an annual rate of 13.1 percent, the fastest pace since 1974. Over the past 12 months, the wholesale index has

risen 10.3 percent. See PRICES, A16, Col. 2

3 Officers of Laurel Raceway Charged With Diverting Funds

today."

By Martha M. Idamilton and Saundra Staperstein Washington Post Shoff Writers

A federal grand jury indicted three officers of Maryland's beleaguered Laurel Raceway yesterday on charges of "misappropriating" raceway funds to pay personal debts and funneling Laurel money into companies secretly owned by one of them.

The indictment charges that between March 1975 and December 1978 Joseph Shamy his wife, Greta, and her father, Daniel Rizk, illegally profited from a \$3.6 mill ion raceway renovation contract awar ded to a company in which Joseph Shamy had a concealed interest In August 1977, the three, all of New

Persey, allegedly arranged the transter of \$170,000 from a Laurel Harness Racing Association bank account in Maryland to Joseph Shamy's personal bank account in his hometown of North Brunswick, N.J.

Rizk, chairman of the board, and Joseph Shamy, Laurel's corporate secretary, own a majority interest in the harness racing track, according to the indictment. Greta, Shamy is president of the track.

The indictment' is the most recent in a series of legal problems for the raceway, a five-eighths of a mile har ness racing track in Howard County including the 1977 conviction of the

raceway's former president for giving directions to have the track's old clubhouse burned down.

By John Feinstein

Washington Post Staff Writer

Court judge imposed a maximum 25-

year sentence yesterday on Terrence

G. Johnson, the 16-year-old youth who

shot and killed two county police offi-

cers inside a police station last sum-

you exploded on June 26 and caused this senseless tragedy," Judge Jacob

S. Levin told the youth. "You should

be thankful . . . that I am limited by

law in what I am sentencing you to

Johnson, who was convicted March

"You are a walking time bomb, and

A Prince George's County Circuit

The majority owners of the track also have been beset with lawsuits by banks, creditors and minority stockholders, takeover attempts, a state police investigation of charges of hidden ownership and an FBI investigation into allegations that the track's assets have been diverted into such uses as real estate deals in Atlantic City, N.J.

The Shamys, who moved from modest backgrounds to multimillion-dollar real estate deals in Atlantic City, first invested in the raceway in 1975 and took control of its operations in 1976. In Atlantic City, Shamy has put together real estate deals for two hotels planned by their owners for conversion to casinos and kept a piece of each property for his family.

Yesterday's indictment, returned in Baltimore, charges the Shamys and Rizk with "defrauding" other Laurel stockholders of their right to honest service by creating Howard Construction Company and then awarding it the \$3.6 million contract to replace the demolished clubhouse and im-

prove the track grounds. The defendants concealed the true ownership in Howard Construction and in two other companies, which were handed special, smaller con-

See LAUREL, A18, Col. 2

31 of voluntary manslaughter and illegal use of a handgun in connection with the killings, will be eligible for parole in 41/2 years, according to the

Terrence Johnson is led to patrol wagon after being sentenced in deaths of two county police officers.

Johnson Is Given Maximum 25 Years

Yesterday's 90-minute court session was punctuated by loud, angry chants from two groups of demonstrators outside the courthouse. One crowd of 125 shouted "Free Terrence Johnson." while another of 75 people stood a few feet away chanting, "We want justice. 25 years."

These final outbursts, which almost resulted in a violent confrontation between the two groups, were typical of the emotions the case has provoked in

Ribicoff to Retire

In a surprise move, Sen.

Abraham A. Ribicoff (D-Conn.)

announced yesterday that he

will not seek election to a

fourth term next year, ending

in early 1981 a four-decade

man in public life is to learn

how to step away at the height

of his power," said the 69-year-

old chairman of the Senate

Governmental Affairs Com

Details on Page A3

"The greatest thing for a

political career.

the county, which has long been troubled by tension between the largely white police force and the growing

By Gerald Martineau-The Washington Post

black community. Members of the community began dividing, largely along racial lines within hours after Johnson, who is black, shot officers Albert M. Claggett IV and James Brian Swart at the Hyattsville station. Johnson and his older brother had been taken to the station as suspects in the burglary of a laundromat coin box.

Tension also was evident inside the Upper Marlboro courtroom as many of those involved in the case re-See JOHNSON, A18, Col. 1

mending new oil price structures. E1.

Diplomat's Son Suspect in School Fires

By Janis Johnson Washington Post Staif Writer

A Montgomery County junior high school has suspended the 15-year-old son of a high-ranking diplomat at the Embassy of Gabon after police and fire authorities identified the youth as their chief suspect in two fires that caused \$31,000 worth of damage at the school last month. County authorities said they were

unable to arrest the youth and charge him with two counts of arson and one count of burglary because, as the son of an embassy counselor, he has diplomatic immunity from criminal prosecution.

"If it were a normal situation, he would have been arrested. It's as simple as that," said Lt. Carvel Harding, Montgomery County fire investi-

Instead, county authorities took their information about the fires at Bethesda's Western Junior High School to Richard Gookin, the State Department's Deputy Chief of Protocol, whose office serves as an intermediary between the U.S. government and the foreign diplomatic corps here.

Gookin said yesterday that he was "very much concerned" about the case. and immediately informed the embassy about the police reports.

Embassy officials could not be reached for comment yesterday. The youth and his mother both denied the charges in separate telephone conver-

"Why would I hurn the school?" the youth asked.

The youth qualifies for the diplomatic immunity from all criminal charges and most civil suits because his father holds an "A-1" visa given to diplomats and their immediate fami-

See FIRE, A19, Col. 1

State Dept. Faulted on Jonestown Warnings

By Fred Barbash Washington Post Staff Writer

The State Department was so preoccupied with bureaucratic niceties and legalistic constraints that it was virtually blind to warnings of imminent danger at Jonestown last year, according to a study commissioned by Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance.

The study found that some of the most prized diplomatic attributescaution, circumspection and tact-ultimately emasculated what few efforts were made to intervene at the Peoples Temple commune in Guyana before the murders and mass suicide there last November,

"The single most important substantive failure," the report said, occurred last June, five months before the Jonestown tragedy. After receiving repeated allegations concerning concentration camp-type conditions and mass suicide threats at Jonestown, the U.S. ambassador in Guyana cabled Wash ington June 6 for authorization to seek Guyanese intervention.

But the cable was so cautious and so couched in legalese that "its in tended import was obscured." The request was rejected with a "simplistic from Washington, the report

A month earlier, the report contin-

ued, the State Department fall but ignored" a petition from a Peoples Temple defector. Timothy Stoen, in which he, too, spoke of possible mass suicide. "I wish there were some way to convince you that the situation in Jonestown is desperate," Stoen wrote. There exists "a threat so chilling as to be incomprehensible to the average decent person.

Last Nov. 18. Peoples Temple members murdered visiting Rep. Leo Ryan (D-Calif.) and four others accompany ing him on a Jonestown inspection. More than 900 Temple followers then

See JONESTOWN, A32, Col. 1

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