

THE FRESNO BEE
Saturday, December 21, 1968

De Sapia Pleads Innocent To US Bribery Charge

NEW YORK (AP) — Carmine De Sapia has pleaded innocent to federal charges that he conspired to bribe former city water commissioner James I. Marcus and to shake down the Consolidated Edison Co. for construction contracts.

De Sapia, 59, a former leader of Tammany Hall, the Manhattan Democratic organization, was released without bail by U. S. District Court Judge Edward Weinfeld following the arraignment Friday.

After the court appearance, De Sapia told newsmen: "All I can say is I'm perfectly innocent. These charges are absolutely false, and I have every confidence that a trial will substantiate just that."

Two Defendants
Named in the four-count indictment with De Sapia were two Marcus henchmen, Antonio "Tony Ducks" Corallo, described by Marcus as a Mafia leader, and contractor Henry Fried. They are scheduled to appear for the indictment Monday.

Both Corallo and Fried are under federal prison sentences in another federal case involving a \$40,000 reserve fund kickback shared in by Marcus. Both are free on bail pending appeal.

Marcus, who pleaded guilty to the reserve indictment and is sentenced by the government, now serving a 15-month sentence.

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John Steinbeck Dies In New York At 66

NEW YORK (AP) — John Steinbeck, author of "The Grapes of Wrath," died in his sleep at his Manhattan home Friday morning of heart and respiratory failure. He had been in failing health for some time and had moved into the city from his country home in Sag Harbor on Long Island.

His literary output included 24 books of fiction but it was his novel, "The Grapes of Wrath," that secured his reputation as the preeminent American novelist. The Nobel Prize for literature, which has been awarded to only six Americans, called attention to his "sympathetic human and social perception."

"The Grapes of Wrath" chronicled the forced migration of a farm family from the Depression dustbowl of Oklahoma to the migrant labor camps of California and touched off a national wave of protest over the plight of the Chinese.

Steinbeck was acclaimed for the book's realistic and powerful narrative and was denounced for his apparent attack on the system that could produce the poverty and distress. The book was made into a memorable movie starring Henry Fonda and Jane Darwell and was soon on the required reading lists at scores of colleges and universities.

Although the book brought him lasting fame, Steinbeck did his best to avoid the literary limelight. He appeared most at ease with the sort of people that write best about the Okies, peasants, ranch hands and others of little pretension whom he first met while growing up in Salinas, Calif.

He was born Feb. 27, 1902, the son of a miller. John Steinbeck Sr. R. I. was a writer. There was a bull head in the back window of the car, leading officers to speculate that the man to fly back to his poems and comic satires but did not graduate.

Finally, he came out as a freighter via the Panama Canal and in New York he worked

By LIGHTY

Tribunal Frees Silent Witness In Newton Trial

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — A witness who was jailed for the murder of a man in the Hay Newton murder trial on grounds of possible self-incrimination was ordered released by the State Superior Court.

The high court ruled unanimously that Alameda Superior Court Judge Monroe Friedman had no authority to impose the six-month jail sentence on Eugene McKinney, 26.

The court said the contempt charge was a misdemeanor which can only be brought in a lower court.

McKinney was called to testify in the Newton case because he had been a passenger in Newton's car the night Oakland Police Officer John Frey was shot to death. McKinney refused to answer any questions concerning the incident.

Newton was eventually convicted of voluntary manslaughter.

Oakland Jury Is Deadlocked In Panther Case

OAKLAND (UPI) — An Oakland jury was deadlocked on the charge of first-degree murder in the slaying of a police officer by a Black Panther.

The Superior Court jury of 12 men and three women deliberated more than eight hours yesterday before giving up.

A hearing will be held next Monday to set a date for retrial.

Wells, 21, has a previous record for conviction on his record and thus could draw a life sentence if found guilty. He has pleaded handling a gun during the slaying in which Panther Bobby James was killed, and Wells, another Black Panther, was charged with the slaying.

Wells is the first of six Panthers to face trial on charges resulting from the slaying. Cleaver is now a fugitive on parole violation charges.

Murphy Will Ask Pressure Against Boat Seizures

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Sen. George Murphy says he will ask the Nixon administration to ease pressure on South American nations which are "quitting" to seize American fishing vessels.

Murphy said yesterday he will propose a three-point program to discourage further seizures of tuna boats by nations who claim the vessels enter territorial waters.

The steps would include withdrawal of foreign aid, prohibiting purchase of American military hardware and termination of existing loans to navies of the target countries.

Murphy said Ecuador has seized 27 American boats since 1961, seven of them this year.

Wives Of 3 Astronauts React Calmly To Moment Of Liftoff

SEABROOK, Tex. (UPI) — As close to her chest and her husband's hand as she could, Mrs. Valerie Anderson watched quietly and her eyes watched the Apollo 8 lift off. Mrs. Borman watched the Apollo 8 launch. Mrs. Borman watched the Apollo 8 launch. Mrs. Borman watched the Apollo 8 launch.

The same tense, prayerful quietness marked a similar scene less than a mile away from the Anderson home. There, the family of fellow-astronaut Frank Borman sat with eyes glued to the television set as Borman, William Anders and James Lovell rode their space craft off the launching pad at Cape Kennedy.

Mrs. Anders, with the arms of her husband's suit around her, watched the Apollo 8 lift off in the crowded master bedroom after the family had attended a side in the bedroom during the special 8 a.m. Mass. It was said that, but three of the four in the family living room by boys—Alan, 11; Glen, 10, and Father Rene Vermillion, 18; Eric, 4, watched on a television set in the den along with their Siamese cats, Dudley and Paddy.

"I don't know if I can sit on a sofa behind their mother in a room crowded with relatives and wives of other astronauts," Mrs. Anders' seven-year-old daughter, Gayle, was at her side in the bedroom during the launch. Mrs. Borman sat on a sofa behind their mother in a room crowded with relatives and wives of other astronauts.

"The kids were transfixed," Mrs. Anders said. "Well, four minutes to go, or so."

The scene inside the Anders and Borman homes was in bright contrast to the chilly, foggy weather that all but blacked out the scenery outside their homes. The launch was watched from the launch pad at Cape Kennedy.

Mrs. Borman, clad in slacks, sat on the floor near the television set with her knees pulled up to her chin.

Russ Satellites Join In Probe Of Space

MOSCOW (UPI) — In an unusual joint space effort, the Soviet Union and the United States are cooperating in a space exploration, "Tas" said.

Satellites in Bulgaria, Hungary, East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia and a Romania were receiving and processing data from the latest Soviet satellite, the agency said.

Snuff Oil Well Fire Plugs Off Well Fire

GRANDDA HILLS, (AP)—Officials say a four-day-old fire pumping 100-foot high flames from a gas and oil well may be extinguished by tomorrow with the help of a well-fire expert, Boots Hansen of Houston, Tex.

A huge hole will scrape debris from the base of the fire. Then Hansen will decide whether to cap the well, flood it with mud and water or explode dynamite to blow the fire out.

Kaiser Chairman Intervenes In Hospital Strike

OAKLAND (UPI) — Edgar Kaiser, board chairman of Kaiser Industries, intervened personally in the hospital workers' strike against Kaiser Hospital and arranged for the first time negotiations in the six-day old dispute.

Kaiser showed up unannounced at the Oakland Labor Temple where he talked with Richard Gradus of the Alameda County Labor Council and kept Marilyn Jones, Lovell other Bay Area labor officials. They agreed to begin union-employer negotiations today.



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LOS ANGELES (AP) — The County Grand Jury has indicted 28 persons on charges ranging from kidnapping to disturbing the peace in connection with a 4-day strike by members of the San Fernando Valley State College.

The indictments were issued yesterday after a two-day inquiry. Including 34 school employees who said they were held hostage at knifepoint by members of the Black Student Union and others.

Among students named in the indictments were BSU President Archie Chatman and others identified by police as ringleaders in the seizure of the campus administration building.

HOSPITAL STRIKE
PARADISE (AP) — About 30 surgical technicians and orderlies at Huntington Memorial Hospital stayed off the job, protesting what they termed "verbal and physical abuse" from some medical staff members. The hospital continued emergency and urgent cases but canceled non-emergency surgery.

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