

the nation

Order now for Wayne medal later

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Mint announced Tuesday it will now accept mail orders for congressionally authorized bronze medals honoring the late John Wayne, but they may not be available until the end of the year.

Mint to strike medals bearing the inscription "John Wayne, American." They will be available in two diameters — 3 inches and 1 and 5-16th inches.

On May 26, President Carter signed legislation authorizing the

The medals are replicas of a special gold medal authorized by Congress in recognition of Wayne's distinguished career as an actor and his service to the nation.

The final design of the bronze replicas is still to be determined. They will cost between \$1 and \$8.30, depending on size and whether they are ordered from the Bureau of the Mint in San Francisco or bought in person.

"The Mint will be pleased to accept mail orders for the John Wayne bronze medals at this time," said Stella Hackel, director of the U.S. Mint.

However, she cautioned, "It could take up to six months before the replicas are available to the public." The 3-inch medal will sell for \$8

over the counter and \$8.30 by mail order, the mint said. The 1-and-5-16-inch medal will sell for \$1 over the counter and \$1.10 by mail order.

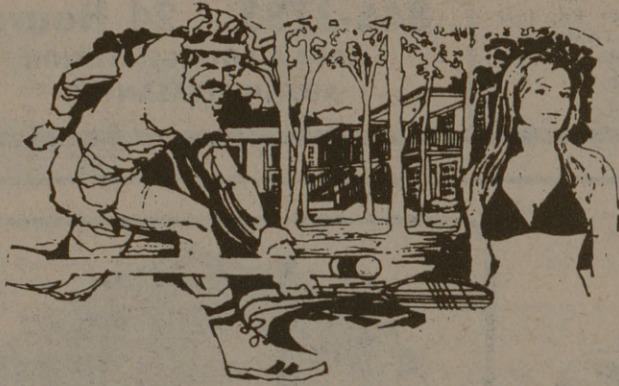
The 3-inch medal is No. 666 on the mint's medal list while the 1-and-5-16-inch medal is No. 667.

Mail order price includes postage and handling costs.

A money order or check should be made payable to the Bureau of the Mint and should be addressed to the Bureau of the Mint, 55 Mint St., San Francisco, Calif. 94175.

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If I had a Hammer

The loud rapping sounds coming from around the old library the past few days have been the result of Gene Harris and his jackhammer. The old steps leading into the south entrance are being demolished to make way for new ones.

Battalion photo by Clay Cockrill

Hijacker's fate is unknown after flying U.S. jet to Cuba

United Press International
MIAMI — The first American jetliner hijacked to Cuba in nearly seven years returned to the United States with 206 passengers and crewmen early Tuesday, but the "Latin-looking man" who commandeered the huge plane remained in Havana, his fate unknown.

There was no immediate word on why the husky man, about 30-years-old, hijacked the Delta Air Lines L-1011 Monday on a flight from New York to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and forced the pilot to fly to Cuba. Nor was it known what he used to commandeer the wide-body jet.

Sam Kass, a passenger from Boca Raton, Fla., said he first noticed the hijacker, a "Latin-looking man" about 5-foot-11 and 185 pounds, who sat across the aisle from him just behind the first-class section, when he stood up and opened an overhead compartment to retrieve "a kind of Army jacket."

He put it on and zipped it up, Kass said, adding he took note because he asked himself, "Why would anyone be wearing this kind of jacket going to Fort Lauderdale?"

"Then he got something out of the overhead compartment and rather determinedly walked forward. That was the last we saw of him," said Kass. "Shortly afterwards we were aware that something was seriously amiss."

Jim Ewing, a Delta spokesman in Atlanta, said Delta Flight 1061 was taken over without warning Monday at 7 p.m. EDT over Wilmington, Del., when "a man entered the flight deck and demanded to be flown to Havana, Cuba." The pilot notified the Federal Aviation Administration he was flying to Cuba.

Gary Gliboff, 25, of New York, making his first flight to visit friends in Florida, said, "The guy (hijacker) got on the horn and said, 'I'm sorry ladies and gentlemen, I must do what I must do and I'm going to Cuba,'" he said.

Gliboff said the hijacker gave no reason.

When the plane landed at Jose Marti International Airport in Havana, it taxied to a remote part of the airport because the Cubans were apparently afraid there might be a bomb on board.

Lewkowicz said buses came and took the occupants to the terminal.

The airliner was allowed to leave Havana at 1:29 a.m. EDT, after some 5 hours on the ground, and landed a little over a half-hour later in Miami where anxious relatives and friends milled around outside the customs inspection area.

Officials at the U.S. State Department said the Cuban government had no immediate word on the fate of the hijacker.

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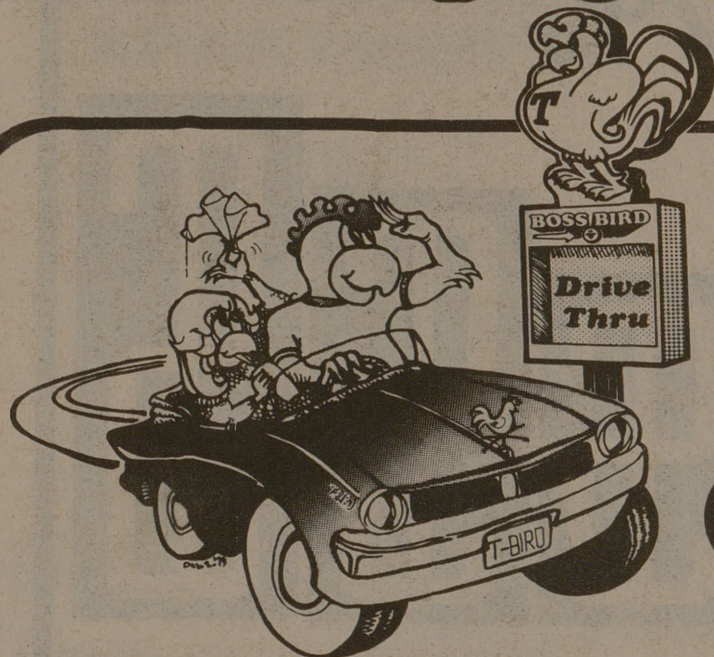
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