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Dean Rusk and Negotiation

On the general subject of U.S. talks with Russians...
"When a serious and dangerous difference arises, there are various ways of dealing with it:
"One would be for the two sides to growl publicly at each other until something happens.
"Another is to establish contact in order to clarify the situation and to guard against a catastrophe which might be brought on by ignorance, miscalculation or mistake.
"In the modern world, I believe that it is important that the great powers not lose contact with each other in the presence of a severe disagreement. Exploratory talks can clarify an understanding of vital issues and our determination to defend them. They can also discover whether there is any basis for negotiations which might lead to a peaceful conclusion. We believe that responsible statesmen must keep in touch with each other not despite the difficulties and dangers, but because of them.
"If systematic negotiations can occur at some point, that does not mean that an agreement can be reached. The object would be to reach an agreement which fully protects the legitimate vital interests of both sides. But since governments have, not unexpectedly, different views as to what these interests are, negotiation does not always succeed."
-from U.S. News & World Report, Oct. 30, 1961
Dean Rusk will appear at TAMU on April 1, 1987 in the 1987 MSC Wiley Lecture Series. Advertisement

World and Nation

Survivor testifies Demjanjuk was Nazi 'Ivan the Terrible'

JERUSALEM (AP) — A survivor quivering with emotion testified Monday that John Demjanjuk was the Nazi guard "Ivan the Terrible" who clubbed prisoners, gouged out their eyes and turned on the gas at the Treblinka death camp.

"This is the man, the man sitting over there," Pinchas Epstein shouted in the courtroom, pointing at the retired Cleveland auto worker and pounding repeatedly on the witness stand.

The outburst came minutes after he was asked to identify a picture of the guard in an album of photographs.

Epstein's parents, sister and two brothers perished at the concentration camp in Poland with 850,000 other Jews. He was the first survivor to testify at the trial of Demjanjuk, a native of the Soviet Ukraine accused of being the brutal guard who ter-

rorized and gassed prisoners at Treblinka in 1942 and 1943.

Demjanjuk, 66, denies ever being at the death camp and claims to be a victim of mistaken identity. He listened without emotion Monday as his interpreter translated Epstein's accusations from Hebrew to Ukrainian.

The witness, 61, flushed and his voice shook as he said of Demjanjuk: "That's him sitting over there. Age has, of course, changed him, but not so that he would become unrecognizable."

Epstein pointed out a 1951 picture of Demjanjuk on the third page of the photo album and said: "This is Ivan as I remember him."

"The picture is of an older man than the one I knew. Nevertheless, the round face, the very short neck, the broad shoulders, the slightly protruding ears. This is Ivan."
Epstein escaped from Treblinka

during a prisoner revolt August 1943 in which some reports said the brutal guard was killed.

American defense attorney Mark O'Connor cross-examined Epstein about Ivan's appearance, that of a second Ukrainian guard, Nicholai, and about several Nazi SS officers at the camp.

O'Connor has based his defense on the contentions that Ivan died in the uprising and that survivors' memories more than 40 years later are not accurate.

Epstein described how Ivan beat prisoners and mutilated their corpses.

"He was insatiable," Epstein said. "He committed incredible atrocities. This Ivan would come out of the engine room and beat us mercilessly. Sometimes he would have a bayonet, sometimes a sword, sometimes a metal pipe."

Soviet prisoner makes return home as hero

MOSCOW (AP) — Josef Begun came home from prison Monday to a hero's welcome at a snowy railroad station in Moscow where he vowed to keep up the fight for Jewish emigration and human rights until all Soviet political prisoners are free.

"Freedom for all prisoners of Zion!" the 55-year-old Begun shouted to dozens of friends and supporters as he emerged from the train that carried him to Moscow after more than three years in Chistopol Prison.

His arms were raised triumphantly over his head and his mouth was open in a wide, gleaming grin. But he looked weary and gaunt from a two-week hunger strike and from what he called the "inhuman conditions of prison."

"I am insanely happy to be free," Begun said in Russian. "see this is a certain sign that the political prisoners will be free in the nearest future. I will devote all my strength to see that it happens as soon as possible."

Friends hoisted him onto their shoulders and carried him down the platform as they sang the Israeli national anthem and the Hebrew song "Shalom Aleichem."

Begun appeared optimistic about the release of political and religious dissidents and the Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reforms would lead to some liberalization of Soviet politics, culture and society.

But he said without freedom for all political prisoners and emigration, "the process of democratization will be just a few statistics and not real."

Begun said he still wanted to emigrate to Israel, but authorities had made no promises.

Supreme Court to decide case on execution of teen-age killers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said Monday it will decide whether the death penalty is a valid punishment for convicted murderers who committed their crimes before they were 18 years old.

The justices agreed to hear the appeal of Oklahoma death row inmate William Wayne Thompson, convicted of a murder committed when he was 15.

Thompson's appeal contends that executing teen-age killers violates the Constitution's ban on "cruel and unusual punishment."

Of the more than 1,800 men and women on death rows nationwide, about 35 of them were condemned for crimes they committed as juveniles.

Of the 69 U.S. prison inmates executed since 1977, three were killed for murders committed before they were 18.

The high court attempted to resolve the same issue in 1982, in the case of Oklahoma death row inmate Monte Lee Eddings, but decided his case on other constitutional grounds.

A decision in Thompson's case is expected sometime in 1988.

Returning from a four-week recess with a flurry of activity, the court also:

- Refused to use a case from Minnesota to reconsider its past rulings that let states require some girls who seek abortions to get permission from their parents or a judge.
- Agreed to judge the validity of a Virginia law banning the commercial display of some sexually explicit materials where children might get at them.

Terrorist leader denounces 'Yankee criminals' at trial

PARIS (AP) — A Lebanese man accused in the killings of American and Israeli diplomats said at the opening of his trial Monday that he was an Arab fighter and denounced "Yankee executioners" in his homeland.

Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, 35, spoke for about 10 minutes in what appeared to be a rehearsed monologue when he was interrupted by Judge Maurice Colomb, who said Abdallah was beginning to repeat himself.

When Colomb asked whether an attorney representing the United States would like to respond, Abdallah objected and, raising his voice for the first time, shouted he should not be forced to listen to a "Yankee criminal."

Abdallah was handcuffed and led from the courtroom, and the judge called a recess.

Abdallah's attorney, Jacques Verges, later said Abdallah did not plan to attend the remainder of the trial because he refuses to subject himself to French justice,

and objects to the U.S. government's role in the trial.

"The case is the first to be tried in a special seven-judge "terrorism court," set up under laws enacted last year.

The trial is being conducted under heavy security. Two dozen gendarmes were stationed in the courtroom, and dozens of armed guards were stationed outside the courthouse near Notre Dame Cathedral in central Paris.

Thousands of gendarmes and riot police patrolled Paris streets after the government reported receiving threats in connection with the trial.

Abdallah is accused of complicity in the killings of Lt. Col. Charles Robert Ray, the deputy U.S. military attaché in Paris, on Jan. 18, 1982, and Yacov Barsimantov, second secretary at the Israeli Embassy, on April 3, 1982.

Abdallah also is charged with complicity in the attempted murder of the U.S. consul-general in Strasbourg, Robert Homme, on March 26, 1984.

Latest storm cripples northeastern states

A storm dumped up to two feet of heavy, wet snow from Virginia to Massachusetts as it moved up the East Coast on Monday, shutting down the federal government, snarling transportation and straining municipal budgets hit hard earlier this winter.

It was the third major storm for the region since mid-January, and before it blew out to sea at least one person had been killed in a weather-related accident.

Limited states of emergency were declared in New Jersey and Delaware, allowing deployment of the National Guard to help keep traffic moving.

For much of the area, the weekend weather had seemed a harbinger of spring.

"Mother Nature gave us the one-two punch," said Al O'Leary, a spokesman for the New York City Department of Sanitation.

Monday morning's temperatures, in the 30s, made the snow heavy. It left picturesque blankets on fences and monuments, but broke power lines and trees under its weight.

Some 200,000 people lost power temporarily.

Among the hardest-hit cities was Philadelphia, where the western suburbs were socked with five inches of snow per hour, for total accumulations of 18 to 24 inches.

Bus, commuter rail and air service was knocked out for a time as city government shut down.

The federal government 300,000 workers also were told to stay home.

Eleven inches fell on Washington, D.C., closing both of the capital's major airports for a time.

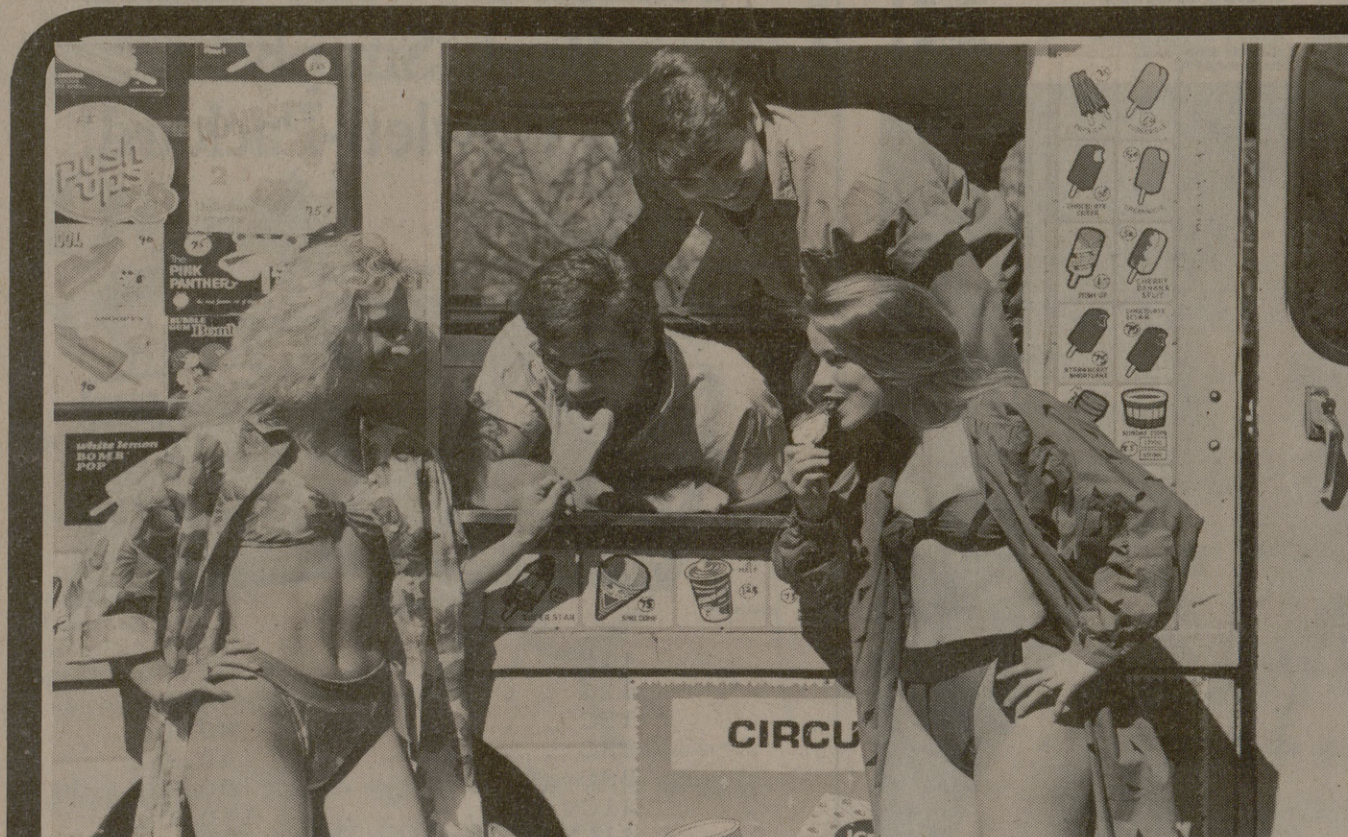
Debris covered train tracks between Baltimore and Washington, causing delays for Amtrak that were expected to last through the day, Amtrak spokesman John Jacobs said.

Maryland police reported as many as 100 stranded tractor trailers on a 15-mile section of Interstate north of Baltimore.

Seven hundred plows and 320 snow spreaders were sent out to clear New York City streets of snowfalls ranging from four to six inches.


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