

Judge Blocks Defense Question on How FBI Identified Gubitchev

By James J. Cullinane
Star Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—Defense efforts to discover how agents learned the identity of Valentin Gubitchev, Soviet engineer, after his first rendezvous with Judith Coplon were blocked in Federal court today.

Judge Sylvester J. Ryan flatly told Abraham Pomerantz, attorney for Gubitchev, that he would not permit the defense to ask FBI investigators to disclose the source of information which led them to Gubitchev.

Earlier, Mr. Pomerantz and Archibald Palmer hammered at FBI Agent T. Scott Miller with questions about wire tapping. Mr. Miller said he had studied recordings and reports made by FBI investigators who tapped telephones at Miss Coplon's apartment in Washington and at her mother's home in Brooklyn.

Her phones first were tapped last February and agents continued to intercept Miss Coplon's calls in March, April, May and June, Mr. Miller said.

Asked About Perjury.

"Mr. Miller, do you know the meaning of perjury?" Mr. Palmer asked after the witness admitted that at Miss Coplon's trial in Washington he had denied knowledge of wire tapping.

Judge Ryan told Mr. Palmer such a question was out of order and then took over the interrogation of the witness himself.

Mr. Miller told Judge Ryan that he did not have "personal knowledge" of wire tapping activities when he testified at the Washington trial.

"When you testified in Washington," Judge Ryan asked, "had you been informed that Miss Coplon's telephone calls were being intercepted by reason of reading reports and listening to recording discs of intercepted calls?"

Had Reason for Belief.

Mr. Miller replied he had every reason to believe that the defendant's telephone calls were tapped, but insisted that he had no personal knowledge of how her conversations were intercepted. "You mean you did not know it," Judge Ryan continued, "because you did not intercept the telephone messages yourself but you had every reason to believe the summaries and discs you received represented telephone interception?"

Mr. Miller answered affirmatively.

Mr. Palmer has asked the United States Court of Appeals in Washington to reverse Miss Coplon's espionage conviction there on the grounds that he was not allowed to develop wire tapping evidence at her trial last summer.

Questioned on Meeting.

Mr. Pomerantz concentrated this morning's session of the trial on questions about Miss Coplon's second observed meeting with Gubitchev in Uptown Manhattan on February 18.

Mr. Miller testified yesterday that the meeting of the two accused spies lasted only five seconds. Gubitchev extended his arm toward Miss Coplon as though to receive something and then the couple parted, he testified.

All reports and recordings made by the Federal wire tappers have been destroyed, Mr. Miller said. He told Judge Ryan he "permitted" destruction of the reports and recordings because he felt they contained "nothing of importance."

Judge Ryan asked the FBI agent if he was aware that wire tapping is a violation of Federal law and Mr. Miller responded affirmatively.

The jurist told defense lawyers he would permit questions about wire tapping solely to test the credibility of Government witnesses.

Mr. Palmer read frequently from transcripts of testimony offered at Miss Coplon's Washington trial but carefully avoided any mention of the fact that she was convicted and sentenced to serve from 40 months to 10 years in prison. Judge Ryan has warned that he will cite for contempt of court any one who mentions the outcome of the Washington trial.

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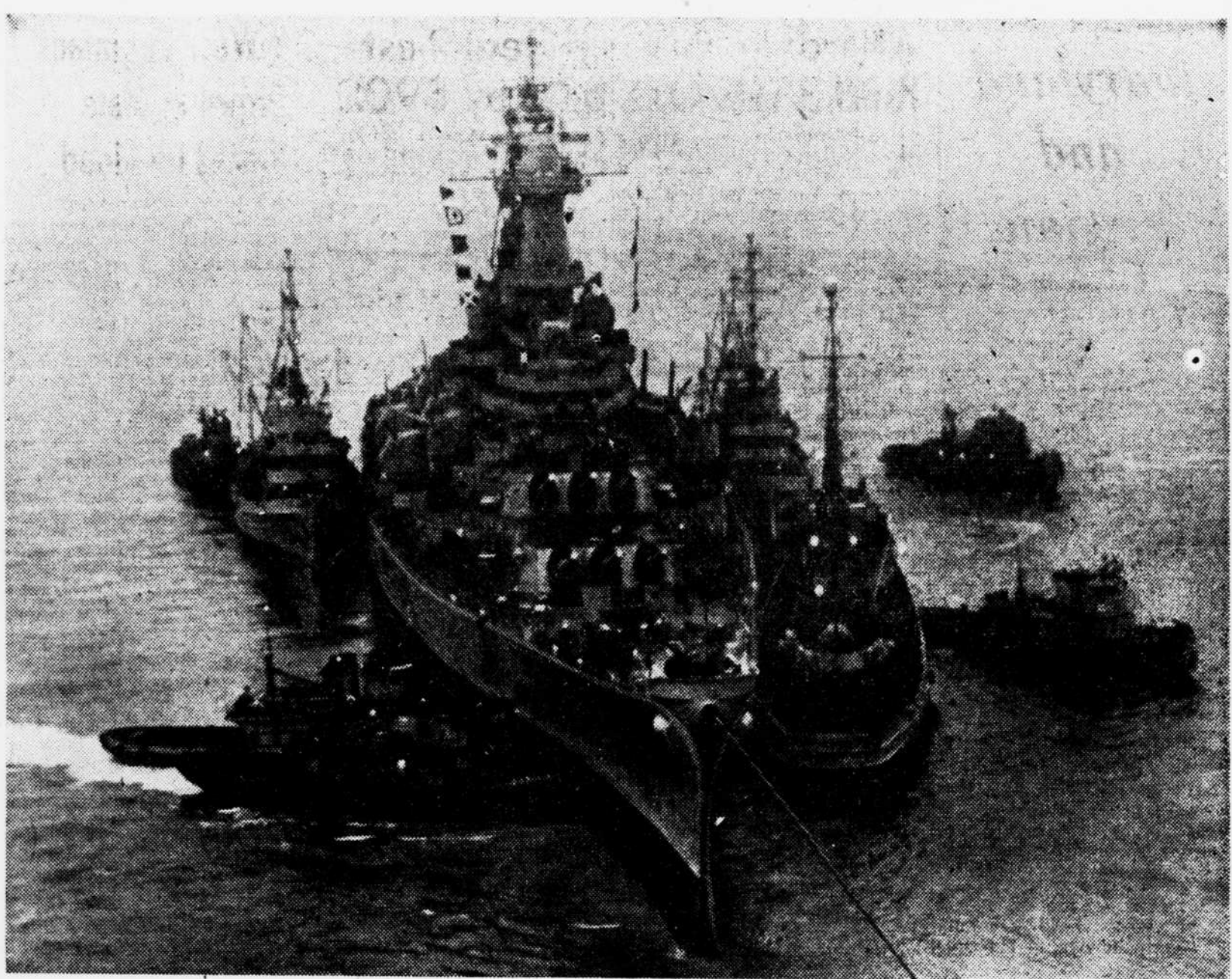
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BIG MO BACK IN SERVICE—Norfolk, Va.—Pushing and pulling, a score of tugs and lighter craft got the battleship Missouri off the Chesapeake Bay mudbank, where she has been stranded since January 17.

Bostonian May Head U. S. Research Board

Reports were current in official circles today that President Truman has offered the chairmanship of the Research and Development Board in the Defense Department to William Webster of Boston, a vice president of the New England Electric System.

The White House and Secretary of Defense Johnson declined comment at this time.

There were strong indications, however, that the Government's top scientific job had been offered to Mr. Webster.

He is 49 years old, a graduate of Annapolis and former chairman of the Defense Department's Military Liaison Committee with the Atomic Energy Commission. In the new post he would be largely responsible for preparing an integrated military research program, particularly as it deals with atomic weapons.

The chairmanship has been vacant since last November 3, when Dr. Karl T. Compton, former president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, resigned.

District YMCA Appoints Committee Chairmen

Committee chairmen for the District YMCA have been appointed for 1950. It was announced today by Carson P. Fralley, president of the board of directors.

The new chairmen are Lee R. Pennington, management; Mr. Fralley, executive; Channing S. Walker, finance; A. H. Lawson, endowment; Charles E. Krey, property and building; E. Cleveland Giddings, personnel; Col. W. S. Culbertson, policy and program; William Benjamin H. Littleton, Christian emphasis; George R. Titus, public relations; W. C. Woodward, physical education.

Also H. Randolph Barbee, education; Sam J. Solomon, camps; James E. Smith, world service; Henry Jones, youth work; Henry W. Fisher, Jr., membership; and William P. Benson, central annex dormitories.

Lewis F. Colbert, real estate man, was elected to replace A. D. Willard, Jr. on the board of directors. Mr. Willard is moving to Augusta, Ga.

Vinson Wants Carrier Sent To Sea To Replace Missouri

By the Associated Press

After the Navy finally pried the Battleship Missouri off a Chesapeake Bay mud flat today, Representative Vinson, Democrat, of Georgia proposed that the Nation's only active dreadnaught be put in mothballs and a carrier sent to sea in its place.

Mr. Vinson is chairman of the House Armed Services Committee. He said he would seek formal action from that group next Tuesday.

Mr. Vinson said it costs too many millions to keep a battleship in service in relation to their usefulness under modern combat conditions. The Navy estimates it cost about \$6,750,000 a year to keep the "Mighty Mo" in the fleet.

Gov. Warren Announces Race for Third Term

By the Associated Press

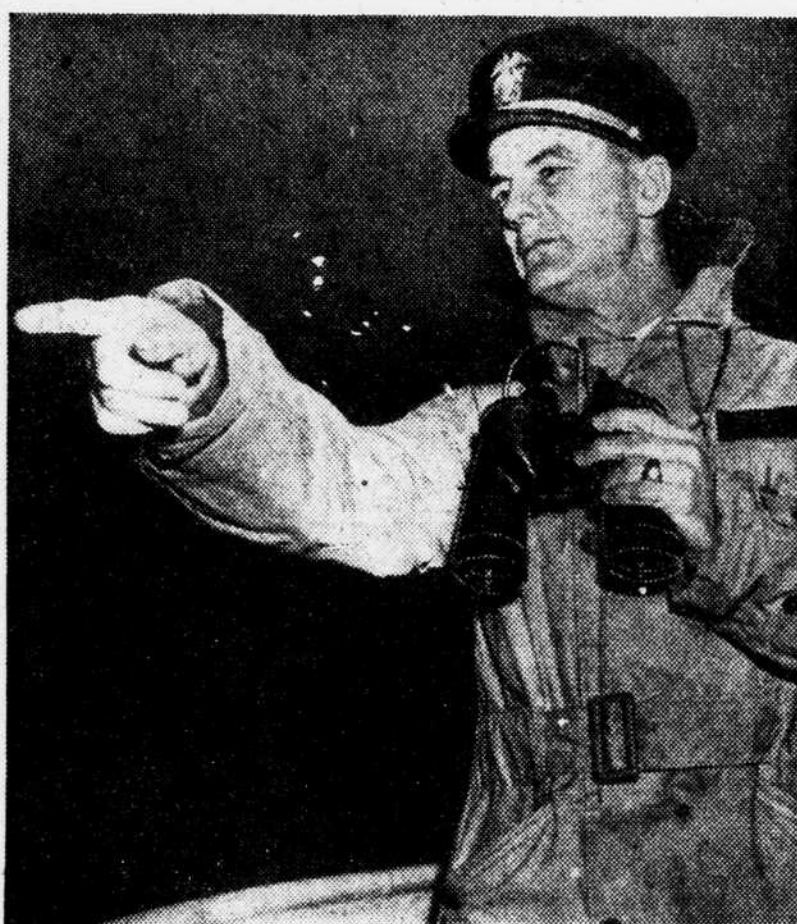
SACRAMENTO, Calif., Feb. 1.—Gov. Warren said today he will seek re-election for a third term. The Republican Governor's announcement threw him into a battle for the \$25,000-a-year job with Democrat James Roosevelt, Los Angeles, son of President Roosevelt. Mr. Roosevelt announced his candidacy last November.

Both will seek nomination by each major party at the June 6 primary. This is permissible under California law.

Bertram Dedman Elected By Sewanee Alumni Here

Bertram C. Dedman of Alexandria, Justice Department attorney, has been elected president of the Washington alumni chapter of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn.

Other officers elected were: Harold B. Hinton, vice president, and Pierre G. T. Beauregard IV, secretary treasurer.



Capt. William D. Brown, USN, commanding officer of the USS Missouri, in the conning tower during the salvage operations.

Missouri (Continued From First Page.)

and these consisted of mangled fingers and a bruised leg.

Officers in charge reported there was a minimum loss of equipment. A few lines were lost and a few hawsers broken.

One Day Ahead of Schedule. At a press conference after the floating, Admiral Smith attributed success to accurate computations, excellent team work by all engaged and experience gained on the earlier attempts. Although the effort yesterday was a failure, he said, that operation showed where co-ordination could be improved.

"I still figure that we are one day ahead of schedule," the admiral declared, "because we set February 2 as the date for our major effort."

To that end a "rehearsal" was called yesterday, but it was clear then that the Navy hoped this would succeed in floating the battleship.

Admiral Smith said the channel dredged by the Army was an important factor in freeing the Missouri. He said the ship would have been floated yesterday had there been perfect co-ordination.

Three Minor Leaks Found. For the first time Admiral Smith spoke with emotion, saying: "Regardless of what anybody in this world thinks, we have a really efficient Navy."

Although apparently undamaged except for three minor leaks, the Missouri was towed to the Navy Yard in Portsmouth for examination. Behind her auxiliary craft worked to recover the submerged beaching gear.

Admiral Smith said a naval court of inquiry into the ground-

ing will be held in Norfolk Saturday.

The officer in command of the Missouri when she plowed into the sandbar was in the "con" when she broke free. Without a smile, but plainly relieved, Capt. William D. Brown, U. S. N., said: "It's a great day."

He had been put to bed yesterday and treated by the ship's physician for fatigue.

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Msgr. O'Grady Urges Federal Benefits for All Aged People

By the Associated Press

Federal old-age benefits for all aged people, with each generation paying its own bill, was recommended today by a Senate witness.

Msgr. John O'Grady recommended to the Senate Finance Committee that all aged people should be so protected whether they have paid into the plan or not. At a minimum of \$25 each a month this would cost \$2,340,000,000 a year, he estimated.

"Under universal coverage in old-age and survivors' insurance, the system could be set up on a pay-as-you-go basis," Msgr. O'Grady, secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, said.

The committee is considering various proposals for expanding social security benefits.

"I know that the immediate cost of taking care of the aged of our generation will be quite large. The problem facing the next generation will, however, be much larger," he said.

"It may be that the immediate facing of the situation will confront us with new problems in finding employment for the aged rather than retiring them and placing them on pensions."

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Court Transcript Hit At Bonner Detective License Hearing

Attorney John T. Bonner sought to show today that one document figuring in Police Department disapproval of Perry Bonner's private detective license was "counterfeit."

Mr. Bonner conducted cross-examination of police witnesses at a hearing on his father's appeal from the disapproval resumed before the District License Board.

The veteran detective is free to work without a license, pending a decision by the board.

The attorney attacked a purported transcript from a District Court case, which Lt. Harry C. Blackman, former head of the police special investigating squad, said partly influenced the adverse report on Mr. Bonner.

Court Clerk Testifies.

Harry Hull, clerk of District Court, testified the document was not properly certified as a transcript.

Attorney Bonner also cross-examined Mrs. Betty Ann Stewart, who previously had testified that Mr. Bonner had threatened her with bodily harm.

Mrs. Stewart said she first met Mr. Bonner when he, with her husband, Johnston Fraser Stewart, former congressional legal adviser, and another man entered the hotel room of a Chicago rubber company official here on June 17, 1948. Mr. Stewart recently was granted a divorce in District Court.

Tells of Threat.

In one instance, Attorney Bonner faced Mrs. Stewart with what he identified as an affidavit filed in District Court quoting her as saying she did not recognize a voice threatening her on the telephone.

He brought out that in her testimony later, before the board she

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1950

said the threat was made by Perry Bonner.
Mrs. Stewart then said she recognized the voice of Mr. Bonner when she subsequently heard him speak in court.

Reds Continue Slow-Down On Berlin Truck Traffic

By the Associated Press

BERLIN, Feb. 1.—Russian "go-slow" tactics continued at zonal border points today, cutting truck traffic between Berlin and West Germany to a trickle.

More than 100 heavy trucks were lined up this morning on the Western side of the border at

Helmstedt, main check point on the road to Berlin.

Russian guards and their East zone German police gave each loaded truck a detailed inspection taking 10 to 15 minutes. Normally the inspection takes about 2 minutes.

The Soviet-controlled German railways management hinted last night that railroad freight service between West Germany and Berlin might be cut down.

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BELLFORD, lady's black, vic. 7th and M and 7th and K sts. N.W. Please identify pictures. LA. 6-5890.
BELLFORD, black leather, containing credit cards, keys, etc. Found at 11th and E. Reward. R. J. HOLLAND, VI. 6714.
COCKER SPANIEL, reddish tan, male, missing since Nov. 10, 1949. Found at 11th and E. Reward. R. J. HOLLAND, VI. 6714.
GOLD PENDANT PEARL EARRING, Jan. between 1948 and 1949. Reward. R. J. HOLLAND, VI. 6714.
JEWELRY BOX, containing orchid-shaped gold pin and antique necklace, either left in cab from Ch. Circle or dropped in street near Treasury Bldg. Mon. a.m. Jan. 30. Reward. VI. 3480.
KEYS and car registration, vic. Conn. ave. and Newark st. N.W. Reward. OL. 5036.
LADIES' DIAMOND RING somewhere bet. Baltimore and Chevy Chase Md. Vic. Greyhound and Capital Transit buses. Reward. WI. 8049.
PURSE, brown coin, containing key and sum of money, sat. night in n.w. OR. 4708.
SCOTTY, small, black, male, answers to name of "MacDuff," red collar, vic. Westmoreland Hills or Westgate area. Tues. on Fernon. Reward. 6714.
RING, sapphire ring, 6 diamonds, platinum setting, lost in D. C. January 26. Reward. Call GE. 0384.
TRAY OF TOOLS at corner of Woodley rd. and 34th n.w. Reward. Call LO. 5-1010.
WALLET—Black leather, between Silver Spring and Washington. \$25 reward. TU. 0122.
WALLET, brown, init. "J. J. Q." Union Station, Jan. 29, or phone booth. Reward. JO. 9-8854 after 6.
WHISTWATCH lost, jeweled. Reward. Call WO. 5377.
WHIST WATCH, man's, Bulova, lost in bus of 17th and 18th. O and P sts. Reward. DU. 0324.
WHIST WATCH, ladies, Lathin, in Silver Spring shopping district, on Sat. Reward. Greenbelt 3648.
LADIES' CHANGE PURSE in Jelliffe's. Reward for return. Keys and money. 14-6000.
FOUND
BEAGLE HOUND, tri-colored, found in Mont. Co. BL. 6708.
DALMATIAN, young female, found in Mont. Co. Md. BL. 6709.
DOG, small long-haired, mostly white, wearing harness, found at Wheaton, Md. BL. 6709.
GERMAN SHEPHERD, brown color, found in Mont. Co. BL. 6709.
RIFLE, male, black, with white markings, green string around neck, vic. 400 E. Yale dr., Ale. Va. 12V. 449.
WELSH TERRIER in Georgetown, Md. 2017.
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