Police confident that "stamps case" man has not slipped through net

MEYERSON STILL ON RAND?

Could be working in disguise, says Col. Lamprecht

is Meyerson: Still after skilful escape.

By DAVID PINCUS

MORRIS MEYERSON, the 37-year-old Johannesburg optician who escaped from the Rand Supreme Court cells on November 13, may be working somewhere in Johannesburg, Colonel M. C. Lamprecht, head of the C.I.D. at Marshall Square, told me this week.

Meyerson escaped just before he was due to appear in court to be tried for his alleged part in the R7-million stamp forgery.

Col. Lamprecht, who is investigating the escape, said this week that it would be "typically flamboyant" for Meyerson to be working in Johannesburg under an assumed name.

"We have kept watch on all the escape routes and feel confident that he has not slipped through," said Col. Lamprecht.

"At one stage we thought that he may have been making his way to Israel to meet his other brother, 'Spike', who is also wanted in connection with the stamp case.

"But we have had no information that Morris is in Israel or that he is on his way to Israel."

Asked how he thought Meyerson would pass his time if he were in hiding in Johannesburg, Col. Lamprecht said: "I don't think he would hide in a Hillbrow flat, waiting for the police to call and arrest him.

"He is far too bold for that. He is probably moving around. He may even be working. He is a master of disguise—and he had a wig with him when he escaped.

"But this is pure surmise," Col. Lamprecht said.

Hoodwinked

Morris Meyerson is South Africa's most wanted escaped prisoner. He is being hunted by all the police who knew him.

The health of his parents has deteriorated since his escape. His mother's life was in danger recently. The family told the police this was mainly due to the escape and the anxiety it caused.

Col. Lamprecht said that

Prosperity for 1968 predicted

NEW YORK, Saturday.

INCREASING world-wide prosperity in 1968 was predicted in New York tonight by Mr. Arthur K. Watson, president of the International Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the International Business Machines World Trade Corporation.

He said that the world's gross national product should rise by 5.4 per cent, compared with 3.3 per cent this year.

Devaluation should lead to an improved balance-of-trade situation in Britain, although the advantage could be lost if domestic prices there rose.

The success of the British Government's efforts to make its austerity measures work would also be important to all Western countries.

The United States, Britain, France and Germany seemed to be entering a period of more vigorous growth, Mr. Watson said. — Sapa-Reuter.

elier's isual a nted

AY TIMES Reporter R an unusual, urgent plication to the Rand Court on Friday a, Mr. Justice Galgut the West Rand Liquor g Board to hold a meeting on the same hear and consider a a Roodepoort hotelier, istiaan B. S. Putter, ted to close his hotel months, from New ay.

ember 7 the board grant- newal of Mr. Putter's r the Horseshoe Hotel, was done on condition hotel premises were be suitable" for the n June 30 next year.

ng to information placed

Chief Jonathan welcomed the Peace Corps volunteers with a display of tribal dancing—at which he flung off his jacket and joined in, to the delight of his audience of followers and volunteers. Chief Jonathan is seen in the centre.

● Pictures by Nic Badenhorst

JONATHAN DANCES FOR U.S. VOLUNTEERS

Two of the pretty young girl volunteers. Most will take up teaching pos some in outlying rural areas and villages. Even the youngest of the volunte is undaunted by the challenging job ahead.

MOKHEHLE TELLS AMERICANS: "GO HOME"

Peace Corps youths fly into Lesotho storm

Year's Day.

On December 7 the board granted a renewal of Mr. Putter's licence for the Horseshoe Hotel, but this was done on condition that the hotel premises were "found to be suitable" for the purpose on June 30 next year.

According to information placed before Mr. Justice Galgut, the Roodepoort Municipality told Mr. Putter on Friday that it would not issue the hotel with a control certificate for a trading licence, because the premises did not comply with certain by-laws.

If Mr. Putter stopped trading for any length of time — without official sanction — he would lose his liquor licence unless the board gave him special permission.

In view of the urgency of the matter it became necessary to apply to the Supreme Court for an order directing the board to hold a special meeting to consider Mr. Putter's application.

Late sitting

The board was told of the application to the Supreme Court and indicated it would sit if so directed.

After Mr. Justice Galgut had granted the order, a Johannesburg advocate and an attorney rushed to Krugersdorp where the board, made up of the Acting Chief Magistrate for Krugersdorp, Mr. J. H. J. Hechter, and the Chief Magistrate of Randfontein, Mr. C. D. Pienaar, and the Chief Magistrate of Roodepoort, Mr. E. J. M. Durr, sat at 5 p.m.

After three-quarters of an hour of legal argument the board granted the application, giving Mr. Putter leave not to trade for the first six months of next year, and renewing his licence for the second half of 1968.

Mr. A. Secundus van der Spuy, instructed by Lowe and Oxley, of Roodepoort, appeared for Mr. Putter before Mr. Justice Galgut in chambers and before the board at Krugersdorp.

Rugby song book among 21 banned by S.A. censors

SUNDAY TIMES Reporter

PRETORIA, Saturday.

A PUBLICATION entitled "Why was he born so beautiful? and other rugby songs" is among 21 banned in the latest Government Gazette as indecent, obscene or otherwise objectionable.

The others include: "Captain Devil — Saboteur, No. 6: Disciple of Death," issued by Republican Publications (Pty.) Ltd., Mobeni, Natal; the November issue of the magazine Town published by Haymarket Press Ltd., London; "Francon Duclos — the Memoirs of a Paris Madame," by the Marquis de Sade; "White Thighs," by Alexander Trocchi; and "Oral Lovemaking," by Jay C. Fenmorr.

How to insult— in 6 languages

PARIS, Saturday. — How to be abusive in six languages is the subject of a dictionary just published and selling well.

Robert Edouard said he years compiling his includes 9,737 phrases for er.

prisoner. He is being hunted by all the police who knew him.

The health of his parents has deteriorated since his escape. His mother's life was in danger recently. The family told the police this was mainly due to the escape and the anxiety it caused.

Col. Lamprecht said that Meyerson's escape was one of the most skilfully executed escapes in the annals of South African crime.

"We have it on record that the plan was conceived shortly before he made his escape," the Colonel told me. "He waited for his opportunity and seized it as soon as it presented itself.

"Goldreich and Wolpe, South Africa's other two celebrated fugitives, escaped with the connivance of a policeman. In this case, we believe, a policeman was hoodwinked.

"The policeman should have checked Meyerson's identity, but apparently he didn't."

The young constable who told Meyerson to leave the cell has not so far been ordered to face a departmental inquiry.

Peace Corps youths fly into Lesotho storm

By MARGARET SMITH

MASERU, Saturday.

THE 70 controversial American Peace Corps volunteers who arrived in Lesotho yesterday, vehemently deny allegations that their organisation is linked with the Central Intelligence Agency or that they will "seek to indoctrinate people and sow dissension" in the newly-independent State.

These are some of the allegations made against them in ferocious attacks by Lesotho's fiery Opposition, the Congress Party, in its campaign against the Peace Corps.

"We have come to work among the people and that is our only concern," the enthusiastic young volunteers, some in mini-skirts and cowboy outfits, told me yesterday.

"We are used to suspicions against us. We were told of the animosity towards us before we came and we intend to fight it, or ignore it, if we can."

But several said it was "not very nice" to feel unwanted, if only by a section of the people.

Hostility from the Congress Party reached a peak last week when the volunteers were angrily denounced at the Christmas conference and described as "a murder corps."

"Dumela"

However, it was with wide smiles and greetings of "Dumela," the word they have been taught for "hello," that the crowd of volunteers stepped from their four chartered aircraft on Friday — straight into the stormy political controversy their arrival has caused.

Centre of the storm is Mr. Ntsu Mokhehle, leader of the Congress Party.

Elaborating for the first time on the Christmas conference attack, he told me yesterday: "I say to the Americans: 'Go home. You are not wanted here.'

"We have studied the work of the American Peace Corps in Vietnam and in the Middle East; we have seen the trouble they have instigated in Nigeria and Ghana, and we do not want their infiltration here.

"Nor do we need 70 little girls and boys from America in this country.

"What we want is for experienced, adult experts to come for short periods and advise us and help us to train our own people."

Mr. Ntsu Mokhehle, fiery leader of the Opposition in Lesotho. He claims that he will not desist from his outspoken attacks on the Peace Corps.

"Peculiar"

Mr. Mokhehle said that he and his party would continue to fight against the "American invaders" on every platform and in every sphere.

"We will use public rallies, publication and word of mouth in the villages. We will also use Parliament to warn against the Americans who are invading our country.

"In August this year I was already warning Chief Jonathan against Peace Corps infiltration," Mr Mokhehle said.

"We also do not want their type of fraternisation, which has caused trouble in other countries where they have been."

While Mr. Mokhehle was speaking in this vein, Chief Leabua Jonathan, Prime Minister of Lesotho, was busy entertaining the 70 volunteers to a rousing "welcome to Lesotho" party.

After a display of tribal dancing and singing, in which he flung off his jacket and joined in, Chief Jonathan heartily welcomed the young people.

Then he referred to the controversy that surrounds them. The volunteers would, of course, be aware of the "peculiar attitude," certain of the Opposition had adopted towards them, Chief Jonathan said.

"Don't be too upset. They will try to make life difficult for you. My advice to you is to leave the situation to cool — and then leave it to the Basotho to play politics."

Anxiety

Despite their apparent tolerant acceptance of their unpopularity in certain quarters and the hornets' nest their coming has provoked, Peace Corps leaders in Lesotho are worried.

The acting director, Mr. H. K. Brown (an American Negro), told me: "This attitude is most unfortunate because it can set people against us and make our work that much harder.

Mr. H. K. Brown, a Negro, is acting Peace Corps director in Lesotho. He is confident that animosity will be overcome by the quality of the volunteers themselves.

"We come in all friendliness and we will stay. We will not be chased away. We will continue our work for as long as the Lesotho Government and the Government of the United States desires us to stay."

Dr. David R. Sherwood, 26-year-old leader of the group, who flew out with them, told me that he did not expect major difficulties "as long as the volunteers concentrate on the job.

"We will take every precaution to prevent involvement beyond the sphere of their work."

The young people themselves are keen and energetic. Many of the girls have long hair and their dress is generally "mod". Most are in their early twenties. There are several Negroes among them.

About 60 have been working in Botswana for a year. Forty of the 70 will be attached to the Ministry of Education, including 30 secondary school teachers.

Ten will join the Ministry of Health, 13 will work in community development and six will help the co-operative movement. Most of them will live among the Basotho people, some in rural areas and small villages.

Even the youngest girls are not daunted by the task that faces them.

ABOVE: Mr. David R. Sherwood, leader of the Peace Corps in Lesot at Maseru with his 70 volunteers. On the right are two young voluntee spend two years in Lesotho.

Hertzog accusations baffle U.S. Field Service director

SUNDAY TIMES REPORTER

THE director of programmes of the American Field Service, Mr. George Edgell, said in Johannesburg yesterday that he was baffled by the recent accusations of the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Dr. Albert Hertzog, because "we have always been attacked for being much too conservative rather than communistic or liberal-inclined."

Mr. Edgell, who is on a 12-day visit to South Africa to celebrate the tenth anniversary of South African participation in the exchange scheme, said the Minister was wrong in his allegations.

"When reports of the recent row that the Minister started in South Africa reached us overseas, we were completely baffled," he said. "I cannot understand where Dr. Hertzog got his information from.

"For years we have been accused of being much too conservative. As far as his comments on the students being sent to liberal or communist families are concerned, I would like to inform him that the families, as well as the workers, are thoroughly entrenched conservatives — far from indoctrinators.

MR. GEORGE EDGELL ... entrenched conservatives

"In any case, surely the Minister knows that Americans regard anything communistic with sheer horror."

Mr. Edgell added that most students who returned after the year in the United States were far more patriotic than when they left. "This is a feature that I have found almost without exception," he said.

Wrong

Asked to comment on Dr. Hertzog's statement that the A.F.S. was controlled and financed by the C.I.A., Mr. Edgell said: "This is completely wrong. We have nothing at all to do with the C.I.A., and have never in the past had any association with them."

South African students who visited the United States were extremely highly regarded by the American officials and families.

"The South Africans handle themselves with a surprising maturity," he said. "If anyone thinks the students could be indoctrinated — ridiculous as the thought is — then they are grossly underestimating the character of the South African youth."

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and hot with isolated thundershowers over most of the country. Fair and warm with fog patches over Cape Peninsula and Cape coastal belt. Partly cloudy to cloudy over the Port St. Johns-Port Alfred area.

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