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SENATOR SAM ERVIN

☆ SAYS ☆



WASHINGTON -- There has been increased public concern over the wisdom and legality of some of the data banks which are being constructed by Federal departments & agencies. On the basis of a study which the Constitutional Rights Subcommittee has undertaken, I am convinced that this public concern is caused by the failure of some agencies to limit their information activities to those reasonably necessary for administration of the laws they are charged by Congress with administering. It is also caused by the failure of responsible officials to inform the public and Congress honestly and squarely just why the information is needed and what will be done with it, and it is caused by their frequent failure to assure due process to individuals who might be involved with the program or placed in a data bank. Consequently, many worthwhile data programs which are necessary for good government come under criticism for lack of public information and for lack of government candor.

One of the Federal departments which has recently been guilty of incursions into the constitutionally protected sanctuaries of individual rights is the Department of Defense. A branch of this mammoth Department, the Army, has admittedly engaged in the collection and data banking of personal information about civilians who are active in politics or who belong to organizations which are or might be active.

In response to the public reaction to this program, the Army pleaded that it needed to do these things in the interest of being prepared to deal with civil disturbances. It finally agreed to cut back on its program. However, from the latest policy statement which I have received, it is clear that the Army has maintained its deterrent power over the individual rights of American citizens.

When I first learned about these activities, I asked the Secretary of the Army for a full report because I thought the Army has no business meddling in civilian politics, or conducting surveillance of law-abiding American citizens or maintaining data banks on civilians who had no business with the Department of Defense.

Moreover, the Army's data banks appear to be a part of a vast network of intelligence-oriented systems which are being developed willy-nilly throughout our land, by government and by private industries. I believe that in these systems, where they contain the record of the individual's beliefs, thoughts, habits, attitudes, and personal activities, there may well rest a potential for political control and for intimidation which is alien to a society of free men.

In March 1970, I was informed that the Army had unplugged one of its computerized data banks on civilians which it maintained at Fort Holabird and that it would discontinue a blacklist of citizens which it distributed widely. However, my concern about the Army's surveillance of civilian programs has been renewed following the publication of an article in the July issue of the Washington Monthly by Christopher Pyle, a lawyer and former Army intelligence officer. Mr. Pyle concludes that the Army has resumed this surveillance program in some quarters and has continued it in others.

Since the courts have not yet provided a remedy for citizen complaints about such surveillance programs and there are many questions about the constitutionality of such practices, I have invited the Secretary of the Army to appear as one of the witnesses before the Constitutional Rights Subcommittee, of which I am Chairman, at its forthcoming hearings on Federal data banks and constitutional rights. I am hopeful that his testimony will answer the questions which have been raised in the Congress relative to surveillance of our citizens and Federal data banks, and the needs of our Government for such information.

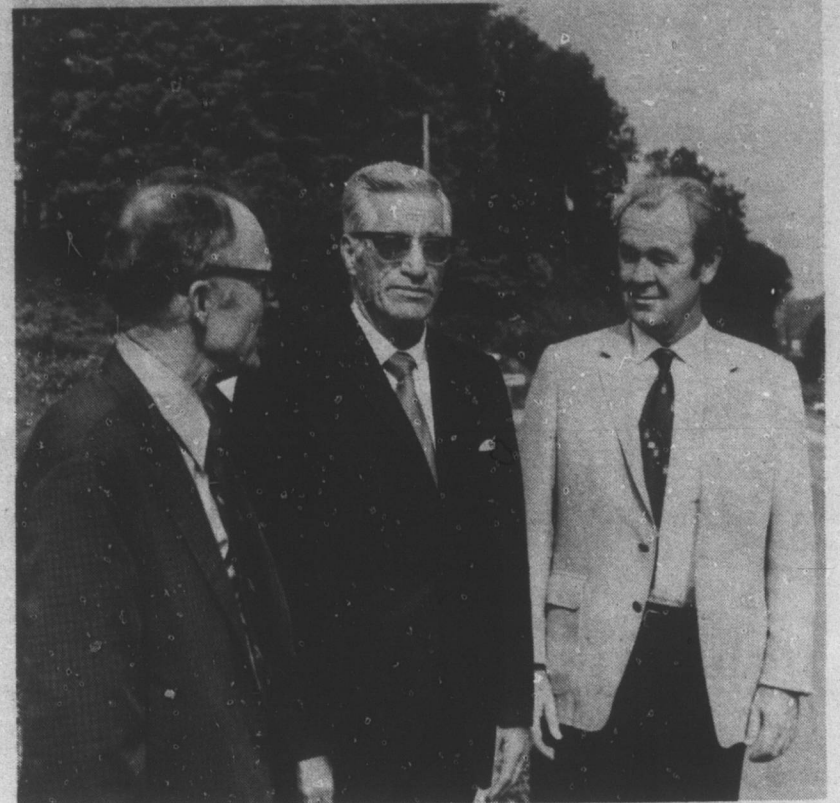
Survey Will Begin Soon On Project

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and that 2 narrow one-way bridges will be replaced. The project will cost in the vicinity of \$2.25 million.

Hawkins gave much of the credit for the adoption of the project to State Representatives Ernest Messer and Liston Ramsey. The two legislators and Hawkins conducted Commission Chairman Lauch Faircloth on a tour of the highway needs in Hawkins 3 county area last month, and the 19E route was one of those pointed out to Faircloth as needing a major overhauling. It will be over a year before actual construction can begin but survey crews will be in the area soon and a public hearing will be held before the contract is let.

Hawkins noted that actual construction will depend on adequate funding at the time. He said the project was approved using the present revenue sources as the basis for anticipating available money for the start of the project.



(l. to r.) E. Messer, N. Hawkins, L. Ramsey

Crafts Fair Exhibitors

(Cont'd from page 1)

dulcimers and hooked rugs. Outstanding craftsmen such as Ed Presnell and his wife of Beech Mountain with their woodworkings and dulcimers; the McWhirters of Celso and their pottery wheel; Mr. A. G. Edge of Burnsville with his woodcarvings; Mr. John Sipe, Charlotte, violin maker; and Mrs. Hassie Johnson making white oak split baskets will be among the 40 craftsmen exhibiting at the Fair.

This, the 14th annual Fair, will be featuring, as usual, its barbecued chicken prepared on the Square on Saturday over a 60 foot pit and served with baked beans, slaw and rolls. Drinks and ice cream will be available at Fair concession stand.

Entertainment in the form of dancing, singing, picking, craft demonstrations, and games are scheduled both days of the Fair. The crowning event of this festive weekend will be the performance at the Parkway Playhouse of "Never Too Late", curtain at 8:30 p. m.

Deyton Wins Mayland Title

turne in A Flat Minor" which was enjoyed tremendously by the audience. Sally Byrd gave a skit using outfits she had made herself and Rose Marie delivered a monologue.

The Jaycees and Jayettes would like to express their appreciation to Patsy Briggs and Joan Atkins for their participation in the Miss Mayland Pageant. A Banquet is being planned in honor of these three beautiful representatives from Yancey County at a date to be announced later.

Read The Want Ads



THEY ARE STILL
BURYING WALLACE

JOHN J. SYNON

What do you suppose I found in today's paper? I mean 'way back, deep in the second section, on an eight-column page, seven columns of which were given over to a meat-market ad; buried deep, I mean?

Give up? Well, sir, I found the latest Gallup poll on George Wallace.

And why do you suppose it was larded over, so? Why? Well, we know the answer to that, don't we? My boy George, among the voters of this land, is doing all right, is why, and it just wouldn't do -- would it? -- to go trumpeting his popularity. So, the weasels just slip it in, 'way back there and hope, because of the casual way most of us read our fishwrappers, we won't notice the item.

But sly little we, we notice it, don't we? We can read, can't we, red necks though we be.

I tell you, these buck-grubbing, hypocritical metropolitan newspaper owners are the phoniest poll cats extant, bar none.

Here is Wallace, maintaining the loyalty of a steady 14 percent, nationwide (28 percent in the South), despite the fact he has not held office in nearly four years and has been without a forum for nearly two years. And what does that get in the way of newspaper acknowledgment. Type smaller than the price of hot dogs, is what. It must gall 'em, really.

There is no other man in America, save Nixon -- and he wields all the panoply of office -- who has done so well. Humphrey; McCarthy; McGovern; Rockefeller; Scranton; Goldwater and a clutch of other aspirants, they have all washed down the presidential drain.

And there stands George Wallace, the victim of incessant and vicious attack, rock steady with those who know what is best.

Do you wonder Nixon worries about this man? Or that Strom Thurmond, at long last, castigated Nixon and his broken promises, tore into his coterie of ultra-liberal policy makers and carpetbaggers.

Why did Thurmond do it -- at this particular time?

I know the South Carolina gamecock and I tell you he blew because, finally, he got fed up. He could not a minute longer suffer Nixon's fatuous two-way operation.

That is the paramount reason Thurmond spoke out, I am confident of it.

But I am no fool. Strom Thurmond is up for re-election in 1972 and he isn't about to make his own road any tougher trying to explain support of Tricky Dick, not while George Wallace is on the hustings -- as he surely will be. Strom Thurmond is too smart for that. So, he is clearing his own path, now.

Bury Wallace will they! I can tell you this. There is going to be a new era, come 1972. Dick Nixon is going to become more hated than any man in Southern history and I include in that prediction both Lyndon B. Johnson and General Tucumseh Sherman.

He is because Nixon, today, is embarked upon a campaign that has as its central aim the destruction, root and branch, of Southern attitudes, of Southern customs, Southern mores. His idea of making us "one nation" is the destruction of the South. That is why he will become hated, he and all others tainted by him.

I would suggest Strom Thurmond has come awake to this potential and means to be no part of it. Before 1972, my crystal ball tells me, Thurmond will have broken completely with Nixon and will be praising George Wallace. Why wouldn't he be? That is where his heart is and, above all, Strom Thurmond is a morally straight man.

So, let the publishers bury the Little Judge, there next to the price of chitt'lins. They have been doing it for years, to no avail. Let 'em! George Wallace, today, has as a nucleus as much support as he had on election day, 1968.

And that's some nest egg. We are going to make it, yet. Just you wait and see.