

The Weather

Today: Mostly cloudy with rain this afternoon. High in mid-60s. Low in mid-40s.
Tomorrow: Rain ending. High in upper 50s.
Local Data: Page A-2
130th Year, No. 344

Ex-Beatle John Lennon Shot, Killed

NEW YORK (AP) — Former Beatle John Lennon, who catapulted to stardom with the long-haired British rock group in the 1960s, was shot to death late last night outside his luxury apartment building on Manhattan's Upper West Side, police said.

Authorities said Lennon, 40, was rushed in a police car to Roosevelt Hospital, where he was pronounced dead shortly after arriving.

Doctors said he suffered seven severe wounds in his chest, back and left arm, but they did not know how many bullets had hit him. Dr. Stephen Lynn said, "I am sure he was dead when he was shot."

Police said the shooting occurred outside the Dakota, the century-old luxury apartment house where Lennon and his wife, Yoko Ono, lived. It is across the street from Central Park.

Police said they had a suspect and described him as "a

2nd Reply Is Better, Iran Says

By The Associated Press
The speaker of the Majlis said yesterday that the United States had come much closer to meeting demands for release of the hostages and he thinks the situation will be resolved.

Hashemi Rafsanjani said at a news conference in Tehran, "If the United States meets our demands, and it seems that they want to, the problem will be settled. In the past, the United States has accepted our demands in principle but this time it has taken more clear steps in executing them."

Rafsanjani also ruled out a further study by the Majlis, as suggested by Executive Affairs Minister Behzad Nabavi, who heads the government commission studying the issue.

"We have given our final opinion about the hostages," Rafsanjani said. "I do not think that the subject will return."

His comments represented the most positive indication to date that a solution might be near. Nabavi said Sunday that the U.S. clarification, delivered Thursday by Algerian diplomats, was more favorable to Iran.

Mostly Clear
"There is little that is unclear," Rafsanjani said. "The commission is studying the response of the United States and naturally it will announce its view."

Algerian diplomats in Tehran, who have been acting as intermediaries at Iran's request, said they had no statement but indicated that they were continuing to work on the issue. A spokesman said the delegation could remain in Tehran several more days.

In Washington, State Department spokesman John Trantner declined to comment and said the Carter administration was waiting to hear officially from Iran.

Rafsanjani said the first U.S. reply was vague in addressing the demands but there were few unanswered questions in the latest response.

"The United States have moved forward in executing our demands and the rights that we



Hashemi Rafsanjani
'More Clear Steps'

screwball" with no apparent motive for shooting Lennon.

Lt. John Schick said he expected the man, in his mid-20s, to be held through the night. Lennon's wife was not hurt.

Chief of Detectives James Sullivan said Lennon and his wife were walking into the enclosed courtyard of the Dakota about 10:30 p.m. when five shots rang out. Lennon staggered up a few steps into the building and collapsed, he said.

Police Officer Anthony Palma, who was one of the first officers to arrive, said officers found Lennon lying face down in the office of the nine-story apartment building and carried him to a patrol car. Miss Ono was taken to the hospital in another car, he said.

Palma said she became hysterical when doctors told her that Lennon was dead. "Tell me it isn't true," he quoted her as crying.

Sullivan said the suspect was a 25-year-old man from Hawaii who had reportedly been hanging around the Dakota for some time.

Jack Douglas, Lennon's producer, said he and the Lennons had been at a midtown studio called the Record Plant and that Lennon left at 10:30 p.m. Lennon said he was going to get something to eat and go home, Douglas said.

A bystander, Sean Strub, said he was walking south near 72nd Street when he heard four shots. He said he came around the corner to Central Park West and saw Lennon being put into the back of a police car.

"Some people say they heard six shots and said John was hit twice," Strub said. "Police said he was hit in the back."

He said others told him the assailant had been "crouching in the archway of the Dakota."

Lennon arrived in the company of his wife and the assailant fired.

At Roosevelt Hospital, Dr. Lynn announced that Lennon was dead shortly after midnight. He said Lennon had been brought in shortly before 11 p.m.

"Extensive resuscitation effort," he said.

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State Eyes Seizing Debtors' Tax Refunds

By Joseph Gatins
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer
Those who don't pay court fines, student loans, child support payments or other debts to the state eventually may see Virginia taking the money out of their income tax refunds.

That is the main point of a new law that will be proposed to the General Assembly in January.

The proposal came up for discussion yesterday during a meeting of the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission, where the members enthusiastically endorsed the tax "set-off" notion as a logical

way to put a dent in a delinquent account problem of major proportions.

Based on review of only a handful of agencies, not including the court system, Virginia easily is owed more than \$50 million today, the watchdog commission was told.

The review came at the request of Del. Robert B. Ball Sr., D-Henrico, who said that if something in writing after learning that several other states already used the tax refunds to reduce individual and

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Richmond, Virginia 23219



John Lennon Was Killed Outside Apartment Building
Beatles Rocketed to Fame with New Sound in 1960s

Michel Is Elected House GOP Leader

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republicans elected Rep. Robert H. Michel of Illinois yesterday as their leader in the next Congress and Rep. Trent Lott of Mississippi to the No. 2 leadership position.

House Democrats, meanwhile, re-elected their current leaders, Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill - of Massachusetts - and Majority Leader Jim Wright of Texas.

And the leadership, in turn, appointed Rep. Thomas Foley, D-Wash., as Democratic whip.

Named as chief deputy whip was Rep. Bill Alexander, D-Ark. He succeeds Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, D-Ill., who is expected to be the next chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Rep. Gittis Long, D-La., was elected chairman of the Democratic Caucus, succeeding Foley in that position.

Foley, who will have to give up his chairmanship of the Agriculture Committee, will replace Rep. John Brademas of Indiana as whip. Brademas was defeated for re-election.

O'Neill sidestepped questions as to whether Alexander was his answer to appeals by conservative Southern and Western Democrats who had pressed the speaker for more leadership influence.

Lott surprised Rep. Bud Shuster, R-Pa., by a vote of 56-90 to take the No. 2 slot. Shuster blamed his defeat in part on a feeling among Republicans that one leader should be from the North and another from the South.

Michel served notice that Republicans would be on the offensive when the next Congress convenes in January and that he would battle the Democratic leadership over the ratio of Republicans to Democrats on key committees.

O'Neill said last week he wants to keep the 2-1 Democratic majority on the three most important committees — Rules, Ways and Means and Appropriations.

Wants 5-4 Ratio

Michel said by rights the majority ought to be 5-4, considering the size of the Republican bloc in the House. The Republicans gained 33 seats in the November election to cut the Democrats' margin to 243-192.

Michel said that with the Republicans in control of the new Senate, the fight for control of the House would be a struggle among Republicans' programs would occur "here in the House of Representatives. Our strategy will be to first begin with negotiation. But with or without negotiation, we will

Continued on Page 2, Col. 7

Tuesday, December 9, 1980

Soviet Agency Terms Polish Unions Rebels

From Wire Dispatches
The Soviet Union asserted explicitly for the first time yesterday that the independent trade unions in Poland were conducting a counterrevolutionary struggle.

Tass, the official news agency, said in a report from Warsaw that "counterrevolutionary groups, operating under the cover of branches of the Solidarity union, have turned to open confrontation" with the Communist Party and the managements of factories and institutions.

The story, broadcast by Radio Moscow and prominently displayed in all the major newspapers, was the most ominous official comment from Moscow. Diplomats were unanimous in declaring that it increased the possibility of Warsaw Pact intervention.

On Friday, Poland's six pact allies expressed guarded confidence, following an extraordinary meeting in Moscow, that the Polish leadership headed by the first secretary of the party, Stanislaw Kania, would be able to regain control. The Tass report called that judgment into question by stating that "the counterrevolution is leading the country toward further destabilization."

Western analysts have been saying for weeks that for the Kremlin, the key question was whether Kania could demonstrate that he was able to yield on tactical questions without ceding real long-term power to the new unions.

Many diplomats found the language of the Tass story, which in the Soviet Union carries the same weight as a

high-level policy statement in the United States, distressingly similar to that used in reports prior to the 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia. Then, too, there were repeated suggestions that law and order was collapsing.

Several Soviet sources suggested, however, that they thought it likely that the government was preparing the ground for a crackdown by Kania rather than paving the way for a Soviet invasion.

Nonetheless, there was an atmosphere of extreme tension in the foreign community in Moscow, created in large measure by the conjunction of the Tass story with White House assertions that Soviet troops had reached a state of readiness for an invasion.

Asked for comment about Sunday's White House declaration that Soviet troops had completed preparations for a possible invasion, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said that "this question has a provocative character and doesn't deserve any comment." He added, "As for various American statements, they are entirely on the conscience of the American side."

Some European officials expressed fear that American warnings about the consequences of an invasion had become so strident and so frequent that they might have the effect of helping to convince the suspicious Kremlin leadership that the West was fomenting the upheavals in Poland.

The Tass report quoted what the agency described as accounts of difficulties coming from various parts of Poland. Tass depicted Solidarity as a

cover group for the enemies of socialism.

In the past, official Soviet news media have derided what they have called "anti-socialist elements" in Poland. They have reprinted hard-line articles from Eastern European newspapers such as Rude Pravo in Prague. But not until yesterday had there appeared a sweeping claim that Solidarity constituted an organized counter-revolutionary effort. In the Marxist lexicon, "counter-revolutionary" is one of the strongest terms of opprobrium. It is usually reserved for groups that Moscow considers a serious threat to its interests.

Tass cited in support of its thesis an alleged incident at the Iskra plant — the word means "spark" in Russian, and was the name of the exile newspaper edited by Lenin — in Kielce, south of Warsaw. Tass said that "so-called protectors of the in-

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Jubilant Supporters Surround Edgar Tekere
He Called Verdict Victory for 'People's Revolution'

Tekere Guilty of Murder, But Freed for 'Good Faith'

(C) New York Times Service
SALISBURY, Zimbabwe — A senior minister, Edgar Tekere, was found yesterday to have committed murder along with one of his bodyguards in the shooting of a white farmer in the summer, but was freed under a law enacted by the former government that shields ministers from criminal charges if they acted "in good faith" to suppress terrorism.

Tekere, who is manpower minister and secretary-general of the governing Zimbabwe African National Union, emerged from the courtroom in a triumphal procession made up of the seven bodyguards who

had been charged with him, several dozen jubilant supporters and some television crews. He called the verdict a victory for "the spirit of the people's revolution."

There was no indication that the finding that he had committed murder could lead to his dismissal from his Cabinet or party posts by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, who has maintained since Tekere was charged in August that he would let the law take its course.

Whites, who were calling the case a test of the government's readiness to uphold legal standards, were generally dismayed by the outcome even

though it came without any suggestion of interference.

The outcome resulted from a split between John Pittman, the white judge who was born in South Africa, and two non-white court officials known as assessors, whose function was to assist the judge in determining issues of fact, thereby performing a role similar to that of a jury.

Judge's View

Pittman said he found that Tekere and his bodyguards had not acted in good faith under the terms of the Indemnity and Compensation Act, which was put on the books by the Ian Smith government in 1975 when the present leaders were regarded as the terrorists who needed to be suppressed.

But Peter Nemapara, a black, and Chris Greenland, a person of mixed race, both magistrates on temporary duty, reached the opposite conclusion and outvoted the judge.

At a news conference at the suburban residence where he was arrested four months ago, Tekere said that he was disgusted by the racial division that the split decision appeared to reflect. The cause of non-racialism, he asserted, required the overhauling of the judiciary, making it plain that he meant the purging of holdover white judges like Pittman.

The minister said that he and his bodyguards were "still at a trend will continue."

Continued on Page 3, Col. 1

City Workers to Get Four-Day Holidays

By Dan Moreau
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer
City employees will get four-day weekends at Christmas and New Year's as a gift from City Council.

It was voted last night to give employees the Fridays follow-

ing the holidays. Also, resolutions were introduced to seek pay raises for council members in the coming session of the General Assembly.

Part of a package of requests council is sending to the Richmond delegation, the pay increase if passed would double council members' annual salaries to \$12,000 and boost the mayor's pay to \$13,800 from the \$7,200 he currently receives.

Council pay is a part of the City Charter that only the General Assembly can change.

Not all council members supported the holiday move. Joining Mayor Henry L. Marsh III in opposing the Jan. 2 holiday were Carolyn C. Wake, G.S. Kemp Jr. and Aubrey H. Thompson. After opposing the Jan. 2 holiday were amendment backed by William J. Leidinger, the four also voted against granting Dec. 26 as a holiday. Marsh told the acting assistant city manager, Dan Allen, he doubted the accuracy of Allen's estimate that Dec. 26 would cost the city about \$13,000 in holiday pay and Jan. 2 about twice that because sanitation crews on overtime would be required to collect trash the second week.

Council also heard complaints from two families in the South Side about what they saw as the rising number of burglaries. In recent weeks, council members have pressed City Manager Manuel Deese for information on the city's anti-crime programs. Council mem-

Continued on Page 6, Col. 1

**75° Weather
Won't Last**
Yesterday's balmy weather coaxed off the sweaters and jackets of Richmonders and almost made its way into the record books. The high of 75 was just two degrees shy of the record, set in 1978.

But temperatures will drop today as showers are expected to sprinkle the area. The high will be in the mid-60s, with a low in the mid-40s. The chance of rain is 60 percent through tonight.

The rain should end tomorrow, but the cooling trend will continue.

The Inside Story

Three Sections 40 Pages

The World
SOVIET PRESIDENT says Western leaders imperil peace by trying to achieve military superiority instead of being satisfied with parity with Moscow. Page A-4.

The State
VEPCO NUCLEAR power plants have shortage of engineers, technicians because of tough tests, regulations and "raids" by other firms. Page B-1.

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