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THE OBSERVER

7 DECEMBER 1969



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£500,000 press

A NEW 13-unit Cerutti press in the gravure factory at Purnell & Sons Ltd., Paulton, Bristol (British Printing Corporation) has been installed at a cost of £500,000 to produce The Observer Colour Magazine. The new press is the fastest variable-size gravure press in Britain. It has a capacity of 50,000 copies an hour of a 48-page issue and can print up to 96 pages, 72 of them in colour. UPI.

British girl weds Witness in Spanish jail



Ulbricht visit puts Bonn in a spot

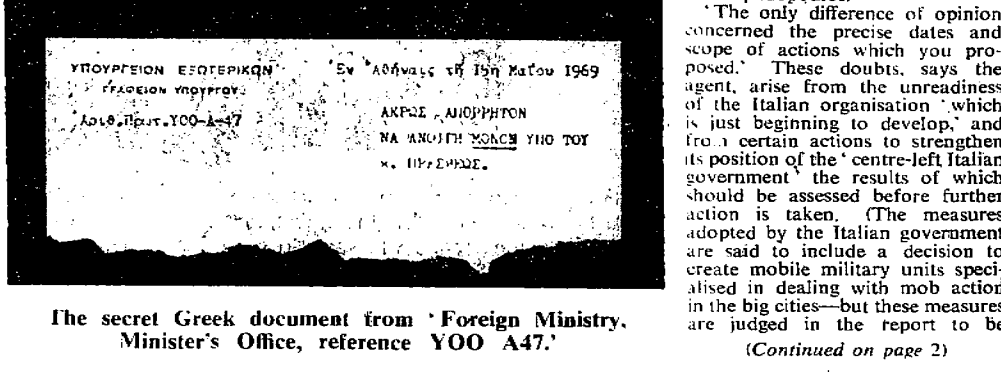
from LESLIE COLITT

BRITAIN, 6 December. East Germany's leader Walter Ulbricht has taken the unprecedented step of inviting himself to visit West Germany. And as part of his plan, he will demand that the Bonn Government guarantees him free passage.

Ulbricht's scheme, revealed this week by East German officials, has landed Bonn with an awkward dilemma: whatever decision the Government takes, it seems likely that the East Germans will score a significant point.

Greek Premier plots Army coup in Italy

EVIDENCE has come to light of a planned military coup in Italy by a group of extreme right-wingers and Army officers—with the encouragement and assistance of the Greek regime and its Premier, ex-Colonel George Papadopoulos.



The secret Greek document from Foreign Ministry, Minister's Office, reference YOO A47.

3 more hippie murders

LOS ANGELES police are seeking help from Mr Ron Hubbard, founder of the Scientology movement, in their investigation of three more murders that may have been committed by followers of Charles (Satan) Manson.

Prison wedding for Jehovah's Witnesses

Alberto Contijoch and his bride in the barred 'wedding hall' at Cadiz fortress.

CADIZ, Spain 6 December. AGAINST a background of prison bars and armed guards a Birmingham office girl was married here this week to a carpenter from Barcelona.

Amnesty fights to free groom

Alberto Contijoch is a Jehovah's Witness—and for the last 11 years has been a prisoner of conscience in Spanish jails, because he refuses to do military service.

Contijoch is now 32 years old. He is at present serving his fourth consecutive period in Spanish military jails for the same offence—refusing to wear uniform or take up arms.

Foley in talks

LAGOS, 6 December.—Mr Maurice Foley, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Nigerian Federal leader, Major-General Yakubu Gowon, met here today to discuss the civil war.

US wary of Europe talks

BRUSSELS, 6 December.—United States Secretary of State William Rogers said tonight that America would not join any European-East-West security conference that recognised Moscow's doctrine of limited sovereignty in the Soviet bloc.

Arms ban 'stays'

REPORTS that the British Government had decided to relax its ban on the sale of arms to South Africa were 'without foundation' the Foreign Office said last night.

Biafra beats off 'final' Lagos attack

by FREDERICK FORSYTH
who has just returned from Biafra

WHAT was apparently the third and most secret of the Nigerian Army's 'final assaults' on Biafra has now petered out—with less to show for it than either of its predecessors.

In conditions of a complete news blackout maintained by both sides, the battle—or rather series of battles—had raged with rare pauses in six major sectors of the front for seven weeks.

Ironically, its almost complete failure might have the way for a fresh peace initiative.

Previous peace conferences, at Kampala, Addis Ababa and Monrovia have been stifled by news reaching the conference room of a fresh and concrete Federal military victory, heartening the Nigerian hawks to their view that Biafra would be finished in a few weeks.

With a complete military solution now not only as far away as ever, but actually receding, Christmas and the New Year may prove a more apposite time than any so far for external influences to exert both a cease-fire, and for a less spectacular, but more realistic, solution by negotiation.

Eye-witness accounts indicate that 20,000 Federal troops were involved—about as many front-line troops as the Nigerians had available.

There were four reasons for their defeat: Firstly, the high level of Biafran firepower, particularly in newly-imported support weapons, heavy machine-guns, mortars, artillery, and bazookas.

The effect of these, apparently unexpected by the Nigerians, was increased by the extra training the Biafrans have been receiving for six months from a small team of European officer advisers.

Secondly, a new Biafran weapon, being named, an enormous bombardier launched 600 yards by a 13-in. rocket, it explodes 50 ft above the ground pointing downwards. The effect of this monster among tight-packed ranks of men advancing down a narrow tarmac road was described by an American eye-witness as 'incredible'.

Thirdly, the Biafran MiGon light aircraft which attacked Federal ammunition trucks just before the Biafrans launched and destroyed the logistic support the Nigerian infantry were depending on.

Fourthly, the Federal Air Force, which twice in three days mistook Biafrans for Biafrans and hammered them unmercifully.

As usual, Federal divisional commanders, regarding each other as rivals rather than colleagues, failed to co-ordinate their attacks.

Petered out
The battles began on 22 October when the Federal first division of Biafrans launched two crack brigades of 6,000 men out of Okigwi. Their aim was to break through to Orlu and Uli airport. For 10 days they charged repeatedly before being finally broken. They returned to their original positions.

Trapped firemen saved in London factory

THREE firemen were rescued early today after being trapped beneath rubble in a blazing South London plastics factory. Rescue workers fought for an hour before the men were released and taken to hospital.

The firemen were working on the top floor of the three-storey Smart and Brown plastics factory in Bond Road, Mitcham, Surrey, when the roof collapsed. They were thrown through two floors as rubble showered on them. Four other firemen were hurt.

A senior fire officer said: 'The men were trapped under a slab of concrete weighing about a ton. Jets of water were played on them. Firemen used a hydraulic jack to lift the rubble.'

Helicopter deaths

SAIGON, 6 December.—Communists battling South Vietnamese troops in the central highlands today shot down a US Army helicopter circling overhead, killing Colonel Nguyen Van Lien, commander of a 16,000-man force, some of whose troops were fighting below. Four of his fellow officers and six Americans were killed.

Marshall & Snelgrove

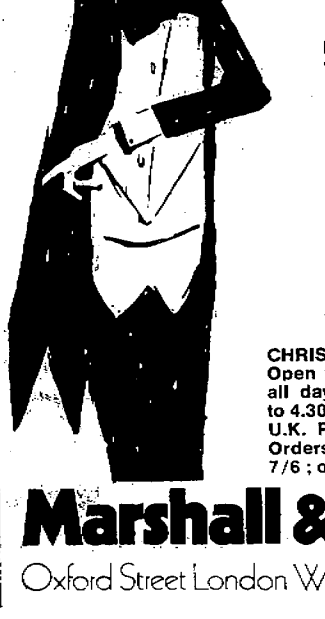
the best Christmas Show in London
Our sparkling ground floor is a-glitter with a million exciting gift ideas—and the Drum Room, London's brightest self service restaurant. You'll find Christmas cards and decorations on the newly designed lower ground floor and on the third the new Lybourn Restaurant—as fresh as an English garden.

GIFTS galore-ious....

CHRISTY PRESENTATION TOWEL SET —2 face cloths, hand towel, bath towel, bath mat. Pink, primrose, blue—all with light grey. Set £99/6
HER DRESSING TABLE BOX for tissues. In gift with pretty mock jewels. £27.0
HIS PYJAMAS by Borsoir in pure cotton. In sky, grey or maize. Contrast collar and cuffs. 49/11
WASHABLE LAMBSKIN RUGS from New Zealand. Natural shape—approx. 3' x 2'. £5.50
EXCLUSIVE stacking wine rack for 4 bottles in natural ash. Firms bottle carrier when upright. 34/6
HIS SHIRT in Bri-Nylon Tricopress. Bluff edge collar. In stripes or plain colours. 14/1 to 17/1
Gift Tokens from 10/- upwards, exchangeable at any Debenhams Store.

TOYS splendiferous....

JUMP JOCKEY—electric sleazebag chasing, 4 sizes of sets. E.g. Course layout 5' x 2", with 3 horses, 3 controllers and 3 jumps (power unit with output of 12 volts D.C. £22.6) £11.19.6
From the makers of Spirograph—
THE SPIROGRAPH. A new way of painting. Including two batteries. 48/11
TIPPY TUMBLES—she's tricky, she's floppy, she tumbles by herself. 16" high dressed doll. Inclusive of 3 batteries. £5.45
All the popular games such as Scrabble, Monopoly and Roulette. Demonstrations of Jump Jockey, Scalextric and Mighty Mike the mechanical toy. Also Lego models of the Houses of Parliament and the Post Office Tower.
CHRISTMAS SHOPPING HOURS
Open till 6 p.m. daily—8 p.m. Thursdays—all day Saturdays to 5.30—Christmas Eve to 4.30.
U.K. POST & PACKING CHARGES
Orders up to £2 add 3/6; from £2-£10 add 7/6; over £10, post paid.



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Granada will back Manchester opera

from MICHAEL NALLY: Manchester, 6 December

LORD BERNSTEIN, head of the Granada group of companies, is prepared to give substantial financial backing to a new opera centre in Manchester.

An Arts Council report on opera and ballet published last week, recommends that opera and ballet centres should be built in Manchester, Cardiff and Scotland within the next few years. The cost of each one is estimated at around £5,000,000, which should be divided equally between local funds (principally from the local authorities) and a Government subsidy.

A Granada spokesman said today: "We don't want to put any figures to this offer, but we will do what we can. Whatever help is needed will be available."

[Lord Goodman, joint chairman of the inquiry that produced the report, said yesterday: "Lord Bernstein's offer is very generous and one that should be most valuable in advancing the scheme."

Lord Goodman, joint chairman of the inquiry that produced the report, said yesterday: "Lord Bernstein's offer is very generous and one that should be most valuable in advancing the scheme."

Hallé concert at the Free Trade Hall pointed to the predicament of the city's two big existing theatres.

The so-called Opera House, where Sadler's Wells is staging *Madame Butterfly* tonight, has been threatened with closure for some time. The Palace survives on the lightest fare: tonight it has Henry Mancini and his Orchestra with 'Jack and the Beanstalk' to follow.

Mr PETER LIPMAN reports from Cardiff: The Welsh National Opera has had an anonymous offer of a brand new opera house in Cardiff following the report.

The property developer who has made the offer is understood to have both a site and finance available, but so far Cardiff's Planning Committee has not received an outline proposal.

The normally cautious administrator of the opera company, Mr Douglas Craig, sees the offer as both genuine and full of exciting possibilities. "We've had an approach from an estate agent," he told me. "The developer is prepared to build the opera house out of available resources and we're going to meet him shortly."

Glasgow: Within 48 hours of the report's publication, Edinburgh City Council decided, after a decade of haggling and dithering, to go ahead with the construction of a 1,400-seat opera house at a capital cost of £3,356,000. The project is dependent on a 50 per cent Arts Council grant.

It will probably be another four or five years before the opera house, vital to the Edinburgh Festival, is a reality. First, it will have to get Government approval, though Miss Jennie Lee, Minister for the Arts, has already given the Corporation an assurance that if it comes forward with a firm commitment—which it has now done—the Government will look at it sympathetically.

Mr Peter Hemmings, administrative director of the Glasgow-based Scottish Opera Company, told me that Edinburgh was best suited for an opera house, but he hoped that money could be found for the extension of the King's Theatre in Glasgow as well.

* A Report on Opera and Ballet in the United Kingdom 1966-69 (Arts Council, 15s).

In this wedding group, only the bride is free to go



Fellow prisoners, all but one Jehovah's Witnesses, pose with the Contijochs after their wedding at Cadiz military prison.

Greeks plot coup in Italy

(Continued from page 1)

superficial and incapable of making any impression on the opposition.

The agent reports that "our most intensive organisational effort must begin with the Italian land army" whose officers agree "that the methods used by the Greek Armed Forces gave satisfactory results and should therefore be adopted as the basis for their own action." He says there would have to be certain modifications in view of the Italian army's lack of the Greek "tradition in setting up secret organisations."

The agent goes on to report the Italian conspirators' unanimous acceptance of the "multi-lateral attack on the Italian Socialist Party," similar to that which was

launched in Greece against the Centre Union.

Press aspects of this campaign are mentioned as those most ready to accept "material judged useful by the National Government"—and this would be assisted if an editorial staff member of each newspaper were invited to Greece. Mr P. had offered his services in introducing the Greek agent to "certain newspapermen" who "will in all probability co-operate with me."

Mr P. had also conveyed the Greek Prime Minister's views on the need for immediate action against newspapers under Communist influence, and passed on the warning of Mr Ladas (one of the hard-core of the Greek junta) not

to allow the Italian Press to "ruin our long-planned efforts" by premature revelations.

Other matters raised in the report include the assignment to the Italian Carabinieri of the role played by the Greek Military Police in the "preparation and execution of the revolution of the Greek Armed Forces."

A further section deals with activities among Italian students, which "will bear fruit shortly."

The report ends with an appeal to the Greek Prime Minister for more money with which to develop activities in view of the growing opposition to the centre-left government among all sections of Italian society and the increasing number of people who desire the improvement of their country's

relations with Greece and the imposition of order in Italy.

The regime's object in offering its services is no doubt to reduce its sense of isolation in Europe.

Roy PERROTT writes: Four leading ex-Ministers representing the Greek democratic opposition have been invited to give their views on the situation created by the colonels' junta to the Council of Europe.

The Council meets on Friday in Paris to decide whether or not to suspend Greece.

The presence of the ex-Ministers could have important side-effects since, for the first time since the coup, it would bring together the elements which would be needed in forming a new democratic regime.

The four invited are Mr C. Karamanlis, a former Prime Minister, now regarded by all main parties as the most acceptable head of any transitional government; Mr A. Papandreu, very influential among left-wing groups; Mr G. Mylonas and Mr C. Mitsotakis, broadly representing the moderate conservatives.

All four are living in exile. The importance of Mr Karamanlis is that he is perhaps the only democratic key figure who would be entirely acceptable to the Americans, with his conception of firmly conservative internal government and loyalty to NATO. But he is a somewhat aloof, de Gaulle-like figure.

If he takes next week's meeting as an opportunity to be specific about his plans, Greek observers think, the democratic movement might acquire a little momentum, inside as well as outside Greece.

DAVID BURKE cables from Athens: The Greek Foreign Minister, Mr Panayotis Pipinelis, and his aides leave today for Paris and a final week of probing and jockeying before the Council of Europe meets.

Diplomatic sources here consider a Greek walk-out likely before the opening of the Paris meeting.

'Not trying to be a martyr'

(Continued from page 1)

to Spain to be near him—prison visits are allowed almost daily.

Last Tuesday two ancient black taxis disgorged a contrastingly festive group outside the bleak white walls of the Cadiz castle fortress. There were English people—friends of the bride—an American family living nearby and Contijoch's own mother and nephews.

The ease with which the wedding guests were allowed in—and the freedom which the prisoners inside are allowed—sometimes made it difficult for the outsider to believe that he was in a prison. The Spanish penal system allows women and children to visit the gaol and stay all day on feast days. The men inside are allowed to wear their own clothes; they can work for three hours a day, spend the rest of the time studying and stay up talking or reading until after midnight.

But conditions at Cadiz are exceptional. In the Ilaan penal colony in the Sahara, the men spend 22 hours of each day—with temperatures around 100 deg. F—locked in their billet. When Contijoch was there in 1963, 15 men were confined in a room 15 ft by 6 ft. Other prisoners spoke of individual guards meting out "rough justice" of men being forced to wear a ball and chain round their ankles.

Throughout the three-hour wedding celebrations, the guards studiously remained away from the long, low 'barn' which held the 60 guests—outsiders and prisoners.

The officiating judge from Cadiz arrived 15 minutes late for the brief civil ceremony. Then the Witnesses held their own ceremony—hymns, prayers and a reading from the Bible, first in Spanish and then in good but heavily-accented English by a young man—now in his third year of prison life—who had spent two years in London before he returned to face the military tribunal.

Contijoch, who has been learning English for 18 months, smiled

his way through the ceremony. "I am not trying to be a martyr," he said afterwards. "and I don't do it because I am a hero. It is simply that I must follow my life according to my beliefs." In prison he builds galleons—each one takes a month of slow labour—which sell for up to £30 each to tourists in the restaurants of Cadiz.

Through the bars, a guard could be seen patrolling the castle wall. Beneath his feet, two months before, a prisoner had escaped to a brief freedom through a one-foot-square hole in the wall of his cell.

Antonio, a Jehovah's Witness who told the story of the escape, said: "He was not a member of the faith. If they opened the gates today and took the guards away, we would not leave—and the military knows this." Antonio was working in Germany when he became eligible for call-up at home. He returned to Spain and presented himself to the military as a conscientious objector. The inevitable prison sentence followed.

After a second court martial, he was sent on without escort to his new prison. "All the way there I was very aware of the fact that, if I wanted, I could run away. I know what I was facing, yet I had to go through with it."

In Spain there are signs of a faintly uneasy conscience over this problem. A committee of the Cortes—the Spanish Parliament—is seeking a solution which will "safeguard human rights and satisfy the interests of justice and patriotism." A decree on this subject was promulgated last March, but has not yet materialised. A change in the law may be many months (even years) coming, and when it does, it will probably remove only the recurring element of the sentences—Annex's principal complaint about the present system.

Spain is not alone among European countries in its repressive attitude towards prisoners of conscience. Objectors may, in some circumstances be jailed in Greece, Italy, Portugal, France and even Switzerland.

The £1,000 Stick-up.



Think of a new use for 'Sellotape' that is better than these and you could still win £1,000.

Above are three of the heat winners in the Find-a-New-Use-for-'Sellotape' competition. Each of them won a weekend for two in Paris with £25 spending money.

There's just one heat left. This one. So, if you can think of a clever, practical or just plain nutty new use for 'Sellotape', send it in straightaway.

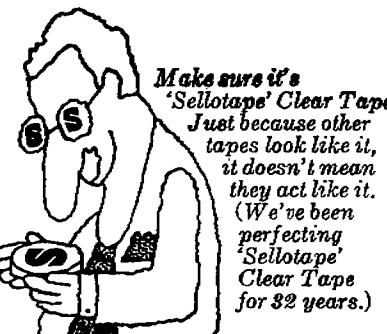
Not only is this your last chance to win the Paris holiday, it's also your last chance to join the other heat winners competing for the grand £1,000 prize.

The competition has already proved one thing: 'Sellotape' Clear Tape is one of the most versatile products around. Our postman will need a holiday after carrying all the examples of your ingenuity.

If you still have a new use that you think will surprise us, jot it down on the coupon and send it with the end tab or core of any 'Sellotape' roll. Even our 1/2-roll will do.

You've probably got plenty in the house for Christmas anyway, so all you have to dig up is the money for the stamp.

And who knows, you could unearth £1,000.



Make sure it's 'Sellotape' Clear Tape. Just because other tapes look like it, it doesn't mean they act like it. (We've been perfecting 'Sellotape' Clear Tapes for 22 years.)

To: 'Sellotape' Competition, D&F Promotions Service Ltd, 213 Oxford St, London W1R 2AE.

Here's my original idea for 'Sellotape' Clear Tape.

I use 'Sellotape' Clear Tape to _____

because _____

I enclose the end tab/core from a roll of (max. 12 words) 'Sellotape'. Please enter my idea for the 'Sellotape' competition.

Name _____

Address _____

OB6 Rules: Competition closes Dec 31st, 1969. Open to UK residents except employees/families of Sellotape Products Ltd, and Adhesive Tapes Ltd, and their advertising agents. All entries will be examined. No responsibility accepted for entries lost in the post or for incomplete, illegible or damaged entries. Proof of posting not accepted as proof of entry. Prizes awarded only to those whose names are entered into 'Winners of Sellotape'. The £1,000 prize will go to the winner who has submitted the most original use by Dec 31st. The judges' decision is final. One correspondence will be entered into 'Winners notified by post and listed in "Composers Journal" Feb 1st, 1970. Entries must be on the entry form accompanied either by end tab or core from a roll of 'Sellotape'. We reserve the right to publish and illustrate the most original uses.

Sellotape

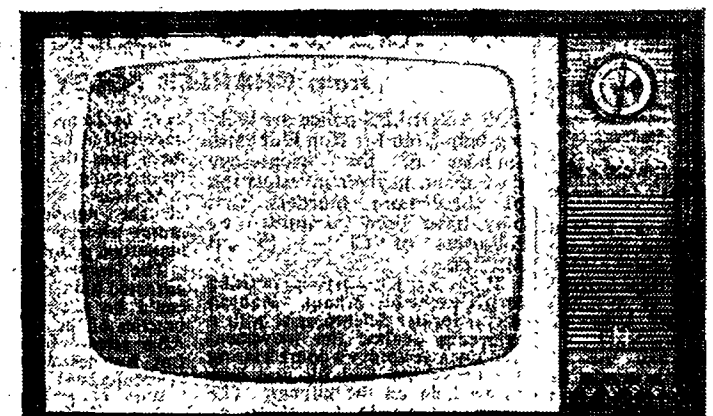
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Softly, softly

For quite a long time, the pages have been full of advertisements for the biggest, the brightest or the cheapest TV sets. So, here for a change, D.E.R. quietly announce: the best.

This all-stations, 19" tube TV is for people who are looking for something a little better-designed, a little better to live with. Simple, satisfying proportions with a teak woodgrain look and wood-finish control panel. The stand comes to you free.

How much does it cost to rent? The equivalent of 10/- a week, using our annual payment scheme (you put down £25.16.2d—that's all for the twelve-month minimum rental period). It may not be the cheapest. It may well be the most beautiful. Ask for the 209 at your D.E.R. showroom.



D.E.R.

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See telephone directory for your local D.E.R. showroom, or telephone (London) 01 DER 9922