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were herded together in front of a village school and designated a "people's court." They were invited to denounce the crimes of a man named Phung Sao, who had been in charge of the town's military affairs under the Saigon government. A few villagers accused Sao of using his position to assassinate a number of revolutionary cadres. The "president" of the court declared, "The people have decided that Sao will be executed for crimes against the people." In less than an hour, Sao's bullet-ridden body was turned over to his widow, who had been obliged to watch both the trial and the execution.

In the middle of a Binh Dinh tea plantation, a Viet Cong court declared that 20 defendants owed a "blood debt to the people." The result: at a midnight gathering in the local sports stadium, three of the prisoners were shot to death by a Viet Cong platoon leader. The other 17 were given prison sentences ranging from two to five years.

In Vinh Phung hamlet, 42 policemen were reportedly executed in a mass ceremony; another was beheaded, and his body was hung from a tree beside a police station. A hamlet chief was disemboweled in Kontum.

GROWING POSTAL PROBLEMS

Mr. CRANSTON. Mr. President, since the beginning of the 92d Congress, I have received a steadily rising flow of complaints from my constituents about the U.S. Postal Service. The complaints are twofold. How, Californians are asking me, can our mail service be deteriorating so rapidly while the cost of our postal system is going up and up?

It had been my belief that the recently created U.S. Postal Service needed a reasonable period of time for transition to its new status. We could not expect a brand new agency with the monumental task of delivering our Nation's mail to run perfectly smoothly at first. The Postal Service also had to modernize many antiquated procedures of its predecessor, the Post Office.

The Postal Service has been in the process of phasing in for nearly 2 years now—although the official takeover date was July 1, 1971. It seems to me that this has been ample time to show some improvement—not steady deterioration.

Californians tell me that their mail delivery becomes worse and worse. My office has seen a steady increase in complaints that—

More and more letters are going astray.

More and more packages arrive in damaged condition.

More and more mail arrives late.

Fewer and fewer deliveries are made.

Pickups are made with less and less frequency.

Individual home delivery has been reduced for new housing developments.

The historic use of the informative postmark has been virtually abandoned.

And the cost of mailing to each consumer and to each business goes up and up.

Under the Postal Reorganization Act, a Postal Rate Commission was established to study and to set postage rates. The Commission's initial recommendations were not quite as high as the Postal Service had asked, but were remarkably similar.

I was particularly distressed by the recommended hikes in second-class mail rates. Second-class mail carries most of

the periodical literature which keeps us informed about events, interprets their significance, and spreads new, old, and dissenting ideas across the country. Since most small—and many large—publications simply cannot absorb the costs, the new rates could price these important vehicles of free speech right out of the market.

I do not believe Congress should stand by and watch this happen. For this reason, I was proud to join with the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. NELSON) to co-sponsor S. 3758. The bill has four sections which would:

Obligate the Postal Service Corporation to provide services at rates that encourage and support the widest possible dissemination of news, opinion, scientific, cultural, and educational matter.

Prohibit the Postal Service Corporation from imposing per-piece charges on second-class mail. Instead, publishers will be able to continue to pay by the pound.

Charge the first 250,000 copies of each issue to be mailed under second-class rates at the June 1, 1972, rate. Additional copies would pay the higher rate imposed on July 1, 1972. Revenue lost to the Postal Service would be underwritten by congressional appropriations.

Phase-rate increases for the editorial content of second-class publications in equal stages over a 10-year period.

I believe that the bill, which probably will not be acted on by Congress until 1973, will make a good start to correcting some of the shortcomings of the U.S. Postal Service.

I want to emphasize that this bill only makes a start. There is a great deal of question in my mind about the costs of the other classes of mail.

Replying to one letter I sent, the U.S. Postal Service said that it was "quite serious about identifying and remedying the deficiencies which prevent our customers from getting the service they deserve." Being "quite serious" is not good enough. The people of California and across the Nation and the men who represent them are running out of patience.

The Postal Service must improve its performance or Congress may have to consider seriously the possibility that its great experiment in independent postal service has been a failure. This may very well mean that we should abolish the Postal Service and replace it with a streamlined mail service run either by the Federal Government or by private enterprise to give the people and the taxpayers the service they deserve.

EMIGRATION OF JEWS FROM THE SOVIET UNION

Mr. MONDALE. Mr. President, the Soviet Government has raised official cynicism and inhumanity to new heights by requiring arbitrary and exorbitant fees as payment for permission to emigrate from the U.S.S.R. These vicious fees set a price on human liberty. And that price is far beyond the means of the tens of thousands of Soviet citizens who are desperately seeking to leave the U.S.S.R. for a happier life elsewhere.

No group is more tragically affected by this hateful policy than the Soviet Jews.

In recent months the distant longing of thousands of Jews to live in Israel has come closer to reality. Soviet policy seemed to waver. The Soviet prohibition against emigration relaxed. In a year's time, the number of Jews leaving the Soviet Union rose from 1,000 to almost 15,000. By the time of the President's visit less than 4 short months ago, it appeared that the number this year would reach at least 35,000—and the door might be left open for the 80,000 who have already applied to leave.

But just as the stream threatened to become a flood—just as the deepest longing of thousands of men and women seemed at the point of realization—the Soviet action struck.

The cynicism of this action, which makes the fees retroactive to all pending applications, is beyond belief. The Government claims that the fees are a form of repayment required from citizens who have been educated at Government expense. This claim is belied by the fact that the Government has long exacted repayment from its graduates in the form of years of Government service. It is also belied by the fact that there is no correlation between the Soviet estimate costs of education and the astronomical fees.

The Government is well aware that Soviet families cannot possibly afford the fees, which can run as high as \$40,000 for a single individual. The total ransom could reach hundreds of millions of dollars. The Soviet Government knows that this money can only come from abroad.

The inhumanity of the Soviet Government surpasses even its cynicism. Human beings are being offered for sale as surely as they were 30 years ago, when Adolph Eichmann attempted to negotiate an exchange of Jews for the military trucks desperately needed by the Germans. Human beings are being held hostage as surely as they were last week in Munich, except that in the U.S.S.R. they are being held not by a band of outlaws, but by the Soviet Government.

The Soviet Government does not need machineguns and grenades to destroy men. Instead it has a policy—disguised in the form of bureaucratic procedure—that denies the most basic principles of humanity, murders hope, and leads to the destruction of the spirit.

The case of Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the Nobel Prize winning novelist who has been harassed and vilified beyond belief in his own country, has shown the world that despite their cynicism, Soviet leaders are not deaf to world opinion. I add my voice to the rising chorus of protest that cries out not merely against the artificial barriers to emigration raised by the Soviet Government, but against the brutal policy that denies the essential human dignity of thousands of men and women.

We will be heard.

BARBARIC TERRORISM SWEEPS THE WORLD

Mr. CRANSTON. Mr. President, Columnist David Broder wrote for last Sun-