

WILMINGTON and vicinity: Cloudy and continued cold with possible light rain in late afternoon; Friday clearing and slightly warmer.

Wilmington Morning Star



Pilgrims Celebrate Nativity In Silence

British Armored Vehicles Replace Donkeys. Camels Of Biblical Times On Road To Bethlehem; Storm Clears

By ROBERT MILLER
United Press Staff Correspondent
BETHLEHEM, Palestine, Dec. 24. — A cold Christmas moon broke through storm clouds over this hallowed place tonight. It lighted the narrow cobblestoned streets through which pilgrims moved to celebrate the birth of the Christ child.

British armored cars and heavily armed troops replaced the donkeys and camels of biblical times. Troops with their weapons clanking replaced the pilgrims of other years. There were about 10,000 visitors in all compared to the many who come here in happier times. The sound of Christmas carols

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Truman Sends Message Of Hope To Ill World

PRESIDENT PLANS TO SIGN GOP BILL

Seathing Rebuke On Provisions May Be Released At Same Time

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24. — President Truman may sign the Republican anti-inflation bill "any day after Christmas," the White House said today. He will accompany it with a statement which is expected to blast it as inadequate to curb living costs. The bill's main price stabilization feature—authorizing voluntary agreements within industry for cooperative anti-inflation action—falls short of the 10-point Truman plan. He failed to win the wage-price-rationing powers he asked.

President Takes Words Of St. Paul For Version Of Marshall Plan

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24. — President Truman promised the suffering people of the world on this holy night that "we shall do more" for them. To the cold, the hungry and the homeless abroad, he uttered this Christmas message: "We have supplied a part of their needs and we shall do more."

Mr. Truman spoke at dusk from a gaily decorated platform on the South grounds of the White House after turning on the lights on a big community Christmas tree. Addressing a nation-wide radio audience—and the world — Mr. Truman reminded his listeners that the spirit of Christmas was inherent in this country's effort to avert starvation and want overseas.

In giving a Christmas version of the Marshall plan, the President used as his theme the words of St. Paul: "And Now Abideth Faith, Hope, Charity, These Three; But The Greatest of These is Charity."

Mr. Truman said that in extending aid to the unfortunate abroad "we are developing in their hearts the return of 'hope'... (and) with the return of hope... these people will come renewed faith—faith in the dignity of the individual and the brotherhood of man."

The President said there can be little happiness for those in Europe and Asia who will observe another Christmas in poverty and suffering. "As we prepare to celebrate our Christmas this year in a land of plenty," he said, "we would be heartless indeed if we were indifferent to the plight of the less fortunate peoples overseas."

Then, after quoting the words of St. Paul, he said: "We believe this. We accept it as a basic principle of our See TRUMAN on Page Four

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

WHILE MORTALS SLEEP, THE ANGELS KEEP THEIR WATCH OF WONDERING LOVE. O MORNING STARS, TOGETHER PROCLAIM THE HOLY BIRTH! AND PRAISES SING TO GOD THE KING, AND PEACE TO MEN ON EARTH."

—Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)



LAXITY CHARGED IN WRITER CASE

State Department Proposes Drastic Revision On UN Rules

Charging the United Nations with laxity, the state department proposed today a "drastic revision" of the UN rules for granting credentials to alien news correspondents.

The department said in a sharply worded statement that the United States acted within its sovereign rights in seeking to deport two men accredited by the United Nations as correspondents. The deportation move was made on the ground that the men are communists and not legitimate news reporters.

What revision in rules is desired was unstated but officials made clear the state department wants a general tightening up, with the United States retaining the right to challenge the good faith of any alien accredited by the UN.

NCCS TO OPERATE ONSLOW BUILDING

USO At Jacksonville Acquired By Navy; Legion Bid Rejected

JACKSONVILLE, Dec. 24. — The USO building in Jacksonville has been acquired by the United States Navy department effective January 1, and will be turned over to the National Catholic Community service which will conduct a recreation program for service personnel similar to that of USO.

Announcement of the acquisition by the Navy department came last night at exercises which marked the closing of the service center. The announcement was made by George See, director of the USO.

USO will cease operation December 31, throughout the world after having served faithfully and efficiently during World War Two, the NCCS is one of six organizations which banded together to compose the USO. The USO building in Jacksonville was erected by the Federal Works agency at an approximate cost of \$90,000. It has been up for sale for the past six months. The town of Jacksonville which had first priority on the purchase waived the priority in favor of Burton Cowell Post Number 265 of the American Legion which submitted a bid for the building.

Crowds Jam Stores, Tax Travel Outlets

NO STAR TOMORROW

In keeping with the policy of the management of the Morning Star, there will be no issue of the paper tomorrow morning. This is being done so that employees of the paper may spend Christmas day and night with their families.

There will be no issue of the Wilmington News today. The Morning Star will resume publication Saturday morning as usual. The News will resume publication Friday as usual.

DEATH OBSERVES NO YULE SEASON

Sporadic Killings Mar Christmas Eve In Unhappy Palestine

JERUSALEM, Dec. 24. — Death took no Christmas holiday in the unhappy Holy Land today. Bullets killed five Arabs and two Jews and at least nine other persons were injured. The death toll since the United Nations General Assembly voted Nov. 29 to partition Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states mounted to 314 for the Holy Land.

A bomb and grenades damaged a truck carrying Jewish prisoners from Jaffa to Tel Aviv. Four Jewish policemen were injured. A spokesman for the Palestine government told a news conference the government will take all necessary steps including more patrolling, to obtain complete safety on the main road from Jerusalem to Jaffa and Tel Aviv.

This spokesman expressed the opinion that if the vicious circle of so-called mutual reprisal actions between Jews and Arabs would end for at least two days, the situation would be much easier to handle.

Jewish Woman Shot Snipers' bullets killed a Jewish woman while she was hanging clothes on the rooftop of her Haifa home. A Jewish child and a Jewish man also were wounded by the snipers before they were dispersed by Hagana, self-styled Jewish defense army.

Chicago Center Of Biggest Christmas Spurge In U. S. History

CHICAGO, Dec. 24. — Record-breaking crowds jammed stores and travel facilities today in perhaps the biggest Christmas spurge in the nation's history.

The weatherman's forecast that there would be no "White Christmas" in most of the nation failed to dampen any of the Yule spirit. Last-minute shoppers crowded stores and folks hurrying home for the holidays jammed railroads and airlines, pushing the volume of travel and sales to record levels.

The U.S. Weather Bureau predicted generally sunny, seasonable weather for most of the country. Snow already had covered sections of the Upper Ohio Valley and Eastward through Pennsylvania and New York to New England, assuring a White Christmas in that area.

But the only new snow expected was from a few flurries in the Northern Rocky Mountains and Great Lakes areas. Rain was forecast for the Pacific Northwest. Railroads and airlines scheduled See CROWDS on Page Two

FREIGHTER SAFE REPORTS STATE Tug Michael Moran Standing By Ship Off Frying Pan Shoals

Coast Guard officials at Oak Island confirmed a report late yesterday that the 7,176-ton freighter Andrew Moore, with five men aboard, was in "no danger" and was in contact with the tug Michael Moran.

The Maritime Commission reported in New York City that the Moran was standing by the ship in rough seas five miles off the mouth of the Cape Fear river at Frying Pan shoals.

An earlier report from the Coast Guard said that the vessel was helpless and that no signs of life could be found aboard. The tug A. J. McAllister broke down while towing the ship to the lay-up basin here and came into Wilmington for repairs on Tuesday night.

POLICEMEN HURT IN CLUB BATTLE

Two Youths, Girl Held Following Shooting Spree In Reno Club

RENO, Nev., Dec. 24. — A midnight shooting among the roulette wheels and dice tables of a gambling club left three policemen wounded today and ended in the jailing of two youths and a 21-year-old girl.

Charged with shooting the police officers after being cornered in crowded Harold's Club was 20-year-old Bobby Carter, whose home was given to police variously as Huntersville, W. Va., and Pinson Fort, Ky.

Carter was trailed to the club by officers checking the description of a man who had staged three taxicab holdups earlier in the evening.

Carter, the officers said, opened fire with a small-caliber pistol as they closed in on him. Club patrons scattered under tables and out doors. But the police refrained from returning the fire in fear of hitting them.

Taken to the hospital were Detective Sergeants Francis Quinn and James Franklin, and Patrolman William Reeder. Franklin was in serious condition today with a bullet lodged against the spine. Quinn was hospitalized with a wound in the thigh, and Reeder released after treatment of a hand wound.

After opening fire on the officers, Carter commandeered a taxi but was cornered in a used car lot half an hour later and wounded in a gun battle with Patrolman Leonard Codega.

He was taken to a hospital where his condition was reported not serious. Carter was charged with assault with intent to kill.

Greek Guerrillas Form Communist State On North Border Of Nation; U. S. May Get Back Bases In Panama

Dispatches Quote Foreign Minister As Agreeing To New Contract

ATHENS, Greece, Dec. 24. — The Guerilla Chieftain, Gen. Markos Vafiades announced by radio today the formation of an independent Communist State in the north, thereby creating a situation which could explode into a Greek civil war.

The broadcast summoned members of the military branch of the Leftist National Resistance front known as EAM, to "take up arms" to support the "first provisional democratic government of free Greece."

Premier Themistokles Sophoulis declared the new Communist state probably would be recognized by Greece's pro-Soviet northern neighbors.

Should that come about, the pouring in of arms and munitions to the support of the Northern Separatists would be facilitated. Since aid for the Athens government already is coming from the United States the situation thus contained explosive possibilities.

Members of the United Nations special commission on the Balkans, set up to investigate border incidents, said last week that the creation of an independent Communist State with open assistance by the Northern neighbors would constitute a "threat to peace" and a "situation of the U. N. General Assembly probably would be called to meet the situation."

Balkans Outlook Greek military men at Salonika said they believed the broadcast originated from a station in the Balkans, probably Yugoslavia. The announcement did not give the location of the new state or its capital.

Vafiades, who has been going under the name of "Gen. Markos," was named prime minister and minister of war.

The other ministers in the new government were listed as: John Ioannides, vice-premier, minister of interior; Petros Roussos, foreign affairs; Miltiades Porphyrogenitis, justice; Vassilis Bartzokas, finance; Petros Kokkalis, health, social welfare and education; Dimitrios Vladas, agriculture; Leonidas Stringos, national economy and food.

All are Communists or EAM leaders. Stringos is a former editor of the suppressed Communist newspaper Rizospastos. Porphyrogenitis, who is minister of labor in the liberation Greek cabinet, told a Communist meeting in France last summer that an independent state would soon be formed.

Old Time Red Joannides is an old-line Communist who has been in charge of the undercover mechanism of the party for years. He is reported to have signed an agreement with Bulgarian Communists during the German occupation to cede Greek territory to Bulgaria. Roussos was the party's middle east representative in the Greek army and naval mutiny during the war. He is under a death sentence. Bartzokas was the Athens leader of the Communist revolution in 1944. Vladas is a member of

Action Creates Situation Which Could Explode To Civil War Status

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24. — Hope that the United States might get back some of its wartime bases in Panama to help defend the canal was kept alive today by official assurances that both countries would like to revive the base-leasing negotiations.

Dispatches from Panama quoted Foreign Minister Florencio Arosemena forte as saying his government is willing to start discussing a new agreement to replace the one rejected by the Panamanian Assembly Monday night. He said he was "convinced" the two countries still could get together.

In Washington, acting U. S. Secretary of State Robert A. Lovett told a press conference that Forte had not made the offer official as yet but that this country is ready to reopen the talks at any time.

The rejected agreement called for a five-year American lease on 13 minor "defense sites" in Panama—mostly radar stations and fighter strips — and a 10-year lease with a 10-year renewal option on the big Rio Hato Air base which the United States used during the war as a B-29 heavy bomber station.

Want Shorter Lease The Panama Assembly was understood to have turned down the pact largely because of the length of the proposed Rio Hato lease. It was believed possible that a new agreement would be ratified if it limited the lease on that base to five years, with a five-year renewal option.

Meanwhile, the United States began to withdraw its 2,000 air and ground force troops from the 14 bases, as a demonstration of its respect for the sovereignty of Panama.

See ACTION on Page Four

BIZARRE CUTTING PUZZLES POLICE

Odd-Job Man Kills Wife, Slashes Throats of Three Other Persons

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., Dec. 24. — A 42-year-old unemployed odd-job man wrote out his will to his "beloved wife" in his lawyer's office here today, then with a Boy Scout knife slashed her to death and cut the throats of his son, 15, and two attorneys; before killing himself by leaping from the sixth floor fire escape of an office building.

Chief of Police Jack Thompson identified the man as David Ralph Burnside who neighbors told police was "jealous of his wife," Bernice, 39. Thompson said Burnside "just seemed to have gone crazy."

Thompson said that no motive had been established for the cuttings, and an attorney who had handled some affairs for Burnside in the past declared the man was perfectly normal "mentally" and "had no known family troubles."

The bizarre Christmas Eve cutting took place in the law office of E. M. Baynes and R. G. Hamilton in the Comeau building on Clematis street in the heart of downtown West Palm Beach.

Baynes, Hamilton and the son, James, were listed as critical at a hospital. Both Baynes and Hamilton are about 55. Baynes was placed in an oxygen tent. Dies Instantly Mrs. Burnside died on the floor of the law offices with a gash in her throat 10 inches long, Thompson said.

The police chief could not explain how Burnside could have cut all four about the throat so quickly. The knife, "very See BIZARRE on Page Four

PLANES ON HUNT FOR MISSING B-29

ARMY SHIP WITH EIGHT MEN ABOARD FAILS TO REPORT AT BASE

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, Dec. 24. — A wide aerial search was launched this morning for an Army B-29 which failed to return to Ladd Field last night from a long range navigation training flight over the Northern portion of Alaska. Eight men were aboard.

The big plane was due at the field at 10 p.m. Bases at Nome and Fairbanks, were alerted one hour later. Takeoffs for the search began early today.

Col. Lloyd H. Watnee, directing the search, said operations are hampered by poor weather and the short hours of Arctic daylight at this time of year. He said every available airplane in the region has been alerted for the search. The names of the eight men aboard were withheld.

Miners Break Tradition; Sing, Work On Yule Eve

TAMAQUA, Pa., Dec. 24. — It is the first time such a ceremony ever has been held.

The men of Newkirk Mine rated one of the outstanding for its safety and production records in the lower Anthracite field — came to work an hour earlier than usual so that they could leave early to have Christmas Eve with their families.

Although the Newkirk miners usually do not work either the day before or after Christmas, this year in order to keep production up they will be idle only on Christmas.

Along The Cape Fear

GREETINGS — The Column this morning wishes for its readers all that is good during the holidays and the New Year to come. But this subject won't be dwelt upon, and we'll get back into character.

OLD RICE FIELDS — Yesterday the Column had a very interesting communication from Mr. Louis L. Merrett, on the growing of rice along the Cape Fear.

"Years ago," he writes, "along the west side of the river rice fields extended from above the fertilizer plants to below Big Island and there were some fields on the east bank. 'The fields were ditched and dyked and emptied with flood gates to control the drainage and the floodings of the fields. 'When the rice was beginning to ripen the planters had a good deal of trouble with rice birds and coots eating the rice. They employed Negroes to walk the ditch banks with muzzle loading

shot guns to fire into the droves of birds to scare them away. 'In the book entitled 'Low Country,' written by some Charleston writers, there is an interesting description of the rice fields and their cultivation. They were trained to wear boards fastened to their feet to enable them to walk on the soft mud. 'The last rice field that I remember along the river was owned by Gilbert Hollins, near Town Creek back of Big Pond. 'On Chestnut street back of the Murchison building and on the site of the present parking lot, a rice mill was located. 'After the Civil War it became unprofitable to raise rice here and this business moved to Louisiana. 'The rice planters used a lot of gun powder, and many of the hardware dealers had powder houses built on piles in the river. See CAPE FEAR on Page Four

The Weather

SOUTH CAROLINA—Cloudy and cooler Thursday with occasional light rain. Total since the 1st: 1.40 inches. Forecast for the 24 hours ending 7:30 a. m. p. m. Today Yesterday. 7:30 a. m. 46 7:30 a. m. 38 1:30 p. m. 46 1:30 p. m. 46 7:30 p. m. 43 Maximum 48 Minimum 36 Mean 42 Normal 46

WILMINGTON—Cloudy and continued cold with possible light rain in late afternoon; Friday clearing and slightly warmer.

Santa Feels North Wind When His Breeks FaDoon

KINSTON, Dec. 24. — It shouldn't happen to anybody. But it happened to Santa Claus. Bank Teller Chester J. Olzinski was playing the part of Santa in the last-minute shopping rush. He started across the main street — and a small admirer didn't want him to go.

The kid tugged at Santa's red pants. The pants sagged. The kid jerked harder. Santa began to feel the north wind.

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