

JAPAN MAY FOREGO DIRECT ANSWER FOR AMERICAN PROTESTS

Tokyo Takes Position Apologies Were Made in Advance of Receipt of Recent Note

STATE DEPARTMENT WILL NOT COMMENT

Foreign Office Spokesman at Tokyo Flatly Denies Water Craft Machine-Gunned Gunboat Panay Before It Sank; New Note May Be Sent on That

Tokyo, Dec. 17.—(AP)—Japan may refrain from a direct reply to the United States' protest in the Panay incident, the foreign office spokesman indicated today, on the ground that the government had apologized before the American note was delivered. He said the question was still being weighed, but pointed out: "The Japanese note of apology was given (to United States Ambassador Joseph Grew) before the United States note was handed to Foreign Minister Koki Hirota. Therefore, whether some other note must be given has not yet been decided."

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Heads Puppet State



Tung Kang ... puppet for Japan?

Japanese authorities have proclaimed a "Provisional Government of the Republic of China," with headquarters in China, now renamed Peking, in opposition to the Chinese central government. The "government" at the present is being operated by councils for the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the regime. One of the three heads of the new provisional government is Tung Kang, a Chinese who favors Japan, shown above.

Bill Payne Seen Near Columbia, Is Officers' Belief

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 17.—(AP)—Chief of Police W. H. Rawlinson said at 2:15 p. m. today that Columbia police, county officers and highway patrolmen were in pursuit of a man he believed was Bill Payne, notorious North Carolina fugitive.

The man Rawlinson said officers thought was Payne, held up Police Chief William Rickard, of Cayce, Columbia suburb, in Lexington county, took his pistol and escaped in the officer's car.

After this escapade, Rawlinson said, the man held up a roadhouse on the old Camden road, near Camp Jackson.

Rawlinson ordered out additional city officers, and highway patrolmen were dispatched to cover every highway leading out of the city.

Chief Rickard said he was almost positive the man who held him up was Payne. "He resembled the pictures that I have seen of Payne," he said.

Loyalists Spaniards Push Gains

Madrid, Dec. 17.—(AP)—Spanish government forces slaying at General Francisco Franco's lower Aragon salient opened the third day of the attack on Teruel with their push apparently still unchecked today. The hard-pressed insurgents hastily attempted to bring reinforcements into the Teruel sectors, but were impeded by aerial attacks and the fact

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Japan Might Campaign In South China

Invaders Not Yet Satisfied; Great City of Canton May Be Next Victim

Shanghai, Dec. 17.—(AP)—Chinese-Japanese warfare threatened today to spread to the South China coast in far-flung attacks of Japanese forces "not satisfied with the capture of Nanking."

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Japs Angry At Arrests By Soviets

"Responsible" Answer to Note Demanded; Russia Fortifies Vladivostok

Tokyo, Dec. 17.—(AP)—The Japanese Foreign Office today formally charged the Soviet Union with "acting in a manner utterly unthinkable in any civilized country" in connection with the arrests of Japanese in Russia.

The foreign office protested to the Soviet Embassy, citing what Japan called numerous cases in which Soviet authorities had arrested Japanese and held them without trial.

A memorandum accompanying the protest said Japan wished a "responsible" answer.

Almost concurrently, the Tokyo newspaper Yomiuri charged that Russia was continuing to strengthen her military forces at Vladivostok, Russia's Far Eastern seaport. Chinese press reports received at Shanghai said Russia had completed

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NO TRACES FOUND OF CRIMINALS WHO ESCAPE ALCATRAZ

Heavy Shore Patrol and Federal and Police Boats Search Waters For Pair

BODIES EXPECTED TO BE FOUND SOON

Only One Chance in Thousand, Authorities Agree, for Fugitive Pair To Make Good in Break from "Escape-Proof" Prison in Rocky San Francisco Bay

No Traces Found of Criminals Who Escape Alcatraz

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 17.—(AP)—Heavy shore patrols and Federal and police boats searched the waters of San Francisco bay today for two desperate criminals who escaped from Alcatraz island's "escape-proof" Federal penitentiary under cover of a dense fog.

Officials expected to find their bodies. There was only one chance in a thousand, authorities agreed, that Ralph Roe, bank robber from Duncan, Okla., and Theodore Cole, kidnaper from Stroud, Okla., still lived. During a half hour between regular counting of prisoners yesterday afternoon, the pair broke two panes of glass in a window and escaped from the machine shop where they worked.

Hidden from tower guards by the dense fogs, they reached the outside wire fence where they limped a grate. After reaching rocks at the base of the cliff, officials said, the pair hid in caves on the island, plunged into a powerful ebb tide in an attempt to swim the mile and a quarter to San Francisco, or slid into the water to make a rendezvous with a confederate boat screened from the 12-acre rock by the fog.

The entire island, haze and all, was searched repeatedly without revealing further trace of the men.

Four Steel Men Held In Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 17 (AP)—Four delegates to this week's convention of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee were held on technical charges of murder today while police investigated the death of 30-year-old Rose Ault, whose nude body was found in their hotel room.

Inspector of Detectives Walter Monaghan said Jacob Zelkind and Morris Engaold, both of Brooklyn, were being detained here and that New York police had taken Louis Green, of Brooklyn, and Fred Odenwalk, of Ozone Park, L. I., into custody on murder charges pending an inquest.

Monaghan said the four men came to Pittsburgh to attend the steel workers convention.

Coroner W. J. McGregor said he had not decided on a time for the inquest. In New York, Green and Odenwalk voluntarily went to Brooklyn police headquarters today. The men told Deputy Inspector John Gallagher they knew nothing of Miss Ault's death. When they and two other Brooklyn men, Zelkind and Engaold, arrived in Pittsburgh Tuesday, they said, all four were assigned to the same hotel room.

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GLENN FRANK MAY HEAD REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

Former Wisconsin University President Agreed Upon at St. Louis G. O. P. Conference

CHAIRMAN HAMILTON TO TALK TO FRANK

Leaves St. Louis Meeting for Chicago, Where Dr. Frank Says He Has Had No Contacts With Committee; Hamilton Slips Away from Hotel

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 17.—(AP)—The Republican National Executive Committee, in a four-day caucus here, agreed upon Dr. Glenn Frank, former president of the University of Wisconsin, to head its policy-formulating committee.

The action, verified by at least three members of the committee, however, still was without official confirmation today. Dr. Frank, in Chicago, asserted he had not been invited to head the group and "had no contacts with any one at the St. Louis meeting."

Chairman John D. M. Hamilton left by train for Chicago, presumably to confer with Dr. Frank, although his hurried departure was not explained.

Several members of the executive committee, with whom he had been conferring since Monday, were not aware that he had left his hotel. Hamilton previously had made public a partial list of the program or steering committee, which he said when completed will total "between 135 and 140 persons."

Lawyer And Wife Slain In Georgia

Quitman, Ga., Dec. 17.—(AP)—Lee W. Branch, former president of the Georgia Bar Association, and one of the State's outstanding attorneys, and his wife were shot to death in their home today.

Patrolman Grady Marable said the two were killed by Livingston Snow, Mrs. Branch's brother. Marable said he was called to the home by neighbors and captured Snow in the dining room after a brief struggle.

Marable said the Branches were killed instantly, each with a pistol bullet through the head. "Livingston Snow was raving," the policeman said. "I understand he was mentally ill, and that plans were be-

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KENNEDY IS TALKED AS 1940 CANDIDATE

Roosevelt Likes New Ambassador to London, But He Has Drawbacks

By CHARLES P. STEWART, Central Press Columnist

Washington, Dec. 17.—Reports that Joseph P. Kennedy is slated to succeed Robert W. Bingham as Uncle Sam's ambassador in London are plausible enough.

Reports, however, that Brother Kennedy is President Roosevelt's choice to succeed Mr. Roosevelt as the Democratic party's standard bearer in 1940 may safely be accepted with a barrelful of salt or two.

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Roosevelt Is Opposed To War Referendum

Those Mysterious Robinsons



Shown above with his wife, the mysterious Donald L. Robinson, self-styled writer, disappeared in Soviet Russia and opens a vista of intrigue which rivals fiction. It was found that the couple were using fraudulent American passports, issued in the names of children who died decades ago. Soviet officials have given no indication of the couple's whereabouts.

Federal Licensing For Corporations Probable Under New Senate Bill

O'Mahoney and Borah Sponsor Anti-Monopoly Bill Designed Toward That Purpose

REYNOLDS BOBS UP IN SENATE DEBATE

Junior Tar Heel Solon Says Business Hates Government and Proposes Investigation of Recession; Accuses Wealthy Industrialists of Nation

Washington, Dec. 17.—(AP)—A promise by Attorney General Cummings to study an anti-monopoly bill pending in the Senate brought hope to its sponsors today that the administration would support the measure.

The measure was sponsored by Senators O'Mahoney, Democrat, Wyoming, and Borah, Republican, Idaho, after the administration made no specific recommendations at the special session.

Panay Attack Is Described By Survivors

Shanghai, Dec. 17 (AP)—How Japanese war planes machine-gunned the small boats carrying wounded men ashore from the bombed United States Gunboat Panay, causing more wounds, was told in detail today by survivors of the disastrous attack.

They confirmed earlier reports, denied by the Japanese, that such machine gun fire harassed survivors, many already suffering from serious wounds incurred aboard the Panay as they tried to reach safety ashore last Sunday.

In addition, survivors, reaching here said Japanese army detachments in launches on the Yangtze river and along the river bank fired machine gun bursts at the Panay before she sank.

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PRESIDENT WON'T COMMENT ON LOSS OF GUNBOAT CANAY

Executive Declares RFC Will Continue To Make Loans To Distressed Railroads

NEW FARM MEASURE DEBATED BY SENATE

Proposal by McAdoo Would Provide for Price-Fixing, Which Is Opposed by Wall Street; Farm Bill Vote By Night Hoped for by Leaders There

Washington, Dec. 17.—(AP)—President Roosevelt told a press conference today he did not believe a referendum on war was consistent with a representative form of government.

Asked if he thought a referendum requiring a public vote before the nation could go to war was consistent with the United States form of government, the President said the easiest way to answer that was just to say no and stop right there. A petition circulated by Representative Ludlow, Democrat, Indiana, proposing submission of a constitutional amendment for a war referendum, was signed by 218 House members, forcing the House to order a vote on the proposal.

The President had no comment on the Japanese bombing of the American gunboat Panay, referring questions to the State Department.

The President said the Reconstruction Finance Corporation would continue to make loans to railroads in emergencies. He said a statement by Chairman Jesse Jones that the corporation would make loans to needy carriers was not a revocation of administration policy. He added that stoppage of such loans in the last few months was only a general rule and that exceptions were to be expected.

He said, however, there would be no exceptions to the decision terminating further allocations of emergency public works funds.

Steel Union Studies Its New Policies

Pittsburgh, Pa., Dec. 17 (AP)—The Steel Workers Organizing Committee, ending its first National congress in this steel capital, gave its officers instructions today to temper the policies they will pursue in forthcoming contract negotiations with 466 companies.

The convention, called by its leaders as an historic meeting in the annals of organized labor, adopted the report of its wage scale and policy committee, which declared:

"We have enough information to know that the current depression probably will last longer than most people suspect. The major outlets of steel are closed for at least the next six to eight months."

The report, asserting that "labor suffers," said that "labor suffers."

G. O. P. Plan For Repeal Is Defeated

Sub-Committee of House Rejects Profits Tax Move As Cutting Revenue

Washington, Dec. 17.—(AP)—Republican substitute for the undistributed corporate profits tax was defeated today in a House sub-committee.

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SHOP EARLY

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Rain tonight and probably Saturday; slightly warmer in north-east portion tonight; slightly colder Saturday night and in west and central portions in afternoon.