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JAPS ARRIVE FOR SHANGHAI TRIAL



FLOWN IN FROM HANKOW, these Japanese soldiers and civilians wait at the Shanghai airport for transfer under guard to the jail where they'll await trial as the murderers of three U. S. B-29 crewmen who crashed-landed near Hankow. Twenty Japanese are charged with having tortured and killed the Americans and cremated their bodies. (International)

COMPLETE PROGRAM FOR STEEL STRIKE IS BEING DRAFTED

Executive Board of USW Is Holding Meeting; Charges Denied

Pittsburgh, Dec. 12.—(AP)—A spokesman for the CIO-United Steel Workers of America said detailed plans for the scheduled January 14 strike of 700,000 steel, aluminum and iron ore workers were being drafted at a meeting of the USW executive board today.

Strike captains were being named and other procedure for the union's proposed walkout in support of its \$2 a day wage demand were being worked out.

Denies Company Claims

At a press conference, Philip Murray, president of both the CIO and the steel workers union, flatly denied assertions of the American Iron and Steel Institute that there would be no strike "if the CIO abides by its pledged word, given only last spring."

Murray declared the strike in no way violates the contract which the steel workers signed with the steel companies "in either their legal or their moral aspects." He said a formal statement would be issued setting forth fully the union's position.

The strike date was set yesterday by the USW's 175-man wage policy committee, under the authorization of a five to one vote taken by some 650,000 steel workers two weeks ago. The NLRB in Washington announced a total of 509,434 ballots were cast in the steel workers strike poll, with 411,491 for and 83,859 against.

Further balloting under NLRB supervision, affecting about 50,000 more steel workers, will be completed by December 21. Apparently only government intervention or the resumption of negotiations between the company and union could avert the strike.

Murray left the gate open for further talks with the company when he called the union's \$2 a day wage demands a "negotiable proposition." "We are prepared to negotiate about it," he said.

Condition Of Patton Is 'Grave'

Spends Good Night, Army Report Says; Wife Cheering Him

Heldberg, Germany, Dec. 12.—(AP)—General George S. Patton, Jr., whose neck was broken in an auto accident Sunday spent a "good night" but his condition remains "grave" an official report said today.

An earlier announcement said the colorful U. S. general was fully conscious, rational and taking nourishment and that he showed "normally active" tendon reflexes.

Nurses attending Patton described him as "one of our best patients" and said he was accepting his paralyzed condition like a "true soldier."

One of his nurses, said his "sleeping was confused but he is rational when he awakes."

"He doesn't swear like I heard he does," she said. "He tells me not to worry about him and go away, but I have to be there because he never wants to eat or drink."

Doctors reported, however, that there were no signs of improvement in the paralytic condition.

The text of the noon bulletin: "Temperature 100. Pulse 60/64. Respiration 16/22."

"Spent a good night, sleep well and is comfortable, taking nourishment. Has been cheered by the arrival of Mrs. Patton."

"There is no improvement in paralysis. Condition remains grave."

A "no visitors" sign was hung on his door yesterday.

N. C. Might Receive U. S. Federal Hospital Funds

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—North and South Carolina will receive substantial financial aid in a five year hospital and public health center improvement plan if a Senate approved bill passes the House.

Under the bill, passed by the Senate yesterday, North Carolina would receive an annual federal grant of \$3,546,000 for the next five years, provided the State contributes \$1,520,000 annually for hospital and

Truman Names Judge Stacy Of North Carolina To Head G. M. Dispute Fact Finding Board

Reads About Self



INTERESTED but slightly embarrassed, Alfred L. Cline, Columbus, O., looks at a newspaper giving an account of his allegedly illegal activities. He is being held by San Francisco police on suspicion of forging signatures to securities which were part of the \$250,000 estate of his wife. (International)

Eisenhower, Garrison To Help Jurist

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—President Harry S. Truman stepped into the General Motors Corporation labor dispute today with the appointment of a fact finding board headed by Judge Walter P. Stacy, chief justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court.

Stacy, chairman of the recent labor-management conference, will serve with Lloyd K. Garrison, chairman of the War Labor Board and Milton Eisenhower, president of Kansas State college and brother of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, army chief of staff.

To Name Steel Board

At the same time, Mr. Truman said he would soon appoint a similar board for the steel industry. The CIO-United Steel Workers, rejecting his appeal to continue work, has set January 14 for starting a general strike in the nation's steel mills.

Under questioning at his news conference, Mr. Truman indicated he did not take seriously some claims by organized labor that the fact finding process might result in long delays on union pleas for wage increases.

He said it was specifically stated in his recent proposals to end strikes that the period of fact finding would be limited to 20 days. Five days prior to the board's inquiry and five days after it concluded its work, strikes would be prohibited under legislation Congress has been asked to enact.

Russia May Help Chiang Fight Reds

Chungking, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The Chinese Central Daily News reported from Peking today that Russians have agreed to assume responsibility for clearing non-National troops out of Manchuria. The report was received here with some skepticism, however.

If true, it would entail a virtual Russian campaign against Chinese Communist troops in Manchuria. Most observers here consider such an eventuality unlikely. Russians have however, agreed to help Chinese Government forces move into key Manchuria cities.

The Chinese Government minister of information meanwhile denied reports that negotiations have been on in progress for establishment of United States naval bases in China. The minister, K. C. Wu, told questioners at a press conference that: "These groundless rumors have been spread by certain quarters to mislead the public and create international misunderstanding."

American military collaboration with China is devoted entirely to the disarming and repatriation of Japanese troops, he added.

A projected United States military mission to China, he said, would be purely an advisory body to help China reorganize and modernize her army.

Group Rejects Education Bill

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—A bill proposing federal aid for state school systems was killed today by the margin of a single vote in the House Education Committee.

The vote was 10 to nine, members said, following an executive session of the group.

A group of more than 30 bipartisan members of the House and Senate drafted and supported the measure which would have appropriated \$50,000,000 the first year and \$100,000,000 the second.

RAILROAD FIRM SEEKS CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The Aberdeen and Rockfish railroad of North Carolina asked interstate commerce commission authority today to issue \$50,000 of unsecured 3 percent notes to provide funds for construction purposes.

DUTCH NAZI CHIEF SENTENCED TO DIE

The Hague, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Anton Mussert, leader of the Dutch Nazi party, was sentenced to death by a special court today following his conviction on charges of collaborating with the Germans.

TAPS CODE LETTER TO SANTA CLAUS



FOURTEEN YEARS OLD but bed-ridden, blind and deaf, Jimmy Sarchet of Detroit lives in a dream world where news of Christmas enters only by means of a finger-tapped code which he and his family understand. Disabled by a spinal injury, he is pictured with his mother, Mrs. Fred Sarchet, "writing" a letter to Santa Claus. (International Soundphoto)

In Late Summer Of 1941 Marshall Saw War Coming To An 'Unprepared' U. S.

Navy Officer Told Secretary Knox Of Tokyo Code Message

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—General George C. Marshall testified today that he was convinced as early as August, 1941, that a Pacific war was inevitable and knew that the United States was not ready for it.

Marshall began his sixth day of testimony after a Senate House committee learned of a navy officer's reported prediction to Navy Secretary Frank Knox, December 7, 1941, that an intercepted Tokyo message meant "a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor today and possibly a midnight attack on Manila."

A hitherto "top secret" report of an army inquiry board said another navy officer quoted Captain Alwin Kramer as having said in 1943 that he sent a notation to this effect to Knox. It went with the Tokyo message instructing Japanese "peace" envoys here to deliver their diplomatic reply at 1 a. m. Washington time, December 7.

Did Knox Receive It?

There was no indication in the report when Knox received this notation, if he received it at all.

Marshall was questioned by Rep Keefe of Wisconsin, who traced the events of the summer of 1941. Keefe said that war tension was growing then and Marshall agreed.

"You were convinced as early as August that if the current events continued we would inevitably be drawn into war with Japan, weren't you?" Keefe asked.

"Yes sir," Marshall replied. "You knew at that time that we weren't prepared for a war in the Pacific?"

Marshall replied that was true adding that he was being pushed from all sides for additional men and equipment, but was concentrating on attempts to build up Philippines defenses as a possible deterrent to a Japanese move to the south.

War crimes were uppermost in minds of Japanese. Kyodo news agency reported at least 30 members of the House of Peers designated as suspects have reached a secret agreement to retain their seats.

The first 300 Japanese war crimes suspects are scheduled to go on trial next Thursday. They are accused mainly of atrocities against prisoners of war.

Steel and Motors Lead Market Drop

New York, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Sizeable selling caught up with today's stock market and pivots lost fractions to over two points in active dealings.

Lower were U. S. Steel, Bethlehem, General Motors, Chrysler, Packard, Goodvear and Montgomery Ward.

President Urges Ceilings On Home Building Lots; Priority System Renewed

Special Housing Chief Is Appointed; Ceilings On Old And New Homes Asked

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—President Truman today asked that residential property be placed under price control and directed reinstatement of the priority system on building materials.

At the same time, Mr. Truman announced appointment of Wilson W. Wyatt, former mayor of Louisville, Ky., as special housing expediter under the office of War Mobilization and Reconversion.

The President's action was taken in approving a recommendation by Reconversion Director John Snyder.

The program calls for ceiling prices "on old and new housing." Mr. Truman said the Office of Price Administration "is now placing local dollar and cent ceiling on the construction materials themselves and many services."

Three Point Program

The three-point program calls for: 1—Speedy release of government-owned surplus housing units and building materials for use in housing veterans and their families.

2—A regulation, now being prepared for release before the middle of the month, establishing priorities on building materials.

The President said this regulation would establish priorities for multiple dwelling house units costing \$10,000 or less per unit. He said this would mean "about 50 per cent of all building materials will be channeled into this type of building" with the balance available for commercial, industrial, higher priced dwellings and for other construction. He said he was acting under the Second War Powers Act.

Threat of Inflation

3—Ceiling prices on old and new housing, a field in which he said sharp prices had brought a threat of inflation which has been the most moiling in our economy.

"We are using all the powers that have been granted the administration to combat it," he added.

The President, adopting Snyder's recommendations as those of the administration, quoted Snyder as saying that credit agencies of the government "are working out ways to curb unsound lending practices."

The program would involve varying ceilings in different parts of the nation depending upon local conditions. The President endorsed legislation now before a House committee providing authority for ceiling prices on the sale of old and new houses. He said such authority is essential "if we are to avert further skyrocketing of home prices."

Byrnes Off For Moscow

Washington, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Secretary of State Byrnes left by plane today for Moscow where he plans to tackle half a dozen critical issues on which big three cooperation has been stalled.

Among these issues are atomic energy and an eventual European peace conference.

Byrnes' plane roared away from Washington airport at 9:20 a. m.; General Dwight Eisenhower, army chief of staff was present.

Byrnes told Eisenhower that he would remember him to Generalissimo Stalin. The flight schedule calls for Byrnes' arrival in time for his first meeting Saturday for Foreign Commissar Molotov.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Partly cloudy continued rather cold tonight; Thursday, increasing cloudiness and slightly warmer followed by rain.

10 Shopping days till Christmas