



Nathan Friedman-Yellin (center), leader of the Stern Gang, and Matityahu Schmuelwitz (left), one of his chief lieutenants, sit in the prisoners' dock at their trial before a Jewish military court in Acre, Israel, on charges of engaging in terrorism. They are guarded by an Israeli soldier (right). Their organization has been outlawed by the Israeli government. (AP Wirephoto).

Red Army Forces Are Reported Within 50 Miles Of Nanking

Hawi Defense Line May Be Abandoned

Nanking, Dec. 13 (AP) — Chiang Kai-Shek's watch on the Yangtze is coming sooner than expected.

With a Chinese Communist attack reported only 50 miles northwest of this capital, government military sources said today that Red infiltration and heavy National losses may soon force abandonment of the new Hwai River defense line. That would shove national defenses back to the Yangtze river.

These sources reported that more than 50,000 troops of the government's long encircled 12th army group have been wiped out southwest of Suhsien, about 145 miles northwest of Nanking.

The 12th, which originally numbered some 110,000 now has been compressed into an area of less than four square miles. Its critical shortage of supplies is worsening. Pilots report difficulty in dropping material into the shrinking target area.

The 12th has been trapped 17 days. The Chinese Communist radio asserted Sunday night that the Government's sixth army had been stopped in its efforts to break through to the 12th. The Sixth moved North from the Hwai River line and its anchor at Pengpu, and once was within 22 miles of joining the 12th. Pengpu is 53 miles south of Suhsien and 105 miles northwest of Nanking.

The Red radio asserted that remnants of the 12th army group are "being mopped up." Neutral observers said elimination of the 12th would free at least 80,000 Red troops for action against the under-strength sixth and eighth army groups.

Eight Killed In Weekend State Mishaps

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS At least 8 persons — five of them children — lost their lives last weekend in accidents in North Carolina.

Mrs. Sally Loftin, 46, Statesville Negro woman, burned to death in her home. Her granddaughter, Kay Loftin, 4, received leg burns.

Betty Lee Roper, 14, was fatally burned in her home at Morganton despite heroic action by a neighboring farm boy. Lloyd Ross, 14, rushed from his home a half mile away when he heard Betty Lee's mother call for help. He carried out Betty Lee just before the house collapsed. But she died in a hospital soon afterward.

Mrs. Roper, who escaped with three other children, said the fire started when Betty Lee poured kerosene into a kitchen stove.

The Ross boy escaped injury. Three of the Roper children were not at home during the fire.

The four-month-old twin daughters of a Hendersonville, Negro couple, Mr. and Mrs. C. Green, burned to death in a converted barn in which the family lived.

Linda Allen Beach, seven, was killed by an automobile in Kannapolis.

George Brigman, Jr., six, died soon after being hit by a truck in Aberdeen.

Mrs. Frank Briggs Carpenter, 72, of Schenectady, N. Y., lost her life when the car in which she was riding collided with another at a rural road intersection near Charlottetown.

Russell Walter, 22, of Gibsonville, was fatally injured in a two-car collision near Reidsville.

The Weather

NORTH CAROLINA—Partly cloudy and mild today and tonight with warmer west portion this afternoon; Tuesday, mostly cloudy and mild with occasional rain followed by colder Tuesday night.

ROANOKE RAMBLINGS

By PAT NANTZ

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Madkins have returned to their home on Roanoke Avenue, after having spent several weeks in Rich Square in the home of Mr. Madkins' parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Madkins.

The city of Richmond is probably home to several of our citizens...visiting there over the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Allen, Jr., Miss Aleane Davis, and Mr. and Mrs. A. M. King.

Visiting her parents this weekend was Miss Shirley Draper, student nurse at the Rex Hospital in Raleigh. Shirley is a '48 graduate of the local high school, and entered nurse's training with the September class.

Mr. and Mrs. Smitty Powell, Jimmy Pittman, Wayne Powell, and Rita Morgan spent Sunday in Durham at Duke Hospital, visiting Mrs. Powell and Rita's mother, Mrs. R. B. Morgan, who has been a patient there for several days.

Sgt. and Mrs. Tommy Wilder visited with Sgt. Wilder's mother, Mrs. Mattie Wilder, this weekend. Sgt. Wilder, a graduate of the local high school, entered the Army in January, 1933. He plans to retire from Army life in five more years.

Mrs. Margie Greene visited in High Point this weekend with her husband, Lloyd Greene, who is in the Army Air Force.

Celebrating their birthday today are Audrey Tucker of the sixth grade and Raymond Hale of the first grade...here's wishing you both a very happy birthday.

A new clerk, right fresh from the country, is helping in a local general store during the holiday rush. One of the town's matrons approached the clerk and asked for some anchovy paste. The clerk hesitated for a moment and then walked over to the table and pencil counter and said:

U. S. Apparently Ready To Write Off China; Concentrates On Free Western Europe Of Communism

Washington, Dec. 13—(AP)—The United States—prepared to write off China as an almost certain loss—concentrated today on securing a non-Communist Western Europe.

Mme. Chiang Kai-Shek's extraordinary appeal to Washington, her two appeals to Secretary of State Marshall and her one direct plea to President Truman, appear not to have changed any important part of the American attitude toward the global struggle with the Communists.

Her mission is widely regarded here as a failure; the government she represents as a failing regime.

Only a "military miracle" seems capable of putting Generalissimo Chiang in position to make an effective bid for American help in any way comparable to the money and supplies being poured into Europe.

While Mme. Chiang kept her own counsel, and possibly looked for a graceful means of exit, official Washington generally showed great indifference to her problem and diplomats mainly concerned themselves with the future of Europe.

In this respect, representatives of the United States and Canada and the five western European union countries—Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg—settled down to work in earnest on the drafting of a North Atlantic military alliance.

"No, we don't have anchovy paste, but here is some excellent glue...."

Something else which will add to the appearance of our city will be the building which Godwin-Wilkes plan to build on the corner of third and Roanoke Avenue...the plans call for one of the most modern buildings around here...complete with a glass exterior and rounded corners. From what has been said about it, it sounds like it will be a beautiful bit of construction...here's hoping the plans are carried through, because we could use some of the modernistic touch around this area.

Causes for the concern of many people...especially members of the girls' basketball team...are the injuries received by Evelyn Rooke, while practicing Thursday afternoon. Evelyn had X-Rays made of her left arm which was badly hurt, but it has not been told exactly what is wrong with it. That really would be a bit of bad luck for our team, if it turns out to be serious...just let's hope it isn't.

I don't know how Ol' Father Roanoke happened to forget this one during his reign as a columnist...when I recalled it, I immediately thought of him.

"I married a widow with six children. I had five myself by my late wife. We have been married four years and our union had been blessed with three more, and the other day my wife came in hurriedly and said, come into the yard quick! for goodness sake, hurry! there is a terrible row going on, and I said, 'what is it?' Well! she said, 'your children and my children are whipping our children.'"

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Mayton attended the wedding of Mr. Mayton's niece, Joyce Mayton of Tarboro, Saturday. She was married to Thomas Brown of Goldsboro.

"Hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil," and you will never be a success at a tea party.

Cloudy, Mild Is Forecast

By The Associated Press Partly cloudy and mild weather was forecast for the Carolinas today and tonight. Mild and occasional rain followed was expected to be followed by colder tomorrow night.

Low temperatures this morning seemed more like maximum readings for December. The abrupt rise in temperatures came after last weekend's frigid lows—the coldest weather of the fall season.

Pentecostal Church Of God Here Gets A New Pastor

The Rev. Clifford S. Patrick is the new pastor of the Pentecostal Church of God at 64 Washington street here, it was announced today.

The Rev. Mr. Patrick came to Roanoke Rapids from Portsmouth, Va. and assumed his duties last week.

Presbyterian Women To Meet Tuesday

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Presbyterian Church will meet at the church Tuesday night at 8 p. m.

The Business Woman's circle will present a Christmas program after which a social hour will be held.

Nixon Says Justice Department May Be Preparing A "Whitewash" In The Russian Spy Of Investigation

Washington, Dec. 13—(AP)—Rep. Nixon (R-Calif) said today he suspects the Justice Department of using one Red spy investigation to fillbuster against another.

A "Whitewash" may be in the making, said Nixon, a member of the House Un-American Activities committee.

The committee and the Justice Department have been rowing for nearly two weeks over who should go after—and how—the men suspected of stealing government secrets for the Russians a decade ago. Each has its own investigation going, but the department has monopolized most of the key witnesses.

Over the week-end, there were these developments:

1. The committee released a dozen documents it says were stolen from State Department files ten years ago so information in them could be copied and sent to Russia through an underground spy network.

Something less than sensational now, the papers probably would have produced diplomatic earthquakes had they come out in 1938.

Ringwood Negro Held On Charges Of Murder In Slaying Of Wife

Halifax James Pitt, Ringwood Negro, was captured yesterday about eleven o'clock in the morning after an all-night search by Sheriff H. A. House and deputies following the shooting of Pitt's wife, Beatrice, about 6:30 Saturday morning.

Sheriff House said this morning Pitt is being held in the county jail here without privilege of bond awaiting a preliminary hearing on a charge of murder here tomorrow before Judge Charles R. Daniel in Halifax County recorder's court.

Two cousins of Pitt, William and Horace Pitt, are also being held, the sheriff said, for aiding and abetting a felon in avoiding arrest. He said James went to the home of his cousins after the shooting Saturday and the two men had told officers he was not at their home and had the officers in another direction seeking him.

Sheriff House said two eyewitnesses to the fatal shooting, Johnnie Seebreeze and Elmo Johnson, said they had come with Pitt to his home Saturday and told officers Pitt had been drinking but was not drunk. They told the officers Pitt started an argument with his wife because she would not get up and put shoes on one of his children he said he wanted to take with him.

The men told the officers Pitt had become angered, picked up

2. Rep. Holtfield (D-Calif) proposed that the incoming congress curb the committee with stricter rules.

He wants to make sure that anyone who thinks he has been hurt by the committee or one of its witnesses gets a prompt chance to answer back.

Holtfield says that before anyone is criticized in a committee report that person should have a chance to tell his side of the story.

3. Nixon said the spy hunt already has shown a need for tightening the espionage laws. He said that should get first priority in the new congress.

The committee is making its spy investigation here. The Justice Department is conducting the other one being a New York grand jury. Each inquiry involves the same witnesses and the same evidence.

Up to now, the committee has failed to get any of the key witnesses, although some of them testified here last summer.

On the other hand, the grand jury hasn't seen the most vital evidence—the Whittaker Cham-

bers microfilms the committee got from a pumpkin less than two weeks ago.

Nixon agreed to see to it that the Grand Jury get a look at the microfilms today. He wasn't so sure when the committee would get a chance to question the main witnesses. They are:

Chambers, a former Communist courier who has handed over hundreds of documents to back up his story that a red spy ring siphoned secret papers from the State Department and other government agencies back in the 1930's. It was some of these documents the committee published yesterday, all dated 1938.

Alger Hiss, former State Department official, named by Chambers as one source of supply of information passed to the Russians. Hiss, now president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, has denied it repeatedly. He got out a new denial only yesterday.

The grand jury has been keeping both Chambers and Hiss occupied. The jury expires Wednesday but the Justice Department is going to replace it immediately.

City Gets New Street Sweeper At \$10,000 Cost

City streets in Roanoke Rapids will be cleaner from now on, due to the delivery here yesterday of a new Elgin rotary-brush type street sweeper.

The sweeper will be unloaded and tested by a representative of the North Carolina Equipment Company, and it is expected that it will go into actual operation here on Wednesday, city officials said here today.

An order was placed with the Elgin Equipment Company, Elgin, Illinois, in August 1947. At the time the city was promised delivery about March, 1949, but were able to advance their delivery date.

The sweeper is a three-wheeled vehicle with a sprinkler, a wide rotary brush and a whirling curb and gutter brush. Trash and rubbish are swept into the machine and carried by an endless conveyor belt to the hopper which holds more than two cubic yards. It sweeps streets thoroughly at about four miles per hour, and it is estimated that it will sweep 35 miles of street in an eight-hour day.

Cost of the machine is \$10,200. Attention of citizens was called to a city ordinance just adopted which will prohibit parking of automobiles and other vehicles on Roanoke Avenue and side streets in the city's two business districts between one and six a.m. in order that parked cars will not interfere with the city's street cleaning operations.

Mrs. Roosevelt Says "It's Silly" To Make Comment

New York, Dec. 13—(AP)—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt says a proposal that President Truman name her Secretary of State if the ailing Secretary George C. Marshall retires "is too silly to comment on."

"However," she told newsmen last night, "I hope Secretary Marshall will not retire, for the good of the country and the good of the world."

The President's widow made the statement in answer to questions as she arrived by plane from Paris where she served as a member of the U. S. delegation to the United Nations.

The suggestion for her appointment was made last week by the National Committee on Women in World Affairs.

Royall Arrives In Europe

London, Dec. 13—(AP)—Kenneth C. Royall, United States Secretary of the Army, arrived here today for a first-hand checkup of American troops and their equipment in Europe.

High School Students To Give Drama

The Music Department of Roanoke Rapids High School will present a Christmas play, "Why the Chimes Rang" at eight o'clock Thursday evening in the high school auditorium, it was announced today.

The play is a dramatization by Grace Van Dyke of a story by Raymond McDonald Aldon. Caroline Broun will be pianist for the production.

In the cast will be Anne Bunn, William Speight, Johnny Ellis, Margaret George, Clyde Camp, Mahlon Papp, Ann King, Mary Jo Sultor, Pat Rawlings, Lewis Ivory, Mary Francis Allsbrook, Herbert Moore, Sonny Hines, Vance Collins, and Jesse Harrell.

Hitler Reported In Forsyth County

Winston - Salem, Dec. 13 — (AP) — A current rumor here today says Adolf Hitler — without the mustache — is now in this area painting houses for a living.

Numerous telephone calls to the newspapers, radio stations and the police department inquired for verification of Der Fuehrer's operations here in Forsyth county.

No one said he saw Hitler. In fact, no one could name anyone who said he saw him. But somewhere along the line, in that misty, intangible place where old prizefighters spend a lot of their time, the Twin City's Hitler was spawned.

Newsmen and police officers don't care much for the telephone interruptions, either. There are lots of real stories to write. And there are lots of living criminals for the police to catch, too.

10 Shopping Days Until Christmas



BUY CHRISTMAS SEEDS

Daily Herald

Russia Issues No-Compromise Warning To Western Nations As United Nations General Assembly Ends

Vishinsky Attacks U. S. And Britain

Paris, Dec. 13 —(AP)—Russia—bitter over the drubbing she has taken in the United Nations General Assembly—dropped diplomatic niceties last night to issue a no-compromise warning to the west.

Andrei Y. Vishinsky, Soviet deputy foreign minister, attacked Britain and the United States in the closing minutes of the Paris assembly.

That part of the session usually is reserved for expressions of praise and hopeful thoughts for the future. John Foster Dulles, acting chairman of the U. S. delegation, led off in traditional fashion.

Scout Roundup Dinner To Be Tuesday Night

The annual Halifax county Boy Scout Roundup potluck banquet will be held Tuesday night at 6:30 at the high school gymnasium.

The dinner, to which each person will bring his own food, will bring together Boy Scouts, Sea Scouts, Cub Scouts, scoutmasters, cubmasters, skippers, troop committeemen and district committeemen to discuss the past year's work.

The program will consist of stunts by each scout troop and a report of the year's activities by each troop.

Each troop will be given an opportunity to tell what it does and does not like about the scout program for the various troops of Halifax County and also to make suggestions for the coming year's activities.

A prize will be awarded to the troop having the largest turnout at the dinner and a prize will also be given for the troop putting on the best stunt.

Scotland Neck Police Chief Said Improving

Scotland Neck — Chief of Police J. W. Cobb is reported as resting comfortably in an Elizabeth City hospital following a heart attack he suffered there on Tuesday.

Chief Cobb, Sgt. G. H. Burkett and Ernest Phillips of Hamilton set out quite early Tuesday morning on a fishing trip. Chief Cobb was taken ill in the automobile and carried to the hospital in a critical condition.

Stranded Kitten Gives Would-Be Rescuers A Chase

New York, Dec. 13—(AP)—A yowling kitten, stranded on the girder of an elevated structure, led would-be rescuers a merry chase yesterday before it was removed from its lofty perch.

Police, firemen and an electric light maintenance crew labored but couldn't coax the animal down. Finally an SPCA agent shinnied up the girder, reached out and grabbed the kitten by the tail.

Angered, Tabby promptly bit him, leaped free, landed on the head of a fireman below and dashed up an alley, its nine lives still intact.

Huge Soft Coal Stockpile Seen As Threat To Bargain Position Of John L. Lewis and His Miners

Washington, Dec. 13—(AP)—A softcoal stockpile big enough to last the country 40-odd days has led to speculation over now John L. Lewis may be viewing this potential threat to his bargaining position.

Some operators are wondering whether Lewis will call some kind of mine shutdown to trim the above-ground reserves.

Any big supply of coal such as the 70,000,000 tons already mined and ready for use is bad for the miners when they are negotiating a new contract. The bargain when they are not under pressure from industry and home owners to get a contract at any cost. Such pressures have helped Lewis in his last two contract battles with the operators.

But the present wage agreement does not expire until next June 30, so the stockpile may shrink naturally long before then.

When Lewis called the miners' out last March in his pension dispute with the operators, there was an above-normal 30-day supply of about 49,000,000 tons on hand. That strike lasted from March 15 to April 19.

Industry officials say the present stockpile is the result of two factors: (a) A mile autumn, which led householders to hold off filling their bins and (b) A 20,000,000-ton drop in coal exports.

One industry leader said, however, that 60 days of cold weather would bring the stocks down to normal—about 30,000,000 tons. He added that so far only the marginal or poor quality mines have been hit hard by the slow demand for coal. Good quality soft coal is still in brisk demand and most mines are running four and five days a week.