

WASHINGTON Calling

A Weekly Sizeup by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

(Continued From Page One)

have fewer seats for non-essential passengers.

ODT says no essential traveler thus far has been unable to reach his destination and return. ODT worry: Can this service be maintained?

Stilwell Successor?

ARMY MEN think Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges, commander of 1st army in Europe, may succeed Gen. Stilwell as chief of army ground forces. Hodges once held title of chief of infantry.

First strategy of major labor opposition to federal industrial relations bill: Try to persuade Chairman Murray (D. Mont.) of senate education and labor committee not to hold hearings on it. That would keep proposal in cold storage.

APPOINTMENT of 62-year-old Gen. Stilwell to lead 10th army in Pacific by 65-year-old Gen. MacArthur causes some concern in congressional quarters about fighting future of young, successful commanders who operated in Europe.

Surprise greeted announcement Gen. Patton and his 3d army would be kept in Europe as an occupation group, as will Gen. Patch's 7th.

Some capitol quarters hope outstanding officers from these and other armies that fought in Europe will get top-flight Pacific assignments. There are reports that Patton's crack staff may be broken up, men used in higher capacities than occupation duties.

Gen. MacArthur will pick the "big brass" to serve under him in Jap campaign. That was assured when the late President Roosevelt approved Gen. MacArthur's command of ground forces in Pacific area and when President Truman backed that assignment.

Jap Blockade

NAVY'S TIGHT blockade of Japan will tighten even more when our planes from Okinawa strip out communications between Jap home islands and Korea. Military men caution, however, that blockade won't make Japs fold. But blockade will make ground work easier.

Date for war's end? Some congressional guessers say next midsummer.

Selective service headquarters plans to begin discharge of conscientious objectors in August despite demands that they be held until war is over. Veterans of Foreign Wars has protested release of C. O.'s to President Truman but selective service says "very few" other complaints have been made.

About 8300 objectors are now enrolled but none has been discharged. Releases beginning in August will be based on point system similar to army's.

Pal's Wife Bids On Pyle Script

(Continued From Page One)

through Ernie's nephew, Jack Bales, one of his buddies.

"I would like to be able to buy enough bonds to get the real original," the captain wrote his wife, "but I'm afraid we'll have to get richer than we are for that."

"We have bought a hundred dollar bond each month Bill has been in service," Mrs. Gifford said. "Would our bonds count, you think?"

"THE SUPERB description of his character and personality was so true, it took me days to come down to earth," she continued. "To me, naturally, it was Ernie's masterpiece. And I believe there are others who feel the same way, for I have received letters from all over the states. And so has Bill . . . in far-away Saipan."

THE TIMES Hoosier Vagabond, whose manuscript will be given to the highest war bond bidder in the seventh war loan drive, wrote in his column about a "drably talking southerner, lean, profane and witty, and who is the salt of the earth."

He called the captain "possibly the most unilitary man" in the outfit. "He's just an old-shoe southerner who goes around most of the time in nothing but white under-drawers."

Ernie also reported that this B-29 pilot wanted to form a fraternity called "Fujiyama," 44, "membership limited to those who had flown over Japan on in 1944."

"I'M SURE that there is no one who would treasure it (the manuscript) as much as Bill," Mrs. Gifford wrote, "for he and Ernie were so close to each other. I would LOVE to get it for him . . . if it is humanly possible."

"We feel what you are doing with this original is a wonderful thing. It is the way, Ernie Pyle (and Bill) would have it."

"And though Ernie will not come back to us . . . perhaps it will bring our other boys back a little sooner."

BUT WHEN Mrs. Gifford wrote her letter to The Times she didn't know the bidding had passed the million mark. Wednesday the American United Life Insurance Co. placed a \$5,000,000 bid.

ELLIOTT'S TAXES BEING PROBED

Treasury Also Checking on Hartford's Records.

(Continued From Page One)

Forestral Secure

NEXT TO SECRETARY of Commerce Wallace, whose cabinet job is well secured, the department head least likely to be replaced is Navy Secretary Forrestal. Senators who aren't concerned about what Mr. Truman does with the rest of the cabinet have gone to bat for the New Yorker.

If President Truman wants Senator O'Mahoney to succeed Secretary of Interior Ickes, the President will have to do some tall persuading. Senator O'Mahoney likes to be his own boss, likes his present job, fails thus far to believe cabinet rank would compensate him for what he'd have to give up.

DETROIT auto makers are

wrapping their hands over government controls issued and issuing from half dozen agencies; over everchanging outlook for materials and plant capacity; over prices of materials; over redistribution of labor; over continued production of war materials.

Willis Asks Explanation

Senator Raymond E. Willis (R. Ind.) asked the treasury to explain alleged delay in disclosure of the claimed tax exemption on the loan.

In a letter to Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr., the senator said these disclosures and "the long period that elapsed" between the "transaction" and the disclosure reflected on the late President and the internal revenue bureau.

He asked Morgenthau why the bureau waited until recently to begin investigating the deduction of such a large amount. The treasury refused to allow the deduction.

Willis asked whether Hartford's tax return was filed in early 1943 when Democratic National Chairman Robert E. Hannegan was collector of internal revenue.

What Excuse?

"Did you ever talk to Mr. Hannegan about this particular return, and if so, what was his excuse for not making the necessary investigation at that time?" Willis asked.

He also wanted to know whether Elliott Roosevelt's tax returns showed the ultimate disposition of "the \$196,000 he flimflamed from John Hartford" and whether he negotiated other loans from other prominent men "as has been rumored."

HEARD FROM

increasing number of parents whose G. I. sons remain in Europe because of lack of transportation: "How can so many senators and congressmen get passage in airplanes to fly all over the place?" Answer so far: Silence.

Weaken OWI

BRITISH INDICATE they may close their ministry of war information. That would weaken argument of OWI Director Davis for continuation of OWI service outside Pacific war zone. Mr. Davis cited British propaganda expenditures to support his case.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVES

by veterans organizations will start soon. Among top items on American Legion national committee program in Indianapolis June 23 is discussion of how to attract world war I veterans to Legion. Relatively few veterans of current war show desire to join old or new vet groups. Battle veterans may be more inclined to join than short-term soldiers.

CAPITOL HILL

pulse feelers say congressional recess probably will start between July 10-15, last about two months.

DEMOCRATS TO FIGHT CUT IN OPA POWER

(Continued From Page One)

were frankly jolted by yesterday's G. O. P. victory.

The amendment is subject to a roll call vote on final passage.

Whether the extension would be voted upon today depended upon the Democratic turnout. Administration forces were certain to try to stall off a vote until they had sufficient strength to assure passage to cut the OPA extension to six months. However, the "Hoover" amendment caught them without strength to block the Republican tide.

Rep. Clinton P. Anderson (D. N. M.) who becomes secretary of agriculture July 1, said later in an interview that the "Hoover" amendment appeared to "put OPA in a paradise and me in the hottest spot imaginable."

He said he believed President Truman wished "to leave me the authority to a decent job, but not as much authority as contained in that amendment."

"Hoover Plan"

Anderson appeared on the floor just before the vote to ask if the amendment included a shift of pricing authority.

Informed that it did, he said:

"The secretary of agriculture is not going to run from the responsibility, but he does not want to be a policeman as well."

Democrats succeeded in suspending debate late yesterday, after tentative passage of the "Hoover" plan to transfer control of all food activities, except rationing, from OPA and the office of economic stabilization to the department of agriculture.

FULLER IS FREED IN BLOOMINGTON TRIAL

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., June 23 (U. P.)—William Fuller, 29, Bedford, was a free man today because a jury decided, in effect, that the Lawrence county coroner's ruling of suicide in the death of Margaret Harbin was right.

Charged with the shooting of Miss Harbin, 26, in a Bedford hotel in February, 1944, Fuller heard a jury return a verdict of not guilty last night after 20 minutes deliberation.

APPOINTED TO STATE TOLL BRIDGE BOARD

The Indiana toll bridge commission had two new members today, Herman Folke of Evansville and Carl Knapp of Cannelton.

Governor Gates appointed Mr. Folke, a Republican, to succeed Blaine W. Bradfute, also a Republican, of Bloomington, who resigned.

The governor named Knapp, a Democrat, to replace Preston Minor, whose term expired.

HANNAH

HANKIE SALE

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