

Mortar Shell Failures Halted Shipments, Committee Hears

ARMY STOPPED SHELL SUPPLY, PROBERS TOLD

Officer Reveals Stuck on Hand Impounded as Defective.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (U. P.).—The Mead committee today disclosed a report that the army several times halted all war-time shipments of mortar shells to battle-fronts.

This was done rather than risk sending defective ammunition which might kill American soldiers.

Chairman James M. Mead (D. N. Y.), also announced that "first-hand knowledge" of shell failures is being sought from some 50 officers and enlisted men who have written to the committee.

Each has been sent a detailed questionnaire.

Information regarding the mortar shells was sent to the senate's war investigating committee by the former commander of a chemical warfare service depot in Europe.

Defective Shells Impounded

He wrote that "on numerous occasions" no shipments could be made to front-line troops because the entire stock on hand was "impounded" as defective.

The first disclosure that faulty 4.2-inch mortar shells had exploded prematurely in combat, killing and maiming American troops, was made during the committee's inquiry into the Garson munitions combine.

Senator Mead stressed, however, that the shell investigation is being pressed as a matter entirely apart from any excessive war profits made by the 16-firm Garson syndicate.

Summer Deaths Reported

One army officer wrote the committee to dispute statements that shell failures occurred only in winter and that "only a couple of thousand shells" were defective.

"I commanded a depot and I know that in the summer (July) of 1944, in Normandy, deaths were caused by defective shells and that shipments of these defective shells were still being received from the United States up to May and June of 1945, at the port of Ghent, Belgium," he wrote.

"During this time, at least 50 defective lot numbers were impounded and until V-J day, over 500,000 shells were being reworked to correct the defects in them, so that they could be reshipped to the Pacific theater."

"On numerous occasions, we were unable to make any shipments to the front, because of all stock upward of 100,000 shells, were all impounded."

Another soldier wrote the committee that it should be able to learn the names of manufacturers of the defective shells that killed American troops in the Battle of the Bulge by securing battalion orders issued at the time.

Tighter Laws Forecast On Campaign Donations

WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 (U. P.).—The \$2500 check which Rep. John Coffee (D. Wash.) received from a war contractor may lead to tightening of laws governing campaign contributions.

Some senators wanted a new law to require every congressman to list every campaign contribution—regardless of whether it was received in a campaign or non-campaign year.

The senate war investigating committee's two-day hearing on the check produced a flood of conflicting testimony.

But it emphasized that present laws permit representatives sometimes to go for nearly two years without reporting sums they receive for campaign expenses.

A congressman now is required to report between 10 and 15 days before a general election all contributions received between the primary and the final election.

A second report must be filed within 30 days after the final election. But then they don't have to report again until the next election.

Senator William F. Knowland (R. Cal.), said this left "a loophole in the law as wide as a barn door."

Committee Chairman James M. Mead (D. N. Y.) said the committee might recommend to the privileges and elections committee of both houses that they prepare legislation requiring a virtually continuous report on all political contributions.

Rep. Coffee contended during the hearings that when his secretary, Paul A. Olson, received a \$2500 "campaign contribution" from Eivind Anderson, Tacoma war contractor, in May, 1941, it was unnecessary to report it because it was in a non-campaign year.

John Coghlan and Alvin Hansen, two of the attorneys, first entered the conference with Heirens. A third attorney, Malachy Coghlan, joined them after he was summoned from court where he was appearing on behalf of another client.

State's Attorney William J. Tuohy and Capt. Tim O'Conner, who has played a prominent part in investigation of the Degnan case, were in conference. They were joined by Richard Austin, assistant state's at-

Ed Wynn and Bride



Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wynn

BEVERLY HILLS, Cal., Aug. 1 (U. P.).—Comedian Ed Wynn, 60, today was honeymooning with Dorothy Elizabeth Nesbitt, 41—whom he married in Las Vegas, Nev.

It was the second marriage for the noted star of stage, screen and radio, whose first wife died in 1940. His bride is the divorced wife of John White of New York.

ANNEX SUBURBS, CHAMBER URGES

Plans Advanced to Spread Municipal Costs.

Indianapolis faces an immediate need for agreement on some way of co-operating with suburban areas to spread the cost of municipal services more evenly, the Chamber of Commerce warned today.

In a four-page bulletin discussing the metropolitan problem of rapidly expanding "greater Indianapolis," the bulletin offered five possible solutions. Which suggestion or combination of suggestions is settled upon must be decided not just by officials but by the taxpayers as well, the chamber pointed out.

Local citizens, the bulletin urged, must "quit sitting on our hands," and move to modernize a governmental framework which is "of the era of button shoes and bob-tailed nags."

With the guess that greater Indianapolis had grown to a population of 510,000 and would hit 600,000 by 1970, the Chamber of Commerce governmental research bureau offered these suggestions:

ONE: Annexation of some or all of the unincorporated areas immediately adjacent to the city. Some of these areas, the bulletin pointed out, already enjoy city services which remain largely a burden on the property owner within the city limits.

TWO: Setting up of metropolitan districts to enable areas too remote for annexation but still within a definite sphere of the city's service and influence to participate with the central city government for special services.

THREE: City-county consolidation, offered by some political scientists as a solution in cases where a county is primarily urban. Means would have to be found to avoid inequitable burdens on agricultural property.

FOUR: Rearrangement of township boundaries so the city would lie within the governing jurisdiction of one instead of five townships.

FIVE: Consolidation of school districts to equalize and standardize school facilities and policies in the metropolitan area. Schools in areas outside the city now are administered by nine township trustees with widely differing methods of operation and different tax rates for support.

MAYOR CANCELS JOB WATCHING VOLCANO

MOUNT RAINIER, Wash., Aug. 1 (U. P.).—Mayor William Caviezel today abruptly cancelled plans to fly Hollywood screwball James Moran here as a volcano watcher.

"We had to abolish the position," he said.

"Under the new OPA, cost of living atop the 14,408-foot crater would have been too high. Price ceilings no longer reach above the timber-line."

Moran, equipped with an Alaskan parka coated with ice-worm repellent, had planned to pitch camp atop the long-dormant volcanic cone.

"His duties would have been to eye the mountain for signs of eruption," the mayor said.

The mountaineer, who held the unpaid post before Moran, quit after 30 uneventful years.

Heirens has orally admitted these two slayings and a third, that of Mrs. Josephine Ross, a widow, but balked Tuesday after extensive preparations were made to have him give a full confession to Tuohy and others.

The youth reportedly has been restless since he was returned to his cell Tuesday. Since then he has been additionally linked to the Degnan slaying through discovery of a knife, which police are testing on the possibility that it was the one used to decimeter the Degnan chin.

Heirens is in charge of the Degnan case prosecution, and by Alex Napoli, assistant who will prosecute the case of the slaying of Frances Brown, stenographer and ex-WAVE from Richmond, Ind.

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HER ABDUCTION TALE HOAX, WOMAN SAYS

STATE LINE, Nev., Aug. 1 (U. P.).—Mrs. Barbara Walker styled herself a "poor fibber" today and admitted her story about being abducted by a "clean-cut young man" was a hoax.

The young matron turned up waiting tables at a high Sierra roadside cafe. She had been the object of a nation-wide search since last Thursday, when she disappeared from a family picnic at Echo Lake, N. H.

Under the questioning of Sheriff Lowell O. West, Mrs. Walker broke down and admitted her disappearance was the aftermath of a spat with her husband at the picnic. She flew to Reno, Nev.

Puffing Cigaretts Is an Art, School Offers Free Course

By ROBERT RICHARDS
United Press Staff Correspondent
NEW YORK, Aug. 1.—You must use a cigarette holder, if you puff from behind a beard. "And it's all right to wiggle your ears to let stale smoke out."

You can even inhale in a crowded elevator, so long as you don't burn the buttons of any fat man's vest. "I'm not trying to tell you what to do. I don't even smoke."

But there's a smoking school starting Aug. 10 on Fifth avenue—the first of its kind in the nation—and you may as well know all the answers before you go to class.

The school, backed by a large tobacco corporation, is strictly for free. "The professors hope that their pupils will become graduate customers."

Head Prof. Saw C. Korn said today that his agenda was all lined up.

"People will smoke, no matter what you tell them," he explained. "So they may as well do it right."

Mr. Korn plans to use six-inch cigarettes, so that the pupils may puff away for an evening lesson without a refill.

"We're chiefly after the 'puffer,'" he said. "We want to correct the nervous type. He exhales in short bursts, like a steam engine on a steep grade, and usually bangs his neighbor right in the mouth."

Mr. Korn also scorns the "curler," who permits smoke to seep gradually from the corners of his mouth and to curl up around his nose and eyes into his hair.

"In the hair," Mr. Korn said, "you can smell it for a week."

The school hopes all its graduates will become "blowers"—who exhale the smoke in one steady flow.

Professors will perform before mirrors, so that the students can catch them from any angle. Pupils will be taught to tap a cigarette, in the best movie star manner, after taking it from the package.

"This is no idle fun," Mr. Korn said. "It gets rid of loose tobacco."

A glass megaphone will be used to show the class how much nicer smoke behaves for a "blower" than it does for such rowdy tactics as "puffing" or "curling."

Pupils also must learn to hold the cigarette between the fore and middle fingers, with the lit end pointing upward.

"This lets the smoke escape," Mr. Korn said, "and there is no stain on the fingers."

The school refuses to compromise on the subject of "butts" and your host's floor.

"If you can't find an ash tray," Mr. Korn said, "if worse comes to worse, we recommend that you pinch the rag and put in your pocket."

THREE LOCAL CLUBS TO SPONSOR DANCE

Members of the Sultan, D. M. O. and Chi Delta clubs will serve as hosts at a Seranda dance in the Colonial Terrace tonight from 8:30 to 11 p. m.

Ed Hall and his band will play for the dance, which will be a weekly feature at Christian Park under the direction of the city parks and recreation department.

John Yoder, Don Henkle, Tim Robels, Carol Schneider, Jean Shaffer and Pat Kennedy will be in charge of the activities.

Corp. Joe Doodin will direct a palarena of games which will begin at 7 p. m. on the tennis courts. Mrs. Frances Lomax and Miss Lola Pfeiffer are the sponsors.

PEARL HARBOR OPEN TO ATTACK, IS CHARGE

HONOLULU, Aug. 1 (U. P.).—The Honolulu Advertiser charged today Pearl Harbor is as vulnerable to attack now as it was Dec. 7, 1941, because of an "antiquated" command system.

The paper made its editorial charge on the basis of a special Washington dispatch which claimed unity of army-navy command at Pearl Harbor was no nearer accomplishment than it was four and a half years ago.

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Telling of wonderfully soft wools . . . belted or boxy . . . but brief! Designed to rest easily over young suits and dresses.

- A. Draper Fleece, 39.95
- B. Forstmen Fleece, 55.00
- C. Boxy Draper Fleece, 39.95
- D. Melton Short Reefer, 39.95

Sub-Deb Shop, Fourth Floor

L. S. Ayres & Co.

Attorneys Meet Heirens; May Reconsider Refusal to Talk

CHICAGO, Aug. 1 (U. P.).—Three attorneys for William Heirens, 17-year-old admitted slayer of Suzanne Degnan and two women, conferred with him at county jail today. There was speculation that Heirens might soon agree to talk freely to state's attorney officials.

John Coghlan and Alvin Hansen, two of the attorneys, first entered the conference with Heirens. A third attorney, Malachy Coghlan, joined them after he was summoned from court where he was appearing on behalf of another client.

State's Attorney William J. Tuohy and Capt. Tim O'Conner, who has played a prominent part in investigation of the Degnan case, were in conference. They were joined by Richard Austin, assistant state's at-

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