

Command Unified Outside U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (U. P.).—War department sources said today that the new order for unified land-sea-air commands overseas is a step in the right direction, but should be followed by unity of command at home.

The department is plugging for a formal merger of the armed forces, a move bitterly opposed by the navy.

The services announced jointly last night that President Truman had approved a joint chiefs of staff recommendation for a system of single commands overseas.

Effective at once, it places all land, sea and air forces in each theater under operational command of one officer from one of the three services.

The order has no effect on administration or supply of forces in the various overseas theaters.

CHRISTMAS PARTY TONIGHT

Ladies auxiliary 211, P. O. E., will hold their annual Christmas party and dinner tonight. Social hour and exchange of gifts will follow.



GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY—

Mr. and Mrs. Fred McCool, 721 Elm st., will observe their 50th anniversary Sunday with a family dinner and open house. They have six sons, Harold, Jess, Fred Jr., Austin, Joseph and Leon McCool, and three daughters, Mrs. Bessie Hogan, Mrs. Pauline Johnson and Mrs. Ruth Raymann, all of Indianapolis. Both are 72.

Allis Talks Resumed

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 17 (U. P.).—Disputing parties in the prolonged strike at the West Allis plant of the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Co. will meet Wednesday for the first time since negotiations were suspended in Chicago last Nov. 20. Federal Conciliator James Dewey announced the resumption of negotiations.

Messersmith Asks To Return to U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (U. P.).—United States policy toward Argentina appeared headed for a thorough review today with the revelation that Ambassador George Messersmith is soon returning to Washington.

Authoritative sources said Mr. Messersmith had asked to come home from Buenos Aires for his health and that Secretary of State James F. Byrnes had approved his request.

Observers believed Mr. Messersmith would take the opportunity to discuss major policy issues and, if possible, reconcile the divergent approaches to the Argentine problem reported to exist between him and Assistant Secretary of State Spruille Braden.

Should Mr. Messersmith fail to achieve a reconciliation, it appeared possible that either he or Mr. Braden would resign.

Reports have been circulating freely here that Mr. Messersmith is at odds with Mr. Braden on the attitude the U. S. should display toward Argentine President Juan D. Peron.

Surgeons Report Hospitals In U. S. Short 195,000 Beds

Group Believes Getting Patients Home Early From Operations Is No Solution

CLEVELAND, Dec. 17.—Getting patients home from the hospital within a few days after operations or having a baby will not solve the hospital bed shortage in this country, members of the American College of Surgeons learned at their meetings here yesterday.

We need almost 195,000 more beds in general and allied special hospitals, Dr. Arthur C. Bachmeyer, director of study of the commission on hospital care, reported his group had found.

This is almost 40 per cent as many beds as there are now available in civilian general and special hospitals. Cost of constructing enough hospitals to meet the shortage is conservatively estimated at 1,800,000,000 under present conditions.

Advances in Surgery

Clinical histories of atom bomb victims in Japan must be studied by doctors and nurses here as preparedness in event of an atomic war, Dr. W. Edward Gallie of Toronto, president of the College of Surgeons, declared as he opened the meeting here this morning.

Chief advances in surgery since this college last met just before Pearl Harbor are the Blalock operation for saving "blue babies" and another that saves victims of cancer of esophagus, I learned from talking to surgeons gathered here.

China's Basic Law Near Approval

NANKING, China, Dec. 17 (U. P.).—The national assembly steering committee, at the personal request of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, has vetoed all constitutional amendments proposed by various assembly committees.

The steering committee upheld the constitution draft drawn up in January by the all-party political consultative council.

The assembly will meet in plenary session today to approve the original draft.

The abrupt about-face of the right-wing steering committee, which previously had approved constitutional amendments designed to maintain the Kuomintang (government party) dictatorship in China, was hailed as one of Generalissimo Chiang's greatest personal triumphs since he assumed leadership of the Kuomintang in 1925.

It also was a triumph for U. S. Ambassador J. Leighton Stuart and Presidential Envoy Gen. George C. Marshall, who have been meeting almost daily with Generalissimo

Dr. I. F. Folkening Opens Office Here

Dr. Irving F. Folkening, Indianapolis dentist has opened an office with his brother Dr. Norval C. Folkening, physician, in the Fountain Square Theatre bldg., after serving 40 months with the U. S. army.

Dr. Folkening was stationed at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., Camp Ellis, Ill., Camp Barkley, Tex., and 20 months in the Pacific area.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund H. Folkening, of West Edgewood.

Chiang and were known to favor upholding the all-party draft.

Delegates of minor parties represented in the assembly, who had threatened to walk out if the amendments were approved, expressed "gratification."

No statements were issued at once by the Communists and the Democratic league, largest minority parties, who boycotted the assembly.

Yule Candy Pleas For Sugar Fail

By Scripps-Howard Newspapers
WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The office of temporary controls says it's sorry, but it can't do anything further to help home candy-makers this Christmas.

Numerous requests have been received to advance the validation date of the next sugar stamp from Jan. 1 to Dec. 20 to give housewives more sugar for candy-making purposes.

Officials in the sugar-control division say that advancing the effective date of the stamp would place "too great a work-load upon it."

They point out there's still a sugar shortage in many areas.

The OPA had to extend the effective period of canning stamps No. 9 and 10 from Oct. 31 to Dec. 31 in order to let many home canners collect on those two coupons. Many were unable to buy sugar with them during September and October.

The sugar supply picture is improving, said the officials, but it isn't back to normal.



Dr. Folkening

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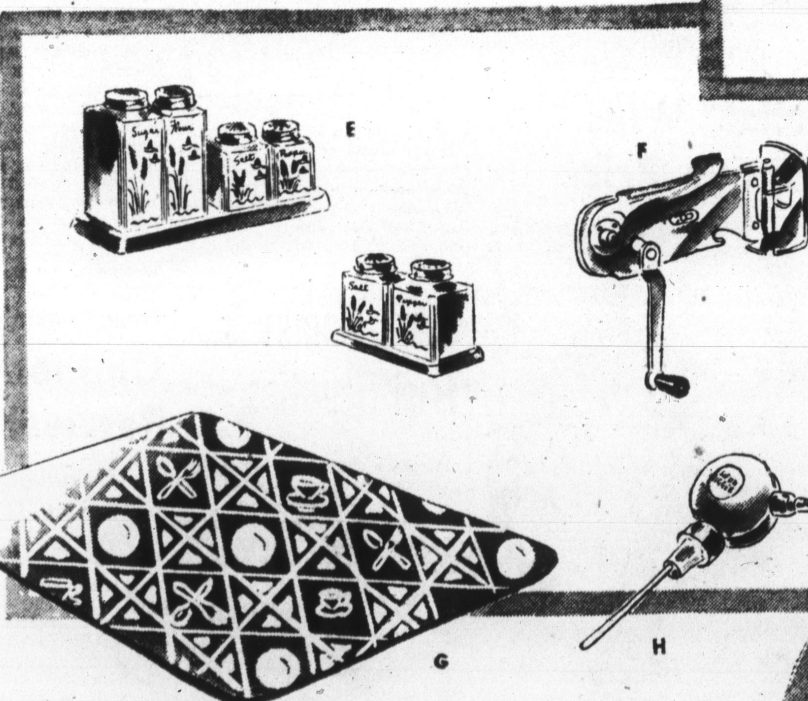
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