

French Troops Battle Rebels For Indo-China Key Points

Martial Law Proclaimed; 35 Civilians Dead

Fighter-Bombers Hit Insurgent Positions

PARIS, Dec. 23 (U.P.)—French armored and infantry units began an attack in force today against Annamite strongholds in the northern part of Hanoi, a dispatch from that city in Indo-China reported.

Tanks and troops were attacking along the Rue Coton, the main thoroughfare in the north part of the city. The French news agency said the Viet Nam government was reported to have fled the city.

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SAIGON, Dec. 23 (U.P.)—Martial law was proclaimed by French authorities throughout Northern Indo-China today.

Colonial authorities took extraordinary precautions here in view of the possibility that the fighting might spread to the southern province of Cochinchina.

The martial law proclamation coincided with the arrival today of French high commissioner for Indo-China Adm. Thierry D'Argenlieu. The commissioner arrived by air from Paris where he conferred on the Indo-Chinese crisis with Premier Leon Blum and other high officials.

Use Fighter-Bombers

The proclamation said that "any man not in uniform found carrying arms will be shot."

French Colonial troops pressed attacks on Viet Nam positions in Hanoi. The rebel native forces of Viet Nam President Ho Chi Minh retaliated with a violent attack on Bac Ninh, northeast of the capital. Insurgent artillery positions at Hanoi were being attacked by French fighter-bombers. They were backed up by Spitfire fighters.

In Saigon, unofficial sources said the French were expecting a Viet Nam uprising tomorrow or on Christmas day. Authorities ordered the suspension of midnight masses throughout Chochin-China province and the closing of bars and public houses as precautionary measures.

Report Town Evacuated

Viet Nam forces were reported to have evacuated the town of Honay on the coast east of Hanoi.

French official source said 35 French civilians, including 11 women, were killed in Hanoi during the fighting Saturday, and that 11 Chinese had been killed by Viet Nam "terrorists."

The whole of northern Indo-China was reported to be afame with armed resistance to French authority. French troops struggled to crush widely separated attacks by forces of the pro-independence Viet Nam "republic."

The road connecting the colonial capital Hanoi with the seaport Haiphong was cut by the rebels many times during the last 48 hours, official sources said.

French troops extended mopping up operations around garrisons in Tongking and Annam provinces that had been besieged by Viet Nam soldiers, the sources said.

They gave French losses as 50 dead and 150 wounded. Rebel casualties were unofficially calculated at upwards of 200 dead and many more wounded.

Airfield Captured

It was reported that the Gia Lam airfield in Annam fell to French forces. Many Annamite defenders of the field were taken as prisoners.

There were indications that the French would be hard-pressed to keep the situation in hand with their reported total of 75,000 troops in Indo-China if the outbreaks became more general.

Official sources said that three nurses were killed and two wounded during the reoccupation of the Hanoi hospital.

The nurses were fired upon in Red Cross ambulances from sniper positions on the hospital roof, they said.

2 Brothers Held After Stabbing

Two brothers were held by police today for questioning in connection with the fatal stabbing last Dec. 9 of Arlin Payton, 26-year-old textile mill worker.

The suspects are Herschel Melton, 54, of 109 N. New Jersey st., and his brother, James Melton, 44, of 325 N. Alabama st.

The latter was arrested Saturday night when he fled from another stabbing in front of a tavern in the 547 block, E. Washington st.

The victim in this stabbing was Israel Everett Floyd, 21, of 2329 E. Washington st., who was reported in a serious condition at City hospital.

Mr. Payton was fatally stabbed during an argument with several men in front of a tavern in the 500 block, east Market st. He died in city hospital a few hours later from loss of blood.

New Sugar Stamp is Valid Jan. 1

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (U.P.)—Stamp No. 53 in your ration book will be good for five pounds of sugar on Jan. 1.

The office of temporary controls announced today that the No. 53 stamp will be good from Jan. 1 to April 30. Another stamp is expected to become valid for purchasing five pounds of sugar before No. 53 expires, OTC said.

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson recently said that more sugar is expected to be available in the southwestern section at 2:17 p.m. (Indianapolis time) yesterday.

No damage was caused.



SANTA LANDS—An airborne Santa Claus landed at Stout Field today to survey the Christmas situation at the Tyndall Towne veterans' housing project. Bonnie Jo Baker has Santa's ear.

Suspect Shot by Police Loses Fight to Survive

William Hendren Regains Consciousness Long Enough to Pray for Mother and Father

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hendren of 3106 English ave. prepared to bury their only son today, 21-year-old William Hendren who returned from the wars only to die by police bullets.

The young man who was shot a week ago today when he attempted to flee arrest at 34th and Illinois sts. lost his battle to survive his wounds at City Hospital yesterday, while his father and mother prayed at his bedside.

Just before he died, William regained consciousness and said: "I pray dear God to spare my life for Mom and Dad, but if you take me, please take care of them. Mom and Dad are so good."

Died of Pneumonia

An autopsy showed that he died of pneumonia after hospital surgeons removed one of the bullets. The service slug had penetrated his back and stomach as he neared the grancy charge, but later released after questioning on her own recognition. She is to appear in municipal court Dec. 27.

Police said that two radios found in Hendren's car had been stolen from the Railway Express terminal at Union Station. They later arrested a merchant who had purchased radios from Hendren and charged him with receiving stolen goods.

William was born in Indianapolis. He was in his senior year at Washington high school when he entered the navy three years ago. He served nearly two years in the Pacific and was discharged last March as a seaman first class.

He was completing his high school work at Technical high school for a diploma when he was shot. He had been working as a part-time loading platform employee for Railways Express and also as a clerk in a grocery.

Services will be conducted at 3 p.m. tomorrow at the Tolin funeral home. He will be buried in Memorial Park cemetery.

Miss GeMeiner was held on a va-

Acting swiftly on the tip, which followed complaints of Railway Express Agency thefts, police seized the couple in the tavern and were escorting them back to Hendren's car when William broke and ran.

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John Leap Wins Six Firsts in Pike 4-H Show

Results of the third annual Pike township grain show for 4-H club members and vocational agriculture students were announced today.

John Leap won first place in six classifications: Single ear corn, one peck shelled corn, Lincoln soybeans, other varieties soybeans, peck oats, and clover hay.

Richard Walden was first in the longest corn ear class, and Wayne Jennings won first place in the 10-ear sample classification, one of the largest classes in the show.

Kenneth Starkey was first in the wheat classification, while Fred Engeler won first prize in the alfalfa hay class. Charles Starkey took highest honors in the clover seed division.

At Yokohama, Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger, 8th army commander, confirmed that no American personnel had been injured or killed in the quake or accompanying tidal wave.

Fifty afternum shocks were recorded in the Osaka area Sunday, three of which were strong enough to be felt by the human body.

The minor shocks caused a panic at Shinsho Sunday night as terror-stricken men and women stampeded in the dark shouting "tidal wave."

There was no reported damage from the latest shocks.

Britons Thrilled By Royal Romance

(Continued From Page One)

728, with 974 injured and 70 missing.

Mr. Nakashima said a U.S. army corporal, Beecher Wilson of Windsor, Ky., leader of a four-man army rescue team, was credited with saving the lives of a Japanese family buried under their fallen house.

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