

Communists in China Are Greatly Feared By Rich, Poor Alike

Many in Red Army Forced to Fight; Unaware of Meaning of Communism

By WILLIAM H. NEWTON, Scripps-Howard Staff Writer
WEIHAIWEI, China, Sept. 9—Visiting the besieged cities and battle areas of war-torn China and talking with the soldiers and people make it possible to explode some myths about Chinese Communists and about the Chinese Nationalist government.

Myth No. 1 is that the Communists generally are beloved by the common people of China, the poor peasants and villagers. The facts so far as this area of Shantung province is concerned, are that the Communists are greatly feared by all. They are persecuted most of all.

In the village of Chinchin, for example, Communists smashed into the Catholic church, seized everything of value and gave the German priest the equivalent of 5 cents in American money to pay for the damage. In Changchun, the Chinese Presbyterian pastors were forced to flee and their homes deliberately destroyed.

The city of Yili, for example, has been occupied by the Communists for the past six months. During that time all business ceased, all stores were closed, mission schools and hospitals were but a great many people fled. The same thing happened in Linchuan in village after village.

A "People's Army"

Myth No. 2 is that the Communist army is a "people's army," expressing the rebellion of the ordinary peasant against the Nationalist government.

I talked to dozens of Communist prisoners captured by the Nationalists after the battle of Linchuan. Scarcely a one had any idea what the word "Communism" meant. Most had been forced into service and compelled to fight. A few were former Nationalist soldiers who had been captured in previous battles and compelled to fight the Communists.

Myth No. 3 is that the Communists permit any degree of religious freedom in areas they control. The sole exception to this is those few cities where there are foreign missionaries who might possibly report on the situation. Even in those instances, religious worship is discouraged and Chinese pastors persecuted and humiliated.

Chinese Presbyterian and Baptist pastors frequently are accused of being "spies for the Americans" and are permitted to visit.

Mr. Newton



PLAN CELEBRATION—Above (left to right) are Wilson Mothershead, Kenneth Mosiman, John D. Hughes and Russell L. White, members of the Indianapolis Council of the Navy League, as they map plans for the gala Navy Day celebration Oct. 25, 26 and 27.

Navy League Makes Plans For Three-Day Celebration

Plans for a gala three-day celebra-

tion of Navy Day are being made

by the Indianapolis council of the Navy league. Russell L. White, president of the local council, announced today.

Mr. White has named Wilson Mothershead as Navy day chairman. John D. Hughes will be in charge of the program which will include the Naval reserve, Navy Officer reserve and Sea Scouts,

MONDAY NIGHT a dinner will be held at Port Optimist by the Indianapolis Sea Scouts, concluding the three-day celebration.

On Oct. 26, Sea Scouts from Port Optimist will receive trophies and honors in sail boat, whale boat and canoe races on White river at 30th International Business Machines st. On the east bank of the river, Corp, today opposed the president of the Naval Armory will hold open fair boom for Gen. Dwight E. Eisenhower, and a large number of re-

loued "land reform" program is

winning the peasants to the Com-

munists side. It is true that in

some cases land has been taken

from landlords and distributed

among the peasants. But in return

the Communists levy heavy taxes

on appropriate whole crops to

feed Communists armies, and press

farmers who receive the land into

military service.

War's Bitter Necessity

There is little enough respect for

political freedom or human rights

anywhere in China. There is also

little hope in Communist areas,

except, on occasion, for the "show

of places" which foreigners occasionally are permitted to visit.

Mr. Newton

Leprosy Subject Of Church Talk

Chicago Woman Lectures Tomorrow

The Woman's society of the First Baptist church will present speakers from Chicago and a film on lepers tomorrow at 1 p. m. at the church.

Miss Lulu D. Ervin, Midwest secretary of the American Mission to Lepers with headquarters in Chicago, will speak. C. J. Ulrich of the same office will show a film on lepers titled, "The Lonely Journey."

Miss Ervin has been connected with the New York and Midwest offices of the mission for many years. She frequently has visited the United States leprosarium and is in constant contact with leper colonies all over the world.

She states that 10 million persons in the world have the disease but that only about one per cent of them are given aid. The others, cast off by society, sleep in the fields and by roadsides and exist on refuse thrown away by healthy people, she says.

Governments of countries and churches are struggling with the problem of leprosy which is a treatable disease, she adds.

Marine Pfc. Bill McLain, son of Mrs. Betty Hickman, 230 E. Bickling st., and Seaman 2-c Dallas George Rhude, husband of Mrs. Rosemary Rhude, 1916 Prospect st., have returned to the United States aboard the escort carrier Palau.

They were part of a special contingent representing the United States in Monrovia, Liberia during the celebration of the 100th anniversary of Liberia's independence.

Ensign Morgan L. Davison, son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor H. Davison, 2030 N. Delaware st., has reported to the naval air training station, Corpus Christi, Tex., for primary and basic instrument flight instruction.

Ben Davis Enrollment Hits 1120 Record

Enrollment at Ben Davis high school has reached 1120, largest in the school's history, school officials said today.

Five new teachers have been added to the faculty. They are Bernard DeWitt, Mrs. Mildred McKay Orme;

Miss Winifred Jean Davis, Miss Jean Falvey and Mrs. Mabel B. Gordon.

In the Services

2 Local Sailors Aboard Ship in Chesapeake Bay

Two Indianapolis sailors are serving aboard the U. S. S. Taconic participating in operations in Chesapeake bay.

They are Seaman 2-c Robert L. King, son of Mrs. Sally R. King, 5231 E. St. Clair st. and Electrician's Mate 3-c James M. Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. Holland C. Cox, 6339 Jackson st.

Steward's Mate 2-c Alfred Hall, son of Mrs. Lillian Martin, 1918 Hovey st., is serving aboard the submarine tender U. S. S. Nereus on a cruise to Alaska and the Aleutian islands.

Aviation Electronic Technician's Mate 2-c Oliver A. Wallace, husband of Mrs. Shirley J. Wallace, 1944 Carrollton ave., is serving aboard the escort carrier U. S. S. Siboney operating in the Atlantic fleet.

Pharmacist's Mate 3-c Harold Umbenhauer, son of Mrs. Mae Umbenhauer, 1419 Williams st., recently returned Switzerland when his ship, destroyer tender U. S. S. Shenandoah, visited northern Italy.

His tour included trips to the Parliament building in Bern; Lake Geneva; League of Nations buildings at Geneva; the Chateau of Chillon at Montreux; the Glacier Gardens at Lucerne, and the Alps.

Several well-known speakers will

discuss subjects related to food and economics and a trade exposition featuring restaurant supplies and equipment will be held in conjunction with the program.

Harshman to Address Methodist Meeting

The Woman's Society of Christian service of the Roberts Park Methodist church will present H. L. Harshman, assistant superintendent of schools, in an address Thursday afternoon at the church.

The address will climax an all-day meeting beginning at 10:30 a. m. Others on the program are Mrs. J. H. Smiley and Mrs. Robert McKee. Mrs. C. G. Shriver will preside.

Plan Construction Of Catholic Buildings

Roman Catholic officials today

predicted the beginning of a multi-billion dollar construction program for Catholic buildings of all kinds

within the next year or 24 months.

In order to spur the construction program an exposition will be held in 1948 in Chicago.

Honored for 30 Years In Telephone Industry

A jeweled pin has been presented to Walter Honecker, Indiana Bell Telephone Co. engineer, in recognition of his 30 years service in the telephone industry.

Mr. Honecker, who lives at 418 W. 44th st., is a member of the Hoosier State chapter of the Telephone Pioneers of America.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 9, 1947

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