

Nanking Locks Gates to Hold Key Officials

Flight Curbed as Armies Fight On

NANKING, China, Dec. 4 (UPI)—Drastic steps to curb the flight of essential officials from China's threatened capital were taken today by Gen. Tang En-po, Nanking's new military commander, who clamped down a 24-hour ban on all travel from the city.

He ordered the city gates closed for 24 hours, cutting off Nanking residents from the railway stations located outside the ancient city walls.

Gen. Tang also imposed sharp restrictions on all future withdrawals.

The cabinet likewise criticized the headlong flight of key officials and non-governmental civilians. And it ordered a 400 per cent increase in rail fares for unofficial refugees, effective Monday.

Forced to Adjourn

So precipitate has been the flight of legislators that parliament was forced to adjourn a

session that was to have been opened yesterday.

The Executive Yuan (cabinet), however, today announced plans for the daily evacuation of 6000 government dependents and non-essential officials to safer centers. The evacuations are to start Dec. 10.

The government, meanwhile, reported that Communist armies were retreating under heavy attack all along the Huai River line, easing pressure on Nanking and Shanghai.

The Reds, however, said they had 164,000 nationalists encircled further north.

A communiqué issued by the National Defense Ministry said 10 Communists columns—roughly 100,000 men—were withdrawing northwestward from the Pengpu rail hub 100 miles north of here, under heavy pressure from Nationalist forces.

Suchow Abandoned

The ministry's statement also admitted officially for the first time that the government base at Suchow, 200 miles north of here, had been "voluntarily" abandoned on Friday.

Meanwhile, reports from North China said that a major battle appeared to be developing around the city of Kalgan, in the shadow of the great wall of China.

Four army groups—100,000 men—were reported massing in the northwest border area to follow up a reported government victory south of Kalgan.

Nearly 900,000 men were reported fighting the crucial Huai River battle, which may decide the fate of Nanking and the whole Yangtze River valley.

Ten Nationalist army groups—seven striking northward from Pengpu, three fighting their way south from encircled Suchow—were attacking the city of Kalgan, in the shadow of the great wall of China.

"I tried to be ready for it but

I couldn't help hoping the baby would be all right," she said. "When they told me my heart sank clear to the floor . . . I know what he has to face."

Because the disease struck Larry but skipped their second son, Harry Edward, 17 months old, the parents felt the new infant had a 50-50 chance.

But blood tests taken by doctors showed he, too, was a victim of the disease which is characterized by the failure of the blood to clot.

While the disease does not in-

terfere with normal health, a minor accident can produce fatal bleeding.

MRS. ELLIS couldn't hold back

tears on the ride home, as she saw her baby boy facing the same childhood as Larry; every bump, every scratch, every minor fall, constitutes a threat to the boy's life and means long, expensive stays in the hospital.

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