

## Civil Strife Still Boils Across South China Despite Peace Talks With Communists

By ALBERT RAVENHOLT  
Times Foreign Correspondent

SHANGHAI, China, Apr. 7.—While Nationalist and Communist delegates were settling down to talk peace in Peiping, civil strife was boiling up across South China.

Now the revolts, frequently Communist-led, have reached proportions where the Nationalists are denied effective control over large areas nominally theirs.

These rebellions are the payoff on the rapidly disintegrating economy and disorganized and weakened Nationalist military

position, combined with efficiency of the Communist organization.

So far they are centered mainly in four areas—Chekiang province, south of Shanghai, Kwangtung, Hunan, and Yunnan in the far southwest.

But the trouble is spreading rapidly with "native" Communists openly attacking Nationalist troops and requisitioning food between Shanghai and Nanking.

Chekiang, Chiang Kai-Shek's home province and stronghold of the rightwing co-clique, has seen the fastest growth of Communists

power. Four months ago Chekiang was relatively quiet, with small bands of Communist guerrillas raiding from mountain bases. In the past month entire counties with officials and local militia have gone over to the Communists. The Nationalists now have lost control of an estimated one-third of the province.

They also have lost much of their grain tax revenue.

Three weeks ago a Nationalist battalion in eastern Hunan "turned bandit," joining irregulars near the border.

In the southwestern province

of Yunnan—largest U. S. wartime China base—the postal commissioner reports he is only able to deliver mail to one-third of Yunnan's counties due to "bandit" Communist interference.

The Nationalist defense ministry estimates that the Yunnan Communist guerrillas number roughly 25,000.

In the main South China Communist stronghold—Kwangtung province—the Reds are reorganizing guerrillas into regular army units numbering an estimated 65,000. Communist troops are concentrated in the northern and

southern ends of Kwantung and on Hainan Island, with Nationalist control strongest around Canton.

The Kwantung Communists are being joined by increasing numbers of defecting Nationalist troops. To date they have avoided attacking major cities. But comparison of Nationalist and Communist strength in Kwantung suggests that if and when the Communist armies north of the Yangtze strike south, Kwantung will hardly be a safe Nationalist retreat.

Yunnan and Kwangtung guerrillas reportedly are co-operating with Vietnamese forces in Indo-China, transshipping arms and supplies.

In China's twilight of half-war and half-peace local officials as well as citizens are refusing to believe in the necessity that they get out and fight.

Lethargy is seeping through Nationalist administrative ranks. It is compounded with widespread conviction that the Communists are coming anyway.

This is inducing many to jump onto the assumed winning side of the Communist-led rebellions of South China.

Copyright 1949 by The Indianapolis Times and Chicago Daily News, Inc.

**LISTEN TO  
MUSICAL MANHUNT  
WIBC**  
Every Sunday, 1:30 to 2 P. M.  
The Biggest Local Prize  
Show in Indiana  
Sponsored by  
**HOME APPLIANCE CO.**  
5500 N. ILLINOIS  
**SIMMONS**  
FURNITURE & APPLIANCE CO.  
53-55 W. 34th

## ROBERT HALL CRACKS PRICES!

# SAVE UP TO 40%

The Easter shopping crowds are rushing to Robert Hall for these unbelievable values! Right now, when saving money is important, Robert Hall brings you brand new Easter clothing for the entire family at drastic reductions. Shop, compare and see for yourself how big the savings are at Robert Hall.

No charge for alterations on men's and boys' clothing. Every garment purchased this week will be fitted and finished for Easter. Open every night, Monday through Saturday Until 9 P. M.

### Men's Fine Quality GABARDINE SUITS

Smooth textured gabardine suits in handsome single and double breasted styles... Many hand tailored details. One and two button drape models in new rich greys, tans, browns, blues. Labeled as to fabric content. Sizes 35 to 46.

**28.95**

USUALLY 38.95



### Boy's All-Wool EASTER SUITS

100% all-wool suits in handsome long wearing fabrics. Well tailored single and double breasted models in smart, Spring shades of blue, brown and grey. Carefully sized for true fit in sizes 8 to 16.

**12.95**

USUALLY 19.95



**3.99  
to 7.99**

*Deluxe Group of  
SPRING DRESSES*  
**8.99  
to 11.99**

### Beautiful Collection of SPRING DRESSES

Just when you need fresh, new Summer dresses here they are sensationally low priced! Every favorite fabric, style and color with latest details and trims. Smart prints, solids, one or two piece models and sun-back styles. Soft pastels and ever-smart navy and black. All sizes.



### Royal-Hall GABARDINE TOPCOATS

Fine quality Royal Hall gabardine woven exclusively for Robert Hall. Labeled as to fabric content. Sizes 34 to 46.

**22.95**

USUALLY 30.00

All-wool COVERT TOPCOATS, 8 to 12 . . . 10.95  
All-wool LEISURE SUITS, 4 to 12 . . . 9.95  
Handsome all-wool SLACKS, 12 to 20 . . . 4.95  
Combed POPLIN JACKETS, Blue, 8 to 20 . . . 4.95

### SPECIAL Fresh Spring SKIRTS and BLOUSES

Beautifully tailored skirts and blouses in all your favorite styles and fabrics! Blouses in tissue failles, silk-like crepes, cottons, batistes. Skirts in rayon gabardines, dressy failles. All sizes.

**1.79  
to 4.89**

USUALLY 2.95 to 7.95

OPEN DAILY 9 A. M. TO 9 P. M.

# ROBERT HALL

LOWER OVERHEAD  
MEANS LOWER PRICES  
*clothes*

CORNER SENATE at MARYLAND ST.

formerly CASE CLOTHES

FREE CUSTOMER PARKING