

World Report—Yangtze Fight To Be Debated By Commons

Churchill Puts Blame on Scrap On Labor Regime

Winston Churchill leveled charges against the Labor Government at London today that it had blundered in sending warships up the Yangtze River in China, where they were hit by Chinese Communist shore guns that killed 40 men.

The general charges were that the ill-fated sloop Amethyst should not have been sent up the river and that if the trip was absolutely necessary air cover should have been provided.

Besides Mr. Churchill, other Conservative members of Parliament and the British press joined in the charges against the government.

The government's explanation of the affair will be submitted to the House of Commons tomorrow.

West Germany

THE three western military governors met west German political leaders in an attempt to remove final obstacles to the establishment of a West German state. Prospects for settlement appeared good following agreement among West Germany's two principal political parties, the Socialists and the Christian-Democrats, on limited powers to be granted the proposed new federal government.

Meanwhile, the Russians eased the Berlin blockade minutely by giving permission for a Swiss food train to pass through the Soviet zone to Frankfurt.

A Swiss spokesman said the train was a one-shot project, and so far as he knew had nothing to do with the rumors that the blockade might be removed.

Canada

Supt. C. W. Harvinson of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said today at Winnipeg that Dimitri Leschenko, 36, confessed Soviet spy, would be taken to an eastern port to await deportation.

Supt. Harvinson said the date of Leschenko's departure and the country to which he would be deported would be determined by immigration authorities. Leschenko was arrested last Tuesday in Calgary.

Peru

The Peruvian government reported today that it had nipped an assassination plot against President Manuel Odría and other conservative leaders. Army officers and policemen were charged with participating in the plot.

Japan

A NEW foreign exchange rate of 360 yen to the U. S. dollar today sent share prices up as much as 80 yen per share in Tokyo's curb market. Textiles took a lead in gains with Nishin Spinning, Daido Spinning and Teijin new up 50 to 800 yen.

Indo-China

FORMER Emperor Bao Dai of Indo-China was en route by air today from Paris to Saigon, where he will take over the new French-sponsored Viet Nam government. Bao Dai, who signed an agreement with France on Mar. 8, will stop at Singapore.

'Get Tough' Order Closes 7 Dens

(Continued From Page One)

ing bookie joint," Chief Roule said.

Liquor raid on the home of Andrew Davis, 42, of 543 Kinney St., brought in a quantity of liquor, police reported.

Combination liquor and gambling raid ended the operation of a joint at 409 Agnes St. Police arrested seven men, including the owner, Samuel McFarland, of 428 Patterson St.

Other "nuisance raids" broke up gaming and illegal liquor operations at 503 S. Alabama St. and 1507 Yandes St.

A cigar store owner and a customer were arrested today by police who strolled in during the sale of a policy slip. Albert Minter, 51, of 842 1/2 N. California St., proprietor of a cigar store at 601 N. West St., was charged with keeping a room for pool playing and operating a lottery and gift enterprise. The customer, Marnie Stokes, 50, of 2333 Sheldon St., was charged with gaming and visiting a gaming house.

War Crumples Their Everyday World



Scenes such as this are common today in China as the Communists' armies crash through the Nationalists' front along the Yangtze. Civilians mostly, they flee to any sanctuary with what wares of the world they can carry.

Shanghai Airport Jammed With Rich Chinese in Flight

Any Destination Appeals to Refugees So Long as They Escape Red On-Rush

By FRANK H. BARTHOLOMEW
United Press Vice President for the Pacific Division
(World Copyright 1949 by United Press)

SHANGHAI, Apr. 25—A stepped off a plane at the International Airport here early this evening and found it thronged with wealthy Chinese awaiting air evacuation in any direction.

The waiting rooms were piled high with baggage. Air traffic was unbelievably congested. Incoming planes were stacked up on the air strips. It was raining hard.

There was no sign of any war damage around the airport, but the manifest urge on the part of the Chinese and excitement and tension among the customs and immigration officials reflected the Communist threat to this city of 6 million.

Half a mile from the airport on the way into Shanghai, we were stopped at a barbed wire road block. Nationalist soldiers with rifles at the ready checked every vehicle on the crowded road, and every individual passenger.

Roadways Jammed

All the Chinese were required to produce identification cards. Two hours were required to creep the four-mile distance from the airport to the city. The roadways were jammed with refugees in every type of conveyance and in every condition of life.

I was told that during the day the streets in the city had been clogged with all kinds of vehicles and humanity. But this evening some semblance of normalcy had returned.

The awareness of the approaching Communist armies was reflected in the refugees huddle in the doorways of downtown buildings to ward off the rain as best they could. Mothers were nursing their babies. Whole families were on the move with their meager belongings and clothing little better than rags.

Banks Open as Usual

Police and other city authorities were doing their best to provide food and shelter for the restive, shifting populace. But it was an immense job.

Banks operated as usual, including the central bank and other government institutions.

The commodity and financial markets gave most of their attention to settling accounts left

Gunnery of Reds Found Like Nips

Americans Study Action on Yangtze By CLYDE FARNSWORTH
Scraps-Herald Staff Writer

SHANGHAI, Apr. 25—The gunnery displayed by Communist shore batteries against four British warships in the lower Yangtze has attracted the suspicious interest of official American observers.

They are studying still incomplete reports on how 105 millimeter cannon, anti-tank weapons and lighter arms worked over the sloop Amethyst and outshot two destroyers and one cruiser that tried to go to her rescue.

One observer doubted that it was Chinese marksmanship. He doubted that Chinese artillerymen—even those who might have been captured from the Nationalists—could lay down fire that picked so accurately at the vitals of these warships.

Resembles Japs

It rather resembled the Japanese ability to handle heavy caliber weapons, he said, and that was "the very least" you could say about it. He declined to say what was "the very most" to be said.

Chinese Nationalists have charged that the Communists in Manchuria had an international corps that included Japanese war veterans. The bulk of the Chinese Communist forces formerly in Manchuria now are in central China.

It so happened that on the day the Amethyst was attacked—Wednesday—there appeared above Taiyuan, besieged capital of Shansi Province and 100 miles from the expert cannonading on the Yangtze, unusually accurate anti-aircraft fire.

Commercial pilots who have been air-dropping rice to Taiyuan said the ack-ack lay "like a car-

2 Russ Flying to Shanghai With Mysterious Luggage

By FRANK H. BARTHOLOMEW
United Press Vice President, Pacific Area

ABOARD AIRLINER BOUND FOR SHANGHAI, Apr. 25—Two "Russian" diplomatic couriers boarded this plane in Tokyo today for threatened Shanghai with 351 pounds of secret luggage which has diplomatic immunity.

They are Grigori Prokine, 42, and Ivan Titov, 40.

They said the trip was "routine," but their presence aboard this plane and their trip to Shanghai—which is almost certain to fall into Communist hands soon—has created considerable interest.

They were accompanied by "pet" at 11,000 feet, forbidding low altitude approaches.

The one-time guerrilla armies of Gen. Chu Teh are looking more and more like a modern fighting force.

U. S.-Made Tanks

They have American-made tanks which could have been captured in Manchuria or North China. When they appeared in the Peiping victory parade, the tanks paused in front of the U. S. Consulate and student demonstrators riding on them yelled, "Send us more!"

The Reds also have a number of Russian vehicles.

It is generally assumed that the artillery turned against the British on the Yangtze was American-made and captured either in Manchuria or in Shantung and Honan Provinces in the Nationalists' great debacle there last fall. But it is also recalled that heavy artillery appeared among the Communists last spring before their winning streak.

British officials are deeply disturbed by the impromptu battle of the Yangtze. The grounded Amethyst still has not been freed. Survivors aboard were compelled to bury their dead "at sea."

Reds at Nanking Assure Aliens

Pledge Protection Of Private Property By CHANG KUO-SIN
United Press Staff Correspondent

NANKING, Apr. 25—The new Communist administration of Nanking pledged today that foreigners as well as the private business property of Chinese residents will be protected under the new regime.

Communist Commander Gen. Chen Yi posted a seven-point notice in the captured Nationalist capital informing residents that their lives, property and private industrial and commercial enterprises would be respected if they observed public order.

"Foreigners, including diplomatic personnel, with the exception of those who indulge in law violating or subversive activities, will be protected," the notice said.

Nanking greeted its Communist captors with great curiosity, gathering in huge crowds to watch as they marched through the streets of the city.

Order was restored to Nanking, which suffered from a full day of looting Saturday, as soon as the Communists arrived.

Briton Forfeits Citizenship to Work for Soviet

MOSCOW, Apr. 25 (UP)—Archibald R. Johnston, 52, high-ranking British diplomatic official, has renounced his citizenship and intends to remain in the Soviet Union to work for peace, the Communist newspaper Pravda said today.

The newspaper published an open letter from Mr. Johnston, chief editor of the British Embassy's Russian-language newspaper here, attacking the Atlantic Pact, British foreign policy and "British and American warmongers."

MR. JOHNSTON is the highest Anglo-American official to break with his embassy since the end of the war.

Mr. Johnston's letter caught the British Embassy by surprise.

Center Project Confers on ABC

James McGinley, Texas rancher and capitalist, was in St. Louis today talking with financial advisers over the projected sports center to house the 1950 meeting of the American Bowling Congress here.

Mr. McGinley, owner of the Parkmoor restaurant and 11 1/2 adjacent acres on W. 38th St., had gathered preliminary figures from the Foster Engineering Co. on a \$750,000 building on the land across from the Coliseum at the State Fairgrounds.

The \$3 million ABC season was to have been held in the Coliseum but a break between Fair Board officials and the ABC over rentals and dates tossed the deal in the waste basket last Friday.

Mr. McGinley is expected to return to Indianapolis late tomorrow afternoon with his answer.



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