

# Truman Takes It Easy

KEY WEST, Fla., Mar. 21 (UP)—President Truman intended to take things easy at his vacation headquarters here today. Unless something important comes up to demand his attention, Mr. Truman will attend to the routine matters from Washington and spend the rest of the day swimming and resting in the warm Florida sunshine.



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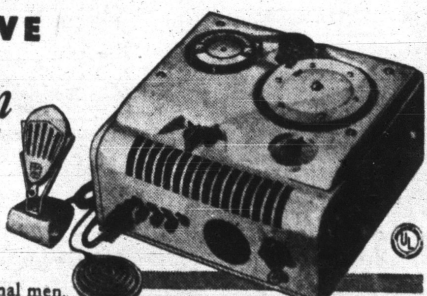
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## World Report—

# Shanghai Reds Won't Let 300 Americans Leave

**Refuse to Let Landing Craft Enter Harbor to Get 2000 Other Aliens**

The liner General Gordon left Hong Kong for Japan today, prevented by the Chinese Communists from going to Shanghai to move out 2000 foreigners, including 300 Americans.

The American President Lines canceled the Gordon's evacuation mission after the Communists at Shanghai refused to permit two landing craft to go up the river to Yangtze River and bring the evacuees to the liner at the river's mouth.

About 100 Shanghai-bound passengers who had been living aboard the Gordon for the past two days disembarked at Hong Kong, with their luggage. They were mostly Britons who want to rejoin their families in Shanghai and look after their business interests there.

Then the Gordon, black and empty, set its course for Yokohama, Japan.

The Shanghai negotiations were carried on between the shipping line and the Chinese Communists. American consular officials emphasized that the U. S. government was not a participant.

## Hong Kong

A LARGE NUMBER of Russian troops have arrived recently in China and are taking an active role in China's civil war, according to apparently authentic reports reaching Hong Kong.

These reports, from a number of sources, indicate that between 6000 and 10,000 Russian troops have arrived within the past 30 days.

They are helping bolster Chinese Communist resistance against increased Nationalist air attacks. There is also the possibility that the Russians might be used to discourage any popular uprising against the Chinese Communist regime in view of

China's widespread famine and economic stagnation.

**Japan**

THE Japanese government wants to send its finance minister to Detroit to plead with Banker Joseph M. Dodge for relaxation of the austerity program he recommended for Japan last year. Kyodo news agency reported today.

Kyodo said Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida and his cabinet would like to announce an easing of the "Dodge Line" before the upper house elections in June.

Mr. Dodge, who served as financial adviser to Gen. Douglas MacArthur, decreed a balanced budget for Japan. This made it necessary for Mr. Yoshida to fire government employees and freeze wages.

**Italy**

ITALIAN COMMUNIST labor leaders met today to consider calling a nationwide general strike, but sidestepped the issue in a face-saving compromise.

The executive council of the National Labor Federation approved the formula of a general strike. But it left up to the fed-

eration boss, Giuseppe di Vittorio, the time, duration and method of such a strike, "in relation to the attitude of the government."

**Czechoslovakia**

A GOVERNMENT minister said today that the number of western news correspondents here had been cut from 140 in 1948 to fewer than 10 because they slandered Czechoslovakia and engaged in anti-state activity.

Czechoslovakia is opening the door to progressive newspapermen and journalists from Communist countries, Information Minister Vaclav Kopecky said.

**Germany**

THE Russian-backed German East Mark climbed slightly in value for the second consecutive day today from its all-time low of last week-end.

The East Mark was quoted at about 3 cents (U. S.) while the West Mark was valued at 25 cents (U. S.).

Thousands of Western Berliners who can shop in both East and West Berlin bought the East Mark as a speculation venture, helping to send the price skidding. But the big rush on exchange offices appeared to have ended.

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A CABINET reshuffle today put an all-civilian team at the head of the Ministry of National Affairs and gave the Ministry of Construction a military leadership. All of the ministers affected by the shakeup were Communists.

Two assistant ministers were relieved. The official gazette said they would get other jobs.

No reason was given for the changes.

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