

Land of the Unhappy—

Battle-Wrecked Korea Ponders Bleak Future

Editor's Note—This is a correspondent's first-hand impression, after a long tour of duty at the various fronts, of what the war has done to Korea.

By JOE QUINN
United Press Staff Correspondent

EN ROUTE FROM KOREA, July 4—I left battle-wrecked Korea with sorrow for its unhappy people, admiration for the gallant United Nations soldiers, sailors and airmen fighting there, and an uneasy feeling that I had seen a nation being destroyed.

I'll always remember ancient Korea, "the land of morning freshness," often vandalized by war since it came into being 24 centuries before the birth of Christ.

Once it was blessed with 300 years of uninterrupted peace. Now it has become the first battlefield in the struggle to keep Communism from ruining the world.

There the people are paying a frightful price for human liberty. As I boarded a plane at 8th Army headquarters for the trip to the U. S. A. I thought most about the small undernourished waifs I had passed on my last jeep trip from the battle front.

Not Much Laughter

Not many children laugh in Korea today. Those lucky enough to have been adopted by GIs longing for their own boys and girls are sheltered, clothed and fed.

They play on seesaws and swings and fly kites in school yards turned into military command posts. They go fishing and swimming with men who treat them like sons and little brothers.

About 15,000 war orphans have been moved to island sanctuaries where they will have a chance to grow up without the scars of battle. Thousands more have been taken into temporary orphanages established far south in the country, away from the danger of combat.

Tens of thousands more from 3 to 15 years of age are just

weary wanderers with no place to eat or sleep, no chance for comfort and safety, no one to mend their bruised and diseased bodies.

These live in cellars and caves and abandoned homes, prowl half-naked through the streets and down the highways, stealing, begging and conniving to stay alive.

Outlook Hopeless

The generation of Koreans that the end of the World War II promised freedom and opportunities denied their parents has become the most hopeless in the nation's 4000-year-old history.

If peace came tomorrow and the world united in maximum aid to the ravished country, hardly any of the children growing up could regain in their lifetime what the Communist invasion robbed them of.

The ministry of social affairs officially lists South Korea's civilian casualties at 170,837 killed, 140,692 invalided, 157,955 missing, 1,084,642 in displaced persons camps and 2,554,829 homeless. These figures represent only those reported to government authorities. Officials believe less than half the actual toll has been recorded.

Looted and Burned

Seoul, the capital since 100 years before America was discovered, where 1,446,019 persons lived when the Reds roared across the 38th Parallel on June 25, 1950, has been looted and burned in five separate bloody battles within nine months.

Less than 100,000 civilians, mostly dependent old men and women and tiny orphans, live in Seoul now. These have no source of food and water except what they can beg or steal from the military.

Some idea of the property destruction may be gained from the reports of 3315 government buildings, 3260 public schools and 429,138 homes being fully or half destroyed. The above property damage approximates \$653,530,459 in American dollar values.

'A Friend in Need . . .' 2000 French War Orphans Have American Godparents

By ROSETTE HARGROVE

PARIS, July 4—For two whole days, Mirabelle Bonnau, a pretty 10-year-old blonde, lived in a dream.

She had been brought from her seaport home in Boulogne to meet her American godfather and godmother—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Correll, of "Amos and Andy" fame.

Mirabelle visited Paris, lunched in a restaurant high in the Eiffel Tower, took a river-boat up the Seine, and ate all the ice cream and cake she wanted. Her godparents bought her a couple of pretty summer frocks, and made a great fuss over her.

She does not understand English, but just the same Mirabelle had learned a "compliment" to recite to Mr. and Mrs. Correll—a little poem about a dream boat.

There are more than 200 children in France who know that such fairy godparents exist. "L'Oncle d'Amerique" (the mythical rich uncle from America) is a wishful expression in common use here. But every month the children, who are helped by the American-sponsored Foster Parents Plan for War Children have tangible proof of their American godparents.

Father Killed in War

Mirabelle's father was killed early in World War II. Her mother, a social worker, was deported to Ravensbruck, where she was held for over two-and-a-half years. Bringing up her child was a heavy financial burden. That is where the Foster Parents Plan came in.

Founder and benefactor of the Foster Parents Plan was Mrs. Edna Blue, who died recently. The children are all war victims, completely orphaned or with only one parent, or children who suffered war injuries.

Every foster parent makes a monthly remittance of \$15. Half is given to the parent or person in charge of the child; the remainder is used to buy clothes and other useful things such as sheets, blankets and shoes. When occasionally the Foster Parents Plan here receives donations in bulk, such as canned goods, milk or lard, these are usually handed over to an orphanage where there is an American godchild.

Direct Operation

Madame Lucette Pourquard, who directs operations in France, and assures the liaison between foster parents and children, has a busy time ahead of her this summer.

"Last year over 100 foster parents came to France," she explains, "and this year I expect to see almost twice that number. The majority usually arrange to devote some time to their protegee and arrange to have them brought to Paris if they live in the provinces."

She says that many of them have children of their own, "but their generosity of heart prompted

them to do something for our children who suffered so much and were the innocent victims of the last war."

The Foster Parents Plan is also operating in Belgium, Italy, Greece and Holland, and until quite recently in Czechoslovakia and Poland. Unfortunately, all contacts have since been lost with these satellite countries.

Has Staff of 6 Girls

Madame Pourquard has a staff of six girls, one male welfare worker and a packer. The organization keeps in close touch with the various child welfare and war veterans organizations and all veterans dealing with underprivileged children. The majority stem from the working classes although, she pointed out, "there are many children among the white collar class who need help but whose families are reluctant to ask for outside help."

Records of the Paris office show that many theatrical stars figure prominently in the rostrum of American foster parents. Students in universities and church communities have also formed groups to take care of one or several children. All take a very active interest, and do not confine themselves merely to providing the necessary \$15. Every month the children write a "thank you" note.

Sponsorship theoretically ends when the child reaches the age of 14, but many American godparents are prepared to continue as long as their help is necessary.

A little orphan girl, Marie-Rose Maitre-Henri, who was living with her grandparents last year was taken to Pittsburgh by her godmother, Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Morres, writers, last year legally adopted their godchild.

Television Shows

Princess Scratching

NEW YORK, July 4—English reporters and cameramen have always accepted a discreet censorship on everything concerning the royal family. But the increasing diffusion of television is posing a problem for the censors, according to reports reaching New York.

A television broadcast of the royal family at Ascot Races enabled a deaf mute to lip read a royal conversation.

Owners of television posts were greatly amused a few days ago to see Princess Margaret on their screens discreetly scratching herself.

GOP Round-Table

Republican candidates for mayor and city council this fall will hold a round-table discussion at state GOP headquarters here Aug. 1-2. State Secretary George Edick, Plainfield, said the candidates will discuss campaign issues, voter registration and the importance of the municipal elections in relation to the 1952 presidential election.

Plenty of Laughs

About the Ozarks

Many a tall tale about the people of the Ozark mountains.

As a sign in the Ozarks reads: "All the lies you hear about the Ozarks are true."

Now comes a laugh-a-minute feature that captures the folklore of the amusing Ozarks . . . WE ALWAYS LIE TO STRANGERS by Vance Randolph, who has lived among the Ozarks for 30 years.

WE ALWAYS LIE TO STRANGERS starts Sunday in The Sunday Times.



JUST A NICE STROLL—Mrs. Julia Roka King St. Clair is pictured arriving in Glendale, Calif., making good her promise to get to California "even if I have to walk." And walk she did, pushing a wheelbarrow 3000 miles from Jacksonville, Fla., accompanied by her 9-year-old son Dolphy and a hitch-hiking cat from Arkansas.

They Say at the UN— These Eight Countries Are Our Best Friends

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., July 4—Who are our best anti-Communist friends at the United Nations?

A group of veteran observers picks the following eight to fill out the "first team" along with the U. S. in the battle against Soviet communism:

ASIA—Thailand and the Philippines.

THE MIDDLE EAST—Turkey and Lebanon.

LATIN AMERICA—Chile and Brazil.

EUROPE—Britain and France.

Many others are just as enthusiastically anti-Soviet, but for special reasons these eight stand in the front-line trenches in the fight. They are exerting important leadership for a variety of reasons.

LITTLE THAILAND, formerly known as Siam, is the only Asiatic country on the mainland that has sent troops to fight in Korea. It alone votes consistently against the Communist bloc in the countries in its area.

The reason? Young King Phumiphon Abundet of Thailand takes his anti-Communist commitments extremely seriously. King Phumiphon (pronounced poom-ee-pone) was born in Brookline, Mass., had a couple of song hits on Broadway last year. Born in this country while his father, a prince, was studying medicine at Harvard, the King is perhaps the United States' best friend in Asia.

The Philippines remain vigorously anti-Communist and co-operate largely through the influence of Gen. Carlos Romulo, foreign minister who served on Gen. MacArthur's staff during World War II.

LEBANON, half Christian and half Moslem, is this country's best friend among the Moslem Arab states. Dr. Charles Malik, Lebanon's delegate to the United Nations, is a leader of influence and one of the organization's most learned scholars.

Turkey's anti-Communist position results from a number of factors including its fear of neighboring Russia, liberal U. S. military aid in the last few years and the fact that it has a top-flight diplomat here on the Security Council. Dr. Selim Sarper is considered an intelligent and resourceful leader.

BRAZIL is important because it occupies a Security Council seat and is particularly adroit at lining up Latin American support. Brazil has succeeded in replacing Argentine as South America's leading power.

Chile has a reputation for having been one of Latin America's traditional democracies. Its President, Gabriel Gonzalez Videla, visited the U. S. last year. Hernan Santa Cruz, United Nations delegate, is easily South America's outstanding diplomat at the United Nations.

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Britain and France, of course, are the two most important anti-Communist forces. Britain's traditional friendship for this country, our common heritage and its influence within the commonwealth makes it our most important ally here and anywhere.

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Bursting at Seams—

DPA Classifies Dana As Critical Housing Area

By DON TEVERBAUGH
Times Staff Writer

DANA, Ind., July 4—This little farm town today became the first Hoosier sector to be classified as a "critical" housing area by the Defense Production Administration.

Normally a drowsy town of about 1000 persons, Dana today has workers from the nearby Atomic Energy plant and the Liberty Powder Co. jammed into every available shelter.

Every spare room has been rented — even garages. The town's vacant lots are loaded with parked trailers. The stores team with shoppers, and the schools have about 20 per cent more enrollment.

Face Water Shortage

"We know things are critical here," Earl Thomasmeyer, member of the Dana Board of Trustees, said.

"Right now we've got half again as many folks here in town as we normally have," he said.

"But we got another big problem, other than the housing," he continued. "Our water level has been dropping for the past 15 years. For the past two years

water was getting a little short here — and now it is really serious."

What the "critical" classification means is that the government will relax credit regulations on residential building as an encouragement to contractors to provide new homes.

Await 100 Families

The DPA estimates that 100 families will be transferred to the area within the next six months by the Liberty Powder Co. and the DuPont organization, which staffs and operates the atomic plant.

The petition for classification as a critical area was made by the Atomic Energy Commission. However no spokesman of the commission, or the two companies could be reached for comment.

The two explosive works are located just north of Dana on the 7000-acre site of the Wabash River Ordnance reservation.

"The AEF started up about a year ago and the powder plant about six months later," said Mr. Thomasmeyer. "Folks hereabouts were kind of jittery about it at first, but by now they've gotten pretty used to the idea."

"The town is looking forward to a quiet Fourth of July."



MUFTI IN MINIATURE—These three young Americans celebrate the Fourth modeling exact small-scale reproductions of officers' uniforms. Left to right: Scottie Dye, 5; Gary Dye, 6 (kneeling); Tommy Mohler, 5 1/2. Scottie and Gary live at 2223 N. Kitley St.; Tommy at 6041 Windsor Drive. These and other outfits will be shown in a kiddies' fashion show in the Arlington Theatre, to be sponsored Aug. 23 by the Windsor Tot Shop.

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