

Scot, in Guise Of Yank Soldier, Gets \$2,500 in Benefits

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—(AP)—The New York Daily News related today what it termed "the extraordinary saga" of a former British seaman who was "hustled" into the U. S. Army in England, "suffered courtmartial and imprisonment, yet collected \$2,500 in benefits" in his guise as an American soldier.

The newspaper, in a copyrighted story, identified the man as Alistair Nicholson, 23, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, and said he was deported from the United States as an alien in April, 1946, only to be "shipped home" as a GI after U. S. authorities in England decided he was an American Army deserter.

In Washington, Army spokesmen said last night they had no comment on the case.

The Daily News said Nicholson's fantastic odyssey began in a Southampton restaurant where he ordered coffee instead of British tea, arousing the curiosity of an American Army officer who accused him at first of being an "American seaman who's jumped ship."

The newspaper said Nicholson

under persistent questioning, finally "gave up in despair and said: 'All right, I'm an American and a member of the Army.'"

The News said Nicholson giving "fantastic" replies to the questions of interrogators, rattled off the first serial number that popped into his mind—one that "I couldn't have repeated" 10 seconds later.

A courtmartial followed, the story related, and the Scot was sentenced to three months and fined \$99. Eventually released, Nicholson then was "shipped home" to the U. S. where he arrived Sept. 21, 1946.

Two months later, the News said, Nicholson, who had given the name of Fred P. East while being questioned, was released from the Army.

Since then, the newspaper continued, he has received these benefits:

"\$1,257.31 back pay; \$300 mustering-out pay; \$14.50 travel pay; \$820 service men's readjustment allowance, commonly known as 52-20, or veterans' unemployment pay." Total \$2,496.81.

It costs \$133 in special federal, state and local taxes to buy a new car and operate it one year, according to the Oregon State Motor Association. Motor clubs throughout the country are advocating repeal of the federal excise taxes to ease the tax burden on the motorist, the association reports.

France Honors St. Lo Hero



Sculptor William C. Westcott poses in New York City with his bust of Maj. Thomas D. Howie, hero of the St. Lo break-through in July, 1944. The bust will be given to the French city for its main square, which will be renamed "Place Major Thomas D. Howie." The officer was an All-Southern Conference football star at The Citadel.

Whale oil, which used to be used in lamps, is now used largely to make soap and glycerine for munitions.

Atomic Warning



Dr. Edward L. Bortz, president of the American Medical Association, warned a Baltimore, Md., audience that doctors "are not well informed" about effects of atomic radiation, and suggested that each urban area in the nation take steps to care for atomic casualties in the event of an attack.

Fight for Western Europe Spotlights New Year's Events

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

Comes the beginning of a new year and foreign affairs analysts don their robes of prophecy to make learned forecasts for the ensuing twelve months, and a columnist, not to depart from the orthodox, offers his contribution.

We must read the future from the past. The first thing we see for 48 is that the all-important item of the year will be the development of the now strained relations between the world's two dominant powers—Russia and America. The very way of life of mankind depends on the trend.

The most important phase of this conflict in 48 is likely to be the battle for Western Europe. The outcome will hinge on the degree of success of the Marshall Plan for rehabilitation—a program against which Moscow has declared open and bitter warfare.

If the Marshall Plan succeeds, it will give the countries of Western Europe the strength to withstand Communist aggression. In short, the Bolsheviks will be held along the Stettin-Adriatic line which they now occupy. This will mean that the dangers of another World War have been vastly lessened. On the other hand, failure of the plan will permit the Communists to sweep through to the English Channel. That, in my view, would make global conflict inevitable.

Outlook For Plan Good

As this is written the chances are good for success of the Marshall Plan.

Hard-hit Italy and France—both key countries in the rehabilitation program—are picking up. Material aid and American backing have created a much needed morale which will carry

these nations far.

The signs read that America and Britain will have to take more decisive action to save Greece from Red aggression. The fate of this ancient and liberty loving Balkan state probably will be decided this year. Greece is of vast strategic importance to Democracy.

Totalitarian Communism will continue to be one of the greatest issues in most countries. However, in Western Europe and in the Western Hemisphere there will be a continuation of the present trend toward the right.

Barring unforeseen mishaps Britain's gallant fight for economic recovery will produce substantial results that will guarantee ultimate success. Her progress is being accompanied by a political swing of both left and right toward the center.

China's Future Dark

The conflict between the Russian bloc and the Western Democracies will continue to hamstring many vital activities of the United Nations.

It will be a wonder if twelve months are enough time to bring peace to Palestine. The strife between Arab and Jew will be protracted.

Things in China will continue to go from bad to worse, barring big-scale military assistance from outside. That vast country is in a state of chaos.

Taking it all in all, I see no reason why we should be seriously pessimistic over the coming year. We mustn't forget that the world still is suffering grievously from the effects of the most destructive war of history and a quick recovery is impossible. Moreover, we are in the throes of the conflict with an aggressive Communism which derives strength from chaos. Still, the way is getting brighter.

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Independent Hoop League Games To Begin January 20

The Independent basketball teams of the Douglas County League open their season Tuesday, Jan. 20, with two games at the Roseburg Junior High gym, one at Yoncalla and one at Myrtle Creek.

The Sutherland Red and White team battles the team of the Andrus and Hult Lumber Co. of Dillard in the first game on the program at Roseburg. The J. V. R's square off with the Roseburg Elks Club for the second contest of the program. The first tip-off will be at 7:30 Tuesday evening.

At Yoncalla, Sutherland's Pastime Tavern will compete with the Yoncalla Merchants, and the Firmeo Plywood Co. of Myrtle Creek will tangle with the Riddle Active Club's team at Myrtle Creek.

The teams haven't set a schedule as yet. Along with the league games a few tilts are being planned with the Harlem Globetrotters and other Negro quartets, who are very tricky players, if not very powerful.

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