

Korean Landing Difficult Says Gen. Pierce, Ret.

By LEROY INMAN
News-Review City Editor

United States Army occupation forces, diverted at sea with the war's end from a landing on Japan, arrived in Korea with very little advance information on the latter country and what they had was in many ways distorted, according to Brigadier General John T. Pierce, U. S. Army (Ret.), in a talk at the Kiwanis Club luncheon Tuesday noon. He was with the 24th corps, trained for occupation duties.

For centuries Korea had excluded travelers and many who went there were forbidden to leave, said Gen. Pierce, who is now a resident of the Roseburg area. Encyclopedias and references on Korea revealed relatively little information.

When the occupation army landed, he said, the officers and men found a land exploited by harsh rulers or outside forces, and more recently the Japanese. The climate, contrary to advance information, was much milder than expected, but greatly varied because of the geographic conditions. The land is rough, including mountain ranges on either side of the peninsula, and cross-mountain ranges, so that rugged hills can be seen from practically any place one stands.

About the size of Utah or Minnesota, Korea is 500 miles long and 150 miles wide, but supports meagerly its 24,000,000 people. Practically all its land is used for farming, said General Pierce. The mountains are terraced, water is diverted for irrigation, and the hardy race of people, have continued to grow crops twice yearly on most of this land for over 2000 years. As there is very little fertilizer available, human waste is used to a great degree, he said.

The people, themselves, compared to our standards "exist on such a low level it is difficult to see how they manage," according to the general. They live in mud huts and their entire possessions they carry on their backs. Adults wear only a few layers of cotton clothing. Children wear only a shirt until about six years old, when the girls add a skirt and pants. The boys add pants when about eight years old. Nevertheless, the people seem happy, go about their work in warm or cold weather in good spirits.

The children, he said, attend schools in sub-zero weather with few clothes, no heat in the buildings and no windows. The men carry weight on their backs, but the women carry their loads on their heads.

An interpreter obtained the information for him, he said, that a good woman is expected to carry twice her weight atop her head.

Interpretation of the Korean language was one of the greatest hazards. All the interpreters brought with the occupation forces were Japanese or Japanese speaking. The Koreans hold such a different shade to their meanings that a great deal of misunderstanding occurred. Conversation had to be translated

first into Japanese then the meanings conveyed as best the interpreters could into Korean, or the reverse.

For example, said General Pierce, the Koreans interpreted our meaning of trusteeship to be the same as the way the Japanese administered it. This was hardly to their liking.

One of the early problems was the return of some 2,000,000 slave laborers from Japan to Korea and the deportation of approximately 1,000,000 Japanese to their home land. Many of the returned slaves didn't want to return. They had jobs in Japan and an existence, however meager it was. The thought of being turned out on their own did not meet with their approval.

Approximately 70 per cent of Korea's resources were in the north. The Japanese, he said, had exploited the people by bringing them into the cities to operate the mines and factories, but had cleverly placed a Japanese in every key position, so that the Koreans could not continue to operate the plants, even if raw material was available.

When the 38th parallel was decided as the division of Korea in the treaty with Japan, the Americans were not aware in the opinion of General Pierce that the principal industrial wealth was in the north. The Russians, who were to have the north portion, he believes knew this. The result left the American occupation forces, he said, squarely "behind the eight ball." There was plenty of evidence of communistic influence in Korea, he said.

Article on Baker Papers By Miss Katherine Brand In Congressional Journal

Miss Katherine Brand, daughter of Charles A. Brand of this city, has an article entitled "The Personal Papers of Ray Stannard Baker" published in the August issue of the Library of Congress Quarterly Journal of Current Acquisitions.

The magazine is published as a supplement to the Annual Report of the Librarian of Congress. The article concerns the second group of papers of Baker which were presented to the Library of Congress sometime ago.

Miss Brand, a recent visitor in Roseburg, has been associated with the Library of Congress for eight years. Under terms of Baker's will his papers were left to the Library of Congress with the understanding that they be under the personal supervision of Miss Brand for a period of ten years. Miss Brand worked with Baker for several years while he was preparing the eight volume biography of President Woodrow Wilson.

Quadruplets Causing Search for New Home

VERSAILLES, France, Sept. 7.—(AP)—The Dore quadruplets, Jean, Renee, Robert and Jacqueline, are having housing troubles. They can't find a home.

Born Sunday at a clinic near here, the quads are reported "full of life."

One villa requisitioned by the prefect for them was found to be rented and occupied. Now the prefect is looking elsewhere.

The parents have been living in one room.

Yoncalla to Get New Tennis Court

Construction of two modern tennis courts on the Yoncalla grade school grounds will start soon.

At a recent street dance given by the Yoncalla Town and Country Club and the Yoncalla Saddle Club, enough money was raised to purchase cement for the two courts, but donations for form material, the nets, and fencing are needed, sponsors of the project state.

Anyone who can make contributions for these materials or who will assist in building forms or pouring cement should contact Cliff Blee, Sumner Brown, or George Krenkau of Yoncalla. It was added.

Grading and developing of the school grounds is now complete. Further development of the baseball diamond awaits delivery and installation of equipment. The tennis courts were designed to serve a dual purpose. They may be utilized in the winter as a place for children to play, free of mud and water, as well as for tennis.

Rescue of Stranded Seamen Is Planned

SEATTLE, Sept. 7.—(AP)—If wind and waves abate, the coast guard will make a second attempt today to rescue eight men from a beached fishing vessel and two would-be rescuers who swamped trying to take them off a rocky Alaskan beach.

The coast guard identified one of the original party as Karen Devin, 19, nephew of Seattle Mayor William F. Devin.

He and seven companions reached shore safely after their 132-ton barge-type vessel, the Calcedonia, grounded 21 miles north of Cape Spencer, about 80 miles due west of Juneau.

Two coast guardsmen from the cutter Citrus were stranded also when their rubber boat in which they were attempting a rescue was swamped by the heavy seas.

The report said the men are safe and have food and fire. The Citrus said she will make another attempt to jay if the weather calms. If not, the men will be told to travel several miles overland to Dixon bay.

Stassen Challenges Truman's Labor Stand

DETROIT, Sept. 8.—(AP)—Harold E. Stassen asserted Tuesday that President Truman has made an 180-degree turn in his attitude toward labor since Mr. Truman asked authority in 1946 to draft strikers into the Army.

Stassen, here to answer the president's six-speech campaign in Michigan Monday, told a news conference he heard the president's appeal for labor support.

"That speech brought back for me memories of another speech he made to congress on May 25, 1946, when the president asked for the most totalitarian power over labor ever proposed in time of peace," Stassen declared. As the new president of the University of Pennsylvania, Stassen said he will devote most of October to campaigning for Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, the GOP presidential nominee, and Gov. Earl Warren of California, the vice presidential candidate.



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Dorothy Shay

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Bob Wills

Keeper of My Heart
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Texas Tyler

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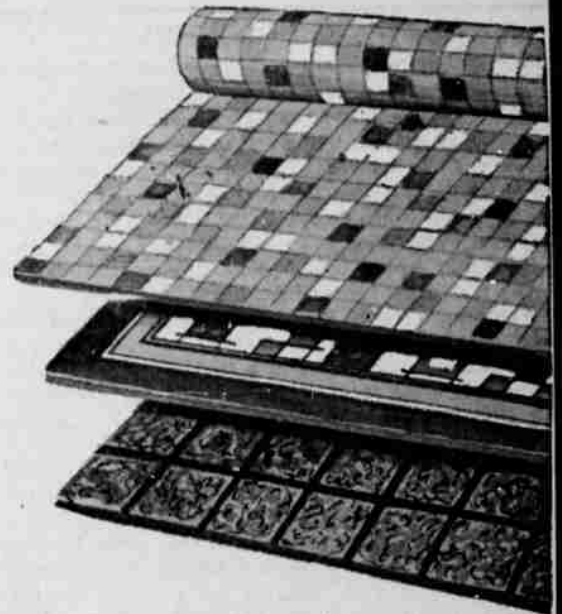
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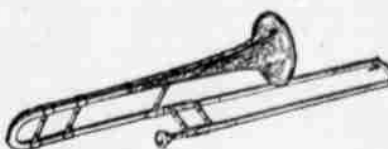
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