

Enjoyment of American Mechanical Devices Aim of Chinese Communists, Confident of Overthrowing Chiang

(Editors Note: Associated Press Correspondent Seymour Topping spent a week behind Chinese Communist lines. He was not allowed to remain nor send any dispatches while there. Here is a delayed dispatch written in Communist territory and filed on his return to government-held Pengpu.)

By SEYMOUR TOPPING
A COMMUNIST ARMY HEADQUARTERS NORTH OF THE HWAI RIVER, China, Jan. 8. — (Delayed) — Chinese Communist soldiers are confidently singing victory songs and talking of the day China will enjoy American mechanical wonders.

Their admiration for things American is summed up in the words of one Communist officer. He told me: "Twenty years after all China is Communist, we shall have automat restaurants."

Enthusiastic about the automat, he described its wonders to me from pictures he had seen.

Communist soldiers showed equally great admiration for American gadget.

On the other hand there was deep resentment indicated for American assistance given the national government. This was particularly true for American-built planes flying overhead. Judging by Communist reactions, the planes are an important morale factor, if not a great combat asset, in favor of the nationalists. No noticeable hostility to me as an individual American was ever demonstrated.

The Red soldiers showed great

curiosity about the United States and the life of its people. Several quoted from their propaganda instruction about the poor in the United States and Jim Crow practices in the south. The Communist soldiers believe American workers solidly support them. One read to me from a Communist newspaper of a worker demonstration in Washington against aid to Chiang-Kai-shek.

The commanding officer of the last Communist unit I visited

OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



THE SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER

wrote in my notebook as a farewell memento. "We would like to fight to the end with our American friends for Democracy, freedom and happiness." He signed his name Tien Wu Chang, without indication of his rank. As I left he said, "Good bye, I will see you in Nanking."

The victory-flushed Communist soldiers on this front, where 250,000 Nationalist troops have been eliminated in the last two months are filled with confidence. But the date they expect to reach the Nationalist capital is far later than the time predicted by most observers in Nanking itself.

Only a few of the Red troops spoke of occupation of Nanking and Nationalist surrender as early as this spring.

Soldiers talk of the Red strategy of encirclement. They believe this will give them Nanking, Shanghai and Hankow without much actual fighting as was the case in other cities like Mukden, Kaileng and Kaigan.

In the area just to the north

there seems little doubt that Communist troops are re-grouping and being re-supplied. Activity in the vicinity of their main railhead at Suchow further indicates they are preparing to resume their offensive and sweep across the Hwai River line north of Nanking.

In dozens of villages dotting these flatlands, Communist soldiers signal the dawn and the beginning of drill sessions by singing in chorus, "On to Nanking and strike down Chiang Kai-shek." In leisure hours while they stomp about fires warming themselves, they sing verses in praise of Communist China and the Soviet Union.

Soldiers, eager for a foreign listener, showed me propaganda leaflets I could not read. They enumerated Communist victories on every front and virtually shouted details of prisoners and booty taken.

One junior Red officer asked me, "Why is it that our troops can defeat Kuomintang (Nationalist) units that out-number

them, have better equipment, and support of airplanes given by your government?"

And he answered his own question, "Because always they don't want to fight."

President of Argentina Asks Forced Citizenship

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 12. — President Juan D. Peron, with the solid backing of his controlling Peronista Party, proposed yesterday that the constitution be amended to compel foreigners to apply for Argentine citizenship after two years residence in this country.

The proposal, which would require those not conforming to leave the country, might provide for exceptions in the final form to be drafted by a constitutional convention opening next week.

Foreign embassies here expressed amazement at the proposal, which was read to the assembled Peronista members by the President himself.

The measure would affect some 30,000 Britons, 4,000 United States citizens and thousands of Latin Americans as well as smaller numbers of persons here from foreign countries.

The delegates cheered the President for 10 minutes after he read them the proposal.

Texas Reburial Denied GI of Mexican Ancestry

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13. — A GI of Mexican ancestry, who has been denied reburial facilities in his home town of Three Rivers, Texas, will be buried with full military honors in Arlington National cemetery.

Senator Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex.) said he arranged for the reburial after he was advised by the American G I Forum in Corpus Christi, Texas, that a Three Rivers funeral home had refused to handle the soldier's remains "solely because of his Mexican ancestry."

The G I, Felix Longoria, died in action on Luzon in the Philippines.

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Vice-President of Teachers Elected

Miss Dorothy Underwood, fourth grade teacher from Oakland, was elected vice-president of the Myrtle Creek Classroom Teachers Association Monday afternoon. She will be in line for the office of president next year. She was also appointed chairman of the grade card committee for the intermediate grades.

Mrs. Esther Winter, new second grade teacher, was introduced by Katherine Aikens, president.

Cooperative committees were appointed to develop objectives for each grade and department. The following high school teachers were named to coordinate upper level objectives with those of the grades: M. R. Barkhurst, Pauline Layne, Ray Karp and Morna Chadwick.

Report of the salary committee by Ray Karp was accepted.

Teachers expressed dissatisfaction with housing accommodations and hopes that an apartment unit for teachers would be built near the school. Present salaries, they claimed, do not permit teachers to compete against those in higher paid professions for high cost housing.

The teachers will have a potluck dinner at the high school Jan. 31. Hugh Simpson is in charge of arrangements.

Bill to Boost Truman's Pay Leaps First Hurdle

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13. — A bill to increase the President's pay from \$75,000 to \$100,000 a year was approved Tuesday by

the Senate Civil Service Committee. Chairman Johnston (D-SC) told reporters he sees no reason why the bill should not be passed by the Senate on Thursday. He said the committee vote for the measure was 10 to 1.

Senator Langer (R-ND) said he cast the dissenting vote.

"I voted against it because a lot of folks are not included in it," Langer said.

The measure gives the President a tax-free expense allow-

ance of \$50,000 in addition to the pay raise. It also raises the pay of the Vice President and the speaker of the House and gives other top officials a salary hike.

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