



JAY O. SORSETH, assistant manager of the J. C. Penney store, was the central figure of the above supper party held by company employees at the store Friday night. Sorseth has been transferred to the company's Fifth and Washington store in Portland. He is shown in the lower picture, on left, receiving a huge cake from Manager Bruce Elliott. Shown also in the lower picture are Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Hamm at left and Mrs. Sorseth seated at right. (Paul Jenkins picture)

Four Enterprise Business Houses Razed By Flames

ENTERPRISE, Ore., Jan. 5.—(AP)—Fire wiped out four business houses here Wednesday as firemen from three towns battled the flames, their clothing sheathed in ice.

The fire broke out at 6 a. m., apparently in the Duff cold storage plant, firemen said. Not until nearly noon was the fire brought under control.

An ammonia tank exploded and the flames spread swiftly through the plant and lockers, swept into the Rich shoe shop in the front of the cold storage building, then ate swiftly through into the adjoining Harman and Dodgen hardware store and Jim's Steak House, owned by James Coyle.

Fire departments from Lostine and Joseph answered the local department's call for help.

A light snow was falling and the temperature was about 5 degrees as the firemen sought to bring the flames under control. Although the frame buildings covering about a quarter of a block on the north side of Main street across from the Enterprise hotel were doomed, the Economy Drug store with apartments above was saved. Its stone walls aided in halting the fire.

"national front" ideology to West Germany.

Pleck, according to the Soviet-licensed ADN news agency, asserted in a special message that an all-German Congress should be held—preferable in West Germany—to that end.

Analyst Reviews East-West 'Cold War' For Year 1949

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON—(AP)—In reviews of 1949 great emphasis is put on this fact: Another year gone and still peace in the world. That's something, although no one really expected war this year. And, so long as there's peace, there's always this hope:

If, year after year, peace can be maintained, maybe, somehow, someday, things will straighten out and there'll be no war.

Nevertheless, 1949 was a year of maneuvering, of getting ready for that time when—or if—the showdown comes.

In world affairs the United States made some gains, suffered some losses.

As possessor of the atom bomb, the U.S. had a great psychological advantage over its potential foe, Russia, in the eyes of the world.

It had lost that advantage by Sept. 23, when President Truman announced there was evidence of an atomic explosion in Russia. Reds Take China.

And the U.S., heading the drive to stop Communism, suffered another blow, psychological and actual, when the Communists took over China.

This means that Communists now control most of Asia and eastern Europe, with 731,000,000

of the world's 2,264,000,000 people now living under communism.

There's no reason to believe that now, having gobbled up most of Asia, the Communists won't try to grab the rest. That try may be one of the most critical moves of 1950. If not in 1950, then later.

On the other hand the U.S. tied itself closer to western Europe by signing the Atlantic pact with its allies there and promising them plenty of arms to stand off a Russia attack.

Both these moves, by solidifying the west a little more, strengthened it in its effort to halt Communism. I meant, really, a U.S. promise to go to war if Russia attacked western Europe.

And the Marshall plan for helping Europe economically was doing some good, for European production was rising although European trade was still not as high as it might be.

And the west gained when Marshall Tito of Yugoslavia broke with Stalin and the Russians. It was the first break in the hitherto solid front of communism.

The west has promised to help Tito and one of its main hopes and policies for the future is to encourage other Titos in other communist lands to throw off the Russian yoke.

When 1949 started Germany was still split into two sections: The eastern part run by the Russians, the western part by the United States, Britain and France.

The west was still sending in supplies to its sections of Berlin by airlift, since the Russians—in whose section of Germany Berlin lies—had cut off all land supplies.

West, Russia Bargain Finally the West and Russia made a deal, the blockade was lifted, and the airlift ended. But this didn't end the struggle for

Germany between east and west.

Before the year's end the west had set up a German government in the west, and the Russians had set up another German government in the east. So the problem of Germany was still a total mess.

Yet, both sides want a united Germany—but for opposite reasons: The west wants a Germany that will lean toward the west, the Russians want it to lean to Russia. That's still unfinished business.

As for the United Nations: It's greatest problem, trying to set up atomic control on a world scale, came to nothing.

So the year ended with the cold war still the cold war and the west and east still jockeying for position just in case, when and if.

Multiple dam projects along lines somewhat similar to the Tennessee Valley Authority have been started or planned in Afghanistan, Australia, Brazil, Ceylon, India, Mexico, Norway, Portugal and Yugoslavia.

Chinese Reds Hold U.S. Pilot Downed Dec. 4

HONGKONG, Jan. 5. — (AP) — Chinese Communists are holding the American pilot of a Chinese airliner forced down in Red territory Dec. 4.

A spokesman for the Central Air Transport corp. reported he learned the pilot, James McGovern of Asbury Park, N. M., and his two Chinese crew members were safe and well.

The air line is attempting to arrange for their release.

Wreckage of McGovern's plane was spotted recently by another CATC plane. Aerial observation showed it made a belly landing on a river sandbar about 200 miles northeast of Pakhoi, on the Kwangsi coast.

Davis dam on the Colorado river is expected to back up water to the foot of Hoover dam.

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U. S. Commissioner Bids Soviet To Make Offer For Uniting Germany

BERLIN, Jan. 4.—(AP)—U. S. high commissioner John J. McCloy has indirectly invited the Russians to make "a bona fide offer" toward uniting Germany.

"We are prepared at any time to hold free elections for all Germany, if a bona fide offer is made by the Russians," McCloy told his first news conference of the new year.

The commissioner indicated, however, that he is not very hopeful of East-West agreement on such a large scale for 1950.

He asserted that there have been "no signs of any feelers" from the Russians for four-power talks on either political or economic unity.

Four-power parleys have been non-existent since the West German government at Bonn became a reality and the Soviet zone set up its rival Communist regime.

McCloy declared the West is keeping open at all times a standing offer for "free elections" in both Berlin and in all Germany.

"We are quite prepared to risk elections," he said with a smile. The Russians set up their east zone government without changing a popular ballot at a time when the Germans linked the Communists with the Soviet

blockade of Berlin and anti-Communist feeling was expressed every time the public had an opportunity.

McCloy expressed the hope that Congress would approve European recovery funds for Germany without wounding too sharp a paring knife.

"If a major cut was voted, the effect would be felt here because I suppose Germany would have to take its share of the cut," he said. "If it would be a considerable cut, it would be most unfortunate at a time when we are just getting into the full vigor of the program."

Meantime President Wilhelm Pleck of the East German Communist government said on its 74th birthday an effort would be made this year to extend his

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