

Draft Methods Of Army Assailed By Congressman

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Rep. Thomas B. Curtis (R-Mo.) has requested an investigation of the Army's draft methods in protest to the induction of "an ordinary citizen who had a broken back" while baseball star Mickey Mantle was rejected.

Curtis said he had asked for an inquiry into the "consistency" of the Army's system in a letter to Secretary of the Army Frank Pace Jr.

The Missouri congressman did not identify the inductee who had suffered the back injury other than to say he was a St. Louis man drafted last January and now serving at a New Jersey Army base. And while referring to much publicized Mantle case, Curtis said he was not criticizing the young New York Yankee center-fielder.

"He probably took his chances with the draft like anybody else," said Curtis.

The 21-year-old Mantle was rejected only recently after a long series of draft examinations. He was found to have a chronic knee injury.

Mantle is married and is supporting his widowed mother, three brothers and a sister.

Another Case Cited

Curtis said that since requesting the inquiry he had learned of another St. Louis draftee who was accepted by the Army although he had suffered a permanent head injury. The Army explained "it could fit the man in" in both cases, Curtis said.

"If the Army says it can fit in such men," demanded Curtis, "why can't it fit in men like Mantle?"

Curtis said the army already had answered one of his queries concerning the soldier with the injured back. The man's medical history already had been reviewed, Curtis said and showed "only minimal X-ray changes due to old healed fractures of three vertebrae."

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Lack Of Money, Manpower Chief Problems In U. S. Defense Plans

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NA) — Money and manpower are the two big military questions which will be dumped in the new President's lap almost immediately after election. As usual, money is considered the most important, because there has to be money before there can be manpower.

On the money angle, this year's military budget is \$32 billion in round numbers, including \$6 billion for foreign aid. The \$46 billion U.S. defense budget is divided roughly \$12 billion Army, \$13 billion Navy and \$21 billion Air Force.

There have been hints—principally from Rep. George Mahon of Texas, chairman of the House Military Appropriations Subcommittee—that next year's budget would be about \$10 billion less than this year's. Where these cuts might be made has not been indicated.

The new budget must be submitted to Congress by President Truman before the new President is inaugurated. This is why it is necessary to have the new Secretary of Defense chosen immediately, so that he can sit in on final military budget revision.

But if the Truman administration is already planning to cut the budget by \$10 billion, it may not leave the new administration much room for deeper cuts, no matter how ambitious the new President may be on economizing.

U. S. defense goals are expected to remain unchanged, no matter how much budget slashing is recommended. These goals include 21 Army divisions, 400 combat ships on active duty and an ultimate Air Force of 143 wings. It is not believed that foreign aid can be cut back much until European and Asian military forces are built up sufficiently for their own countries' defense.

Reorganization of the armed services by efficiency experts has been tried before and will be tried again. One big study now going on concerns manpower utilization. It is being made by a newly created Citizens Advisory Commission headed by David Sarnoff. This commission will report to the new Secretary of Defense in January.

The commission's aim will be to determine if the armed services are wasting manpower and to make recommendations on how more defense can be provided with fewer people.

Too Many Desk Jobs

The present congressional ceiling for the armed services is 3.5 million men. There are 1.2 million Department of Defense employees in administrative, clerical, arsenal

and supply work. This is a ratio of one non-combat to three combat jobs, which is considered "way too high."

The really big manpower problem of the armed services comes in replacements for the armed services. Over 100,000 men are completing their two-year tours of duty every month. Army Secretary Frank Pace estimates 10 million men will be needed by the armed services in the foreseeable future—taken to mean 10 years.

How these men are to be recruited—by draft, by universal military training or a combination of both—is a fundamental policy decision for the new President.

Creation of a permanent military staff for the Secretary of Defense and the reorganization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to separate command and planning responsibilities, are hot topics for Pentagon discussion at this time.

Foreign aid programs will be reviewed at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization meeting in Paris in December. In this connection, two important international agreements will have to be approved by Congress to give Americans overseas exemption from foreign taxes and customs duty.

For carrying on the Korean war, there will probably be a big deficiency appropriation request for the new Congress.

County Opens Account At U. S. National Bank

The county is opening a savings account at the U. S. National Bank. A resolution adopted by the County Court and filed Wednesday accepts the bank's offer for a "time deposit - open account."

Funds in excess of the county's current needs will be deposited in the account. The interest rate is 1 1/2 percent.

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FDR's Attempt To Keep Poland Anti-Red Told

WASHINGTON (AP) — House investigators brought out secret documents Wednesday showing that President Roosevelt failed in a special plea to Stalin in 1943 to prevent the creation of the present pro-Communist government of Poland.

Roosevelt and the British attempted to dissuade Stalin from completely breaking relations with the Polish government in exile in London.

Poles Anger Stalin

Russia broke off relations during a furor over discovery of the bodies of 15,000 Polish officers in the Katyn Forest of Western Russia.

A special House committee investigating the deaths has blamed Russia, despite Moscow's contention the massacre was committed by the Nazis.

The committee produced the State Department documents re-

lating to the Stalin-Roosevelt exchange during an open hearing to support a contention that the diplomatic break was part of a detailed Russian plan to Sovietize Poland.

The break was announced April 26, 1943.

Two days before, Stalin sent a personal and confidential note to President Roosevelt, the document revealed, saying he could no longer countenance the "abnormal" conduct of the Polish government.

Roosevelt replied April 26 asking Stalin to term his action a "suspension of conversations with the Polish government in exile" rather than a complete diplomatic break.

The President offered to give sanctuary to any Poles Russia cared to deport, and said he was confident British Prime Minister Churchill could persuade the Polish government in exile to act with

"more common sense in the future."

German officials had just announced discovery of the Katyn graves, and Polish authorities were blaming the Russians for the murders.

Stalin said the Poles thereby were supporting the "campaign of calumny" and the "vile Fascist slander of the Soviet Union" by the Hitler regime.

Two Million-Man Army Asked By South Koreans

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. (AP) — South Korea's U. N. delegation Wednesday urged creation of a two-million-man South Korean army to take over the main burden of opposing the Communist aggressors.

The South Koreans also repeated their opposition to a truce and in-

sisted they would continue to press for the incorporation of all Korea under their own regime.

These declarations were contained in a booklet distributed to the U. N. delegations.

The statement said the Syngman Rhee government was eager to expand its armed forces, but must have "substantial aid from our Allies."

David Clements, Former Roseburg Resident, Dies

David Clements, formerly of Roseburg, died Wednesday at Jennings Lodge, Ore., according to word received here.

He would have been 92 next month. Services will be held at Oregon City Friday. In 1887 Clements was married to Emma Singleton, sister of Walter Singleton of Roseburg.

Japan Asks Parole For War Criminals


TOKYO (AP) — Japan's foreign office revealed Wednesday it has asked ten World War II allied nations to parole the 12 remaining Japanese major war criminals this month.

The 12, serving sentences in Sugamo Prison, Tokyo, are the remainder of 25 major war criminals convicted at the International War Crimes Tribunal of the Far East in 1948.

In addition to the 12 still in prison, seven were hanged in 1948, five died of sickness, and one—Mamoru Shigemitsu—was released at the end of his sentence.

The 12 for whom November parole has been asked include two former war ministers, Sado Araki and Jiro Minami, and former ambassador to Nazi Germany Hiroshi Oshima.

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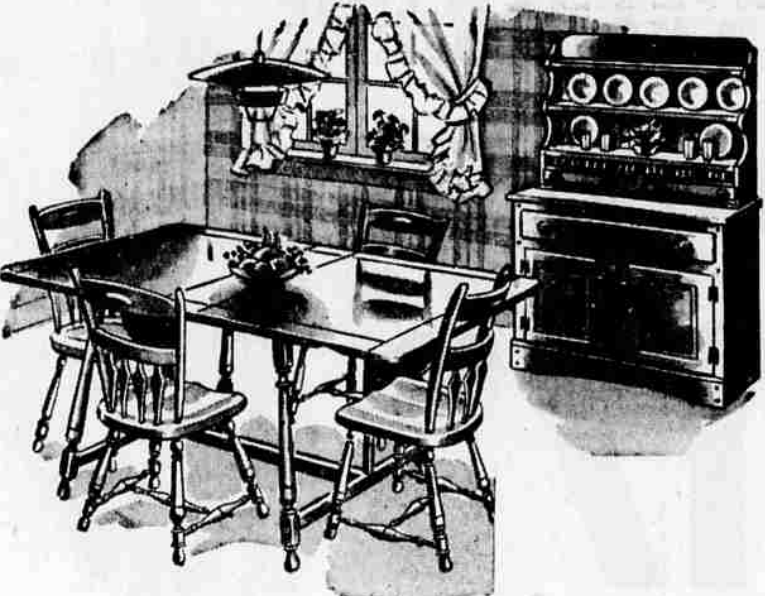
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