

Build-up Speeded for Fighting Forces; Several Combat Units Readied for Trip to Far East

By Elton C. Fay
WASHINGTON, July 9 (AP)—The build-up of fighting forces for the Korean campaign began rolling faster today with announcement that the second infantry division and other combat units are being readied to move to the Far East in the "near future."

As of this morning, alerts to get ready for overseas had been issued to:

The second infantry division, with headquarters at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Antiaircraft units from the fourth army headquarters at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and from the sixth army, headquarters at San Francisco.

Units of unidentified nature from the second army area, Baltimore, and the third army area, Fort McPherson, near Atlanta.

The first marine division, with its aviation outfit, is waiting to sail from the west coast.

There seemed some reason to believe that the second infantry division might be destined for Japan to replace the 24th division. The defense department still held in abeyance the power President Truman gave it on Friday to draft men if necessary. How soon it might use that power depended upon how fast reservists and new recruits needed the urgent invitation to don uniforms.

The second infantry division alerted for movement is a battle-tested outfit with a brilliant record in Europe during World War II. Its commander is Maj. Gen. Laurence B. Keiser, 55, veteran of the China theatre and West Point graduate of 33 years ago.

Its wartime commander was Maj. Gen. Walter M. Robertson, recently retired.

The second landed on Omaha beachhead in France on D day and fought on until the German surrender. The only time it was not in contact with the enemy was after it had captured Cherbourg. Then it was moved across France into the line.

This division helped pave the way for the breakthrough of General George Patton at St. Lo. It was hit by the Germans at the battle of the Bulge and was partially enveloped but it efficiently withdrew and held for 72 hours while three German divisions vainly battered at it.

PORT LEWIS, Wash., July 9 (AP)—Leaves were cancelled today for all troops of the second infantry division within minutes of the time it was alerted for transfer to the Far East.

Maj. Gen. Laurence B. Keiser, division commander, ordered all officers and enlisted men on leave to return to Fort Lewis by the fastest possible means.

There was no indication when the division would leave the Pacific northwest, but preparations already were in high gear by mid-day.

The division now has about 15,000 men. Of these, only 82 were with the outfit in its wartime drive across France and into Germany. One holds the Congressional Medal of Honor.

However, division leaders said today it "could be expected" that the unit would be at full combat strength of 18,901 when it heads for the Orient and Gen. Douglas MacArthur's command. At top strength, the division would include 17,889 enlisted men, 938 officers and 164 warrant officers.

Refugees Win Big Vote But Not Election

KIEL, Germany, Monday, July 10 (AP)—East German refugees established themselves today as a political force in an election in this West German state of Schleswig-Holstein. However, they fell far short of their ambitious bid for domination of the state parliament.

Nearly complete returns from yesterday's balloting showed the new refugee party had received about a fourth of the total vote. Members had hoped for nearly half the ballots in an election watched throughout the country as an indication of whether West Germany's 10,000,000 discontented emigrants from the east can become a potent political group.

Though they missed their goal, the refugees cut deeply into the strength of the established political parties and made themselves a factor to be reckoned with in the 69-member state parliament. They conceivably could force their way into a coalition government.

Schleswig-Holstein is in the British occupation zone and borders on Denmark.

The leftwing social democratic party, which has governed the state for several years, lost its parliamentary majority, receiving less than a third of the votes.

A rightwing block of three parties — Christian democrats, free democrats, and the German party — moved into first place by pooling their forces.

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Saturday. With Mrs. McPherson were four other widows of crewmen killed in the C-54 crash. They had resided in Japan.

Mrs. McPherson said her husband, Bill, and other men worked 24 hours a day flying transports to Korea.

"The women," she said, "pitched in, giving them lunches and coffee."

The moment the huge plane arrived from Honolulu, the 19 were hustled to the base hospital for immunization against smallpox. Most of them were exposed to the disease on a freighter bringing them from Korea to Japan.

Four Red Cross Grey ladies met the group. Most were reluctant to talk, indicated great fatigue. All were weeping as they disembarked.

Mrs. McPherson said that on the trip from Japan "there were 30 women and 39 children aboard and most of them crying."

Of the shooting in Korea, she said: "Before he left, Bill said he didn't think the war would get any farther than Korea."

The flight was the first of the military's proposed trans-Pacific air lift "operation Raven" that will shuttle high-priority personnel and materiel into Japan and bring out some 700 women and children. The latter will be either evacuees from Korea or those who wish to return home from Japan.

"Operation Raven" will be directed by the military air transport command. The shuttle hops will employ planes and crews from seven commercial airlines—Pan-American, Transocean, Northwest, Seaboard and Western, the Flying Tigers airline, and Overseas National.

CANNERY STRIKE ENDS
SEATTLE, July 9 (AP)—An AFL union attorney said here tonight a five-day strike of more than 1,000 resident cannery workers in southeast Alaska had been ended by a contract agreement reached at Sitka.

Northwestern Area Defenses Said Adequate

SEATTLE, July 9 (AP)—Pacific Northwest defenses are manned strongly enough for any emergency, Senator Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.) told the King county democratic club Saturday.

And the best information available in Washington, D. C., is that the Korean fighting won't spread into a general conflict, he added. "Within minutes of the coast are several squadrons of the nation's finest fighter planes," Magnuson said. "And in Alaska, the world's finest radar screen is operating to detect any possible advance of enemy airplanes."

A lot of the Pacific Northwest radar screen has had a No. 1 priority for months to replace former equipment with the most up-to-date radar, he added.

The senator said he would press for an additional defensive measure: Legislation to enable the president to use the FBI to tighten security measures along waterfronts and inspect foreign vessels before they enter American harbors.

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Red 'Brigades' Set for Korea, Paper Claims

BERLIN, July 9 (AP)—A West Berlin anticommunist newspaper claimed today that Soviet satellite countries were planning to recruit "international brigades" to fight with the communists in the Korean war.

At the same time, the Soviet army's official newspaper here, Taegliche Rundschau, hinted at some kind of intervention on behalf of the North Korean communists by what it called the "world-girdling peace front."

Rundschau said "the peace front stands solidly behind the fighting Korean people and it is now no longer dealing with resolutions but is going over to active deeds in line with its unshakable decisions."

The Soviet paper did not elaborate on what these "active deeds" were but indicated that one of the communists' aims was to sabotage arms shipments to United Nations forces in Korea.

Korean War Widows Back In United States

FAIRFIELD - SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, Calif., July 9 (AP)—The young widow of the C-54 pilot whose plane crashed on a Korean slope last week described here how American womenfolk helped their husbands during the rush of troops to Korea.

The woman, Mrs. Naomi L. McPherson, 24, of Ada, Okla., was aboard a Pan American Clipper that brought 20 women and children evacuees of the Korean war to this northern California base.

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