

# A-Bomb Use in Korea Hinted by Truman

## Britain's Attlee To Come to U.S. For Crisis Talk

LONDON, Nov. 30-(AP)—Prime Minister Attlee declared tonight that Britain wants fullest consultation before a decision is reached on use of the atomic bomb on behalf of the United Nations in the Korean war.

### To Visit U.S.



CLEMENT ATLEE A Grave Decision

Attlee announced to a cheering house of commons that he will go to the United States for talks with President Truman on critical world problems.

In reference to use of the A-bomb, most dreadful weapon of modern warfare, Attlee said: "The British government considers that a decision of such gravity could not be taken on behalf of the United Nations without fullest prior consultation with those member states who are at present participating in the international police action."

Attlee's announcement that he had written a letter to Mr. Truman proposing a visit came a few hours after the president said in Washington the United States was considering use of the A-bomb. A short time after Attlee concluded a two-day commons debate on foreign affairs he had word from Washington that Mr. Truman would be happy to see him.

Attlee's official spokesman said the prime minister needed at least 48 hours to prepare for the trip. Under such a schedule he could leave here Saturday night by plane and arrive in the U. S. on Sunday. His last visit to the U. S. was made on Nov. 9, 1948. World relations in light of atomic development was the prime subject of that meeting.

Attlee expressed hope that the Chinese communists might be willing to negotiate a peace in Korea, and recalled that Britain had suggested a buffer zone along the Korean-Manchurian frontier.

Attlee said that idea might form part of the negotiations with the Reds. Britons of all political faiths have long expressed the fear they had become junior partners in the alliance with the U. S. and were not being adequately consulted.

Conservative leader Anthony Eden suggested yesterday talks at highest possible levels with the United States so that Britain's views could be more weightily presented.

Against this background, Attlee's declaration that "I shall lose no time in going over to the United States" brought a unanimity to commons not seen since the wartime coalition government.

Before his statement in commons, Attlee had met with Winston Churchill and Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin. The president's remarks apparently were the reason for the meeting.

British officials privately expressed regret that Mr. Truman had discussed at this time possible use of the A-bomb against the Chinese Reds. More than 100 labor MPs signed a letter to Attlee expressing their anxiety.

Churchill, leader of the opposition to the labor government, declared in commons earlier that every effort should be made to bring about a secret, high level, big-four meeting soon to ease world tension.

General MacArthur now is the target of criticism for the crushing defeat, which his eighth army has suffered. He took a great risk when he launched his end-the-war offensive which was stalled in four days and thrown back on its heels in a week. This gamble failed, whereas the other great gamble, the Inchon landing, succeeded.

MacArthur has to bear the burden of defeat, the same as others have in history and as he has on occasion in the past.

From a military standpoint swift action was called for to complete the liberation of Korea. Foreign critics now say that MacArthur should have awaited a political decision. It is doubtful if any such suggestions, let alone orders, were given MacArthur; and there is no indication that delay would have resulted in a decision by diplomacy.

(Continued on editorial page 4)

# The Oregon Statesman

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## U.S. Eighth Mans New Defense Line

## Russ Veto Order to Withdraw Chinese

### Quick Action Expected in U.N. Assembly

LAKE SUCCESS, Nov. 30-(AP)—A Soviet veto today killed a six-power demand in the security council for the Chinese communist troops to withdraw from the Korean battle.

The western powers are expected to press for quick U. N. action against the Chinese Reds in the veto-free general assembly under U. S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson's anti-aggression plan.

U. S. sources said the assembly probably would be asked to act on Monday.

Dispute on Veto Count There was some dispute among U. N. officials whether the veto cast today by Jacob A. Malik was Russia's 47th or 49th. Some authorities said that Malik cast three separate vetoes by voting against the two sections of the resolution, and then voting against the entire proposal.

Others argue that the vote against the measure as a whole was the one that counted.

Before voting on the six-power resolution, the council rejected a Soviet-sponsored Chinese communist demand for U. S. troops to withdraw from Korea and Formosa.

Russia cast the lone favorable vote. Nine were against and India did not participate.

Acheson's plan empowers the general assembly to recommend that member nations contribute fighting forces to halt aggression, but it remained to be seen whether the assembly would do that far.

May Limit to Appeal The 60-nation body might limit its first action to an appeal to the Chinese Reds to withdraw from Korea or face world-wide condemnation as aggressors.

Malik cast the veto in the security council after the Chinese communist representative Wu Hsiu-chaun bluntly told U. S. Delegate Warren R. Austin: "I must tell you, your threats do not frighten anyone."

Wu referred to Austin's warning yesterday that the Chinese risk a third world war in their big Korean offensive.

The stony-faced communist delegate also rejected a last-minute appeal by Britain's Sir Gladwyn Jebb.

"Before the Peiping government makes any irrevocable decision, I would ask them to think many times," Jebb said quietly. "Passion is a bad counsellor; advice from interested sources may be a worse counsellor still."

Yugoslavia's Ales Bebler spoke in support of the six-power demand, but he also suggested that the Chinese Reds and the western powers might work out a compromise solution on Korea if they got together to talk over the question of Formosa.

### French Troops Retake Key Post

HANOI, Indochina, Nov. 30-(AP)—French troops have retaken Chu Phai San, a key post in the defense of Moncahy, after a bitter week-long struggle, it was officially reported tonight.

French units opened a counter-attack Monday in a determined effort to recapture the semi-demolished post, 20 miles from the coastal frontier fortress of Moncahy. After violent combat with Vietminh forces, the tricolor was hoisted over the post Tuesday night.

## Winds Flatten Power Poles in Upper Valley; Linn Towns Catch Full Fury

By the Associated Press Winds that flattened power poles and blew down trees in Oregon yesterday diminished last night and the weather bureau forecast only moderate winds for today.

The storm, moving in from the Pacific, brought heavy rain to portions of western Oregon and snow to Washington and eastern Oregon.

The wind hit 52 miles an hour in gusts yesterday in the Willamette valley where power poles were toppled and power service disrupted over a wide area.

The heavy blow, which struck the valley about 6:30 a. m., knocked

down four power poles on the 66,000-volt Mountain States Power company feeder line between Cottage Grove and Albany.

Power interruptions at Albany ranged from 15 minutes to more than an hour and Sweet Home was entirely without power for an hour.

Lebanon was blacked out, too, and had to get emergency power from the Cascade Plywood plant. But this did not include power for the electric pumps that bring water into the city's mains.

A fire department pumper put hoses into a canal, hooked into hydrants and forced water into

the mains, restoring water pressure.

The storm idled loggers in the Lebanon area. They were ordered out of the woods as a protection against falling limbs.

A 34-mile-an-hour wind blew down a tree at Roseburg. It fell between two houses, causing no damage. Street crews were kept busy cleaning up broken branches and debris.

River Forecaster Elmer Fisher said in Portland moderate rises in the Santiam and other Willamette river tributaries could be expected, but that there would be no flooding.

## Bonus, School Bill to Carry Sales Tax Bid

Bills providing for amendment of the soldiers bonus and school fund support laws, approved by the voters at the last general election, so the cost would be liquidated through a sales tax, will be introduced at the 1951 legislative session.

State Sen. Rex Ellis, Umatilla county, said the bills were being prepared in Salem and would be ready to introduce early in the legislative session.

They will be so phrased, Ellis said, that any referendum, if approved by the voters, would wipe out both the bonus and school support fund laws.

Ellis said it was imperative that some provision would have to be made by the legislature for covering the cost of these laws and a sales tax appeared the most feasible at this time. The Umatilla senator said he had discussed his proposed amendments with several legislators in different parts of the state.

## Third Oldest Civil War Vet Dies in Oregon

OREGON CITY, Nov. 30-(AP)—The nation's third oldest Union veteran of the Civil War died at a nursing home here today.

He was Michael J. Thralls, 106, who served as a private in Company C, 57th Indiana infantry and 4th V.R.C.

Thralls, born Jan. 16, 1844, was released from the veterans hospital at Portland Monday after treatment for pneumonia.

His death cut the ranks of the GAR survivors to 14. Oldest survivors, according to pension records, are James Hard, 109, Rochester, N. Y., and James W. Smith, 107, Lebanon, Ore.

There are 21 surviving Confederate veterans.

## A-Bomb Suggested By Korean President

SEOUL, Korea, Friday, Dec. 1-(AP)—Syngman Rhee, president of the Republic of Korea, suggested today that "old style" atom bombs might be used in North Korea after warning the Chinese communists to withdraw.

Rhee said in an interview that he had been considering appealing to President Truman for use of the atom bomb. "Old style atom bombs could be dropped in North Korea after warning the people to evacuate south," he said.

## Air Force Mum On Atomic Bomb Delivery Query

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30-(AP)—The air force declined today to say how quickly it could deliver an atomic bomb if called upon to do so.

How quickly such a bomb could be dropped on a target in North Korea or Manchuria depends largely whether or not the U. S. keeps any A-bombs in the far east. This is a secret, which responsible officials will not discuss publicly.

Air force officials said that the strategic air command, which is based in the United States and also has bombers in England, is maintained in a state of instant readiness. One of its huge B-36 bombers could fly directly from the United States to Korea in about 24 hours.

## 10 Christmas Shoppers Die In Store Fire

HALIFAX, N. S., Nov. 30-(AP)—Firemen dug the bodies of 10 Christmas shoppers and clerks tonight from the smoldering ruins of a department store gutted by a \$500,000 fire.

Firemen still were searching the debris of the four-story building on downtown Barrington street for additional victims.

The fire, said to be the city's worst since 1929, was reported to have started when a window dresser was setting up an electrical yuletide greeting. Moments later a sheet of flame enveloped the front of the 57-year-old building. Soon after an explosion from within the building shattered glass over the street.

A spokesman for the fire marshal's office said the building had no rear door and no sprinkler system.

The fire burned for six hours before it was quelled.

Authorities believe about 30 persons were in the store (Kays, Ltd.) when a display window burst into flames. The fire spread quickly and cut off the main entrance.

Ronald Mulholland, 16, led five persons to safety by leading them to a roof over an adjoining building.

## President Signals Swift Buildup of American Military Strength; Civilian Economy Cuts Due

By Roger D. Greene WASHINGTON, Nov. 30-(AP)—President Truman today signalled a swift and mighty buildup of American military strength—more A-bombs, men and weapons—and his chief home front aid said all elements of the civilian economy will be "hurt."

Mr. Truman told his news conference he will ask Congress immediately for "large" funds to bolster the army, navy and air force and to speed the work of the atomic energy commission.

That work concerns the production of atomic bombs and the development of the so-called hydrogen "shell" bomb.

Chairman W. Stuart Symington of the national security resources board said the impending speed-up will mark a shift from "light gray" to "dark gray" mobilization. It was he who said all civilian elements will feel the pinch.

At his press conference, Mr. Truman said the question of all-out mobilization on the home front—presumably included wage-price controls and other curbs on inflation—is now under careful study.

On Capitol Hill, Chairman Maybank (D-S.C.) of the senate banking committee quoted a high administration official as saying that the subject of wage and price controls is under "active consideration."

## Bridge Rites Dates Set for December 16

The new Willamette river bridge at Independence will be ready for traffic, and virtually complete, in time for dedication rites tentatively set for December 16 or 17.

The dates were the subject of a meeting of representatives from Salem, Independence and other affected communities. The actual date is to be fixed by Clay Cochran, Salem Commerce and Commerce manager, and Mike Walker of Independence, dependent upon when Gov. Douglas McKay and members of the state highway commission can attend.

Details of the program have not been worked out.

Queried as to possible improvement of the Salem-Independence highway leading to the new span, Marion County Judge Murphy reiterated that the project was next on the county's program for any state or federal aid. He said it could not be done without such help.

## U.S. Casualty Total in Korea Up to 31,028

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30-(AP)—Total announced American casualties in the Korea war mounted to 31,028 today. A single week's combat added 1,032 to the list.

The defense department's summary of U. S. losses included all casualties where the next of kin had been notified through Nov. 24. In some cases there is a lag of several weeks before the death, wounding or capture of a serviceman can be verified and relatives notified.

The list showed 5,307 deaths, 21,114 wounded and an overall total of 4,611 missing. In the latter category, four have been definitely ascertained to be dead, but are listed under both dead and missing.

The British Commonwealth Middlesex battalion battled Chinese east of the escape road, helping the second's elements to move south. Then the battalion pulled back to the new defense line.

The U. S. first cavalry division deployed north and east of Suncheon, seeking to prevent the Reds from turning that flank of the new line. A red smash through that same east flank last Saturday night at Tokchon had forced the eighth army to retreat more than 40 miles.

Maj. Gen. Edward M. Almond, commander of the U. S. tenth corps, said the fresh regiment of the northeast front was powered by "probably eight to ten" divisions, including elements of three Chinese armies.

## WAR INSURANCE ASKED

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30-(AP)—Legislation to reestablish the war damage corporation to provide insurance against property damage and loss from enemy bombings of U. S. territory was introduced today by Rep. McKinnon (D-Calif.).

## Planes Spill Fire Bombs on Surging Reds

SEOUL, Friday, Dec. 1-(AP)—The U. S. eighth army, pulled back 40 miles in northwest Korea, manned a new defense line today while the air force went all-out in efforts to shatter the oncoming Chinese columns.

The eighth army, safely across the Chongchon river, dug in 30 miles north of Pyongyang. North of that line, planes of all categories blasted red concentrations and convoys.

An air force summary said planes inflicted 1,300 red casualties with rockets, jelled gasoline and high-explosive bombs.

Planes also spilled fire bombs on red forces ringing elements of U. S. marines and infantrymen in northeast Korea.

Heavy Air Assaults Carrier-based navy and marine planes and land-based fighters and bombers loosed the heaviest concentrated air assaults since early September.

Many of a red force of 500 were cut down by rockets and fire bombs while trying to cross the icy Chongchon near Anju, in northwest Korea.

The bulk of the 110,000-man eighth army successfully eluded a red trap and pulled back across the Chongchon. Elements of the U. S. 24th infantry division were the last to get back—after which the river bridges were blown.

In northeast Korea, more thousands of Chinese Reds snapped traps on U. S. soldiers and marines in the Changjin reservoir area. The Americans fought back hard in efforts to break out and to clear road blocks on their main supply route.

Lull Aids Defenses An abrupt lull in northwest Korea enabled Americans, Turks, British and South Koreans of the eighth army to organize a new defense line running east and west through Sunchon, 80 miles south of the Chongchon river. Sunchon is 30 miles north of Pyongyang, the former North Korean capital.

One of the 14 Chinese divisions in action in the northwest was observed by airmen moving southward near Samsu, 11 miles north of Sunchon.

Escaping elements still were moving south from the Chongchon. One of the ninth regiment of the U. S. second division, had to fight its way through a communist road block.

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## No Order Yet Given On Bomb

WASHINGTON, Nov. 30-(AP) President Truman said today the United States will fight on in Korea with every means at its disposal, including the atom bomb if necessary—to keep Red aggression from spreading to American shores.

With the exasperated air of a man near the limit of patience, Mr. Truman said this country has made every possible effort to head off a third world war.

He said these efforts will continue and he hopes they will succeed.

But he declared in a formal statement that "we are fighting in Korea for our own national security and survival," and he told a tense, crowded news conference we will use every weapon that is needed.

That includes the atom bomb, the president said crisply in answer to a newsmen's question.

And thus he touched off a flurry of confusion that didn't end until the White House, three hours later, issued a statement saying the use of the bomb has not been authorized so far and that the president's comments "do not represent any change in this situation."

Mr. Truman said, and repeated, in answer to questions hurled by some of the 208 reporters present, that the use of the A-bomb in Korea always has been under active consideration.

In a voice charged with emotion, he said he doesn't want to see it used. It's a terrible weapon, he said—one that doesn't spare innocent men, women and children.

Asked if the use of the bomb would depend on United Nations permission, the president said no, he didn't mean that at all. He said the military commander in the field—Gen. Douglas MacArthur—will have charge of using all weapons, as he always has.

This remark, which seemed at first to mean that MacArthur would have the say on whether to use the bomb, led British officials in London to express shock and astonishment. MacArthur's political judgment has been questioned in some British quarters in recent days.

The White House statement made it clear, however, that MacArthur has not been empowered to use the A-bomb.

"By law," the statement said in part, "only the president can authorize the use of the atom bomb, and no such authorization has been given."

"If and when such authorization should be given, the military commander in the field would have charge of the tactical delivery of the bomb."

Today the president said it's entirely up to the United Nations whether the war in the Far East will be carried across the Korean border into Manchuria.

In his formal statement the president declares that in spite of current reverses "the forces of the United Nations have no intention of abandoning their mission in Korea."

Mr. Truman said it now is necessary to build up our military strength faster than we planned to do before the Korean crisis.

Mr. Truman's temper flared when reporters asked about European criticisms of MacArthur's generalship.

There's been some of that in the American press, too, he snapped. It's always that way he went on, when some people write with a man when he's winning but jump on him when he's not.

MacArthur has done a good job and is continuing to do a good job, Mr. Truman said.

As for reports that MacArthur went beyond his U.N. instructions in starting the ill-starred end-the-war offensive:

He said nothing of the kind, the president said tartly. He said every move MacArthur made was thoroughly discussed with authorities in this country every day.

His voice crackling with anger, Mr. Truman said there's entirely too much unfounded criticism of public figures in this country—and not enough confidence in government.

## Statesman Centennial 100th Year

Guided to the Growth of Oregon

## Animal Crackers



What's wrong with Pop? All I did was ask him for roller skates.

## Steel Price Goes Up After Wage Settlement

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 30-(AP)—Steel wages and prices went up today.

The big CIO United Steelworkers accepted an average 16 cents an hour pay increase for its 259,000 members working for the United States Steel corporation and the Bethlehem Steel corporation.

Those are the two biggest steel producers in the nation.

Big steel immediately boosted prices about 5 1/2 per cent. The company said that would just about cover the \$125,000,000 annual increase in employment costs.

There was no immediate notice of what Bethlehem planned to do about prices. But all the nation's steel companies are expected to follow the lead set by the bell weather U. S. Steel company and match both the wage increase and

price advance.

The wage increase lifts pay of U. S. Steel and Bethlehem employees to an average \$1.88 an hour.

Bethlehem signed an agreement identical with U. S. Steel's pact in a brief negotiation session which followed within a few hours the steelworkers' acceptance of the U. S. Steel offer.

The million members of the USW did without a pay hike last year when other industrial workers were getting a fourth post war round of raises. Instead they struck for 42 days and settled for pension and social insurance programs.

The 1950 wage agreement provides increases ranging from 12 cents in the lowest of the 32 job classifications to 28 cents an hour for the highest classification.



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