

## Atlantic Crossed On Raft

BARBADOS, British West Indies. (U)—A young French scientist told Wednesday how he crossed the Atlantic alone in a 15-foot rubber dinghy under sail, living solely off trade winds.

Dr. Alain Louis Bombard, 27-year-old heart specialist, said triumphantly that he had proved his pet theory of survival indefinitely on raw sea food for solid fare and squeezed-out fish juice for liquid.

A passing ship once gave him a fresh fruit to ease an intestinal upset that bothered him 15 days.

Bombard had propounded a scientific theory that a man can live at sea without fresh water or any food except what he could take from the sea. Then with Gallic determination he decided if he really believed in his own theory, he ought to prove it. He took along a special press to squeeze fluid from fish to drink in lieu of fresh water. Raw marine creatures and growths were plentiful, even down to microscopic plants.

The scientist also carried along a sealed emergency container of landlubbers' food — just in case. When he swam the last few yards from his dinghy to the beach here, the emergency rations were still unopened.

## 4 Generations British Royal Family at Party

SANDRINGHAM, Eng. (U)—Four generations of the British royal family celebrated a homey Christmas Eve Wednesday night in Sandringham House.

A Yule log burned cheerfully, a Christmas tree gleamed and outside in the gloomy night the carol singers could be heard on their round of village and countryside.

Rarely has there been such a spread of age in the royal Christmas party. The oldest was Queen Mary, 85, up and about after a siege of illness. The youngest was Princess Anne, 2. They were top and bottom of the four-generation scale.

In between were the generations of the reigning queen, 26-year-old Elizabeth II, and her mother, Queen Mother I Elizabeth, 52.

Then there were, of course, Prince Charles, 4-year-old heir apparent; Princess Margaret, and the Duke of Edinburgh.

The climax of the royal Christmas observance Thursday will be the world broadcast of a Christmas message by the queen, her first as sovereign.

## State Finance Picture Said Improving

Oregon's financial picture is improving, and when the state budget for the 1953-55 biennium is announced next week it will show a surplus of about \$10,000,000, aside from requests by the State Board of Control and State Board of Higher Education for new construction.

State finance department Director Harry Dorman, it was reported, has cut requests of state departments so they will total only a little more than the \$180,000,000 appropriated by the 1951 legislature.

It previously was estimated that the state budget would aggregate \$209,000,000, but this has been reduced more than \$20,000,000. The increase over the budget of two years ago was caused largely by higher state salaries and wages. Officials said the legislature would not have to levy additional taxes.

The new budget is based on the assumption that income tax collections will continue on the same level as during the past year and that the federal government will not reduce its allocations to the state.

The \$10,000,000 surplus is far more acceptable than a deficit of from \$40,000,000 to \$100,000,000 predicted a year ago, officials said.

## Spellman Says War in Korea 'New Crusade'

SEOUL (U)—Francis Cardinal Spellman told U.S. fighting men on this Christmas Day they were engaged in "a crusade to defend our country and sustain the rights of God and the rights of man from assaults of the enemies of God and man."

The visiting archbishop of New York delivered a sermon at midnight high mass at the First Corps chapel before departing to spend

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## Eisenhower to Spend Yule With His Grandchildren

NEW YORK (U)—The next President dropped office cares Wednesday and looked forward to a jollier role he will fill Christmas Day — Santa Claus to his three grandchildren.

There will be a gap in Dwight Eisenhower's family circle, as in many others, on the holiday. His son, Major John Eisenhower—the children's father—will be spending Christmas in Korea.

But the President-elect was outwardly cheerful as he closed up shop at noon for a long Christmas weekend at his Morningside Heights home.

"I've just been around to say a Merry Christmas to everyone in the office," he smilingly told newsmen as he left his Hotel Commodore headquarters.

"Now I'm going to knock off and go home and spend Christmas with my family and the grandchildren."

"I hope everyone else has the go home and spend Christmas with my family and the grandchildren."

"I hope everyone else has the chance to spend as pleasant a Christmas as I am anticipating."

## Soldiers Solve Lonely Yule With Veteran

SAN FRANCISCO (U)—The likelihood of a lonely Christmas had loomed large for Cpl. Kenneth Sanders, 22, paralyzed from the waist down because of Korean War leg wounds.

He hadn't seen his mother, Mrs. Anna C. Sanders, of Lapwai, Idaho, in almost a year. And the trip here to Letterman Army Hospital was too much of an expense.

At least it was until men of Headquarters Company, Sixth Army, heard about it. They quickly raised a fund of \$112.

Now Mrs. Sanders is a her son's bedside, helping him to forget that October day on "T-Bone Hill" when mortar fragments got him in both legs.

The fund has made possible a five-day stay for her in a San Francisco hotel.

## Pardon Signed For Ex-Solon

WASHINGTON (U)—President Truman Wednesday signed a full pardon for J. Parnell Thomas, former New Jersey congressman who served a prison term for padding his government payroll.

A Justice Department spokesman announced the President's action.

Thomas served eight and a half months of a six-to-18 month sentence at the federal correctional institution at Danbury, Conn., in 1950. He returned to his home at Allendale, N.J., on Sept. 10 that year.

Thomas, a Republican, was former Chairman of the House un-American Activities Committee. He was convicted of putting non-working employees on his government payroll and collecting more than \$8,000 in kickbacks. His sentence included a \$10,000 fine.

The President's pardon—an eleventh-hour Christmas present—restores full citizenship rights to Thomas.

## Yule Weather Map Likened To Patchwork

By The Associated Press

The nation's Christmas weather map looks like a patchwork of white and bare areas.

Heavy snow fell Wednesday in the panhandle sections of Texas and Oklahoma and Northern New Mexico. It ranged from 3 to 7 inches in depth.

Lighter falls—in some places just flurries—were reported in Missouri, Minnesota, most of Wisconsin and in some parts of Iowa and Nebraska.

A mixture of rain and snow was forecast for the central plains region.

Most of the other sections were expected to have fair Christmas weather.

The weather was raw and chilly Wednesday in most of the U.S. and numbing cold inspired shivers in some places on the Western plains and in the Western mountains. The lows included -11 at Butte, Mont.; -34 at McNary, and -32 at Fraser, Colo.

with fighting men at the front and in hospitals.

The thud of artillery could be heard in the distance as the Cardinal spoke.

He told the soldiers at the outset he was bringing them "the most precious of all Christmas presents; it is the love of the folks back home, their pleading prayers and their longing."

"At first thought," he said, "the Christ Child in his manger seems far away from this devastated, desolate land. But Christ is as really here in Korea in wartime as he is in any of the other countries of the world."

The cardinal said that "in this battle, you are never alone."

**HOLLYWOOD**  
Starts Today Cont. 1:45  
Ray Bolger, Allyn McLerie  
"Where's Charlie"  
Also  
"RODEO"  
Jane Nigh, John Archer

## Commies Join In Celebration Of Korea Yule

SEOUL (U)—Cannon and carols heralded Christmas Thursday in Korea—a strange day in a strange war for the Communists joined in the celebration.

The matter of cannon did completely on the Sniper Ridge sector of bloody memory. Communist loudspeakers on that stretch of Central front announced firing would cease until noon "in observance of your Christmas."

Another division in that sector found toys, candles, dolls and "Merry Christmas" banners on in front of their lines, placed there in the dark by Reds.

On the Western front, astonished Allied watchers saw a decorated Christmas tree in front of their positions with crudely written signs wishing them a Merry Christmas.

There was some Red firing in the West, but it began tapering off at midnight, said a front dispatch.

A sharp, vicious assault shattered the quiet of the Christmas truce on the Eastern front as 200 Reds captured a strategic height and then were driven back two hours later by Allied troops in hand-to-hand combat.

Communist loudspeakers, which earlier this week were boasting the Reds would be in Seoul by Christmas Day, played carols.

"Silent Night" echoed through the Kumhwa hills, which in October and early November had rung to the din of one of the bitterest battles of the entire war.

Inside the Allied lines, the celebration of Christmas began at midnight, quietly, softly, with Protestant hymns, Catholic masses and Greek Orthodox pageantry.

Some soldiers prayed. Others died, for even on Christmas the ceaseless job of patrolling and feeling out the enemy must go on.

Soldiers out on the snow-covered ridge lines shivered in temperatures of five and 10 above zero and hoped the Army's special Christmas dinner would get up to them.

Soldiers of most of the United Nations joined U.S. soldiers, sailors and airmen in Christmas dinners complete with turkey and trimmings. The Army, Air Force and Navy tried to see that every man, no matter where he had at least one hot meal this day.

## Turkey and Trimmings at Institutions

Turkey and the usual trimmings will feature the Christmas menus at state institutions in the Salem area today.

Some 3200 patients at Oregon State Hospital will share 6250 pounds of turkey, 5000 pounds of sweet potatoes, 220 gallons of mashed potatoes and appropriate amounts of cranberries, giblets dressing, fruit cake, gravy, cole slaw, bread and coffee. In addition they'll have 2500 pounds of mixed candies, 2000 pounds of mixed nuts and 26 crates of oranges.

At Oregon State Penitentiary the menu will be pretty much the same except prisoners will have mince pie and creamed corn with their Christmas dinner. And they'll get fruit cake at the evening meal. Each inmate received a bag of candy, nuts and oranges Christmas eve.

The menu will be pretty much the same at the other state institutions, also. Special programs have been arranged at Hillcrest School for Girls, MacLaren School for Boys, Fairview Home and the State Tuberculosis Hospital.

Approximately 30 city and county prisoners in the Salem city jail will be served roast turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, giblets, cranberry sauce, green vegetables, coleslaw, rolls, coffee and ice cream.

**QUAKE IN ARKANSAS**  
BLYTHEVILLE, Ark. (AP)—A minor earthquake shook this eastern Arkansas area Wednesday night, bringing a deluge of telephone calls to police and radio stations. There was no report of damage. The quake was felt as far as Memphis, in Tennessee, 45 miles to the south.

**PORTLAND TRAFFIC DEATH**  
PORTLAND (AP)—Lloyd F. Pittman, 42, was killed by an automobile as he walked across a street in a suburb southeast of Portland Wednesday afternoon.

**ACORNS FROM THE**  
**Oak Room**  
WITH DEL MILNE

So it's Christmas Morn and I want to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas. Talking about Christmas I must remind you that our dining room will be open Christmas day and we will be serving our famous Christmas dinner. You know there's something satisfying about eating dinner in a hotel dining room—a feeling that you are really putting your best foot forward in an effort to entertain your guest. If your guest is your wife and your family they will appreciate your thoughtfulness no end, if it is business associates or one from whom you hope to land that order this is the place—no argument. No, not at all, the prices are very reasonable, in fact you're in for a surprise.

Talking of entertaining—boy wait'll you see our Oak Room now under construction. M-m-m-m-m it is going to be something. Tell you more next Tuesday.

Merry Christmas to All

## Surprise Yule Baby Arrives

SPUR, Tex. (U)—A young couple left this West Texas town Wednesday night with an unexpected Christmas gift—a 10-pound, 4-ounce boy.

Their first child was born Tuesday to Mr. and Mrs. Leon Hull, Dallas, who had no idea it was on the way.

She became ill as they were driving to Lubbock. A doctor told her she was about to give birth.

"She was the most surprised person in the world," said Dr. J. F. Hughes. Mrs. Hull had been told she had a tumor.

## Fight Shatters Calm in Korea

SEOUL (U)—Heavy hand-to-hand fighting shattered the calm of Christmas dawn in Korea Thursday.

About 200 North Korean Reds overran a UN position on the Eastern front at 2 a. m. in a vicious assault near a height UN troops call Luke the Gook's Castle.

Allied troops counterattacked two hours later and drove the Reds back in another hand-to-hand battle.

Both sides threw heavy artillery and mortar barrages in the fight. Christmas brought little cheer to Allied troops fighting, patrolling in the snow, or huddled in bunkers along the chilly 155-mile front.

Patrols sought each other out along the ridge lines and in the valleys, and some men did not return.

Soldiers groping in the dark through the dugouts and trenches along the front were more likely to part with "good luck" than "Merry Christmas," said AP Correspondent George McArthur in a front dispatch.

## Christmas Rain Scheduled for West Oregon

By The Associated Press

Occasional rain is in store for much of Western Oregon Christmas Day.

But the Weather Bureau reported Wednesday that Eastern Oregon can expect snow flurries and continued cold weather.

While Western Oregon's temperature were somewhat warmer Wednesday, the bitter cold continued in the mountains and in Southern and Eastern Oregon.

The State Highway Commission reported the mercury fell to 16 below zero at Seneca and to 12 below at Bly and Chemult. At Austin it was 10 below.

Klamath Falls reported 6 below zero at 6 a. m. Wednesday. Burns had 1 below, the Weather Bureau said, with Lakeview reporting 3 above.

Salem was the only Western Oregon point reporting to the bureau with a below freezing temperature. It was 30 degrees there. Portland's airport station reported 37.

The bureau said rain was expected to move inland from the coast Christmas Day.

**PATTERSONS TO SELL HOME**  
HILLSBORO (U)—Gov. and Mrs. Paul Patterson plan to sell the home they have occupied here for 17 years. Mrs. Patterson said they will buy a smaller house when they return here after her husband has finished his state service.

**PATTERSONS AT HILLSBORO**  
Gov. Paul Patterson and Mrs. Patterson are spending the Christmas holiday at Hillsboro, where they lived for many years.

**Season's Greetings TO ALL**

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## Vandals Raid Mission Bottom Schoolhouse

School was dismissed, and a party moved, at Mission Bottom School Wednesday because of extensive vandalism in the building, according to Marion County sheriff's deputies.

Investigation was continuing Wednesday in a search for the persons who damaged the school but apparently took only several oranges.

At the school, about 10 miles north of Salem, the Christmas tree was wrecked, decorations destroyed, a fire extinguisher squirted around the rooms, while ink was thrown on books, the U. S. flag and walls.

Damage was believed to have been gained through a basement door, which deputies thought might have been unlocked during a Tuesday evening party in preparation for the vandalism.

The children's party was held at the home of Mrs. Stella Moore, teacher.

## OPS Rejects Safeway Bid

WASHINGTON (U)—The Office of Price Stabilization Wednesday rejected a request from Safeway Stores, Inc., for removal of price ceilings on jams, jellies, babyfoods, canned soups and a long list of other food items.

In a formal ruling, OPS declared that changes Congress made last summer in the controls law, banning ceilings on fresh, frozen and canned fruits and vegetables, do not cover the more highly processed foods.

The OPS opinion noted that Safeway had asked for decontrol of hard cider and apple jack, as being apples, and wine as being grapes. The agency commented:

"The same logic would include bourbon whiskey as having measurable amounts of corn products."

## Tension Eases, Brodie Twins Hold to Life

CHICAGO (U)—Tension eased, this Christmas Eve, in the hospital children's ward where the 15-month-old Brodie twins rounded out their first week as separate individuals.

Officially, their condition was listed as still unchanged—Rodney, Dee, critical, and Roger L., very precarious.

But a spokesman said that tension has "definitely eased" among the doctors and nurses who have kept an around-the-clock vigil at the bedside of the twins since they were separated a week ago.

Although Roger has not regained consciousness and both face the constant threat of brain infection, the twins have not slipped backwards since a few hours after their separation.

It was then that Roger developed breathing difficulties from a swollen throat and a slit had to be made in his windpipe. The operation brought immediate relief and the baby has held his own since then.

The once head-jointed twins, the tops of their skulls missing, have remained virtually unchanged for 96 hours.

## Suicide Try After Killing Spree Fails

SAN JOSE, Calif. (U)—Archie Connett, 31, who battered his three children to death, slashed his estranged wife and then attempted suicide, was recovering Wednesday at Santa Clara County hospital.

Connett, a teacher of English at San Lorenzo High School, had gulped rat poison and cut his throat after the wild killing spree Tuesday at Mrs. Connett's Cupertino home seven miles west of here. A violent argument preceded the killings.

Mrs. Connett was also at Santa Clara hospital, under treatment for minor knife wounds and shock.

## Bethlehem at Peace Despite Israel Tension

BETHLEHEM (U)—Church bells pealed their message of peace anew Thursday at the birthplace of Jesus Christ, thronged by pilgrims who journeyed here through a land partitioned by war.

For the third year in succession, Jordan's Arab Legion and Israel's border guards relaxed from their regulation to permit the pilgrims to visit Bethlehem and other holy places of Palestine.

About 2,500, making the trip from divided Jerusalem to Bethlehem, passed guardposts and barbed wire that have stood since a truce silenced the guns in the Arab Jewish war of 1948. Some worshipped in Jerusalem, some in Nazareth.

A favored few, including the consular corps and the United Nations armistice staff, were permitted by agreement between Jordan and Israel to use the traditional road from Jerusalem south across a no-man's-land to Bethlehem, probably the road used by Mary and Joseph almost 2,000 years ago.

Others were required to travel a new road, opened only four days ago, that runs entirely through Jordan-held territory.

The planet Venus—probably the star which directed the wise men from the East to the child Jesus—showed brilliantly in cloudless skies over Bethlehem in the night as if to guide the pilgrims.

## Battle Flares In Indochina Delta Sector

HANOI, Indochina (U)—Fighting flared in the Red River delta 70 miles southeast of Hanoi this Christmas Eve as armor-backed French Union troops swept in on 2,000 Vietminh infiltrators.

First reports to French headquarters said 300 of the Communist-led enemy were slain in the first stages of a battle that continued into the night. French losses were not announced.

A thousand skilled French troops, including Foreign Legion and amphibious units, sprang the trap on the enemy detachment, which Franco-Vietnamese scouts had trailed for 10 days through rice paddies and villages to a point 15 miles southeast of Bui Chu.

French fighter-bombers joined in the effort to rub out the Vietminh pocket. A French spokesman said it was still too early to evaluate the scale of the operation.

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