

# French Orphan Dies Fighting for U.S.

HOUSTON, Tex.—(U.P.)—Alexandria Stewart, the famous fighting French orphan of World War II who was adopted by the U.S. 34th Division when he was 12 years old, has repaid his debt to the America he loved.

He was killed in action in Korea.

His guardian, Mrs. Alex Axelrod, said Monday she had received word of his death.

Stewart never knew his real name. He was adopted by members of the 34th Division as a mascot in North Africa in World War II.

He fought with the 133rd Regiment of the 34th Division through North Africa, Sicily, Anzio and into Italy. He had been wounded twice from green-

ade explosions by the time he was 14.

The 34th Division came home, and Stewart came home with them. After several months, he tried to get back into the U.S. Army. But recruiting officers discovered he was a 16-year-old French alien and turned him over to immigration authorities.

He was deported to France, where French authorities accused him of being a Canadian deserter.

They gave him 24 hours to prove French citizenship—which was impossible, since all records at the French orphanage from which he came had been destroyed.

He stowed away on a ship and arrived at Galveston, Tex., on Independence Day, 1947. He was jailed as an alien.

Mrs. Axelrod, then assistant U.S. district attorney in charge of alien affairs for the southern district of Texas, became interested in the case and members of the 34th Division came forward to help. Rep. Albert Thomas of Houston, Tex. introduced a bill to legalize the boy's entry into the United States.

In August, 1950, a few days after the bill passed, Stewart joined the U. S. Army.

Mrs. Axelrod said she was notified that Alexandria was killed in action with the 23rd Infantry Regiment in Korea when he walked onto a land mine on Dec. 28.

## Stenographer Gets Hot Seat



ST. PAUL, MINN., Jan. — Tired after a hard day's work at the office, stenographer Doris O'Dwyer curled up on the divan with a good book — and a cigarette. Doris' eyes eventually shut, down the cushion dropped her butt and after that — you know what: smoke... choke... awake! Title of the book was "The Hot Seat."

Doris had a hot tale to tell the office gang next morning... and she took dictation standing up. A fire insurance policy that stands up under every situation is written locally by...

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## Guests Flee Hotel Blaze

CINCINNATI — (AP)—An early Sunday morning fire at Cincinnati's 800-room Hotel Sinton sent frightened guests scurrying for any exit they could find and caused the death of two Air Force privates.

Confused and scared by thick smoke billowing from a linen chute, guests on the upper three stories swung down cables and television antenna wires, smashed windows and clambered onto fire escapes.

The two young servicemen were in a room on the top floor of the nine-story building. They knotted sheets and were lowering themselves when the sheets parted. They plunged almost seven floors.

# Reuther Assails Military Officials Procurement Policies 'Cause Unemployment'

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Assailing military officials and their procurement policies, President Walter Reuther of the CIO United Auto Workers Union said Sunday "shoulder pad emblems don't give you the right to waste materials."

"There are two governments in Washington, civilian mobilization officials and the military," Reuther said. "The military has a status that makes people reluctant to take them on. We're going to take them on and when they are wrong, tell them."

**Addresses UAW**

He addressed approximately 600 delegates of the UAW assembled here to urge action by Congress to combat spreading unemployment in the auto industry, caused largely by cutbacks in the supply of metals allocated to it by the government.

A key point in the union's program is a request that Congress grant such idle workers unemployment compensation equal to their basic weekly pay, until they can be relocated.

**"Man-Hours Wasted"**

Reuther said government officials are "wasting hundreds of millions of productive man-hours, but it is still business as usual in the pentagon on procurement."

He said procurement officials have "got to make" contractors locate work where there is plant capacity and unemployed, trained manpower. Civilian officials in Washington have been attempting this, Reuther said, but not the military.

Reuther said the unused productive capacity in this country is greater than total Russian capacity, and called the idle plants a "crime against the mobilization buildup."

## Purged From Politics, Hatoyama Plans Return

TOKYO — (AP) — Ichiro Hatoyama, who was purged from political life five years ago on the eve of becoming Japan's Premier, has reported to his ancestors that he plans a political comeback.

Hatoyama, founder of the Liberal Party now headed by Premier Shigeru Yoshida, was "depurged" last Aug. 6.

Tokyo newspapers said Sunday that he visited the family tomb at Ueno Saturday and made known his intentions in keeping with ancient custom.

## Curiosity Costs Customer Cash; Conscience Clear

MUNCIE, Ind.—(AP)—The same thing that killed the cat cost John Stephenson \$4062 Saturday.

Stephenson was looking over things to be auctioned from a dead neighbor's household goods. He saw and old wall clock and made a mental note he'd bid for it. Then he took it down to examine the works.

Out rolled the \$4062 in bills ranging from \$1 to \$100. The money might have been his if he'd bought the clock before finding the cash. Instead, it went into the estate.

He got a prize, however, for finding the money. Lawyers for the estate gave him the clock.

## Filipino Killed By Holdout Japs

MANILA — (AP)—A large force of constabulary troops has been rushed to Lubang Island to search the rugged interior for four Japanese stragglers who killed a Filipino there Saturday.

The Japanese-remnants of a once powerful occupation army—were spotted as they foraged for food near Lubang town.

## WEEKEND REPORT CIRCLES GLOBE

# Is Stalin Seriously Ill?

By HARRY FERGUSON  
United Press Foreign News Editor

Over the weekend—a report—wholly unverified—went around the world that Joseph Stalin was seriously ill. A newspaper in Rotterdam, Holland, said the Soviet premier had undergone an operation on a heart muscle last month and now was recuperating near his home town of Gori.

There have been at least two other such reports in the last six months, and they always attract world-wide attention because of the realization that if Stalin becomes incapacitated or dies, the whole course of history may veer into a different direction.

and the men who control the dissemination of information in Russia had to wait to find out what the party line was on him. Did he deserve long, glowing obituary notices in the Russian papers or was he worth only a couple of paragraphs in an obscure position?

The word finally came down to give Litvinov a complimentary obituary.

When Stalin passes from power, it is unlikely that there will be a sudden shift in Soviet foreign policy. Instead there will be a struggle inside the politburo to see who inherits the top job and the current favorite is Georgi Malenkov.

His 50th birthday was celebrated last week with extraordinary tributes in the Soviet press. It looked as though he was getting a build-up for the top job.

**Two Rivals**

Malenkov's chief rival will be Viascheslav Molotov, deputy premier, and Stalin's oldest collaborator. Each has his followers inside the politburo and they seem to split on the issue of relations with the West. Malenkov is supposed to favor a softer line and more cooperation with the outside world. Molotov is a Russia-first man and the devil take the hindmost.

## Will Happen Some Day

Some day, of course, the reports are going to be true, but when Stalin does die the outside world probably won't know anything about it for at least two or three days. The Russians like to have things in tidy fashion before they announce the death of one of their leaders. Maxim Litvinov, former Soviet foreign minister, died the other day, and the news remained inside the Russian frontiers for 3 hours.

In Litvinov's case the reason for holding the news was obvious. He long since had fallen from power

## Fox Terrier Family Fed by Train Crew

WATERLOO, Ia.—(U.P.)—A family of black and white fox terriers were reported doing nicely Monday in their trackside home along the Illinois Central right-of-way, thanks to a friendly freight train crew.

C. L. Albright, a fireman aboard a freight which travels the route every day, said he and his crew threw food to the canine family, which had taken up residence in the ditch alongside the tracks.

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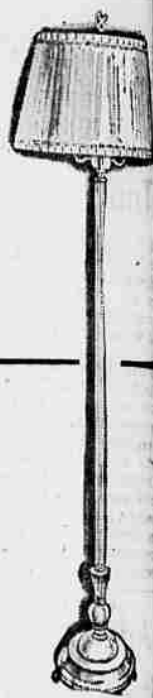
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