gh Brass Shows Talent for Bungling

JAMES MARLOW
Associated Press Staff Writer

NGTON—(AP)—The high
s in Korea has displayed
ding talent for making
erting with the capture
Gen. Francis T. Dodd and
followed.

e general, commander of
ner of war camps on
nd, let himself get ma-
into a position where
mmunist prisoners could

s successor had to dicker
release. This was Brig.
ries F. Colson. Eighth
mmander Gen. James A.
bounced Dodd while he
captive and replaced him
co.

N DIDN'T last long. He's
ced too. To get Dodd
, Colson agreed to such
ary concessions that
ggested chiefs of staff
a fast explanation.

dd capture and the Col-
essions were amazing
But the Eighth Army
ers then added to the
by trying to wrap a
recy around what had

en at first weren't al-
see Dodd at all after his
The explanation: An in-
n was being made. Then
permitted to read a pre-

cials Quit
Buying

NGTON — (AP) — That
burdensome surplus"
which the Agriculture
set out to take off the
st month to help farm-
d out to be less than one
ghtering output.

all the department
tween April 9 and Tues-
n it announced that a
porting purchasing pro-
being suspended. The
as 28,490,000 pounds. It
moked ham, shoulder

ce support program was
ed at the insistence of
congressmen who said
disturbed by the rela-
price of hogs, plus a
st forecast of a sharp
oduction of these ani-
year.

pared statement on his capture but couldn't answer newsmen's questions.

EVEN SO DODD managed to get into conflict with the new boss of the whole Korean fighting, Gen. Mark Clark who—as successor to Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway—arrived in Tokyo just in time to inherit the mess.

Dodd said the concessions agreed to by Colson were of minor importance. But Clark later said the Colson concessions were made under duress and were "unadulterated blackmail and any comments made by Gen. Colson as a result of such demands should be interpreted accordingly."

And Thursday Clark said the agreement made by Colson "has no validity whatsoever." Clark said Colson had no authority "to purport to accept any of the vicious and false charges upon which the Communist demands were based."

Colson, among other things, said:

"I can assure you that in the future the prisoners of war can expect humane treatment."

THIS MADE FINE propaganda for the Communists in their truce talks. They naturally interpreted it as meaning the prisoners had been getting inhumane treatment.

A defense department official here said this wording gave a wrong impression of POW treatment. And it was pointed out the Red Cross has had plenty of chance to examine the kind of treatment given POW's.

Colson's agreement said further: "There will be no more forcible screening or any rearming of prisoners of war in this camp, nor will any attempt be made at nominal screening."

HERE THE SAME defense department official said the joint chiefs of staff had never heard of any rearming of prisoners and as for the screening of prisoners—the JCS had ordered that stopped a couple of weeks ago.

This screening has been a sore point with the Communists conducting the Korean truce talks. They had acted as if all their people captured by the U. N. would want to go home to them.

The U. N. checked, or screened, the prisoners and reported that only 70,000 out of 170,000 said they would go back if released. In fact, the U. N. reported, the rest said they'd forcibly resist being sent back.

From start to now this has been a poor show. It has provided the Communists with propaganda literally made to order. Meanwhile, everyone waits to see what the full explanation is, if there is one.

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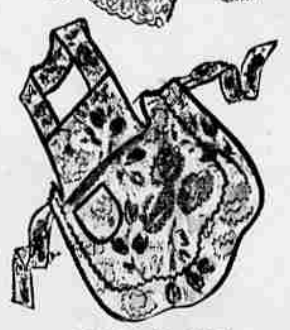

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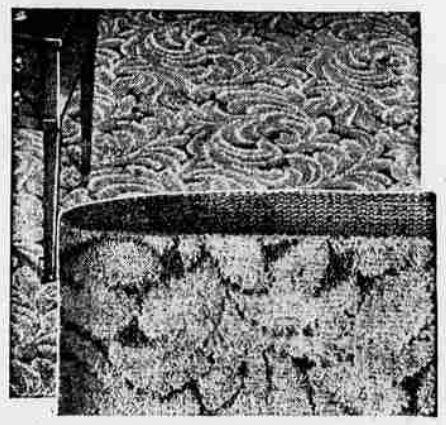

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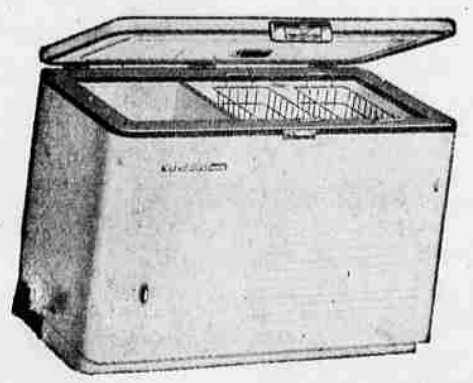

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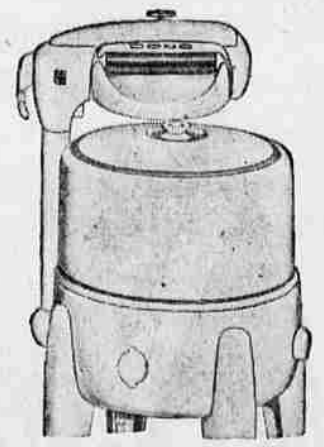

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