



**Gen. Groves Testifies**—The hearing room is jammed to the walls as Lt. Gen. Leslie Groves (center, holding paper) testifies before House Un-American Activities committee in Washington, regarding wartime atomic deals with the Russians. Groves, who ran the wartime atomic bomb project, testified that Russia got some atomic material from this country during the war, but he doesn't know how many shipments "because we don't know how many leaked through." No other persons identified. (AP Wirephoto)

## Atomic Secrets Withheld From Wallace by Groves

By W. R. HIGGINBOTHAM  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Washington, Dec. 8 (AP)—Lt. Gen. Leslie R. Groves, chief of the wartime A-bomb project, said today he deliberately withheld several secret reports on atomic development from former Vice President Henry A. Wallace during the war.

He made the statement in an interview when asked to clarify his testimony before the house un-American activities committee concerning Russian attempts to spy out U. S. atomic secrets in 1943 and 1944.

Groves also called on congress to delve deeper into charges by George Racey Jordan, one-time army air force major, that top U. S. officials helped Russia obtain secret materials and documents in this country during the war.

Saying his testimony should not be construed as discrediting all of the ex-major's story, he added that "I think it would be criminal negligence if Jordan's charges were not explored to the utmost."

Groves had testified that Wallace, who bolted the democratic party last year to run for president as the left-wing progressive party's candidate, only saw one of about five secret atomic reports which were distributed among a limited group of the highest ranking officials. He did not elaborate.

Interviewed later at the Army-Navy club, Groves was asked why the other reports were not shown to Wallace.

"Throughout by conduct of the Manhattan project, my decisions were based on what I thought were the best interests of the United States," the general said. "I decided I wasn't going to show any more reports to Mr. Wallace."

Asked if that meant he decided it would be against the best interests of the country for Wallace to see the documents, Groves replied:

"I don't see how anything could be more positive than what I said before."

Radio Commentator Fulton Lewis, Jr., who first aired Jordan's charges, has accused Wal-

## Albany Starts State Building

Albany, Dec. 8 — Construction will start immediately on a \$10,000 building to house the department of state automobile registration office and tourist information center at Lafayette street on highway 99, the Albany Chamber of Commerce announces.

G. C. Knodell, local oil products distributor and former Albany mayor, signed a construction and lease contract with a department of state representative here Tuesday. Knodell is owner of the property involved, which is on the north side of the highway at the east end of the Pacific highway ramp, adjoining state highway department land, between Madison and Jackson streets.

A Chamber of Commerce spokesman reported that Knodell will start construction on the concrete building immediately. Knodell will lease the

building to the state department.

Secretary of State Earl Newberry recently announced that a smaller registration office and tourist center would be constructed in Lebanon, thus giving Linn county two of the centers. Linn county now has nearly 30,000 automobiles, and has prospects of having 35,000 within the next few years.

The decision to locate the automobile registration office in a separate building here is not expected to affect the consideration of Albany as a possible site for the headquarters for the state department of higher education, the chamber spokesman indicated.

### Daughter Opera Singer

Brush College—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kron and Donna of Brush College and Albert Schindler of Orchard Heights, accompanied Mr. and Mrs. George Meiers to Portland the past week end to attend the Grand Duchess opera in which their daughter Myrtle Helen Dororbaugh sang. Mrs. Dororbaugh was formerly Myrtle Helen Meier of Brush College.

## Seaman on Theft Charge Held on Ship

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 8 (AP)—A seaman, wanted on a charge of theft from interstate shipment, was chained to his bunk today aboard the SS. American Mail.

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents awaited the ship's arrival in Portland, Ore., first U. S. port of call for the vessel which is inbound from Japan.

The crewman, making his first trip aboard the vessel, was identified as Rodney H. Regan. He is accused, the FBI said, of stealing nine boxes of electric toasters in Chicago Sept. 15, 1948.

The American Mail is expected to reach Portland late tonight.

Gates — The annual bazaar sponsored by the Gates Women's club was held at the social rooms of the high school. Though a small crowd was in attendance, the money raised was to be added to the building fund.

## Acheson Cool to Jordan Charges

Washington, Dec. 8 (AP)—Secretary of State Dean Acheson threw cold water Wednesday on many of the charges made by George Racey Jordan, former air force officer, concerning wartime shipments to Russia.

Acheson told a news conference he had no knowledge that any state department documents, "secret or otherwise," were made available to Russia without "proper authorization, as alleged by Mr. Jordan."

He also said that a search of lend-lease files showed nothing to confirm Jordan's charges that he found U.S. radar devices on Russian lend-lease planes and ripped them out.

Jordan charges that while he was lend-lease expediter at the Great Falls, Mont., air base during the war he tore out the radar from four C-47 planes bound for Russia, but missed a fifth.

Acheson also said that the Manhattan engineering district, army-operated A-bomb project, approved all licenses for wartime uranium shipment to Russia.

### Chest Fund Short

Portland, Dec. 8 (AP)—Community chest directors reported the \$1,194,000 now in the fund—about 8 per cent short of this year's goal—is about all the money they can get. President Ben H. Hazen said the social agencies must trim their budgets.

## Claim No A-Bomb Savy Or Materials Available in '43

By JOHN L. MYLER

Washington, Dec. 8 (AP)—Whatever Russia got from the United States in the spring of 1943, it was not information on how to make an A-bomb or materials with which to do it.

The House Un-American Activities committee has produced evidence that Russia, a wartime ally, flew 1420 pounds of uranium compound out of this country by way of the Great Falls, Mont., lend-lease depot in March-April, 1943.

But the official Smyth report on the U. S. atomic project shows that this country was not producing atomic explosives, except on an infinitesimal laboratory scale, until 1944.

It was not until the spring of 1943 that the U. S. bomb science laboratory was set up at Los Alamos, N. M., and it was not until the summer of 1945 that the first atomic bomb was put together there.

Although the basic scientific knowledge involved in the bomb had been known to the world since 1939, the detailed data essential for actual production had not been amassed when the Russians got their shipments of uranium oxide and uranium nitrate.

The Russians said they wanted the material for medical and metallurgical purposes. Whatever their real reason may have been, here is what the Smyth report says on the status of U. S. atomic knowledge at that time: "In April, 1943, the available information of interest in connection with the design of atomic bombs was preliminary and inaccurate. Further and extensive theoretical work on critical size (of the bomb's explosive material), efficiency, effect of tamper, method of detonation, and effectiveness was urgently needed."

"Measurements of the nuclear constants of uranium-235, plutonium, and tamper material had to be extended and improved. In the cases of U-235 and plutonium, tentative measurements had to be made using only minute quantities until larger quantities became available."

"Besides these problems in theoretical and experimental physics, there was a host of chemical, metallurgical and technical problems that had hardly been touched. Examples were the purification and fabrication of U-235 and plutonium, and the fabrication of the tamper."

"Finally, there were problems of instantaneous assembly of the bomb that were staggering in their complexity."

## Fortune Left To Democrats Of His Family

Sacramento, Calif., Dec. 8 (AP)—Relatives of Harvey B. Whitten who are members of the democratic party are due for a share in his \$750,000 estate, attorneys said today—but no republicans.

Whitten, a pioneer northern California orchardist, died here Nov. 17. He was a leading peach grower, owning ranches in San Joaquin, Sutter and Yuba counties, and was a founder of the Bercut-Richards Packing Co.

His will, as filed for probate here, read in part:

"... My estate was accumulated solely under the democratic administration. It is, therefore my desire that no republican party member receive anything from the distribution of my estate."

Whitten's will did not specifically disinherit republican members of his family, but it said:

"I have specifically requested my brothers and sisters to renounce the republican national party, its policies and platform and to vote henceforth a straight democratic national party ticket."

**Newspaper Editor Dies**  
Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 8 (AP)—Robert W. Reed, assistant managing editor of the Kansas City Star, died at 8:20 a.m. today at St. Luke's hospital here.

## Longview Port Sent Geiger Tubes to Russ

Longview, Wash., Dec. 8 (AP)—The manager of the port of Longview, Wash., said today "Geiger tubes" and "registers" had moved across the docks here to ships carrying the Russian flag.

Port Manager Harvey Hart stated a shipment to Russia from here was aboard the S.S. Surlkov, destined for Moscow via Vladivostok.

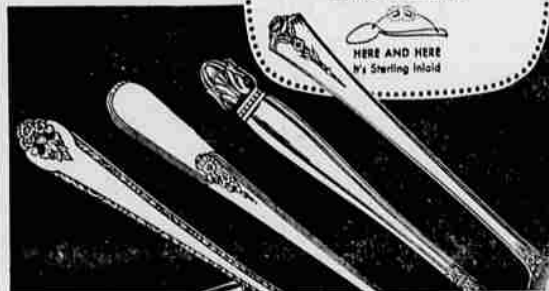
The shipment included items marked "310-A Geiger tubes" and "401-A registers" purchased by the Soviet government from the Cyclotron Specialties Co.

The shipment was made in May, 1947. Hart said the shipment was made with the full knowledge of the U.S. government because it was covered by an export license.



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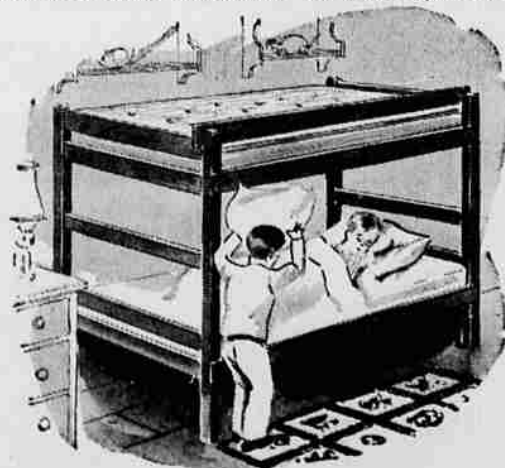
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