

CHIANG FEARED STILWELL PLANS, CHINESE BELIEVE

Generalissimo Believed Vinegar Joe Would Strengthen Reds, Chiang Generals

(Editor's Note: Further light on the complex Chinese situation involved in Gen. Stilwell's recall is given in the following dispatch by a United Press correspondent just returned from the China-Burma-India theater.)

By Darrell Berrigan
United Press War Correspondent
Gen. Chiang Kai-Shek demanded Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's removal because he feared Stilwell's plans would strengthen both the so-called Chinese communists and Chiang's own generals in the field, according to the best China sources.

The generalissimo, plagued by dissension in his party organization, is unwilling to strengthen kuomintang generals in the field who, either alone or in coalition with other Chinese generals, might turn against the crumbling Chungking organization. Chiang has fought many years to hold together.

Must Maintain Balance
Stilwell's appointment to the post of commander-in-chief of all Chinese armies would have disturbed the balance of mediocrity Chiang feels he must maintain to control his military subordinates.

Stilwell, in order to supply

and train China's armies, would have had to build up armies which long have been below par both in manpower and armament. Stilwell would have had to distribute to Chinese generals dissatisfied with Chiang's regime guns and ammunition whose distribution Chiang is now able to control to a very large extent.

The communists, isolated until now in the backwoods of western China, recently told American officials that they would be prepared to co-operate in a unit-

ed kuomintang-communist anti-Japanese front only on condition that a foreigner—Gen. Stilwell—were given the overall command.

Chiang Renigs
Chiang was forced to agree to this in the beginning, but crawled out from it after H. H. Kung, here in the United States, informed him that Harry Hopkins had told Kung the president would not press his demands.

The question of the communist armies is believed to have been the strongest reason for Chiang's sudden reversal.

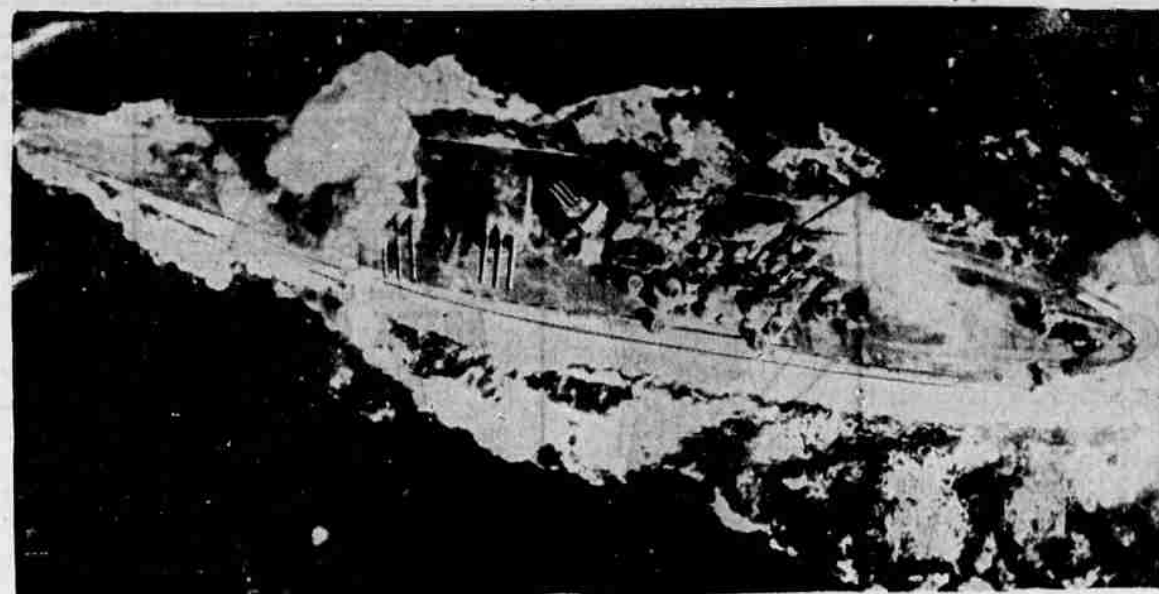
It has been believed for some time that United States intervention is all that has prevented Chiang from abandoning offensive action against the Japanese and turning his entire military attention to wiping out the communists before the end of the war. It is considered in Chungking almost inevitable that a kuomintang-communist clash will come after the war, or even before.

Reds Not Strong
The communists are not strong militarily, although politically communist leaders are stronger than Chiang. The communists are reported to have a fairly well fed, determined and united army which has the full support of the people. They make their own arms and ammunition now. The Chungking government blockade prevents outside aid from reaching them. Stilwell's plans included supplying the arms which would have made the communist armies a potent factor in the war against Japan. To protect his post-war position, Chiang, it is said, prevented the American's plans from going through.

Many observers in China, both American and Chinese, consider Stilwell's recall as a military defeat comparable to the loss of Henkang, Lingling and Kwelin. Chiang, they say, has risked the loss of China's only active supporter, the United States, in order to maintain himself in power. They feel that the generalissimo is banking on United States aid continuing no matter what the internal situation in China. In that belief, they feel, Chiang is doing as little as possible to hasten the defeat of Japan while conserving his strength for the postwar scramble for power in China.

FIREMEN SAVE DOG HOUSE
Warrensburg, Mo.—(U.P.)—The Warrensburg fire department was called to put out a fire in a dog house recently. The interior of the house was damaged—but no casualties, fire officials reported.

First Photos! Jap Battleship, Carrier Smash ed Off Philippines



YANK BOMBER GETS BATTLESHIP.—The great Japanese battleship Yamato shudders under two direct bomb hits from dive bomber of U. S. Pacific Fleet's fast carrier force as it fled under full steam through Tablas Straits in western Visayas, Philippine Islands. Lt. Comdr. Arthur Downing of South Haven, Mich., piloted plane—his radio-man, AR2/c John Carver of Hamilton, Mont., took this picture. U. S. Navy photo.

Committee For Aid To Veterans Meeting Friday

The committee on Community Aides to Veterans will hold the November meeting Friday of this week at the Red Cross office in the courthouse at 8 p. m. This committee, in operation since the first of June, has as its

object the co-ordination of services available to veterans returning to civilian life.

Agencies represented on the committee are the selective service boards, representatives of the various veterans' organizations in the city, the United States employment service, the Red Cross and the public welfare commission.

Mrs. Harry Holmes is chairman of the committee.

GERMANS USING DEFECTIVE MEN ON WEST FRONT

By Edward V. Roberts
United Press Correspondent
With U. S. Forces in Holland, Oct. 31—(U.P.)—The Nazis are using some strange battalions on the western front—units composed entirely of men with physical infirmities.

American troops recently came across the German "Ear" battalion—men partially deaf or with chronic ear ailments. Then there was the "Stomach Ulcer" battalion, of which all members receive special white bread.

One-Legged Unit
There also have been indications of at least one garrison unit composed of men with wooden legs. In addition the Germans have formed several penal units, including one battalion in which all men were civilian felons.

The Germans advance the reasoning that it is more practical to service these infirmities when they are all together. It was pointed out that officers in the various groups are regular army men in good condition.

Care Remedies
The Nazis' ruthless effort to drain the last drops of her manpower, has produced a big change in the medical field kits. They now are stocked with such items as hernia, glass eyes,

and remedies for indigestion, nerves, constipation, and heart ailments.
(A dispatch from the American Broadcasting Station in Europe, recorded by FCC, said the German High Command had issued a "secret order" to army physicians to reclassify all wounded soldiers not qualified for non-combatant service as "fit for front-line duty.")

TEXAS SILK INDUSTRY

Mineral Springs, Tex.—(U.P.) One hundred thousand mulberry trees planted in the Mineral Wells region are getting ready to help deprive Japan of its silk industry monopoly. A group of business men in Mineral Wells have put up \$10,000 to establish the Texas Silk Industry, Inc., and beat Japan in peacetime.

BRANCH RICKEY BUYS BROOKLYN TEAM SHARE

New York, Nov. 2—(U.P.)—Branch Rickey, organizer of baseball's farm system, and two associates today purchased 25 per cent of the Brooklyn National league baseball club.

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