

YAMASHITA EXECUTION STAYED

Weather

FORECAST: Partly cloudy tonight and Tuesday with morning fog. Colder tonight. Temp. Highest yesterday 46. Lowest this morning 31.

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1945.

NO. 228.

SUPREME COURT WANTS TIME TO PONDER APPEAL

High Court's Action Based On New Petition Asking Review of Island Court

Washington, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—The Supreme court today granted a formal stay of execution to Japanese Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, who has been sentenced at Manila to hang as a war criminal. The court granted the stay until it has time to consider his appeal for a civil trial in this country.

New Appeal Basis

The high court's action was based on a new petition filed by Yamashita's counsel. It asked a review of the Philippine Supreme court's refusal to intercede at the time the "Tiger of Malaya" was on trial before a military commission in the Philippines.

The new plea on behalf of the Japanese general arrived six minutes after the tribunal assembled in session at noon today. Yamashita already had one petition before the court. On Dec. 7, he asked for writs of habeas corpus and prohibition or a transfer of his case to the United States for a hearing before the Supreme court or one of its justices.

Time Not Indicated

The new petition made similar requests, including one that Yamashita be freed on a writ of habeas corpus and returned to the status of a prisoner of war. There was no indication when the court might decide whether to hear the case. Its next regular sessions will be on Wednesday, Jan. 2.

Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson previously had stayed Yamashita's hanging sentence pending action by the Supreme court.

Takes Command



(Acme Telephoto) Brigadier General Harold P. Nichols who will succeed Major General H. Conger Pratt as commanding general of Western Defense Command, headquarters at San Francisco, Calif. General Nichols was Army representative on the joint Army-Navy coordination group for the San Francisco United Nations Conference.

SISKIYOU WRECK CLAIMS LIFE OF WASHINGTON MAN

William M. Weldon, 58, of Snohomish, Wash., was killed on the north slope of Siskiyou mountains about 4 a. m. today when his northbound auto struck a slippery place in the road and plunged over an embankment, state police said this morning.

Weldon, accompanied by a friend, Jesse A. Bower, Oakland, Calif., had picked up two soldiers, Kenneth Utter of Salem, on leave from Georgia, and George V. Culp, Camp Beale, Calif., who were in the car at the time of the crash. Deputy Coroner Carlos Morris said he was told Culp was driving the car, an Oldsmobile sedan, at the time it left the highway.

Utter is confined to the Ashland Community hospital with a possible skull fracture, Morris said. Neither of the other two men were injured, the deputy coroner said.

20 INCHES OF SNOW AROUND UNION CREEK

Twenty inches of snow now lays on the ground at Union Creek according to word received by the Rogue River National Forest service this morning from Richard Tubman, ranger at Union Creek. The snow is packed and hard-crusted, according to the report.

Many inquiries have been received in the local forest service office from ski enthusiasts as to the snow conditions at Union Creek it was said.

JAPAN BELIEVED REDS WOULD JOIN TRIPARTITE PACT

Konoye's Private Papers Reveal Nippon Joined Axis Under Misapprehension

Tokyo, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—Private papers found in the possession of Prince Fumimaro Konoye, who committed suicide a few hours before he was due to surrender as a suspected war criminal, disclosed today that Japan joined the axis in the belief Russia would become the fourth member of the tripartite pact.

The papers were seized by American counter-intelligence officers soon after Konoye's death on Sunday morning, and were then turned over to Joseph B. Keenan, chief allied prosecutor in the forthcoming war trials. The essential points in the papers were told the United Press by Konoye's secretary, Tomohiko Ushiba.

Meaningful pending completion of funeral arrangements, many high Japanese dignitaries paid visits of condolence to Konoye's home today. The documents stated that Japan's foremost objective in joining the axis was to settle the war with China. Konoye said he believed Japan's voice would carry added weight if she were allied with Germany, Russia and Italy against an "Anglo-American" combination and thus could settle the China "affair" in any manner she chose.

Japan's second reason for signing the pact Konoye wrote, was the hope of preventing the war in Europe from becoming worldwide. Konoye believed in 1940 that a powerful combination of Germany, Russia, Italy and Japan would keep the United States from war. The following year, however, he began to feel the alliance was dangerous because Russia had not joined, the documents revealed.

The former premier felt then that the axis had lost its meaning so far as Japan was concerned. He thought Japan had the right to abrogate the treaty but, the papers explained, the Japanese refrained from doing so since an outright abrogation would be a breach of "international faith."

The papers said German Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop "lured" Japan into signing the alliance.

Originally, Hitler planned to kill himself on April 22, 1945. He issued orders that Goering, then at Berchtesgaden, was to succeed him.

But on the appointed day, Hitler's confused mind led him to believe the battle of Berlin was swinging in Germany's favor, and he postponed his suicide.

Hitler Enraged

Through some mix-up, however, Goering received the expected telegram that day authorizing him to assume command. Convinced the war was lost and willing to surrender to the Allies, Goering telegraphed Berlin for verification of Hitler's death and a complete definition of his own authority.

When Hitler learned of Goering's telegram, he flew into a rage. Believing that Goering was trying to seize power and force Germany's surrender, he ordered the Luftwaffe chief arrested and executed immediately.

Eclipse of Moon Visible Here If Clouds Stay Away

Washington, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—Barring interfering cloud formations, you can watch the moon turn from silver to coppery red tomorrow night in the first total eclipse visible in this country since Aug. 26, 1942.

The preliminary phases of the lunar eclipse will start at 3:38 p. m. PST. The period of totality will begin at 5:40 p. m., PST, and will last until 7 p. m., according to the naval observatory.

During the period of totality the moon will be in the earth's shadow, accounting for the apparent change in color.

CHINESE FLIERS VISIT MEDFORD EN ROUTE HOME

Ten officers and 22 enlisted men of the Chinese air force spent the night at the Medford air base and at Camp White, continuing by air this morning to Seattle from where they will embark for China. The men have been in this country to receive army and air corps training under United States army officers, it was reported from the base.

The group arrived at the Medford army air base from Merced, Calif., where they had been assembled from various training points, in a C-48 manned by men of the United States army air corps.

The ten officers were brought to Medford by air base officers and spent the evening at the Outlook. The group included Lt. Col. G. L. Wen, Lt. Col. H. H. Tso, Major H. C. Ching, Major L. K. Chung, Major H. T. Chen, Major Y. C. Tso, Lt. C. C. Chen, Lt. Henry D. Chin, Lt. Li Wen-Chon and Major Y. S. Yang.

COLD WAVE EDGES INTO SOUTHLAND; DEATH TOLL RISES

Winter counted a rising toll of life today as a cold wave gripped the nation. Subzero weather swept the midwest and north while temperatures in the sunny south tumbled to below freezing.

Twenty-five persons were reported to have died over the week-end because of the cold, fog, snow and slippery highways. Transportation in the Buffalo, N. Y., area was paralyzed in one of the greatest snowstorms in the city's history. Thirty-two inches fell during the blizzard.

Windy winds moved rapidly eastward, while maintaining a firm hold on temperatures and dropped sharply along the eastern seaboard from New England to the Carolinas.

Temperatures ranged from 20 below in Montana, increasing to 8 to 10 above as far east as Pennsylvania.

Although no "weather" deaths were reported in the Pacific northwest, slick roads halted bus and automobile transportation in many sections.

'E' Bonds Nearing Drive Quota Level

Jackson county "E" bond sales are gradually climbing to the Victory loan quota level it was stated this morning by George Frey, county sales chairman. The quota set was \$525,000, and sales up to Saturday totaled \$445,794.

While the formal drive has closed, Frey stated that "E" sales to the end of this month would be counted on the quota.

MARINES COMING

Washington, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—Approximately 8,000 marines will arrive home for discharge during the next week, marine headquarters announced today.

UNO WOULD OWN ALL LAND WITHIN NEW PEACE ZONE

Temporary Contract Would Give UNO Title To All Buildings; Use US Laws

London, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—Selection of a specific site in the United States for United Nations headquarters was postponed today at least until next month, when the assembly of the world peace organization will meet here.

London, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—United Nations authorities were revealed today to have prepared a document requiring the United States to convey to the UNO full ownership of all land within the zone of the new world peace headquarters.

A draft convention tentatively sketching what would be expected of the United States if UNO headquarters is situated in that country was prepared by the juridical commission of the UNO preparatory commission.

Title To Buildings

A temporary contract would give the UNO title to all buildings in the zone and all buildings over the subsoil. Particularly the "right to make any constructions underground." The right to exploit any mineral deposits, however, would remain with the United States.

Means of obtaining title to land within the zone were suggested. If the land were not presented free, the UNO would pay a "fair price" to private owners, the sum to be credited toward U. S. membership fees.

No officials, including police of the United States or of individual states, would be permitted to enter the UNO zone except by permission of the secretary general. With possibly minor exceptions, U. S. laws would apply in the zone, particularly the ordinary civil and criminal laws, and the American courts would have jurisdiction.

Diplomatic Immunity

The United States would be required to extend diplomatic immunity to the UNO delegates and their staffs.

The government would be required to insure provision for public services, including electricity, water, gas, telephone, telegraph, drainage and garbage collection, and to guarantee "in peace and war" adequate communications between the zone and the U. S. territorial limits.

8 DOGS CREMATED IN TALENT BLAZE

Talent, Dec. 17—Eight pedigreed Pekinese dogs were destroyed in a fire believed set by an angered customer at the King Cafe here Saturday night.

Seven of the animals were cremated in the blaze and the other died later from burns. The storage shed in which the dogs were is a complete loss, Otto E. King, proprietor of the cafe, said today. A cottage next to the shed was partially consumed.

The fact that the fire started on a side opposite a heater in the shed and that oil was used to incite the flame is evidence of incendiary origin, Mr. King states.

Investigation is being made by the county sheriff's office.

Are They Bluebeard's Victims?



(Acme Telephoto) L. Cline, whose past police are probing for his connection with the deaths of at least seven elderly widows. Although authorities have no reason to believe these women were slain by Cline, they are seeking identification in hopes more light may be shed on the bizarre case of the ex-convict.

Code-Cracking Equipment Lacking At Hawaii, Investigators Informed

Washington, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—The Pearl Harbor Investigating committee heard today that the navy provided special equipment to break Japanese code for the U. S. Asiatic fleet at Manila but not for the Pacific fleet at Hawaii where Japan struck the war's opening blow.

Vice Admiral T. S. Wilkinson, former chief of naval intelligence, testified that the special equipment was sent to Adm. Thomas C. Hart at Manila to break the so-called "purple" code used by Japan in diplomatic exchanges.

He said Adm. Husband E. Kimmel, commanding the Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor, did not have facilities for breaking the diplomatic code.

Politicians Skirmish

Wilkinson testified after democratic and republican members of the committee fought another skirmish in the running political warfare which has accompanied the investigation.

Threats were voiced to investigate all committee aides, to determine their past employers and present salaries, and to question Gov. Thomas E. Dewey at some later date to find out how he learned during the 1944 presidential campaign that we were breaking Japanese codes.

Wilkinson, first witness as the committee turned to the navy story of events which preceded the Dec. 7, 1941, disaster, did not say immediately who ordered the additional facilities for Manila. Nor did he say why they were given to Hart and not to Kimmel.

Wilkinson said he did not know until recently that Kimmel had asked Washington officials in May, 1941, to provide him with information regarding Japanese diplomatic activities.

Summary Prepared

He said his office prepared a fortnightly summary of world events which included some information on diplomatic activities. He said it did not include information taken from interception of Japanese messages, however, because the code-breaking was a closely guarded secret.

The start of Wilkinson's testimony was delayed for nearly half an hour this morning by the political wrangle. The argument is expected to be revived at an executive session of the committee tentatively scheduled for late today.

Formation of a committee of business men who will work in cooperation with the United States Employment service in an effort to provide full employment for returning veterans was announced today by the Jackson county Chamber of Commerce. Members of the committee will be selected and announced this week.

Decision to form the committee was made following two conferences of Chamber of Commerce representatives, of the USES and other agencies of the city and county dealing with veterans. During the meetings problems relating to closer coordination of the efforts of the various agencies was discussed, and the housing situation as related to returning veterans and their families was also reviewed.

SCHOOL CENSUS REVEALS GAIN IN CITY POPULATION

Medford Has 4,183 Between Ages of 4 and 20—Represents Year's Increase 473

Medford has 4,183 residents between the ages of 4 and 20 years according to the annual school census recently completed and released from the office of E. H. Hedrick, superintendent of city schools. It is explained that while termed the "school" census, ages of the children counted do not coincide with school attendance figures, since the census is made under the provisions of an old statute.

The census was reported as of October 25 of this year and the last enrollment figures reported for the public school showed 3,093 pupils enrolled November 16, Hedrick stated. The census figure represents an increase of 473 or 12.7 per cent over the census taken last year. The 1944 census showed 3,710 persons between the ages of 4 and 20 and the 1943 figures was 3,443, representing a gain of 740 pupils, or 21.4 per cent in the two year period.

City Total 14,290

"If we use the same ratio figure, 3 1/2 as existed between our national census taken in 1940 and the school census of the same year, our total population today should be about 14,290," Hedrick stated. "It will be remembered, too, that a considerable number of our own people are still away in the military service."

(Editor's note: The city water department figures Medford's population at 15,652.)

"The present population is not a war increase. In fact, during the time Camp White was filled, 1942, 1943, we had practically no increase in school population. Our gains in school census, at least, have been made since that time."

"Last summer this office made a study of the population coming to us from the new pupils enrollment cards, to ascertain what vocations, trades, or professions these new people were entering upon their arrival here. The distribution was very wide. Over 80 vocational classifications of parents were represented. Indications are that new population increases are made up of people coming here to reside."

4th and Ivy Center

"The school population has not shifted very much geographically. Our population distribution maps show that the center of population for the city has moved in the last six years about 450 feet to the south and west. It is now at West 4th and North Ivy streets."

Census enumerators were Mrs. B. H. Bryant, Mrs. H. D. Powell, Mrs. B. Forncrook, Mrs. H. F. Cope, with Mrs. Bernice Kunzman as checking clerk.

GEN. MARSHALL LEAVES HONOLULU FOR CHINA

Honolulu, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—Gen. George C. Marshall, President Truman's special envoy to China, left Honolulu for Chungking at 3:50 a. m. today.

Marshall arrived at Hickam Field yesterday morning in a C-54 and was the guest of Lt. Gen. Robert C. Richardson during his stopover. On his arrival he was met by Gen. Richardson and Adm. Raymond Spruance, Pacific fleet commander.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Marian Housechild trying to identify a woman and declaring that the description of a "large woman wearing a fur coat" wasn't very helpful.

Shirley Starr and Margaret Schuler dazzled by the super-colossal bridge playing of two Chinese army officers.

Clara Orr scurrying up an alley to avoid a Christmas shopping jam.

7 DEAD, 62 HURT AS TRAINS CRASH IN BLINDING FOG

Kollock, S. C., Dec. 17—(U.P.)—Heavy winter fog was blamed today for the broadside crash of the luxury train Silver Meteor into the New York-bound Sun Queen near here yesterday.

There were seven killed and at least 62 persons were injured when the Florida-bound Meteor crashed into the middle of the Queen as it pulled onto a siding to clear the tracks.

The dead: Two soldiers (names withheld). Two sailors (names withheld). Meteor Engineer W. W. Shoemaker of Raleigh, N. C. Porter James T. Ferrell of Richmond, Va.

Perry C. Reese of (2505 Duke St.) Alexandria, Va., a passenger.

Seen Too Late

Officials of the Seaboard Air Line railway said an early investigation showed that Shoemaker didn't see the Sun Queen coaches until it was too late. Survivors reported there was a heavy pre-dawn fog.

Shoemaker's train was roaring southward as the first section of the Silver Meteor. The Sun Queen was pulling onto the Kollock siding.

All but the last five coaches of the Queen were on the siding when the few passengers not asleep saw the Meteor's headlight burst out of the fog. A second later there was a grinding crash as the south-bound engine plowed into the front end of the fifth coach from the end.

Chicago, Dec. 17—(U.P.)—Eight home-bound soldiers were hospitalized and 22 others under treatment for lesser injuries today after the collision of two coupled Chicago and Northwest "400" diesel engines with a troop train. Scores were shaken and bruised.

The rear car of the 11-car troop train, its cargo of soldiers singing happily over impending discharge after Pacific duty, was hit by the two-engine diesel combination last night as the troop train slowed in the Northwest's west side yards.

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