

SERGEANT IN AIR FORCE JAILED AS SPY FOR HITLER

Hamilton Field, Cal., Dec. 22 (U.P.)—Staff Sergeant Frank Hirt, 30, a United States army air forces mechanic and former member of Adolf Hitler's storm troops, has been arrested at the Fairfield-Suisun air base on a charge of conspiring to commit wartime espionage for the German government, with the investigation of Hirt's suspected spy activities wide in scope at its climax. Hirt was understood to have confessed that he was a graduate of the Nazi espionage school at Berlin, where he said he learned the myriad tricks of the spy trade.

The army announced the arrest and the United Press learned independently that Hirt, after persistently denying Nazi espionage activities, made a partial confession of guilt as he prepared to submit to a lie detector test.

The army specifically charged

Hirt with the following: Conspiracy with German agents in Europe and Brazil to obtain and send to Germany information about American military planes.

That he was recruited, trained and financed in Germany for an espionage mission to the United States by Karl Bauer, notorious Nazi espionage agent.

That after his enlistment in the U. S. army he corresponded with German agents and continued as an active member of the conspiracy until his arrest this year.

The army said Hirt admitted that he belonged to the Nazi party in Germany; and that he was a corporal in the reichsfuehrer's S. A. It was understood in addition that Hirt had been a member of the Hitler-Jugend, or Nazi youth movement.

Hirt was arrested last March at Fairfield-Suisun, a trans-Pacific staging point and terminal for the army air forces ATC transports and combat planes destined for overseas assignment.

Illuminating gas was first successfully manufactured in 1797, and by 1815, London had three plants engaged in supplying the gas to city lighting facilities.

CLINE HELD FOR TRIAL IN TEXAS; LIST 10 MURDERS

San Francisco, Dec. 22 (U.P.)—Albert Leonard Cline, 56 year old ex-convict whose nationwide trail over the past 14 years strangely coincided with the mysterious deaths or disappearances of at least 10 elderly men and women, today was ordered held to face Dallas, Tex., murder charges.

As District Attorney Edmund Brown reported new evidence unearthed in Los Angeles set a definite pattern in the deaths of at least five persons associated with the silver haired former choir singer, Judge Edward Molkenbuhr denied Cline's appeal for release.

Molkenbuhr, in arraignment proceedings, ordered Cline held in county jail on a fugitive warrant for Dallas authorities until Jan. 12. Police officials from the Texas city were reported en route here to take custody of Cline, whose attorney contended he should be released because of "insufficient evidence."

Police Capt. John Engler told the court that the Dallas warrant charged Cline with the murder of a woman—variously identified as Alice W. Carpenter and Mrs. E. Delora Krebs Cline—in a Dallas hotel last year.

UNEASY HOLIDAY IN AUTO STRIKE

Detroit, Dec. 22 (U.P.)—An uneasy holiday lull prevailed in the auto industry's labor troubles tonight with at least 287,000 automotive workers idle across the nation.

Of these 175,000 were CIO United Auto Workers on strike against General Motors, with 112,000 more temporarily laid off because of other production problems, notably shortage of parts from supplier plants.

Ford Motor company laid off 80,000 workers at three Detroit plants and 20,000 others elsewhere in the nation because of lack of supplies. Most, however, were to be recalled Dec. 26. A progressive layoff of 10,000 Detroit workers in Packard Motor company plants continued through the weekend. Again parts shortages were blamed. And the prolonged glass industry strike caused an indefinite shutdown of one Briggs Manufacturing company plant and layoffs for 2,000 workers.

THEATER BUILDING PLANNED FOR C.P.

Central Point, Dec. 22—Construction of an 800-seat modern concrete theater building is planned here next summer according to Walter H. Leverette of Medford who purchased the Harry Dunn property on Pine and Second streets yesterday as site for the structure.

Leverette, who owns show houses in Medford and Astland, Ore., and Yreka and Weed, Calif., said growth of the Central Point community makes a theater here desirable.

Razing of the old Thiess building which occupies the proposed theater site will start in the early spring. The structure has been used for several years as an union warehouse.

Program Tonight At Friends Church

Thirty-five children of the Friends church will participate in a Christmas program at 7:30 tonight according to Milo C. Ross, pastor. Following the Sunday school program the youth of the church, numbering about 25 boys and girls, will present a short pageant, written by Judy Tokahira, and entirely arranged by the attend-

ers of the weekly youth night. Candy treats will be given all boys and girls.

The church is located at De-

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MOVIE COMEDIAN WINGED TWO JAPS

Columbus, O., Dec. 22 (U.P.)—Joe E. Brown, the screen and stage comedian who performed for American troops up to and sometimes in the battle lines of the war, today was revealed to have marked up two Japanese casualties by quick-shooting with a carbine.

The story was related after Brown, making an opening night appearance here in the Broadway stage hit "Harvey", had recognized Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler, commander of Ohio's 37th division in the audience, and called him to the stage.

Beightler said that during the fighting on Luzon, when the 37th broke out into the Cagayan Valley, Brown was riding in a lead tank.

As the American forces entered a town, several Japanese broke and ran. Brown, the general said, jumped from the tank and began firing a carbine. One of the enemy fell, and the comedian later picked up his battle flag.

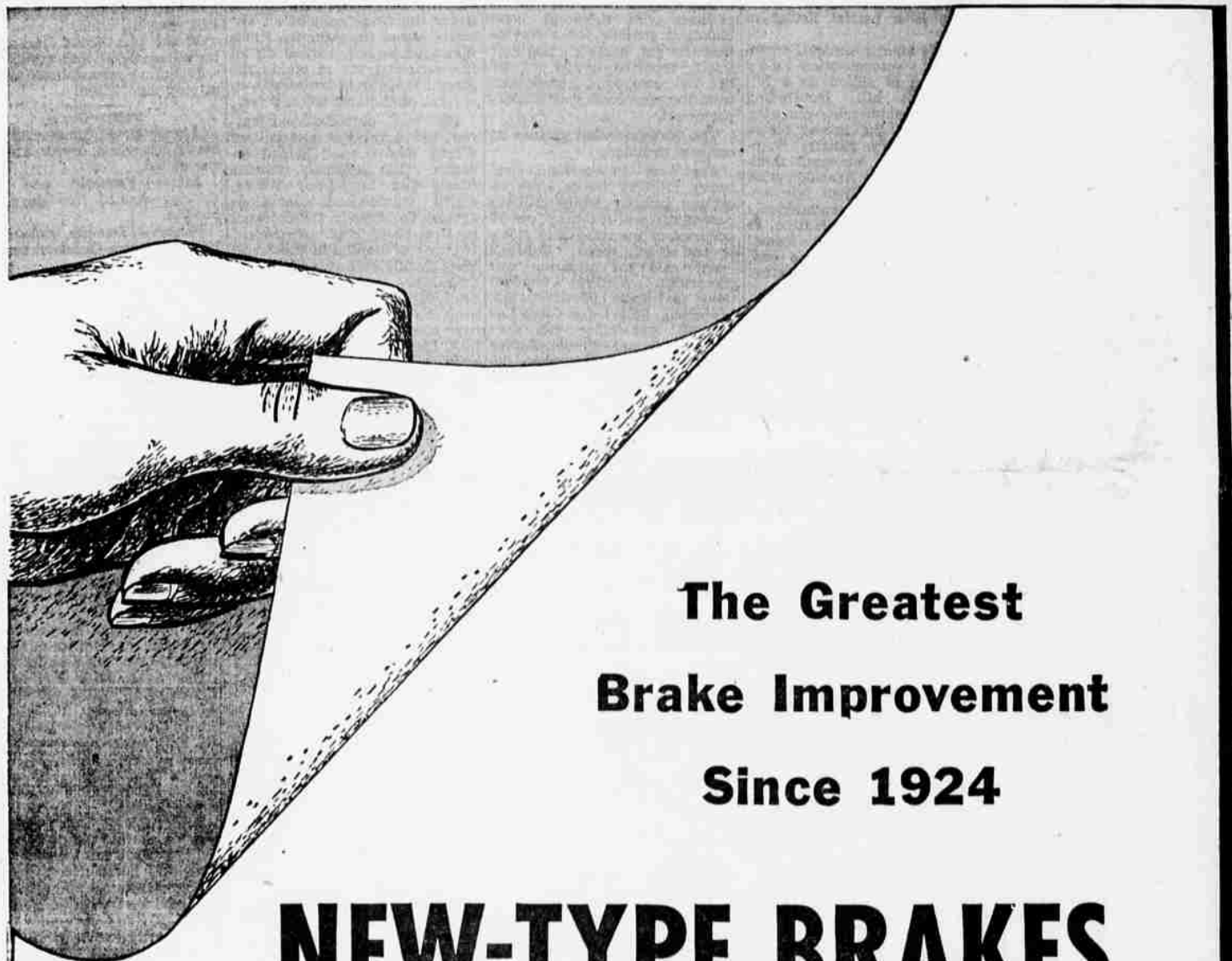
Then another Japanese who had fallen jumped up and began to run, but Brown felled him with another burst from the carbine.

HAWAII REJOICES
Honolulu, Dec. 22 (U.P.)—"A welcome Christmas gift—was Gov. Ingram A. Stainback's comment today lauding Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes support of Hawaiian Island statehood in 1946.

Tow Line Passed to Troop Laden Craft

San Francisco, Dec. 22 (U.P.)—A tow line was secured late today to the army transport Imperial adrift near Humboldt Bay on the northern California coast, by the coast guard cutter Shawnee.

The troopship requested aid yesterday when her main en-



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