

BIG 3 WIND UP ATOMIC TALKS; INITIAL TREATY

Byrnes and Bevin Expected To Leave Moscow Thursday—Meet Here Next

Moscow, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — The Big Three foreign ministers held their last formal meeting of the 11-day atomic bomb and peace treaty conference today to ratify the draft of a final communique covering all the issues on which they have reached agreement.

The three principals and their delegations went into conference at 2:30 p. m. to wind up their business and initial the communique on which a drafting committee had worked all day yesterday and again this morning.

Leave Thursday

Weather permitting, U. S. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes and British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin were expected to leave Moscow by plane tomorrow. Contrary to earlier reports, Byrnes was scheduled to fly directly to the United States without stopping off in Paris to discuss France's role in the eastern European peace treaty negotiations.

Byrnes tried unsuccessfully to reach French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault by telephone Monday.

Diplomatic sources in Moscow appeared confident that France would adhere to the peace treaty proposals outlined by the Big Three.

Meet At Palace

Byrnes, Bevin and Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav M. Molotov held a 6 1/4-hour meeting in the Spiridonovka palace last night, their longest session of the conference.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed in Washington that Byrnes had invited the British and Russian foreign ministers to hold their next three-way meeting in the United States capital, around March 15.

MINERS TRAPPED BY EXPLOSION IN COAL PIT DEPTHS

Pineville, Ky., Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — An undetermined number of miners — possibly between 30 and 50 — were trapped in a deep drift mine of the Kentucky Straight Creek Coal Co. today when an explosion rocked the operation shortly after the men went to work in the icy dawn.

W. E. Lewis, company operator, shouted over a humming rural telephone wire that the explosion blasted through the mine, two miles from the mouth, about 8:30 a. m.

"About 50 of our men were in there when it happened," he said. "I don't know yet what caused it — probably gas or dust."

He said it would be "two or three more hours" before any accurate estimate of the situation could be obtained. He ordered five rescue crews into the shafts to try to reach the trapped men who might still be alive despite fumes.

The isolated little community perched in the southern Kentucky mountains just north of the Tennessee state line was shaken by the disaster that came as the men went back to work after the most cheering Christmas holiday in years.

FINAL ARGUMENTS IN TATSUO TRIAL

Yokohama, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — Final arguments were made today in the trial of Tatsuio (Little Glass Eye) Tsuchiya, the former Japanese prison camp guard accused of killing an American prisoner of war and committing atrocities against other allied nationals.

Chief Prosecution Counsel Major Louis Offen, Atlanta, Ga., closed his argument by demanding the death penalty for Tsuchiya who he said "enjoyed seeing American prisoners suffer in agony and torture."

The eight-man military commission which heard the seven-day trial — first war crimes trial to be held in Japan proper — was expected to give its verdict tomorrow (Thursday) — possibly at 10 a. m. when court reconvenes.

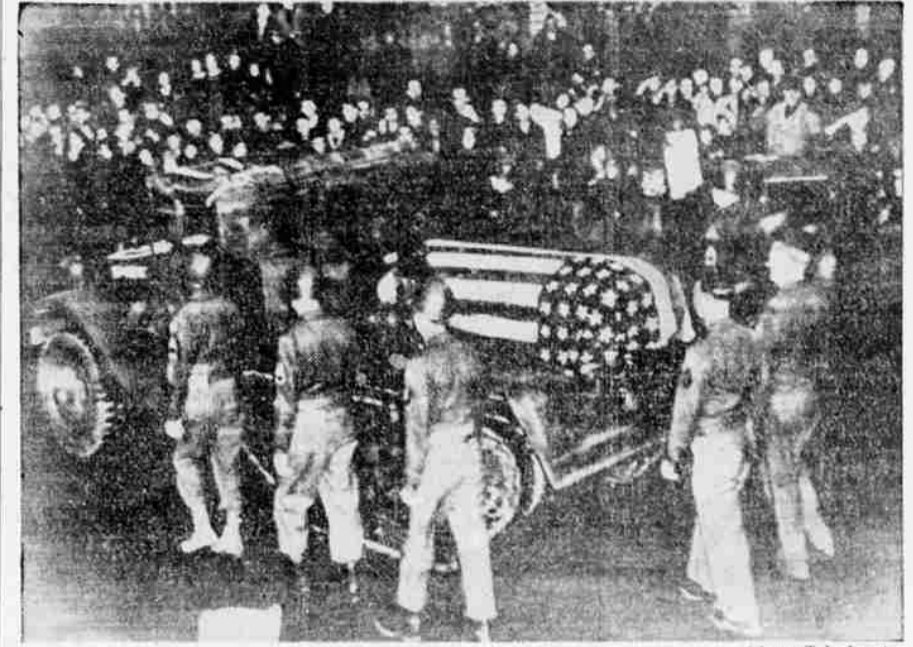
London, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — Prime Minister Willem Schermerhorn of The Netherlands arrived by plane at Croydon airfield today for discussions with British officials of the Indonesian situation.

470 VIOLENT DEATHS COUNTED OVER YULE HOLIDAY

MEDFORD MALL RIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire Fortieth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1946 NO. 235.

Heidelberg Pays Tribute to General Patton



Half-track bearing flag-draped coffin of Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., rumbles through streets of Heidelberg, Germany, on way to railroad station after funeral services there. Train later carried him to Luxembourg for services and burial beside one of the privates of his beloved Third Army who helped him forge a brilliant victory at Ardennes bulge. Photo by Rex Kenny, Acme photographer, radioed from Paris to New York.

Moral Collapse of German People More Discouraging Than Physical Destruction Says Captain Kelly

The psychological and moral collapse of the German people is even more discouraging to observe than is the physical destruction of their cities and industries according to Edward C. Kelly, Medford attorney who returned home Monday after two years in England and Germany with the army military government branch. The attorney, who held the rank of captain, was released from service at Ft. Lewis Sunday.

DEATH BY HANGING FOR JAP OFFICERS

Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — Two high-ranking Japanese naval officers and nine co-defendants were sentenced to death by hanging by a U. S. naval court today for executing 96 American civilians on Wake Island in 1943.

Five other Japanese were sentenced to prison terms of five years to life.

Rear Admiral Shigematsu Sakai, former Japanese commander on Wake, and his executive officer, Lt. Comdr. Soichi Tachibana, stood at attention as interpreters read the sentences.

Before the verdict was announced, Sakai defiantly demanded that Americans who conceived and carried out the atom bomb attack on Japan be tried.

The 16 Japanese were convicted of machine-gunning the Americans on a lonely beach of Wake Island on the night of Oct. 7, 1943. The victims, employees of Pan American Airways, had been forced to work for the Japanese for 22 months after invasion of the island.

Chiang's Son Goes To Russian Capital
Chungking, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's Russian-speaking son, Chiang Chung-Kuo, has departed for Moscow for new negotiations concerning the occupation of Manchuria, it was learned reliably today.

Chiang's trip also was believed to be connected with the Moscow conference of Big Three foreign ministers.

Meantime Central News agency said Gen. Tu Li Ming's nationalist forces have recovered Tahushan and Heishan, 70 miles west of Mukden, in the continuing penetration of Manchuria.

TRAINS COLLIDE
Bemidji, Minn., Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — At least 12 persons were injured today when two Great Northern passenger trains collided. Attendants at the Bemidji Lutheran hospital said Rudolph Anderson, Trail, Minn., and Joseph Swaine, Grand Forks, N. D., a baggage man, were seriously hurt.

TRUMAN PLANNING TALK TO NATION EARLY IN JANUARY

Denies Address Will Be Anti-Labor — Returning to Washington Friday

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — President Truman said today that his major pronouncement of the new year would be a "state of the nation" radio address early in January on his over-all legislative program.

Mr. Truman made the statement to correspondents who met him in his federal building offices after he had made his second Christmas visit in 18 hours at the home of his 93-year-old mother, Mrs. Martha Truman.

Not Anti-Labor
A correspondent remarked that he understood the address would be "anti-labor" and asked the president whether such an understanding was correct.

The president replied it would not be that, at all, dismissing any such possibility with that brief remark.

The president said he would return to Washington in accordance with his original schedule, which calls for him to leave here at 8:30 a. m. (CST) Friday.

He was returning, he said with a grin, not because there were any particularly pressing matters awaiting him but simply because he knew his desk would be piled high with work he wanted to get out of the way.

Mother Visited
Mr. Truman reached the federal building at 12:10 p. m. (CST) following the drive in Grandview, where he had a turkey sandwich and a piece of cake while he visited with his mother and his sister.

He'd found them just fine, he added. He explained he'd made the morning trip to take along some presents which hadn't arrived at his Independence home in time for delivery on the first trip last night.

As he entered the federal building, the chief executive gave 12-year-old Henry C. Jeffries, Jr., his biggest thrill. He posed with the boy, who had waited two hours for him to arrive, while the cameras clicked.

"Gee," the son of a navy veteran breathed, "wait till I tell the kids at school!"

Friends Greeted
The president shook hands around with a group of old friends and then went to lunch with Tom Evans, Kansas City drug chain operator and life long friend. This afternoon he said he was going back to the ice-cream parlor "Little White House" to unwrap some more presents and then he just wanted to sit with his family and enjoy himself.

There were no definite plans for tonight. He said he probably would have some Christmas visits with friends and there was the possibility of a third trip to Grandview. He said he'd return to Kansas City tomorrow morning and will have an "off the record" luncheon as guests of correspondents covering his Christmas visit.

The coast guard was transferred from the treasury to the navy by an executive order of President Roosevelt on Nov. 1, 1941. Since that time, the coast guard participated in every major amphibious operation, supplied invasion troops, directed air-sea rescue operations, guarded ports and supervised loading of munitions.

The coast guard's peak wartime strength was 172,000 personnel, including Spars — the women's auxiliary organization. By Dec. 18, however, coast guard personnel totaled little more than 100,000.

235,000 GI'S OUT IN SINGLE WEEK

Washington, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — A total of 235,000 army personnel were released during the week ended Dec. 21. This brought the total of releases since V-E day May 12 to 4,466,000 the War department said today.

The total released during December through the 21st was 632,000 and the total from V-J day, Sept. 2 through Dec. 21, 3,874,000.

Since V-E day 18,493 doctors, 4,375 dentists and 27,528 nurses have been returned to civilian life from the army.

CVA HEARINGS SOON
Washington, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — Sen. Hugh B. Mitchell, D., Wash., said today he expects hearings to begin early in February on his bill to create a Columbia valley authority. Hearings in the senate will be held by the commerce committee.

Ceilings Fixed On Retail Lumber
Washington, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — The Office of Price Administration authorized its regional offices today to establish dollar and cent ceiling prices for soft wood lumber, shingles and hard wood flooring sold by retail dealers.

Such prices, OPA said, will permit home owners, repairmen, and building contractors to know more readily what the ceiling prices for these items are. Previously prices were set up by a formula that was difficult for consumers to understand.

The principal source of income in Wyoming is agriculture.

Winter Relaxes Grip On Midwest, Northeast Areas

By United Press
Heavy snows and icing conditions which prevailed throughout much of the midwest and northeast over the Christmas holiday abated today, with temperatures expected to be normal in most parts of the nation.

The U. S. weather bureau in Chicago reported that while snow was forecast for some areas of the midwest, a northwest wind of 20 to 30 miles an hour which piled up towering drifts had diminished.

Slightly colder weather was predicted for Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio, but temperatures were slated to remain well above zero. Minnesota will have a minimum of 5 to 10 above.

SOLDIERS ON WAY TO HOMES AFTER SMALLPOX SCARE

Portland, Ore., Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — All but one of 1,775 soldiers from the troop transport Grundy were headed homeward today after being quarantined aboard ship in port here because of a contagious disease.

The only one not homeward bound was T/S Francis R. Price, 30, Wheeling, W. Va., who died of smallpox and whose illness made it necessary to quarantine the ship.

The quarantine was lifted Christmas day and the troops were transported to the Vancouver barracks staging area where several trains took them to separation centers.

Christmas dinner was served aboard the ship Monday and gifts were given to all.

The smallpox victim was taken ashore when the vessel arrived here Friday. He died Monday. He is survived by his widow, Nellie, of Wheeling.

The Grundy is scheduled to return to the Orient for more troops after she undergoes repairs here.

COAST GUARD TO FORMER STATUS

Washington, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — The coast guard, which played an important role as part of the navy, will be returned next month to its peacetime position as a branch of the treasury department, it was learned today.

Preliminary details of the transfer already have been worked out by the treasury and navy departments. The shift will be announced formally by President Truman.

The coast guard was transferred from the treasury to the navy by an executive order of President Roosevelt on Nov. 1, 1941. Since that time, the coast guard participated in every major amphibious operation, supplied invasion troops, directed air-sea rescue operations, guarded ports and supervised loading of munitions.

The coast guard's peak wartime strength was 172,000 personnel, including Spars — the women's auxiliary organization. By Dec. 18, however, coast guard personnel totaled little more than 100,000.

English Professor Spends Christmas In Boxcar With Two Horses and Cat

Greeley, Colo., Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — George C. Gates, professor of English, arrived cold but happy today, after spending Christmas in a boxcar with two horses and a cat.

Gates, the horses and the cat made the boxcar trip from Cedar Falls, Ia., so that Gates could join the faculty at Colorado State College of Education.

Their private car, part of a string of regular freight cars which left Cedar Falls on Sunday afternoon, pulled up to an unloading ramp in the Greeley railroad yards today and the bespectacled, 41-year-old professor, stepped out the door.

Christmas, he said, was a pleasant day. He spent it quietly, smoking his pipe and reading poetry. Even the horses

had a good time. "They seemed to enjoy the trip," Gates said. "After their initial surprise, they became accustomed to the ride, even bringing themselves every time the engine signaled two whistles for the takeoff."

Gates' wife arrived in Greeley yesterday. She made the trip from Iowa in the more conventional style of railroad passenger service.

The professor said he couldn't understand what "all the fuss was about."

"I'll admit that my mode of transportation was a little unique, but I wouldn't have thought of coming west without my horses," he explained. "Besides, the trip had economical advantages."

CIO PICKETS BAR PLANT EXECUTIVE AT G. M. GARAGE

Unofficial Holiday Labor Truce Ended By Force—Case Strike Scheduled

By United Press
CIO United Auto Workers pickets barred a General Motors executive from a company garage at Flint, Mich., today as an unofficial holiday labor truce came to an end.

Another executive managed to drive through the picket lines and into the garage on the third try. No one was injured in either incident.

Some Cross Lines
The company announced, meanwhile, that about 25,000 of its 30,000 non-striking office workers had crossed picket lines and reported for work.

The UAW resumed negotiations with the big auto manufacturers over demands for a 30 per cent wage increase.

Heading the schedule was a meeting with officials of the strikebound General Motors Corp., which administration leaders hoped might affect a settlement applicable to the industry as a whole.

Today's conference, dedicated to discussion of local plant grievances, also was expected to consider the question of higher wages, basic issue in disputes keeping 498,000 U. S. workers away from their jobs.

Friday Deadline
President Truman's fact-finding committee last week gave the parties until Friday to settle their dispute without government intervention.

Similar wage negotiations with the Ford Motor Co. were recessed until Jan. 8.

In Washington, the administration reportedly had advanced plans for overhauling its employment, wage stabilization and labor conciliation services to facilitate handling of postwar work stoppages.

For the most part, the labor scene was characterized by a post-holiday letdown. However, J. I. Case Co. employees in four cities were scheduled to go on strike today, culminating a long dispute.

DAR PARLIAMENTARIAN SUCCUMBS AGED 69

St. Louis, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — Mrs. John Trigg Moss, 69, national parliamentarian of the Daughters of the American Revolution, died at her home here today. She had been ill from the effects of high blood pressure for the past several months.

Mrs. Moss, past vice president general of the DAR, was also active in civic and educational organizations.

TWO AT CAMP WHITE ADVANCE TO CAPTAIN

Camp White, Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — Two first lieutenants stationed at Camp White have been promoted to the rank of captain, the news being received the day before Christmas. Advanced in rank were Frank S. Prime, post exchange officer, and Foute Egleton, post signal officer.

Capt. Prime and Mrs. Prime, the former Jane Moffitt, reside at Holly Court.

FAMED 28TH COMING

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — The famed 28th marine regiment of the fifth division, which raised the U. S. flag on Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima, was enroute home today and scheduled to arrive here within a few days.

TRAFFIC MISHAPS ACCOUNT FOR 248; CALIFORNIA LEADS

Cold Weather Causes Heavy Loss — Shootings, Suicides, Falls Account 222

Santa Barbara, Calif., Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — Three persons were killed and five seriously injured today when an explosion and fire, believed set off by butane gas in a truck, wrecked a bottling works and the 20 apartments on the second floor of the building.

Windows three blocks from the blast at the Pepsi Cola Bottling Works were shattered and the force of the explosion was felt ten miles away.

The three dead were Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson, and Caroline Sue Stovall, 10, daughter of Mrs. Josephine Stovall, who was injured seriously.

By United Press
The nation counted a total of 470 dead today in the wake of the Christmas holiday.

At least 248 persons were killed in traffic accidents over ice-coated highways, and an additional 222 met violent deaths in shootings, suicides, falls and other mishaps.

California led the rest of the country with 47 traffic and 24 miscellaneous deaths for a total of 71 in the four-day holiday period. In the Los Angeles area alone, 33 persons died on the highways.

Texas Second
Texas, biggest state geographically, had the second highest violent death toll. Twenty-six of the state's total of 46 deaths were traffic fatalities. Fifteen of Texas' 20 other accidental deaths were described officially as murders.

Other states with high number of holiday deaths included Pennsylvania with 44, Connecticut with 27 and New York and Missouri with 24 each.

In the upper half of the nation, where freezing rains and slippery highways took a high toll of holiday dead, state police reported fewer accidents with gradually rising temperatures.

Five Children Burn
Tragedy hit hard at Fayetteville, W. Va., yesterday when five of the 10 children of Mr. and Mrs. George Sodder burned to death in an early morning fire. The parents and four other children narrowly escaped when the blaze completely leveled their two-story frame home.

One fireman was killed and another injured last night when flames destroyed the Commercial National bank at Anniston, Ala. The dead man was Burt Coles, 55, a veteran of 20 years with the department. Fire Chief Emmett White was treated for injuries.

PANICKY NURSE BLAMED IN DEATH OF 17 AGED FOLK

Hartford, Conn., Dec. 26 — (U.P.) — State Fire Marshal Edward J. Hickey said today that a panicky nurse at the Niles street hospital dropped a fire extinguisher in attempting to put out a blazing Christmas tree on Christmas eve and fled the building, leaving an outside door open. Hickey said flames were driven into the upper floors by the draft of air.

The nurse discovered the fire in the hospital office, he said, and took one of the four available fire extinguishers, all of which were in working order.

"She lost her head," Hickey said and dropped the container, turned and fled to summon help.

"When she went out the front door she left the outside door open and that draft of air from the outside just whipped the flames and smoke up the stairway and the people upstairs were suffocated before help could get to them."

Hickey's disclosure came as an official investigation into the fire, which caused the deaths of 17 aged men and women, was interrupted by a summons from Gov. Raymond E. Baldwin who said he had talked with Hickey and State Health Commissioner Stanley H. Osborn about "what steps we could take to organize a state-wide survey and study of safety regulations and precautions."

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