

INVADERS IN SUBURBS OF SEOUL

U.S., Russia on Opposite Sides In Korea Battle

(Editor's note: A shooting war has broken out in Korea. What it is all about? What vital interest has the United States in the outcome? These and other pertinent questions are answered in the following dispatch by Ernest Hoberrecht, veteran United Press Far Eastern correspondent and manager of U.P.'s Tokyo bureau.)

By Ernest Hoberrecht
United Press Correspondent
Tokyo, June 26—(U.P.)—The United States and Russia are in opposite corners in the Korean war.

Russia is supporting northern Korea, a communist puppet state which attacked American-supported southern Korea before dawn Sunday in an attempt to win control of the whole country. Korea shook off the Japanese yoke at the end of World War II to find that it had been cut in two by the United States and Russia in the Yalta agreement.

The dividing line was fixed at the 38th parallel of latitude. Each side encourages its own brand of democracy.

Russian troops, already in Manchuria, occupied the northern half of the Korean peninsula. U. S. troops moved into the southern half. Each encouraged its own brand of democracy.

Under American sponsorship, the (south) Korean republic was proclaimed August 15, 1948, with Syngman Rhee as president. The United States turned over the reins of government to the new republic.

Russia took the cue and the (north) Korean people's republic was proclaimed September 12, 1948, with a government of communists.

The United States and Russia withdrew their troops and retired to the sidelines. They left behind diplomatic and military missions to advise the rival contestants.

The United Nations established a Korean commission to try and reconcile the two governments and set up a democratic regime for the whole country. North Korea refused to let the commission enter its territory.

Thus the lines were drawn for the war which exploded Sunday dawn. And the United States and Russia for the first time find themselves helping governments they established fight each other.

Aid Could Lead to War With Russia
The United States faces this dilemma:

If it openly aids southern Korea, this conceivably could lead to a shooting war with Russia.

But if the U. S. stands idly by, it may lose to communism, either by force or by default, other friendly Asian countries now in the western bloc who have been counting on America for help.

A highly-placed source in Tokyo says south Korea has only about 10 days' supply of ammunition. But the U. S. already is trying to remedy that by flying in emergency supplies of munitions and other war supplies. Ships will follow with more.

The northern forces also were believed to be short of ammunition, gasoline and transport. But Russia and communist China stand behind them.

The best estimate here is that southern Korea can muster 141,000 men and north Korea, 116,000.

The northern forces comprise 66,000 army troops, 10,000 security troops and 40,000 police. The southern forces comprise 96,000 army regulars and 45,000 police.

North Has Great Air Superiority
North Korea has great air superiority with several squadrons of the latest type Russian fighter planes and a couple of old Japanese Mitsubishi bombers donated by Russia. South Korea has 15 L-5 reconnaissance planes carrying rocket launchers and 10 unarmed trainers.

The south has no tanks, but many American trucks and jeeps. The north has a regiment of light tanks, but is short on road transport.

Alaska Air Defenses Ordered on Alert

Anchorage, Alaska, June 26—(U.P.)—Anti-aircraft units and fighter plane personnel were alerted throughout Alaska today.

Military police passed through the city ordering all soldiers connected with the 887th anti-aircraft group and the fighter plane groups to return to their post immediately.

Maj. James K. Bryan, public information officer at nearby Fort Richardson, said the alert had been ordered by Lt. Gen. Nathan F. Twining, commander in chief of Alaskan military forces.

Gen. Twining was in Naknek, Alaska, when the invasion of South Korea started, Maj. Bryan said, but has been keeping constantly in touch with all bases under his command.

Army officials emphasized the alert was not general, and service troops were not among those ordered back to their posts.

"There is no cause for hysteria or alarm at this time," Gen. Twining said, "either within Anchorage or anywhere in the territory. This is only an advance intelligence alert. We are taking advantage of developments in the international situation to hold a precautionary alert here."

The general said the alert was applied to air bases throughout the territory, not only to Fort Richardson.

Capt. Sam Sloan, public information officer at Fort Richardson, said the entire fort was under a precautionary alert, including all troops.

WEATHER
By United Press
Northern California: Fair today, tonight and Tuesday except patches of morning fog along the coast; warmer over interior and slightly warmer along coast today; west to northwest winds 8-19 miles per hour off coast, except southerly 8-15 miles north of Fort Bragg.

Flynn reported that police have received numerous complaints regarding discharging of fireworks. The administration, he said, finds it necessary to enforce more rigidly city and state laws because of extremely hazardous fire and safety conditions.

Eleven Persons Lose Lives in Oregon, Washington Accidents

By United Press
Eleven persons lost their lives in Oregon and Washington during the week-end. Eight died in traffic accidents, two were killed in a plane crash and one person was drowned.

Pilot Benjamin Sears, Hillsboro, Ore., and Mrs. Anna Canby, Gaston, Ore., died when their light plane crashed five miles south of Forest Grove, Ore., Sunday shortly after the plane "buzzed" a farmhouse.

George Conway, Portland, drowned Sunday when a canoe capsized in the Tualatin river near Tigard, Ore. His companion, Wesley Thoms, was rescued.

Three members of a Puyallup, Wash., family, Mrs. Florence Ashdown, 30, and her son, Ray, 7, and daughter, Julia, 3, drowned Sunday when their pickup truck left the highway after sideswiping a car and plunged into a flood-filled ditch near The Dalles, Ore. Ray Ashdown Sr. was thrown clear.

Engvold Hanneman, 37, Portland, died Sunday when a car in which he was riding missed a turn at a bridge near Oswego, Ore., and crashed against a rock embankment.

Herman E. Lucke, 15, Renton, Wash., was killed instantly when he was thrown from the back of his father's truck after the vehicle collided with an automobile on the Sunset highway.

Otis Grove, 21, Seattle, was killed when the car he was driving smashed against the rear of a Seattle Transit system bus Sunday.

Karl H. Peterson, Seattle, was injured fatally when he fell under the wheels of a moving truck while trying to jump on the running board of the vehicle.

Donald Jenkins, Spokane, died when his car left the road 1½ miles east of Walla Walla, Wash. State patrolmen said Jenkins apparently went to sleep at the wheel.

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16 KNOWN DEAD IN FLASH FLOOD



MAY WED—Princess Margaret Rose (left) has picked the man she thinks she is going to marry. Friends in London say he is the Earl of Dalketh (right), 26, immensely rich, and the heir of the Scottish Duke of Buccleugh. Their engagement probably will be announced on or after her 20th birthday, Aug. 21.

Explosion Believed Cause of Air Crash

Benton Harbor, Mich., June 26—(U.P.)—A DC-4 Northwest airliner carrying 58 persons probably exploded during a violent storm over Lake Michigan in the nation's worst airplane disaster, officials said today.

The blast apparently shattered the plane to bits. Debris and parts of bodies were found yesterday and today over a four-mile area of the lake 12 miles northwest of here. The plane disappeared early Saturday on a flight from New York to Minneapolis.

Terrific Explosion
Berrien County Coroner Louie Kerlikowski and coast guard officers believed the plane was twisted by high winds which created a spark and ignited the gasoline supply.

Kerlikowski said "It must have been a terrific explosion to disintegrate the bodies so badly."

Several persons were found who believed they saw the ship explode.

Mrs. Bertha Busse of Bridgman, Mich., told Sheriff Erwin Kubath that just after the big flash of lightning she saw the plane flying over the lake. A second later, she heard an explosion and saw the ship disintegrate.

Coast Guard Capt. Nathaniel Fulford said he doubted whether there was "a piece of the ship big enough to be worth diving for."

Diving Request Refused
He refused a request by Northwest airlines for a service diver to make the plunge into water which he said was at least 200 feet deep at that point.

"I don't consider it the coast guard's duty to perform recovery service in this case," he said.

Northwest airlines sent a request to Washington for a navy diver.

Fulford said bits of flesh and debris were bobbing to the surface over the area.

R. P. Helm, a retired naval officer, who saw the plane fly through stormy skies early Saturday said "Suddenly there was a big flash and the plane was gone."

W. G. Gorkowski, acting chief of the civil aeronautics board's region 3, said it was "possible—but not probable—that the plane was hit by lightning." He tended toward the theory that high winds wrenched it, creating sparks that ignited the gasoline tanks.

Pieces Float to Surface
Capt. C. G. Bowman, skipper of the ice cutter Mackinac, told the United Press bureau at Detroit by radio telephone that "tiny pieces keep floating to the surface all through the area."

He said his men found hands, ears, a seat arm rest, and fragments of upholstery.

Fulford said the biggest piece of wreckage was "no bigger than your hand." However, searchers found two torsos and a piece of skull the size of a half-dollar.

Radio Highlights
Dick Schuchard will interview Coach Alex MacDonald concerning the Medford baseball school tomorrow at 7:45 a.m. over KYJC (1230 Kc.).

Six School Bids Over Bond Total
Central Point, June 26—School officials who opened bids here Saturday for new high school construction said today that all six offers made exceeded the \$500,000 provided by bond issue for the project.

The bids were turned over to the architects, Freeman, Haslip and Tufts, Portland, for study of alternates offered by contractors and the school board will convene at 8 p.m. Friday for further consideration.

Donald M. Drake company, Portland, was reported lowest bidder. Others seeking the job were Setters and Wiley, Ashland; W. H. Shields, Eugene; A. R. Nieman, Vancouver, Wash.; H. G. Carl, Salem, and H. Barnhart, Medford.

War Reports Send Stock Market in Downward Surge
New York, June 26—(U.P.)—Fighting in Korea today gave the stock market its widest break since September 3, 1946 on the largest volume since May 14, 1946.

Traders seized upon this outbreak of hostilities to dump holdings in tremendous volume. For a time at mid-session the tape fell as much as four minutes behind the market. Opening transactions were touched off on volume ranging to 35,000 shares in individual issues. Some leaders failed to open an hour or more after the initial gong had struck on the floor.

Slight Recovery
Widest declines were made at mid-session after a slight recovery had lifted prices from the early lows. This selling sent leaders down 5 to 7 points and one high priced issue, superior oil of California, lost 19 points. Chemicals, oils, steels and motors were hardest hit and most active.

Wall Street experts were at a loss to explain the sudden rush to sell. They pointed out that many traders had placed stop loss orders under the market and when these were touched they became orders to sell at the market. With demand off to a small level, large volume of offerings resulted in severe losses.

Commodities Advance
Commodities advanced as stocks declined. The Dow-Jones commodity futures index hit a new high since Aug. 6, 1948. Import commodities rose sharply and the grains made wide advances.

Dow Jones closing stock averages: 30 industrials 213.94, off 10.41; 20 railroads 52.42, off 3.43; 15 utilities 42.31, off 1.64; 65 stocks 74.85, off 3.79.

Sales today approximated 3,910,000 shares, compared with 1,700,000 traded Friday.

Springfield, Ore., June 26—(U.P.)—Twenty-six applications have been received for the city manager post vacant here since the city council discharged Fred Cheatham three weeks ago.

16 Others Missing In West Virginia; Red Cross Aids

Six-County Area Swept by Floods

Clarksburg, W. Va., June 26 (U.P.)—Five more bodies were recovered today from the flood-ravaged six-county area swept by week-end flash floods, bringing the number of drowned to 16. Another 16 persons were missing and believed dead.

State Police Capt. E. E. Stout said the bodies of Naomi McKinney, 12, Linnie McKinney, 8, Clyde Bailey, R. W. Rothwell and an unidentified man were recovered at Avondale, a short distance below their homes in the vicinity of Smithburg.

Bodies Not Recovered
Stout said the list of missing and presumed dead included six members of the Cooper family of Smithburg. He said their bodies had not been recovered.

Stout directed the search by radio from Shinnston after national guardsmen, police and volunteer workers resumed their effort at dawn. A thick fog caused search operations to be suspended during the night.

The Red Cross rushed food and medicine into the stricken area and set up relief stations to care for those whose homes were swept away by the swirling water.

Power Restored
The Monongahela Power company at Fairmont said electric power had been restored in all flooded towns except Cairo, where utility poles and lines were completely submerged or washed away.

Fred Schroeder, in charge of the companies repair crews, said it would be two to three days before service could be restored in Cairo.

Three Hurt in Crash On Highway 99 North
Community hospital attendants said today that the condition of Mrs. Norman Summers, 30, Klamath Falls, and of James Kilburn, 34, Crater Lake were fair this morning. They were injured early Sunday morning when a car driven by Norman Summers collided head-on with one driven by Kilburn near the Valley drive-in theater on highway 99.

Conger-Morris ambulance attendants said Mrs. Summers suffered a broken leg and that Summers had a bad cut over his right eye. Kilburn sustained back and shoulder injuries. Summers has been released from the hospital.

Switchmen Dig in for Long Strength Test
Chicago, June 26—(U.P.)—AFL switchmen and five western railroads dug in today for a lengthy test of strength as the national railway mediation board sought to end the switchmen's strike against the roads.

Francis O'Neill, chairman of the board, talked with both sides in an effort to find a formula to end the walkout of 4,000 switchmen against the Rock Island, Great Northern, Western Pacific, Chicago Great Western and Denver and Rio Grande western railroads.

However, O'Neill said no joint conferences were scheduled as the strike went into its second day.

32,000 Out of Work
About 32,000 non-striking employees were thrown out of work on the four roads paralyzed by the switchmen. The walkout also threatened to idle at least part of the Great Northern's 28,000 non-striking workers.

The five roads are heavy freight haulers and operate over 21,256 miles of track in 23 states.

Union President Arthur Glover said the strike would "stay in effect until we win our objectives."

Called 'Callous Violation'
Daniel P. Loomis, chairman of the Association of Western Railroads, called the strike a "callous violation of the spirit and intent of the railway labor act."

"This is just another unjustified strike which the railroads will have to sit out," he said.

The switchmen walked off their jobs and began picketing at 6 a.m. local time, yesterday to enforce a demand that their work week be cut from 48 to 40 hours without loss in pay.

Portland, Ore., June 26—(U.P.)—Great Northern railroad officials said today switching operations at Klamath Falls, Ore., and Beiber, Cal., were shut down when union engineers, firemen and other employees refused to cross picket lines set up yesterday by striking AFL switchmen.

Thirty switchmen belonging to the Klamath Falls local went on strike at the two yards. A spokesman said no northbound freight trains were expected at Klamath Falls because of the strike. Normally, six trains a day pass through the two yards.



FARM LAND ISOLATED—Swirling Columbia River waters poured through a 100-foot break in a levee near Sauvie Island about 20 miles northwest of Portland, Ore., forcing evacuation of nine families. Death toll in flooded areas of the Northwest reached 11 and many waterfront industries in Portland and Vancouver have closed due to rising water.

Wilson's Attended Theater, Girl Says

Vancouver, Wash., June 26—(U.P.)—Mrs. Betty Lyon, 18, the mystery witness referred to in testimony last week, today told the jury hearing the murder-kidnaping case against Turman and Utah Wilson that she had talked with the brothers Sunday night, March 19, at the Playhouse theater in Portland.

The Wilson brothers, on trial for the abduction-murder of 18-year-old JoAnn Dewey, have contended they were attending a movie at the Playhouse theater at the time JoAnn was kidnapped from a Vancouver street.

Mrs. Lyon was brought into the case last week when Mrs. Cleo Wilson (no relation to the brothers) testified she saw Mrs. Lyon talking to the brothers in the theater lobby "late in March," but she said she couldn't remember the exact date.

Wilson at the time was head usherette at the theater.

Mrs. Lyon, first defense witness called to the stand today, testified that she worked at the theater only one day—Sunday, March 19. She said she worked from 5 to 9:50 p. m. She testified that she talked to the Wilson brothers in the theater lobby.

She said she thought Utah was someone she knew.

Mrs. Wilson in her testimony last week said she had been asked by Defense Attorney Irvin Goodman to find Mrs. Lyon but that she hadn't been able to locate her. Defense Attorney Sanford Clement told reporters that the mystery witness had "completely disappeared."

Witness Moved
Mrs. Lyon explained that she had moved to a new address after her one night's work at the theater. She said she became ill while on the job and eventually went to the hospital for several days.

Under cross-examination by Prosecutor Dewitt Jones, Mrs. Lyon said Mrs. Wilson had talked to her on two occasions after her employment at the theater. She didn't say what the conversations were about.

Last week, Mrs. Lyon denied from the stand that she had contacted Mrs. Lyon or know where she was.

Utah Wilson was expected to be recalled to the stand today in a continuation of his testimony interrupted by court recess last Saturday.

Police Investigating Week-End Safe Robbery
City and state police today are investigating leads in a week-end safe burglary at Modern Plumbing and Sheet Metal company at 32 North Riverside avenue.

Police reported that the lock on the safe was broken and \$110 taken. Apparently nothing else was taken. Entry was made through a skylight, it was said.

Reds Expected to Take Over Capital Within Short Time

Republican Defenses Appear to Collapse

Seoul, Korea, June 26—(U.P.)—Communist armored forces from North Korea were massing in the suburbs of Seoul early today. Some Americans here believed they would take over this capital of South Korea within hours.

The South Korean republican defenses appeared to have collapsed in the Seoul area, leaving the city at the mercy of the

San Francisco, June 26—(U.P.)—A spokesman for the South Korean government said today American aid "is too little and too late."

The spokesman, Clarence Rhee, public information officer, said President Syngman Rhee "is greatly disappointed with American aid."

Soviet-affiliated forces which in two days swept down from the border to the outskirts of Seoul, ignoring a United Nations cease-fire order.

Emergency Session
The cabinet met in emergency session. Reports circulated that the government was about to flee southward. Washington diplomatic sources said it would go to Taideon, 90 miles south of Seoul but this could not be confirmed.

Advance elements of the communist armored forces which broke through north of Seoul and smashed into the outlying area, were said to be relatively weak.

During the early and middle part of the night the movement in the war subsided. Tactical moves believed the communist vanguard was waiting for reinforcements.

Can Move at Will
The best information in responsible American quarters here indicated that the invaders could move into the heart of the capital virtually at will. The suggestion was heard frequently that they would do so this afternoon.

The North Korean radio reported that 100 bombers were waiting to raid Seoul this morning. Authoritative sources knew of no bombers in the North Korean air force, and put the report down as a propaganda blow in a war of nerves.

Reports circulated, lacking confirmation in the hurry and confusion, that the communists had encircled Kimpo airport, just outside Seoul.

Flights Cancelled
(Gen. Douglas MacArthur in Tokyo cancelled army transport flights to Seoul, suggesting that the city had been cut off from normal non-communist air operations.)

(A Washington diplomatic source reported fighting at Ascom City, 10 miles southwest of Seoul on the road to Incheon, the port for the capital. It indicated that the communists had crossed the Han river, the main stream crossing South Korea, which flows just south of Seoul. Such a penetration would outflank Seoul.)

U. S. Ambassador John J. Muccio was taking the events as they came and apparently had not fixed a course for embassy attaches in case the government left Seoul.

The American mission burned diplomatic documents and evacuated southward its women members who had not taken advantage of the Sunday evacuation movement.

Washington, June 26—(U.P.)—President Truman today denounced the "unprovoked aggression" against South Korea and pledged a bigger and faster flow of military supplies to the communist-invaded republic.

Describing the invasion as a "lawless action," the president said that those responsible for it "must realize how seriously the government of the United States views such threats to the peace of the world." He said in a special statement this "willful disregard of the obligation to keep the peace cannot be tolerated by nations that support the United Nations charter."

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