

Americans Cannot Represent Korea, Communists Claim

Panmunjom—(U.P.)—A Communist truce negotiator charged angrily Thursday that "Americans cannot represent the Korean people" and advised the United Nations command to stop conducting it.

"It would be wise for you not to repeat any more that you say you represent the Korean people," declared North Korean Col. Chang Chun San in armistice terms discussion.

"Americans cannot represent the Korean people."

Col. Don O. Darrow told Chang that "in numbers we, meaning the United Nations command, represent as many if not more Korean people than you do."

"I am not here as an American but as a representative of the United Nations command," Darrow continued.

"As the United Nations command representative I represent also the Republic of Korea and the citizens of the Republic of Korea."

70 Reported Dead In Crash of Planes At Moscow Airport

Berlin—(U.P.)—Sources close to the Soviet Control Commission reported Thursday that more than 70 persons were killed at an airport just outside Moscow Wednesday in the crash of a passenger plane and a loaded troop transport plane.

The big passenger plane, inbound from Odessa on the Black Sea, was landing at Moscow's Tula airport, according to the report, when it overshot the runway and crashed into a military transport plane about to take off for Berlin.

Honor Students Aboard

Thirty-four honor students of the Moscow Voroshilov Military Academy were in the transport plane, informants said.

The report of the disaster reached Berlin when Soviet headquarters was notified that the flight of the military academy students had been cancelled, it was added.

There was no information of the number of passengers in the civilian transport plane or the number of survivors.

Pop' Gates Funeral Friday at 10:30 A. M.

Funeral services for Charles E. (Pop) Gates, 80, former Medford mayor and auto dealer who died Tuesday night in Salem, will be held at Perl funeral home Friday at 10:30 a. m. with the Rev. D. Kirkland West, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, officiating. Interment will be in Siskiyou Memorial park.

Active pall bearers will be Fred Purdin, John Deaver, Aubrey Norris, Paul Rynning, Elbert Lennox and Paul Selby, all past worshipful masters of Medford Masonic lodge.

Honorary pall bearers will be Morris B. Leonard Sr., Carl Y. Tengwald, Joe F. Fliegel, Leon B. Haskins, Frank DeSouza and E. C. Jerome, all past exalted rulers of Medford Elks lodge.

Army Civil Functions Cut by \$200,000,000

Washington—(U.P.)—The House Appropriations committee Thursday cut more than \$200,000,000 off an Army civil functions appropriation bill which contained \$693,000,000 when it came to Congress.

The cut, amounting to more than 28 per cent, was mostly at the expense of rivers and harbors and flood control projects. The committee said it worked on the premise that "civil works program should be subservient to the defense needs of the nation."

It said it eliminated all requests to start new projects, and took out money for features of going projects which could be dropped without affecting construction already under way.

100th Washington Wreck Victim Due on Week-End

Olympia—(U.P.)—Death will have claimed its first 100 victims on Washington state highways this year by the end of this week-end, if the one-day traffic death pace continues.

The state patrol reported 96 persons died during the first 86 days of 1952, compared to 101 deaths reported during the same period of 1951. During all of last year 540 traffic fatalities were reported.

Seattle—(U.P.)—Number of workers at Boeing Airplane company's Seattle and Renton factories will be increased from 28,218 to 29,400 by the end of June, the company said Thursday.

Weather

FORECAST: Fair with increasing high clouds tonight and Friday with showers late Friday. Lows 38-40. Highs 60-65. Temp. Highest Yesterday 74. Lowest this Morning 34.

Hundreds Flee Prineville Flood

Benton Declares Ability To Prove McCarthy Charges

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. William Benton, D-Conn., said Thursday he can prove in court the truth of his charges against Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy and dared the Wisconsin Republican to bring his \$200,000 suit to trial before the November election.

McCarthy filed the suit in Federal Court here Wednesday charging that Benton libeled and slandered him during his campaign to have McCarthy ousted from the Senate.

Suits From Testimony

The suit stemmed mainly from Benton's prepared testimony before a Senate Elections Committee last September charging that McCarthy practiced perjury, fraud, and deceit in his efforts to prove that the State Department is infested with Communists and fellow travelers.

McCarthy, who is seeking reelection, filed his suit after Benton announced in the Senate last week that he is willing to waive his legal immunity from libel or slander suits. Under the constitution, a member of Congress normally could not be sued for what he said on the Senate or House floor or before a congressional committee.

Statement Issued

Challenging McCarthy to insist on a trial before McCarthy's bid for reelection, Benton said in a statement issued through his office:

"Senator McCarthy knows I can prove in court the truth of my carefully documented charges. His sincerity can henceforth be judged . . . by the diligence with which he seeks to bring his suit to trial."

Benton said "an immediate review of his tactics is urgently in the interest of the people of the United States and also of the tens of millions throughout the world in whose eyes our country is being discredited by his tactics."

Several Senate colleagues expressed doubt that McCarthy and Benton will be able to carry their running feud into the federal courts.

Meeting on Steel Discussion Fizzles

Washington—(U.P.)—A three-hour meeting of top mobilization officials fizzled out Thursday with no solution to the steel wage-price crisis.

The conference was called in an endeavor to reach a compromise to avert the threatened strike by CIO United Steelworkers on April 8 against the nation's steel mills.

After the conference between Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson and his key stabilization aides, Wilson cancelled plans to issue an "action statement."

U. S. Recognizes New Cuba Government

Washington—(U.P.)—The United States Thursday formally recognized the new government of Cuba headed by Fulgencio Batista.

Secretary of State Dean Acheson told a news conference Wednesday that American action on recognition would be based on whether the government has firm control, whether the people of Cuba "acquiesce" to the government, and whether it would carry out its international obligations.

Pinson, Poe Again in Prison Break Attempt

Salem—(U.P.)—Four convicts, three of them lifers, tried to break out of the segregation ward at Oregon state prison Wednesday night but were caught after one of them had cleared the bars, Warden Virgil O'Malley said Thursday.

Cells Claimed Locked

The four mysteriously got out of their cells and into the shower down the corridor, O'Malley said. It was not clear just how they got out of their cells. Guards claim they were locked. But bars on the cells were not cut.

Bars on the shower had been cut, however, and wooden pegs inserted, indicating that the men had planned the break attempt for some time.

A check is made every half hour in this segregation unit, and



LEADING HIGH SCHOOL MUSICIANS are all in day's work for California's Gov. Earl Warren as he campaigns in Wisconsin for delegates to Republican convention. Musicians are from Shorewood, Milwaukee suburb. Warren later made speech. (International)

Wisconsin Primary Electioneering At Stage of Suspicion

Madison, Wis.—(U.P.)—The political air in Wisconsin was charged with suspicion Thursday as the three Republican

candidates stepped up their campaigning with only five days left before the primary next Tuesday.

All seemed wary of any more "surprise moves" like the one Harold E. Stassen pulled when he announced that half his delegates would vote for Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower on the first ballot at next July's national GOP convention.

Kefauver Attacks McCarthy

Sen. Estes Kefauver, only democrat on the presidential primary ballot for his party, ignored the electioneering by-play among the republicans for the time being and concentrated his attacks on Republican Sen. Joseph McCarthy.

Before leaving for Nebraska, which also has an April 1 primary, Kefauver told a Milwaukee audience that McCarthy's "tactics" were not helping the country at home or abroad. The Tennessee senator said that he did not "like the idea of swearing in I don't like the idea of McCarthy."

Sen. Robert A. Taft, speaking in Madison, took a swing both at Stassen and Gov. Earl Warren of California.

Abandonment Charged

"In one case, the delegates seem to have abandoned their candidate and in the other, the candidate seems to have abandoned his delegates," Taft said.

He referred to Stassen's unusual action and the fact that Warren delegates have said that if elected they will cast their GOP convention votes for Eisenhower in case Warren appears unable to get the nomination.

And earlier at Portage, Wis., Taft called Warren and Stassen "hybrid" candidates and said he could not see how anybody could vote for them "when they did not know what they are voting for."

Offending 'I' Found In Willamette Avenue

Medford city officials discovered today that, despite a careful check of some 1,200 newly ordered street signs, an error in spelling has been found. Signs at the intersection of Willamette avenue and East Main street proclaim that the north-south thoroughfare is "Willamette" avenue.

City officials are a bit puzzled as to how the incorrect sign escaped several checks and was actually mounted on a metal post at the intersection. However, they point out that it will not be much of a problem to "pluck out the offending I."

Five Highways Covered by Water In Central Oregon

Melting Snow Sends Streams From Banks

By UNITED PRESS

East Oregonians, accustomed to cold, dry weather, fought floodwaters Thursday as warm temperatures melted mountain snow, sent streams out of their banks and forced hundreds of persons to flee their homes.

At least five highways were flooded.

Prineville Hardest Hit

Hardest hit was Prineville, a town of 3,200 where more than 125 homes along the banks of the swollen Crooked river and Ochoco creek were evacuated. Trailer houses were forced to move to hills above the town.

Passengers of a Pacific Trailways bus near Prineville were stranded by a washed-out bridge. Authorities reported the passengers found shelter in nearby farm houses.

At Vale, the Malheur river was at its highest level in 30 years and half a dozen families left their homes. Schools in Vale were dismissed Wednesday for fear buses might be held up by water on roads and bridges.

The Crooked river at Prineville dropped six inches during the night but another warm day was expected Thursday. Fear was expressed the town's business district might be flooded if the snow runoff continued as fast.

Oldtimers at Prineville called it the worst flood since 1910. Water crept into town Wednesday and continued to rise throughout the day.

Homes Evacuated

Fifty homes in the southwest part of the city were evacuated first when water flooded streets and lawns and lapped against floors of homes. Furniture was moved to a school gymnasium for safety. Later the water reached another residential district and 75 more homes were evacuated.

Secondary streets were completely impassable.

Travel Hazardous

Closed highways and washed out bridges made travel hazardous in the usually arid area. U. S. Highway 395 was flooded over a nine-mile section in the Wagon Creek area, water was over the Central Oregon highway in the Cap ranch area. U. S. Highway 26 between Mt. Vernon and Dayville was closed. Highway 27 south of Prineville was covered with three feet of water and the Rome-Princeton highway at Foley farm in Malheur county was closed.

Some lowland areas in Western Oregon's Willamette valley remained inundated Thursday, but the flood threat in the valley eased as the Willamette river crested below flood stage.

First National Bank Affected by Ruling

Portland—(U.P.)—A federal reserve board decision dissolving the huge Giannini banking empire will have a direct effect on the First National bank of Portland and its statewide banking system.

The Portland bank is one in which Giannini interests hold stock ownership. Dissolving of the Transamerica corporation, Giannini holding firm, however, would merely transfer ownership rather than business relations with the public.

First National has 11 Portland offices and 35 branches throughout the state.

Additionally, there are 15 affiliated banks in Oregon and three branches of affiliates, making a total of 64 Oregon banking houses directly affected by the ruling.

Siskiyou Wreck Victim Succumbs in Ashland

Ashland, Ore.—(U.P.)—Mrs. Harry G. McElmurry, Stanley, Wis., died Wednesday night in a local hospital after lying unconscious for nine days from head injuries suffered in a head-on collision between a truck and a car in which she was riding.

The 70-year-old woman's husband lost control of his car on icy pavement March 18. The car skidded into a truck driven by Joseph Earl Smith, Grants, Pass, 10 miles south of here.

McElmurry and Smith escaped serious injury.

Gunman Murders Three Nebraskans

Merriman, Neb.—(U.P.)—A suspect in the midnight murders of three persons was shot and fatally wounded Thursday by a posse of 200 persons which stormed a ranch, burned three buildings and fired more than 1,000 shots to get him. The suspect was identified as Blaine Ellis.

Merriman, Neb.—(U.P.)—Ranchers and townspeople, some flying their own planes, joined authorities Thursday in a manhunt over the desolate sandhills for a murderer who shot and killed a couple and one of their neighbors.

Roadblocks were set up on highways and the sparse network of side roads leading over the sandhills in the area of this isolated town of 321 persons.

Planes Circle Area

Several small private planes circled the area, hoping to spot the car in which the gunman

fled after killing Mr. and Mrs. George Mensinger and Deo Gardner.

The murderer also wounded the Mensingers' infant son, Fritz, and another neighbor, Cliff McDonald, 30.

Cherry County Sheriff Art Jones said the killer was believed to be "hiding in the hills" in the vicinity of the shooting.

Large groups of neighbors and friends of the shooting victim joined the search for the gunman, believed to be driving a black 1950 or 1951 Chevrolet sedan.

No Reason Offered

Authorities could offer no reason for the shootings. Authorities had not been able to question McDonald, who suffered a serious neck wound and was hospitalized at Gordon, Neb.

Sheriff's officers gave this version of the shooting: Just before midnight the gunman came to the Mensinger home, eight miles south of here. Mensinger, 27, answered the door and was fatally wounded by a shotgun blast.

Three more shots were fired through the partially opened door, and Mrs. Mensinger, 24, and her son were wounded. Makes Telephone Call

Mrs. Mensinger, although wounded, ran to the telephone and got a call through to the Merriman operator. The call and her screams for help also were heard by several neighbors on the party line.

The gunman, meanwhile, had circled the house and fired a shotgun blast through the kitchen window, fatally wounding Mrs. Mensinger as she telephoned.

The gunman then apparently jumped into his car and sped away. A short distance away, McDonald, unaware of the gunman's identity, stopped his car and was wounded in the neck by a shotgun charge.

Gunman Disappears

Then Gardner, believing the gunman's car to be that of a neighbor, stopped it. He walked over to the car and was shot by a pistol, believed to be of .38 caliber.

The gunman had disappeared by the time other neighbors and authorities could arrive.

Pearson Conferring On Veterans' Bonus

Washington—(U.P.)—Walter J. Pearson, Oregon state treasurer, was here Thursday conferring with federal officials on the issuance of a \$400,000,000 bond issue to finance a bonus for the state's World War II veterans.

Pearson said that Oregon "appeared in better shape" than most states in marketing such bonds.

He was scheduled to meet with Dr. Arthur Smith, assistant to Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson; Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snyder, Chairman William Martin of the federal reserve board of governors and Federal Reserve Governor Oliver Powell.

Josephine Road Workers Plan Strike

Grants Pass, Ore.—(U.P.)—Josephine county road employees Thursday threatened to strike in protest to actions of Road Superintendent Roy Slette, whom they charged with jeopardizing job security.

The workers, members of the AFL Oregon Public Employees Council, said they would strike April 7 and picket county road shops if "a satisfactory solution" was not reached by then.

The county court refused a formal hearing, but Judge Raymond Lathrop expressed willingness to talk to one or any group of workers.

Eight More States Feel Midwestern Truck Strike

Kansas City, Mo.—(U.P.)—A three-week-old truckers' strike threatened Thursday to spread to eight other mid-central states after drivers in other cities in Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas joined the walkout.

Sympathy strikes and walkouts were reported at Des Moines, Sioux City and Ottumwa, Ia.; Omaha, Neb.; Wichita, Kan., and Joplin, Mo.