

Chou Declared Determined To Attack Formosa Despite War Threat

London — (U.P.) — Chinese Communist Premier Chou En-lai was pictured today by authoritative diplomatic sources as totally unyielding on his determination of attacking Formosa despite the grave threat of war.

The outlook for a cease fire was described as "bleak."

The diplomatic sources said Chou coldly had turned down all appeals for a negotiated Formosa settlement and has rebuffed third party mediation efforts by Britain — and Moscow — as interference.

The sources said he was "totally uncompromising" and "seemingly disinclined to negotiate at all."

This is the grim story behind the terse statements in the House of Commons Tuesday by Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden that the necessary conditions do not yet exist for solving the Formosa conflict through a conference or "other discussions."

Eden said he had maintained contacts on this problem with Moscow as well as with Peiping, and it was learned that only

last Friday Britain's charge d'affaires in Peiping, Humphrey Trevelyan, conferred with Chou. It was understood that visit dis-

couraged hopes for negotiation. The sources said the Communists firmly declined any meeting on the Formosan crisis in

which Nationalist China be represented. This the West's conditions reference, and there v

Education Chou is ready to change his mood.

The sources said Peiping is prepared for any formal

or informal commitment on a cease fire. In the light of this attitude, Indian Premier Jawaharlal Nehru was said to be bidding his time in trying to persuade Peiping to compromise.

Despite the bleak outlook, Eden remains determined to start a new diplomatic drive with India sounding out the Chinese, the sources said. They warned it will require time, patience and a great deal of restraint.

The Foreign Office firmly dismissed suggestions that it was "worried" at the policy state-

ment Tuesday of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

It declined official comment on the statement and its references to Formosa which came at almost the same time Eden asked for the evacuation of Quemoy and Matsu.

Diplomatic observers said a close scrutiny of the two seemingly opposed statements showed the gap between American and British policy has narrowed considerably, with both agreed that a peaceful settlement is necessary and both hopeful that a cease fire might be attained.

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NATIONALIST CHINA SHRINKS—Newsmap above shows the shrinking island perimeter of Chiang Kai-shek and his Nationalist Government on Formosa. Since Jan. 1, 1955, Chiang has lost the Tachen Islands and now Matsu and Quemoy are threatened.

Commies, Nationals Said Getting Ready For Island Showdown

Washington — (U.P.) — The Chinese Nationalists appear to be getting ready for a showdown in the Quemoy-Matsu islands area, officials said today.

The United States apparently has not decided exactly what it will do if the current buildup on both sides results in a Chinese fight. The role of intervention or non-intervention will be decided by President Eisenhower.

Moving Up Gun

Experts report that Red China in recent weeks has moved more artillery of longer-range calibre to positions opposite the Nationalist-held Quemoy and Matsu island groups. This was the ominous technique employed on the ground by the Reds in Indochina last year when they got the upper hand there.

The Communists also are known to be concentrating troops and supplies in nearby coastal areas. Small naval craft released from duty following the Nationalist evacuation of the Tachen Islands, farther north, have appeared in waters near the Quemoy and Matsu groups.

Chinese Nationalist forces likewise have been moved from Formosa and the Tachen Islands to the Quemoy-Matsu area. United States ships and planes are dispersed in the Formosa area.

Pressure on Nationalists

The United States is putting pressure on the Nationalists not

Two Men Sentenced To Terms in Prison

Two men have been sentenced to terms in Oregon State prison on parole violation charges, and a third man, wanted here on a bad check charge, has been arrested in Eureka, Calif., according to Sheriff Howard Gault.

The two men who were sentenced in circuit court to prison terms were Roland Charles White, 19, Box 254, Jacksonville, and Lawrence Daniel Scroggins, 210 18th St., Medford.

Arrested in Eureka was Walter E. Keller, 28, Kootenai, Ida., wanted here on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses. Keller has been sentenced to a term in the Humboldt county jail, and will not be available for possible extradition until Oct. 7, Gault said.

10 Puerto Ricans Declared Guilty

New York — (U.P.) — A federal court jury today found 10 Puerto Rican Nationalists guilty of conspiracy in connection with the attempted assassination of former President Truman and an attack on representatives on the floor of Congress.

The verdict ruled the Nationalists were guilty of conspiring to overthrow the government of the United States by force and violence.

They face a possible maximum penalty of six years in prison and a \$50,000 fine. Sentence was not immediately pronounced.

The verdict was widely interpreted as a death blow for the Nationalist Party in Puerto Rico.

Myrtle Creek Mill Operation Scheduled

Myrtle Creek, Ore. — (U.P.) — Options on lease of the plywood plant and sawmill of the Umpqua Plywood Corporation's Myrtle Creek operation have been taken by a group of Myrtle Creek, Roseburg and Portland people who plan to operate the mill as a cooperative.

The group yesterday filed articles of incorporation at Salem.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York — (U.P.) — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrial 406.83, up 1.93; 20 railroads 149.22, up 1.55; 15 utilities 63.67, up 0.10, and 65 stocks 152.47, up 0.88. Sales today were about 2,760,000 shares compared with 4,590,000 shares yesterday.

Water Supply Seen Far Below Normal In Southern Oregon

Forecast Cites Low Winter Precipitation

The water supply outlook in southwestern Oregon is far below normal, it was reported today. Summer irrigation season water shortages can be anticipated because of lack of precipitation this winter.

This forecast was made this morning by R. D. Church, of the Medford weather bureau, and W. T. (Jack) Frost, of the soil conservation service in Portland, following compilation of snow survey and streamflow reports from throughout the area.

Storms Below Normal

February storms brought only one-third of the precipitation considered average over the 10-year period of 1943 to 1952. This left the mountain snowpack further below average than at the same time last month. The report said March and April storms would have to be three to four times normal to bring the situation up to normal.

Although the Rogue Basin over-all snowpack averages 72 per cent normal, the snow cover is below this figure on the Upper Rogue and in the Little Butte creek-Bear Creek watersheds. Only in the Illinois watershed is snow anywhere near normal.

The water situation is made more acute because of the relatively dry soils under the snow as indicated by fall precipitation of only 40 per cent of normal. Snow surveys in many areas have reported dust under the snow instead of the usual damp or wet soil.

Some Holdover Water

Reservoirs fortunately have some holdover water from last season, but water inflow has been negligible during the winter, and expected spring and summer inflow will be far below average.

Fourmile lake, with 9,253 acre feet in storage compared with 15,900 a year ago, can expect an inflow of only 5,000 acre feet in the six-month period April through September. Fish lake already has 5,516 acre feet in storage, and the flow of the north fork of Little Butte creek is forecast at 10,200 acre feet for the irrigation season, or 62 per cent of average.

Hiatt lake stores water for the Talent Irrigation district, and now holds 9,900 acre feet, compared with 13,100 a year ago. Inflow to this reservoir is estimated at only 3,100 acre feet for the irrigation season. Emigrant lake held only slightly more than 2,000 acre feet on March 1, but will increase somewhat with future snow melt and the spring rainstorms. However, snow cover on Wagner Butte is only half that of a year ago, and is less than half at Hiatt lake.

Flow on Rogue

Spring and summer flow of the Rogue above Prospect is forecast at 267,000 acre feet, or 78 per cent of the 1943-52 average. The flow at Grants Pass is forecast at 720,000 acre feet, and chances are reasonably good that low flow will not fall below 870,000 cubic feet per second when alternation "B" begins on canals of the Grants Pass Irrigation district.

Applegate river near Copper is forecast to discharge 113,000 acre feet, or 93 per cent of average April through September. The Illinois river at Kerby should discharge 180,000 acre feet or 99 per cent of average.

Crescent Boy Killed When Struck by Auto

Bend — (U.P.) — Eight-year-old James Sparks of Crescent died at St. Charles hospital here last night of injuries suffered yesterday when he was struck by an automobile shortly after he stepped from a school bus.

Weather

FORECAST: Considerable cloudiness with a few showers tonight and Friday. A little cooler Friday. Low tonight 38. High Friday 48.

Highest Yesterday 55
Lowest This Morning 37

HUMPHREY KAPS TAX CUT COMPROMISE

Medco Crew Assists Stranded Couple

Dr. and Mrs. William E. White of the Veterans Administration domiciliary, Camp White, were a happy, relieved couple last Monday morning when a Medford corporation construction crew arrived for work on a lonely road in the mountainous Butte Falls area.

Dr. White, physician at the veterans home, and his wife had been stranded 14 hours, overnight, in bitter cold. Their car was stuck and out of gasoline.

The doctor, in expressing publicly his thanks to the Medco workmen, said that he had turned up the road, which he thought was another, while on a picture-taking expedition. He reported that the car became stuck at just about sundown Sunday and the road crew did not arrive from Butte Falls until about 7:15 a.m. Monday.

Mrs. White had a light coat on. He had none and there was no heat in the car when it ran out of gasoline. The Medco men got the couple into the cab of a truck with a heater and gave them hot coffee and hot chocolate from their lunches, the doctor said.

Cincinnati in Path of Rampaging Ohio; First Death Told

By UNITED PRESS

The Muddy Ohio river's flood crest was to hit Cincinnati today. It had already claimed at least one life and some river front buildings were completely under water.

The city's worst flood crest in seven years was expected to sweep down the swollen river at a height of 61.2 feet.

The silt-laden waters stood at 61 feet at Cincinnati early today and were rising at a rate of a tenth of a foot every four hours.

Many Evacuated

Upstream, the rampaging Ohio had forced evacuation of 3,823 persons in Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky. Water ran through the business streets of river towns and damage was estimated in the millions.

In the Cincinnati area alone, the Red Cross was caring for 925 persons.

Basements were flooded and water ran three feet deep on the first floors of warehouses, tenement buildings and stores along the waterfront.

Drowns in Elevator

It was in one of these flooded warehouses that the flood claimed its first victim Wednesday. Trenton Horton Jr., 27, lowered a freight elevator to check the water depth and drowned when the car stuck.

'Indestructible Lady' Marks 102nd Birthday Anniversary

Ashland — Mrs. Sarah Blevins Wing, Ashland's "indestructible lady," is celebrating her 102nd birthday today.

Born in the Tualatin valley near Oregon City on March 10, 1853, to parents who were members of the famous Applegate caravan to Oregon, Mrs. Wing spent her early years in a log cabin.

She still has vivid memories of the early pioneering days of Oregon — which did not become a state until she was nearly 6 years old.

While still a young girl, she moved with her family to California, and until 1901, when she and her husband and children moved back to Oregon, she lived in California and Idaho. She has lived in Ashland since. Her husband died in 1916, and she has made her home with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McGee.

Still alert and keen, Mrs. Wing keeps up with the events of the day, and is in constant contact with her church and with neighbors. She has survived many adventures and crises, including injuries she suffered in an automobile accident and an emergency appendectomy she underwent recently. She was recovered in less than a week.



MRS. SARAH BLEVINS WING Starts 103rd Year Today

Her only living children are Mrs. McGee and Wallace Roy Wing, Concord, Calif. She has four grandsons and 13 great-grandchildren, and expects soon to become a great-great-grandmother.

Surtax on Present Income Tax Seen To Fill State Gap

Proposal Would Be Effective Two Years

Salem — (U.P.) — Republicans and Democrats on the House Taxation Committee agreed tentatively today that the final gap between money the state can raise and the money it needs to operate will be filled by a surtax on top of the present income tax. The surtax would be effective only two years, unless continued by the next Legislature.

The committee estimated it can raise some \$17,500,000 in new revenue with a half-dozen new tax plans. Figuring a \$55,000,000 deficit, that would leave \$37,500,000 to be made up with the surtax.

Pearson Objects

Rep. Walter Pearson (D-Portland) objected to the plan and urged, instead, that his "universal" income tax plan be adopted because 80 per cent of the revenue raised by that plan would come from the federal government. Pearson's tax bill incorporates Gov. Paul Patterson's proposal for the federal income tax offset.

Revised Earlier Plan

The committee revised its earlier plan of piecemeal tax increases to replace the proposed increase on telephone bills with a tax on tobacco, the so-called Massachusetts plan. That would bring in 7,000,000 new dollars a biennium.

Another plan tentatively adopted would require estimates of anticipated income to be filed by professional and business people as they are on the federal level.

Hearings on bills for repeal of the skyscraper clause and utility exemptions will be held Wednesday, March 16, at 1 p.m.

Two Planes Missing In Salt Lake Region

Salt Lake City — (U.P.) — Two airplanes carrying nine men and a boy were missing in the Salt Lake City area today and search craft took advantage of clearing skies to look for the missing planes.

A twin-engine Beechcraft believed carrying an Illinois lumber broker, his nine-year-old son and three associates had been unreported since passing over Ft. Bridger, Wyo., at 4:14 p.m. (PST).

An Air Force B25, carrying a crew of three and two passengers, dropped out of sight shortly after passing over Salt Lake City at 6:37 p.m. (PST).



PORTLAND'S EMERGENCY CAR—The disaster car used in Portland since 1939 is shown above. It is similar to the type of unit planned for Medford by members of the International Association of Firefighters, whose local members today announced a fund raising campaign seeking \$20,000 for purchase of a bus to be equipped with all types of disaster and emergency equipment. Firemen here would construct and operate the unit on a completely volunteer basis.

Disaster Car Planned By Firemen; Campaign Goal Set at \$20,000

Plans for a drive to raise some \$20,000 for a disaster car unit for the Medford area were announced today.

The campaign is being sponsored by the Medford local of the International Association of Fire Fighters, of which most Medford firemen are members.

Spokesman for the organization, Fire Capt. Dale Davis, pointed out that while Jackson county has been fortunate in the past, there is always the possibility of a disaster at any time. Some of the possibilities he listed were plane crashes, train or bus wrecks, floods, explosions, cave-ins, widespread fires, or even bombings. The firemen have long felt the need for a unit of this type, he said.

Equipment Planned

The disaster unit would contain all types of rescue and emergency equipment, such as hand tools, portable light generators and power equipment, resuscitators, and other items. It would be carried in compact apartments in a large modern bus. Estimated total cost is \$20,000.

It is proposed to purchase an inter-city bus from Evergreen Bus lines, and convert it into the disaster unit. Captain Davis pointed out that a number of other cities already have disaster units, including the Klamath Falls suburban fire department, which has made use of theirs frequently, and Portland, which has had one since 1939. The Portland unit has been in constant use.

Also As Ambulance

The unit also could serve as an auxiliary ambulance, although it would be used for such a purpose only when other ambulance services cannot handle the needs, and call for assistance.

It is planned to finance the unit through donations, and several cash gifts and offers of equipment have already been pledged by some individuals and groups. Captain Davis reported. He said that donations from any citizen, business, organization or group would be welcome. Gifts of cash, no matter how small, are solicited, and can be mailed to "Fire Fighters, care General Delivery, Medford, Ore."

A board of trustees has been organized to accept the donations and administer the funds. Robert J. Cunningham of the U.S. National bank here is chairman. An advisory board is being organized, with Col. Charles A.

Stafford, director of civil defense for the county, as chairman.

On Off-Duty Time

The fire fighters organization proposes to construct, maintain and operate the unit on their off-duty time, on a full 24-hour, seven-day basis. They will receive no compensation. The unit will be centrally housed in Medford.

All members of the department are fully trained in first aid.

Members of the Fire Fighters association hope to be able to organize auxiliary disaster crews in fire departments, or other groups, in each town in the county. These could assist with the unit if and when it is called to their area.

He said the Senate plan would have "the added disadvantage" of repealing tax relief enacted last year for business which "reversed the trend from gloom and doom to better times."

Compromise Proposal

The compromise Senate proposal calls for a tax cut effective next Jan. 1 of \$20 a head for all taxpayers plus \$10 for all dependents except wives. It would be restricted generally to families earning less than \$5,000 a year. The loss of revenue would be offset by repeal of new depreciation rules and the special tax relief for stockholders that Congress enacted last year.

As the Senate opened debate on the tax bill, Republican leader William F. Knowland of California told reporters that the Eisenhower administration is "opposed" to the Democratic compromise and "we GOP senators are going to resist it."

France Gets Warning On Rearmament Plan

Paris — (U.P.) — British Prime Minister Winston Churchill has warned that someone else will occupy France's chair in the NATO alliance if France fails to ratify German rearmament, Foreign Minister Antoine Pinay said today.

Pinay made the statement before the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee in discussion on the Paris pact to rearm Western Germany. There was growing hope the government could push the pact through the upper house on schedule this month.

Informed sources said Pinay told the senators that Churchill had issued his warning in a letter to former Premier Pierre Mendes-France in January. The letter said France must not leave its "chair" empty in the alliance or someone else would occupy it.

Atomic Explosion Scheduled Friday

Las Vegas — (U.P.) — The Atomic Energy commission said today it will detonate the fifth nuclear blast of its 1955 spring tests tomorrow at 5:25 a.m. (PST).

The announcement came after a morning weather evaluation determined present wind and cloud conditions would permit the firing over Yucca Flat. The AEC, added, however, another evaluation would be made at 10:30 p.m.

The device planned for tomorrow will be touched off from a 300-foot tower. Aircraft will simulate attacks and bombing runs during tomorrow's shot, the AEC said.

Butler's Statement on Mamie's Health Attacked

Washington — (U.P.) — Republican leaders today denounced Democratic National Chairman Paul M. Butler for suggesting that Mrs. Eisenhower's health might influence the President against seeking a second term.

Noting that Mrs. Eisenhower has been confined to bed this week with influenza, House GOP Leader Joseph W. Martin Jr., said "it is certainly poor taste to drag a temporary illness into the political offensive."

Plan Could Lead Nation to Doom, Secretary Says

Senate Slates Vote On Plan Next Week

Washington — (U.P.) — Treasury Secretary George M. Humphrey today denounced a compromise tax-cutting plan proposed by some Senate Democrats as "irresponsible . . . political" and "silly."

He told the House Ways and Means Committee the proposal might take the nation down the road to "gloom and doom."

Speaker Sam Rayburn indicated meantime that House Democrats might not be too unhappy with the compromise proposed by their fellow party members in the Senate.

Rayburn played a key part in sponsorship and passage of a \$20 per person tax cut approved by the House. He told reporters the proposed Senate compromise looks "very interesting."

"If they pass it," he said, "we will be willing to consider it seriously."

Vote Next Week

The Senate started debate on the tax bill today, but will not vote until next week. The compromise faced an uncertain fate there. Some key Democrats such as Sens. Harry F. Byrd of Virginia and Walter F. George of Georgia, were against it.

Humphrey blasted the Senate proposal for a smaller income tax cut as "just as irresponsible, just as political and just as bad from every point of view as the original proposal" to cut income taxes \$20 a head which passed the House.

He said the Senate plan would have "the added disadvantage" of repealing tax relief enacted last year for business which "reversed the trend from gloom and doom to better times."

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Portland Hotel Fire Suspect Arrested

Portland — (U.P.) — Police today took into custody Russell Arnold U'ren, who was wanted on a negligence charge in connection with yesterday's Lind hotel fire here that resulted in five deaths.

U'ren was spotted by two patrolmen at W. Burnside st. and 8th ave. He told them, "I was going to turn myself in to you fellows today." He said he spent the night in a room near where he was picked up.

Police said the charge arose from a statement U'ren made to a reporter and Fire Marshal C. W. Stickney.

Stickney said U'ren told of a blanket catching fire in his room, that he tossed it into a hallway, poured water on it and thought it was out.

Divorces, Marriages In 1955 Are Listed

Forty-eight marriages have been performed in Jackson county and 36 divorces have been granted since the first of January, according to figures released today by the county clerk's office.

During January, 22 marriages were performed, and 20 divorces, involving families with 21 children, were granted. There were 26 marriages and 16 divorces involving families with 14 children during February.