

# Red Chinese Demands May Jeopardize Early Return of Yanks Held Captive

## New Accusations Made in Meeting Held at Geneva

Geneva, Switzerland — (U.P.) — A series of Red Chinese demands on the United States coupled with a string of new accusations may jeopardize the early return of Americans still in Communist hands, diplomatic sources feared today.

The Reds demanded that the United States give names and information on all Chinese residents and assist the Indian embassy in Washington to contact these persons.

**Violation Charged**  
They accuse the United States of "outright violation of the letter and spirit" of the agreement for the return of civilians reached in the ambassadorial talks here.

The demands and accusations were contained in a statement handed to correspondents Thursday night at an unprecedented press conference at the Red Chinese consulate.

The United States denied charges but diplomatic sources feared that the demands may stymie for an indefinite time the talks between U. S. Ambassador U. Alexis Johnson and Red Chinese Ambassador Wang Ping Nan.

The United States has been reluctant to disclose the identity of Chinese still in the country for fear of reprisals against their families in China.

Johnson and Wang met Thursday for the 30th time since the talks began Aug. 1. A brief announcement said only they would meet again next Thursday. But sources said that the United States may want additional time to study the Communist statement.

The five page Red document charged the United States with:

1. Failing to furnish a complete and detailed list of all Chinese living in the United States.
2. Pressing too hard for the release of Americans still detained in China and trying to set a time limit for their release.
3. Blocking attempts by the Indian embassy, acting for the Chinese Communists, to contact Chinese in the States to determine whether or not they want to return to Red China.
4. Attempting to pressure Chinese students against returning to the mainland by requiring them to have a Formosa entry permit.

## Hop Growers Seek Commodity Group

Salem — (U.P.) — Hop growers have filed a petition with the State Department of Agriculture asking for formation of a commodity commission to assist their industry. Paul T. Rowell, chief of the division of market development, said today.

Fifty-two growers representing half of the total growers in the state, signed the petition. The signers represent about two-thirds of the 1955 production in Oregon. The petition was presented by John W. Smith of St. Paul and Homer L. Goulet of the Hopmere district near Salem. Smith is president and Goulet secretary of the Oregon Hop Growers Association.

## Cabinet Action on Water Policy Denied

Washington — (U.P.) — A White House spokesman yesterday denied reports that the Cabinet has decided either to reject or take no action on a report aimed at establishing a national water resource policy.

A Cabinet Committee on Water Policy headed by Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay submitted the report to the White House in August after working on it for more than a year. The new national policy would replace existing patchwork laws.

The spokesman said reports from presidential commissions and committees require lengthy study before Cabinet action can be taken.

## Police Press Hunt for Revenge Killer; Second Torch Victim Dies

Oakland, Calif. — (U.P.) — Police intensified their search today for a "revenge" killer after the second of his victims, Mrs. Alice Franklin, died from burns received when she and a male companion were drenched with gasoline and set on fire as they slept.

Mrs. Franklin, 37, a waitress, died at 2:25 (PST) this morning, less than 24 hours after she and Robert Leo Hand, 27, were rescued from her flaming apartment. Hand died yesterday afternoon.

**Burned Over Most of Body**  
Both suffered severe burns of 90 per cent of the body when

the sadistic torch slayer slipped into Mrs. Franklin's apartment during the pre-dawn hours yesterday and set them on fire.

Meanwhile, police said they were questioning "very closely" another man who admitted living with Mrs. Franklin for about a year after she was divorced from her husband.

The man, whose name was not disclosed, said he broke up with Mrs. Franklin about three months ago and had not seen her since. Police said the suspect gave them a "very strong alibi" explaining where he was at the time of the fire but officers planned to grill him further today.

**Case of Murder**  
Police Inspector George Keller of the Oakland arson detail said it was a case of murder.

"We can rule out any possibility of suicide or accident," Keller said. "This looks like a clear case of murder, and the motive may have been revenge of some kind."

Police said Hand answered a few questions before he died yesterday, but was unable to identify the arsonist. Mrs. Franklin also talked to police but was unable to furnish any clues.

**Visited Several Bars**  
Both victims told police they had visited several bars early

yesterday and had returned to Mrs. Franklin's apartment about 3 a.m.

An hour later the flames erupted with a muffled explosion and the entire bedroom was afire.

The explosion awoke two neighbors who made a vain attempt to enter the burning bedroom to rescue the couple.

Mrs. Franklin, a waitress, was divorced from Robert A. Franklin, 23, in May, 1953. Police questioned the ex-husband and afterward, declared, "Franklin is clear."

Hand had been working as a steelworker since his discharge from the Air Force in July.

## Army To Control Chile Copper Mines

Santiago, Chile — (U.P.) — The armed forces prepared today to take control of the Chilean copper industry in a drastic government move to break the strike that has paralyzed production at three U. S. owned mines since Wednesday.

Decrees to be published in the official Gazette today also will order strikers to return to work under threat of dismissal without compensation. Informed sources said the government might draft the strikers under the compulsory military training program if the back to work orders are ignored.

The strike was touched off by the government's refusal to consider the so-called copper workers statute. The statute sets the basic conditions for labor-management relations in the industry.

Some 14,000 miners and other workers walked out Wednesday at the Chuquibambuta and Potrerillos mines of the Anaconda company and the El Teniente mine of the Kennecott Copper Co.

## Family Returns To Coxcomb Hill Home

Astoria — (U.P.) — One family that had evacuated its home on Astoria's Coxcomb hill moved back today, hoping that the creeping earth slides in the residential area had come to an end.

## Tennessee Returns To Minnesota

Minneapolis — (U.P.) — Turncoat GI Richard Tennessee, 22, returned today to Minnesota and a tearful reunion with his mother.

Mrs. Portia Howe, Alden, Minn., rushed up the ramp to Tennessee's plane with tears in her eyes and embraced the son she had not seen in nearly five years.

Tennessee parried most questions by newsmen who swarmed about the plane and Mrs. Howe begged that he not be asked questions for the time being.

"How can he be expected to evaluate?" she asked. "He just got home."

Mrs. Howe was crying softly but her son smiled broadly when they met and kidded on the ramp of the plane. When they reached the ground, Tennessee gave a big hug to his 12-year-old twin half-brother and sister.

Mrs. Howe said she plans a big turkey dinner for her son this afternoon on their farm near Alden, about 100 miles south of here.

Tennessee came here from Seattle where he checked through customs and immigration. He crossed from Red China into Hong Kong last Tuesday.

**SHORTER LIFE**  
Muskegon, Mich. — (U.P.) — Charles W. Spear, 84, was awarded \$2,000 by a circuit court jury for injuries he received when hit by a car last July 3. Spear claimed among other things that his injuries shortened his life expectancy.

The hearings were described as an aftermath of the testimony of Winston Burdett, Columbia Broadcasting System newsmen, who said last summer that he was a member of a Communist cell at the now-defunct Brooklyn Daily Eagle during the last 1930s. Burdett named a number of fellow workers and former officials of the New York Newspaper Guild as Communists.

Officials said repairs would be made to damaged Irving ave. but had no comment regarding plans for other work in the slide area. Experts believed part of the problem of the 1955 slides lay in a filled area where a natural draw was covered with loose dirt about 40 years ago. Astoria has been plagued with damaging earth slides three times in the past five years.

## British Comet Jet Wings Over Pacific

Honolulu — (U.P.) — The DeHavilland Comet III jet airliner took off from here at 7:59 a.m. (PST) on the Honolulu to Vancouver leg of its Australia to London shakedown flight.

The Comet III, piloted by Group Captain John Cunningham, is scheduled to land at Vancouver at 1:44 p.m., trimming approximately five hours off the regular flight time on the Honolulu to Vancouver route.

The plane and crew will remain in Vancouver for two days before going to Toronto, Montreal and London. It arrived here Tuesday afternoon after making the 3200-mile flight from the Fijis in 6 hours and 52 minutes.

**FENCE ME IN**  
St. Paul — (U.P.) — Minnesota is pretty well fenced in for the winter. Snow fences, installed by the state highway department, if stretched out in a single line, would reach 900 miles.

## Hearing Set on Reds In News Business

Washington — (U.P.) — The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee today scheduled public hearings Jan. 4-6 on alleged Communists in the newspaper business.

The subcommittee said "numerous" witnesses would be called, but a spokesman declined to identify them. The group said most of the witnesses already have been questioned in closed sessions held last week in New York.

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