

Korean, U.S. Authorities Work To Stave Off New Girard Incident

Editor's note: Charles R. Smith, who has just been named United Press chief correspondent and manager for Korea, arrived to find abiding a new storm that threatens U.S.-Korean relations. In the following dispatch he discusses the potentially dangerous situation.

BY CHARLES R. SMITH
United Press Correspondent

Seoul — Korean government and U. S. military authorities worked behind the scenes today to prevent what could easily blow up into a new "Girard case" here in Korea.

The storm has been building up for months. But the thunder became intense only recently when two teen-age Korean girls were shot by U. S. guards at the Kunsan Air Base some 1100 miles south of here. Both the Korean government and top level U. S. military authorities are carrying out intensive investigations into the incident.

The Korean press has used the incident to splash its sharpest criticism of U. S. troops in some time. And one top Korean official accused the U. S. troops of harboring "racial contempt" for the Koreans—this coming at a time when the Little Rock integration riots were top-head news here.

Incidents Become Important

A series of so-called "minor" incidents at the air base have added fuel to the fire, incidents involving attacks by Air Force sentry dogs on Korean villages. Reports indicate none of the incidents resulted in serious injury and probably would not be significant if taken alone. However, tied in with the shooting of the two girls and several previous incidents in other areas, they become increasingly important.

The basic reason for the press criticism is the steadily growing pressure for a status of forces agreement between the U. S. and Korea.

The incident that kicked off the controversy and started the first sharp criticism occurred last May, but the case involving the two girls occurred Sunday, Sept. 15. The girls, Kim Yong Yi, 18, and Kang Kum Sun, 17,

were struck by bullets fired by two Air Force guards on duty at a bomb dump area at the base.

Military spokesmen said the girls were part of a group of some seven or eight persons in the area who fled when the guards attempted to apprehend them for questioning. When the girls failed to halt, the guards fired into the group, one of the bullets striking Miss Kim in the temple and another striking Miss Yang in the arm. Miss Kim has been listed in "critical" condition.

Korean press reports said the girls were cutting weeds outside the fenced-in area when the guards yelled at them causing them to flee.

Both Korean and U. S. authorities say relations between the villagers and troops at Kunsan and in every other area are good.

They point out that the Korean people are now beginning to assert their independence for the first time since the end of hostilities.

The enmity between Japan

and Korea is one of the basic reasons for a status of forces agreement, according to one highly informed source.

The source said the U. S. has a status of forces agreement with Japan, while Korea, as well as Formosa and The Philippines, are treated as "country cousins."

Official feeling among both American and Korean officials is that the situation as it now stands is not likely to get out of hand and develop into a critical situation.

But, they say, any new incident in the near future could seriously impair the present good ROK-U. S. relations.

Morblad Sees Saving For American Taxpayers

Salem — Rep. Walter Norblad (R-Ore.), said today that American taxpayers could save \$115 million a year if the Armed Services would cut down on their extensive system of recruiting officers.



SMILING AS THEY LEAVE Hollywood theater are Lauren Bacall, widow of Humphrey Bogart, and Singer Frank Sinatra, who are dating frequently. (International)

EAGLE POINT Ragsdales Attend Meeting

By LAURA A. McFALL

Eagle Point — Mr. and Mrs. John Ragsdale, attended the council for the blind convention in Portland Sept. 21 and 22. Ragsdale is president of the Jackson county chapter of the council for the blind.

Mr. and Mrs. Lou Philliber of Klamath Falls were overnight guests Sept. 30 at the Clayton Simmons' home. The Phillibers are former residents of Eagle Point.

A surprise birthday potluck dinner was held at the William Lee Stockton home in honor of Mrs. Stockton's 50th birthday Sunday, Sept. 29. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Dean Stockton and family, Mr. and Mrs. Porter Allen and niece, Mr. and Mrs. Chick Deem, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hannaford and family, Mrs. Neva Gilbreath, Mrs. Pearl Allen, Lee Stockton and Bill Stockton, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stockton, and the honored guest.

Mrs. Katherine Nichols of Susanville, Calif., was a visitor last week at the homes of Mrs. Lottie Van Scoy and Mrs. Amy Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Clark visited her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Van

Scoy, here recently.

Mrs. Arch Work of Portland, and Mrs. Harvey Wood of Ashland visited Mrs. Lottie Van Scoy and Merrit Brown on Saturday, Sept. 28.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Davis of Eagle Point have had their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Davis and family of California visiting them this past week end.

Mrs. O. E. Henderson, Mrs. Edward R. Chamberlain, Mrs. Frank A. Chamberlain, Mrs. Gertrude Stanley visited Mrs. Augusta Perry Saturday, Sept. 28, to honor Mrs. Perry on her birthday.

Mrs. H. C. Burley of Portland, left Saturday, Sept. 28, to return to her home after spending the past two weeks with her sister, Mrs. Gertrude Stanley.

Sunday visitors at the J. D. Brown and Clarence Webster home were Mr. and Mrs. Frank

Trial Scheduled for Korean Fishermen

Pusan, Korea — Forty-four Korean fishermen, indicted for murder in the fatal beating of 22 lepers in August, probably will go on trial late in October, police indicated today.

The 44 allegedly were part of an angry stick-wielding mob of villagers on Pitiro-Do island, about 50 miles west of Pusan, who attacked the lepers in an attempt to drive them away from the island.

The lepers had come from Samchon-Po town across the channel to build houses on the island. The fishermen said they did not want the lepers to live on the island because it would make people afraid to buy their seafood products for fear of contamination.

A. Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Raymonds, and Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Homes and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hannaford and family. Webster is reported improved.

Sunday dinner guests at the Lester McFalls were Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Holmes and family. Afternoon callers were Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Raymond, and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Hannaford and children. The Hannafords called on the Clayton Simmons family Sunday evening. Simmons is reported improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Simmons visited in Eagle Point Tuesday at the Clayton Simmons home and other friends in the city. The Simmons are former residents of Eagle Point.

Mrs. Johnnie Johnson of West 6th st. is confined to Sacred Heart hospital for treatment of an injury suffered in an automobile accident recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom J. Short went to Yamsee mountain in Eastern Oregon for the deer season. They returned Monday with two four-point bucks, one weighing 240 pounds and the other 150 pounds.

Incompetency Hurlled At House of Lords

London — Lord Altrincham lowered his sights from the queen today and fired a barrage of criticism at the House of Lords. He said many of its members were incompetent.

The 31-year-old Altrincham,

At House of Lords

who sparked a national controversy when he criticized Queen Elizabeth for making colorless speeches, wrote his latest critique in the first edition of the new political quarterly, Cross-bow.

Members of the House of Lords inherit their seats, Altrincham said this has resulted in its having many members unfit to legislate on a national level.

He said one solution would be to have the prime minister advise the queen to select only certain peers for membership in the upper house.

Yugoslavia To Ask For Economic Aid

Washington — Yugoslavia prepared to ask the United States today for another substantial slice of economic aid to keep Marshal Tito's Communist government independent of Moscow.

A Yugoslav delegation here for discussions with American economic experts refused to discuss how much new help it will seek. American officials indicated the United States is willing to put up some new aid for Yugoslavia but less than in past years.

Memphis, Tenn. — Robert E. Lee is the new president of the Hamilton Club, local Republican organization.

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Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

Washington — President Eisenhower, in his statement refusing to order paratroopers from Central High school in Little Rock, Ark.:

"The statement issued . . . by the governor of Arkansas does not constitute in my opinion the assurance that he intends to use his full powers as governor to prevent the obstruction of the orders of the United States District court."

Denver — Former President Truman, predicting that the Democratic party will regain power in coming elections:

"The Democratic party will sweep the country in 1958 and 1960, and then we'll be rid of those damned Republicans."

North Vernon, Ind. — Wayne Whitley, 26-year-old gunman, commenting on his partner, Ralph Taylor, who was killed in a gun battle with police after allegedly killing two state troopers:

"I guess Ralph was just no good."

Hollywood — Deputy District Attorney William L. Ritzel, after a judge declared the Confidential magazine libel trial a mistrial: "I think it's a shame the jury didn't see this thing the way we did. I am going to confer with assistant state attorney general Clarence Linn and we'll try to get another trial date set as soon as possible."

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