

Thousands of Anti-Red Chinese Shun Formosa--and the Feeling Is Mutual

Manila (UPI)—Tens of thousands of Chinese are opposed to communism, but are unwilling to live with the Chinese Nationalists on Formosa. In turn, Formosa is not eager to welcome them. These Chinese without country could find their traditional ways of life practiced daily in Formosa. But few of them want to move, and even fewer could expect to be admitted to Nationalist China, one of the great paradoxes of the Cold War struggle in Asia. Many Chinese living in the Philippines, Indonesia and across the Indochina Peninsula to Malaya and Burma do not want to live under President Chiang Kai-shek's administration in Formosa for many reasons. It is far easier for an American to enter the Nationalist Chinese island than it is for a Chinese. They have good businesses and see little opportunity for prosperity on Formosa with rigid and austere economic conditions. Some Chinese still view the Kuomintang administration as a corrupt and dying clique little better than Mao Tse-tung's Communists. Some have lived outside China for generations and, despite local cultural differences, feel more attached to their land of adoption than to China. Discourage Refugees The Nationalists, although they call Formosa the island of Chinese freedom, discourage Chinese refugees from seeking haven there. Late last year, several thousand Chinese were deported from Indonesia to Formosa—the largest single group of Chinese to settle in Formosa since the 1949 evacuation of the Kuomintang forces from the China mainland. Formosa accepted the Chinese from Indonesia reluctantly and only because their only other destination would have been Communist China. The Nationalist government contends that Formosa is too small and too crowded to accept any more large groups of refugees from Communist China. The argument has some merit. American and Chinese economic officials agree that Formosa at its present rate of population growth will be forced to stop exporting food within a few years in order to feed itself. But a bigger block against

Chinese entry into Formosa is from the upper ranks of the Nationalist government or the military forces. The 10-year-old dispute between the Philippines and the Nationalist government dramatizes the Chinese problem. Expired Papers The Manila government contends that some 2,700 Chinese are living in the Philippines illegally with expired papers. The Philippines wants to deport them to Formosa, but the Nationalists want them to remain where they are. Most of the Chinese at issue came to the Philippines at the time of the 1949 Communist victory on the China Mainland. In most cases, they selected the Philippines rather than Formosa because they had relatives in the Philippines. They entered with temporary visitors' visas which have expired and which Manila has refused to renew. In most of Southeast Asia, the Chinese residents are prosperous and control a great deal of commerce. Some of Asia's newly independent nations, jealous of their own native rights, have adopted restrictive measures

against Chinese, many of whom enjoyed special privileges when their areas were under European colonial rule. In some cases, anti-Chinese measures and utterances are little more than political axes swung by local politicians to win votes and prestige among their own countrymen. Chances seem good this year for more Philippine political cries against Chinese residents. This is a presidential election year in the Philippines, and the Chinese question may become one of the political issues.

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TWIN CONFUSION—Kathleen Showalter, kindergarten teacher at a Grand Rapids, Mich., school, sees double nearly everywhere she looks. She has three sets of identical twins in her class. She puts tags on them to tell who's who. This situation is familiar to her as she has an identical twin sister. The boys are, from left, Philip and Alan Kaufman, Larry and Gary Ritzke, and Irving and Mark Rotenberg. (UPI Telephoto)

French Clerk Awarded U.S. Distinguished Service Award

Paris (UPI)—At U.S. consulates in France they still speak of the "quiet non-American" who shortened his life to defend the nationals and interests of a country not his own. What they say fills out the scanty information released by the State Department in Washington early in December when it gave its highest award—posthumously—to Frenchman Henry Crooks. Crooks was a clerk. He spent 32 years amid the filing cabinets of American consulates in Amsterdam, Brussels and Lyons as one of Uncle Sam's unsung "local help" abroad. But to the Americans who worked with him in Lyons during and after World War II he was a man to remember. "The quiet and undramatic way in which he went on doing his duty, as he conceived it, to a country he never saw, no matter how hard the going got, made him one of the most extraordinary men I've ever known." The tribute came from Constance Harvey, a Foreign Service career official of 30 years experience, who is presently U.S. consul at Strasbourg, France. Valuable Information During 1941 and 1942, according to the records given out in Washington, Crooks "performed a number of highly confidential tasks helping to obtain valuable military information for the United States government." Visiting Paris on government business recently, the U.S. consul at Lyons, Walter Gates, was asked about those tasks by United Press International. "They were delicate and they were risky," said Gates, a Foreign Service veteran from El Paso, Tex. "And the really unusual thing about them was that Crooks did not act on orders from American superiors. "He acted on his own initiative, because he felt it to be his duty to the United States." Born in France of a French mother and British father (the latter chose French nationality), Henry Herbert Crooks was equally at home in French, English, German and Flemish. That, and being an unobtrusive French resident of Lyons outside of office hours, helped him in his self-appointed task. "He was instrumental in passing on to the Allied commands, including the American, useful information about the Germans," Gates said. "He also helped numerous people who hid out from the Nazis—resistance fighters, Allied pilots who were downed over France, and just people in trouble." Those in trouble included many Americans—refugees who had fled into unoccupied France from many parts of Europe before the Germans stepped in, many of them without money or papers in

proper order, or even proof of U.S. citizenship. "Crooks used his amazing knowledge of our consular regulations to help them," Gates said. "Just as before the war he helped Americans in Europe through the red tape of military pensions, social security and so on. "Henry just liked to help people." Eight months after the Germans took over Lyons, Crooks was arrested by the Gestapo and shipped to the Buchenwald concentration camp. Shortens Life There, to quote the State Department, the Nazis "tried in vain to make him reveal information which he had by reason of his service for the United States government. . . it may be said that Mr. Crooks shortened his life through his loyalty to the United States." "I would certainly say it," exclaimed Miss Harvey at Strasbourg. "We Americans at the consulate in Lyons were interned and repatriated when the Germans marched in," she said. "The Swiss took over representation of American interests. Henry stayed at his desk. "He just went on doing what he had been doing, helping American pilots and so forth. Yet he wasn't an adventurous looking man at all. He was very gentle and utterly devoted to his wife and two children." His wife, a Belgian girl he married when he was 19, later said he never told her his job was anything more than office routine. Liberated by American troops, Crooks went back to the consulate as chief clerk. "He was a healthy chap before," said Gates, "but Buchenwald had done him in." Suffering from heart and lung ailments, Crooks would not avail himself of free medical treatment at U.S. government expense. "He'd say, 'Oh, it's nothing.' He wouldn't take time off," Gates recalled. In September, 1959, Crooks died at the age of 56. Gates sent the "unheroic story of a heroic man" to Washington together with a recommendation for a Distinguished Service Award. "It's the State Department's highest honor," Gates said. "I haven't heard of any other of our foreign employees getting it."

LEGAL DELAYS Philadelphia—Average time for a court case (no jury) to get actual court action is now about 4.6 months, according to a survey conducted by the courts and state bar associations.

TICKET PUNCHES Chicago—No two railway conductor's punches are exactly alike in the design of the perforation and each punch is registered in the name of the conductor who is currently using it.

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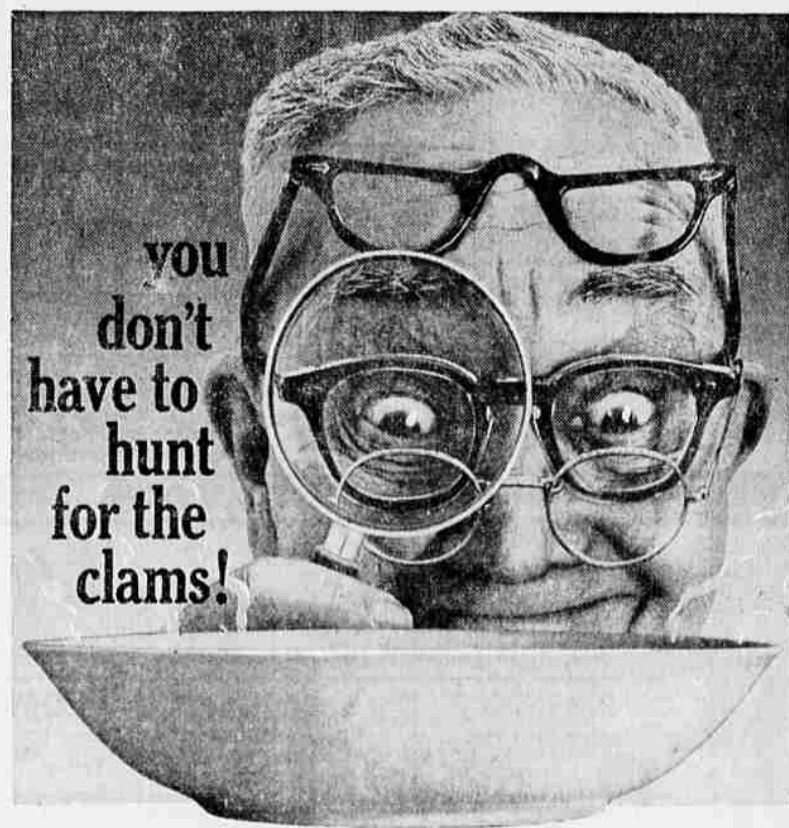
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