

Gen. Marshall Arrives In Shanghai; Reds Ask Cessation Of Hostilities

By FRED HAMPSON
SHANGHAI, Dec. 20 (AP)—General George C. Marshall arrived today on his mission to end internal strife in China—and as he stepped from his plane, Chinese communists asked the government to agree to an immediate, unconditional cessation of hostilities. Lu Ting-yi, communist peace-parley delegate, told The Associated Press.

Marshall is expected to meet with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek at Nanking tomorrow to discuss the situation. The meeting will be their first since the Cairo conference.

Associated Press Correspondent Spencer Moosa, at Chungking, reported the communist move toward a cease-fire agreement, and said Lu also informed him that red leader, Chou En-lai, would seek an audience to present the communist case to Marshall.

The American special envoy stepped briskly from a C-54 transport plane from Manila at

River Harbor Defenses Kept

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP)—The war department has no plans at this time to abandon or dispose of the harbor defenses of the Columbia river in Oregon and Washington.

The department wrote Senator Gordon (R-Ore.) that a report just received regarding the Columbia river harbor defenses "indicates there are no plans at the present time which contemplate the abandonment or disposal of those installations comprising the harbor defenses of the Columbia river."

"Until determinations have been made regarding the size and missions of the postwar army," the letter continued, "you undoubtedly realize no firm statement can be made or plans developed concerning the postwar utilization of harbor defenses. The military population at these harbor defense installations will of necessity be reduced in the demobilization of our army. However, it is intended that the posts, together with all installations thereon, will be retained until major considerations have been resolved."

Cordon also was notified that Camp White at Medford, Ore., was being reactivated and 2300 troops were being sent there. He was told the camp would be retained permanently for training of between 2000 and 3000 men pending decision by congress on the size of the postwar army.

New Power Line To Be Built To Milton

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 20 (AP)—A 20-year electric power contract for the city of Milton, Ore., was announced here by the Bonneville power administration.

The BPA reported it would build a five-mile long 69,000 volt transmission line from its Walla Walla-Pendleton line to a new Milton sub-station when materials and labor are available.

Shanghai's Kiangwan airfield this afternoon and proceeded to the Cathay hotel for conferences with Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, U. S. commander in China.

In Chungking yesterday, central government and communist leaders alike were reported ready to "go the limit" in making peace concessions to impress General Marshall. The date of the forthcoming peace parley between the two parties has not been announced.

Confabs Slated
Marshall and Chiang are expected to fly together to Chungking later in the week for long conferences. Chiang, who has expressed pleasure over Marshall's temporary appointment to succeed Ambassador Patrick J. Hurley, arrived in Nanking yesterday to await the U. S. envoy.

From Yenan, communist stronghold in Manchuria, Associated Press Correspondent John Roderick quoted a party spokesman as expressing "sincere hopes to reach a compromise with the Kuomintang party."

The spokesman for the powerful red central committee recalled there had been many American diplomats and army officers who had been "extremely fair in their dealings with communists and, by their impartial reports, had made invaluable contributions toward the growth of Sino-American friendship."

He expressed belief President Truman and General Marshall

were aware of "the fact there had been others who had been less helpful."

Date Not Set
In Chungking, it was generally expected that Chiang would announce a date for the unity conference upon his return there from Nanking.

The communist request for an immediate cessation of hostilities left the next move to the central government, which observers said might ask safeguards such as a halting of communist troop movements during the proposed truce.

A government dispatch alleged that a detachment of Japanese supported communist forces in an attack December 14 against the port of Tsingtao in northeast Shantung province.

The unconfirmed story said that after a nightlong battle the communists were repulsed and their dead included three Japanese. It was alleged also that more than 80 Japanese rifles and two mortars were recovered by government troops.

Meanwhile, a communist dispatch dated December 15 reported that five government divisions commanded by Gen. Liu Chih had been engaged for six days in a campaign avowedly designed to wipe out all communist new fourth army troops in the Honana-Hupeh border area between the Han river and the Peiping-Hankow railroad.

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Grants Pass Plans Housing Survey

GRANTS PASS, Dec. 20 (AP)—A survey of servicemen and other residents here to determine the need of housing in the community is planned by the chamber of commerce.

Members of a three man committee to investigate sites for public housing, sanitation facilities for temporary units and available utilities are Richard Sabin, E. C. Coates and Oscar Shepherd.

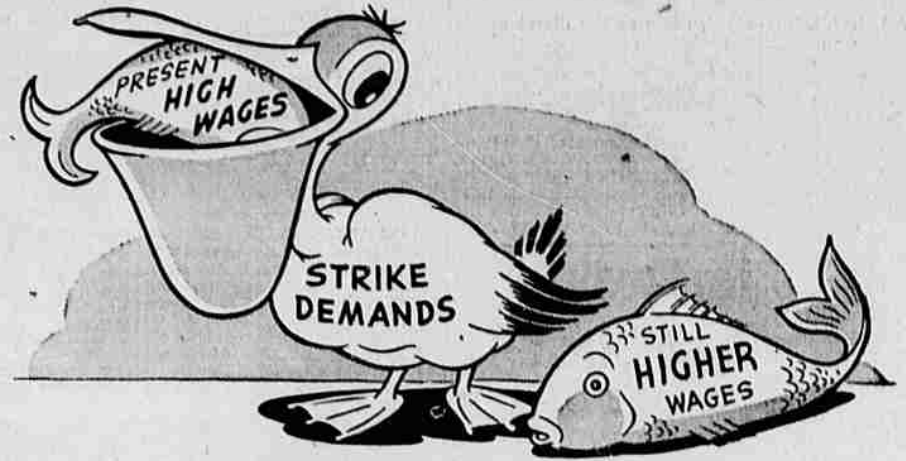
OIL LEASE
PORTLAND, Dec. 20 (AP)—Richfield Oil corporation today held a lease on 2000 acres of city-owned land for drilling operations. The tract adjoins 3000 Multnomah county acres under similar lease.

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