

By FRANK JENKINS
OUR old friend "Informed Quarters" goes into action in Moscow today.

He says the "exploratory conversations of the Big Three foreign ministers appear to have brought the United States, Britain and Russia closer together than they were before this meeting."

He adds: "Certain SUSPICIONS are believed to have a good chance of BEING DISPELLED."

If we can just dispel ENOUGH suspicion, there is practically no limit to what we can accomplish in the way of international co-operation.

Suspicion is the great enemy world peace.

SUSPICION is also the great enemy of domestic peace.

If we could get rid of enough suspicion, we could solve practically ALL our problems of production and distribution and so begin to move out of our present state of confusion into something better and finer than we have known.)

A FINAL word of preaching: Honesty, sincerity and fair dealing are ANTIDOTES for the deadly poison of suspicion.

"INFORMED quarters" news, of honestly and intelligently employed, is one of our most useful devices, making it possible to inform the people without putting anybody on the spot.

What happens when people are put on the spot is well illustrated by American Broadcasting company Larry Tyghe's direct quotation of MacArthur yesterday.

MacArthur, caught in the light of the line, denies the whole thing, adding that he is in Tokyo to "serve and not to hinder or obstruct" American government, that it is his full purpose to see the thing through and that the question of Russian participation in the occupation of Japan is a matter for "other decision than my own."

If Tyghe's story is accurate (as it COULD be), he would have done better to tell it on his OWN responsibility as coming from "informed" sources, instead of putting MacArthur behind the eight ball.

As it is, the public is confused rather than informed.

THE Chinese factions are still sparring back and forth about peace.

Chungking waved aside the Chinese communist proposal to end the civil war IMMEDIATELY as just more "propaganda," whereupon a red spokesman retorts that the communists will OFFICIALLY PUT IT INTO WRITING.

He adds: "We want an armistice. We consider our proposal (to end the fighting) in formal, but as the (Chungking) government wants it in writing we are going to oblige."

THE way to improve conditions in China is to quit fighting and get to work. The communist proposal to end hostilities immediately is the necessary first step in that direction.

We shouldn't be so naive as to think these Chinese communists are interested in NOTHING but the well-being of China, with NO selfish motives, but they certainly do seem to have the best of the armistice argument.

A BATAVIA (Java) dispatch today says: "High sources (first cousin of 'informed' sources) in Batavia say the British have decided to move in whatever reinforcements are necessary to restore order and GUARANTEE DUTCH SOVEREIGNTY in the East Indies."

A London dispatch adds that this decision (by British military authorities at Singapore) is being reviewed by Premier Attlee and his cabinet, and final decision is likely to be deferred pending further negotiations.

IT looks like a case of EMPIRES STANDING TOGETHER. We certainly shouldn't approve any such arrangement. Neither should we GO TO WAR over it.

The thing for us to do is to register our disapproval and let it stand at that, leaving no doubt that such deals are not OUR idea of the way to run the world.

INCIDENTAL information: The census department announces today that nearly TWICE as many Americans died of cancer in 1942-43-44 as our armed forces lost by enemy action.

A HIGH-UP rubber man in Akron says that lifting tire rationing will "produce more confusion but not more tires." He adds: "It will be late next year before you can get the kind of tire you want when you want it."

That is true enough, probably, but this writer has an idea the American people will like it better than rationing.

Santa Changes Phone Number

Santa Claus' telephone number has been changed from 8133 to 8183, and starting at 4 p. m. Friday, children can call the old gentleman and tell him what they would like to find in their Christmas stockings, the Junior chamber of commerce said today.

Caroling under the Christmas tree on the courthouse lawn will also be held this evening, starting at 7 p. m. Fourteen young girls will sing traditional Christmas hymns, and their voices will be amplified by a public address system so that passers-by may listen from their automobiles.

PATTON DIES FROM INJURIES

Weekend To See Huge Business

Merchandise Supplies Dwindle Under Onslaught

The Klamath business district today braced itself for a flood of weekend shoppers that may make Saturday and Monday—last business days before 1945 Christmas—two of the record breaking retail days here.

Although supplies of merchandise were dwindling under terrific buying pressure, experienced merchants recalled that the last weekend before Christmas is always a peak shopping period here and said Saturday and Monday will probably maintain that tradition.

There was still a lot of merchandise left in local stores, but the selection situation was getting rapidly narrower. One shopper remarked in a local store that he was glad he was late—his problem was simplified because he didn't have much choice left.

Big Saturday

The shopping flow from nearby communities and the rural districts is expected to be especially heavy Saturday.

Food stores anticipate huge business days as housewives stock up for Sunday, followed by the feasting on the holiday.

School children went to their last classes before the holidays today, and the final Christmas programs in the schools were held.

Churches prepared for the outstanding events of the year, with the story of Christ's birth to be told in song, story and pageant. (See full page of church news on Page 7.)

One of the hardest-worked crews in the Klamath county was still at it today at the Klamath Falls post office. The peak had been passed for outgoing mail, but incoming packages flooded the office. Post office officials expected a heavy influx of Christmas parcels Saturday night. If it appears they can't handle them on Monday, there will be deliveries Sunday.

Chiang Greets Gen. Marshall

NANKING, Dec. 21 (AP)—Gen. George C. Marshall, President Truman's special envoy to China, arrived here by plane today and was met at the airport by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and Madame Chiang.

The two men saluted and clasped hands on the dusty, wind-swept Nanking airfield. Then with Madame Chiang they drove off for tea and their initial history making talks looking toward unity and peace for China.

General Marshall, with the rank of ambassador, was prepared to implement the newly broadened American policy toward Chiang's government. The personal welcome at the airport by Chiang was interpreted as a fulsome gesture of friendship by China's ruler.

Many thought that the generalissimo, following protocol in such matters, would await the American general at his official residence inside the walled city, soon to resume its status of the peacetime capital of China.

Instead, two minutes after General Marshall stepped from his glistening C-54 plane, after a half hour flight from Shanghai, a large black sedan pulled onto the field and Chiang, impressive in his undecorated, long olive green cape, emerged from the car.

Marshall, in uniform and wearing the five stars of his rank, saw the Chinese leader at once and they strode toward each other, smiling. They saluted, then clasped hands warmly.

LONDON, Dec. 21 (AP)—The British military decisions at Singapore to use additional armed forces in Java are being reviewed by Prime Minister Attlee and his cabinet, an unofficial source said today.

The final decision, according to available information, probably will be deferred until after conferences of British leaders in London with H. J. Van Mook, acting governor general of the Netherlands Indies.

Concerning the lifting of rationing regulations, he asserted: "This means more confusion, lifting of rationing didn't make any more butter. Freeing the tire market is not going to make any more tires."

"It will be late next year before you get the kind of tire you want when you want it," he predicted.

Tire warehousemen and dealers reported that their supplies were nearly depleted here and said it had been virtually impossible to obtain adequate stocks of tires under existing shortages.

The rubber companies spokesman said output of truck tires would reach 3,000,000 this quarter, somewhat less than government estimates, but predicted the truck tire shortage would be resolved before supplies of passenger car units could satisfy civilian demands.

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The senate still had to act on adjournment.

The house will reconvene with the senate on January 14 for the second session of the 79th congress.

In a brief speech to the house members who remained until the end, Speaker Sam Rayburn reviewed accomplishments of the year and said: "We have a right to be proud of ourselves."

Herald and News

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Mac Spikes Report He Will Quit Post

Fact Boards May Suggest Wage Boosts

Each Group Must Find If Employer Can Absorb Cost

By The Associated Press

The administration today gave fact-finding boards broad authority to recommend wage increases which may or may not result in price increases.

The specific rules and policies laid down for the boards, however, cautioned them that in proposing any wage increases, the individual board must "satisfy itself" that the employer could or could not absorb the additional cost at prevailing prices.

The statement on rules and policies, issued by Secretary of Labor Schwelb, said the panel "must necessarily inquire into the issue of the employer's ability to pay" in reaching its decision. It added, however, such ability was "a limitation on and does not necessarily constitute a measure of the amount of fair increase."

Adjourns

Following the statement, the oil wage fact-finding board, at the request of several of the oil companies involved, adjourned until January 7. During the recess, the companies and CIO oil workers union, which is demanding a 30 per cent wage increase, will resume collective bargaining on a plant-by-plant basis.

The new blue-print of fact-finding procedure was expected to apply to all labor disputes, although it was given directly to the oil panel.

Top ranking officials of the corporation and the union, in Washington for hearings by the government fact-finding board studying the nation's major labor problem, prepared to confer in an attempt to agree on a basis for resumption of collective bargaining on strike issues. Some 200,000 GM employees have been idle for one month following a strike in support of the union's demands for a 30 per cent wage rate increase.

British Review Policy In Java

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Pre-Wedding Celebration



Miss Noel Toy, Chinese dancer, and Capt. Carleton Young, of Hollywood, Calif., who announced they would be married in New York City, indulge in a pre-wedding celebration at Latin Quarter night club in New York where Miss Toy performs. (AP wirephoto).

'It's Hurry Up And Wait,' Lament 100,000 War Vets Stranded At Coast Ports

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21 (AP)—"It's the same old army," said Corporal A. L. Holzman, of Long Island, N. Y. "Hurry up and wait."

Holzman was one of nearly 100,000 veterans from the Pacific who today appeared likely to be stranded at west coast ports on Christmas day because of lack of transportation.

Nearly 120,000 veterans were stymied at the ports today, and ships were scheduled to dump an additional 15,000 more dully on harrassed army and navy transportation officials, a far larger number than they expected to have transportation for.

"We had hopes of getting home by Christmas," said Pfc. Julius P. Brenner, of Hudson, N. Y. "Nobody promised us we would. We just hoped we would. I've been overseas only 25 months. Lots of these fellows have been over a lot longer."

Brenner sent a telegram to his parents: "Living aboard ship because of transportation tie-up. Have no idea when will get home."

Reason Explained

Men required to stay aboard ship—there were four "floating barracks" here today—were given an information sheet explaining the reason for the delay. The paper also listed entertainment and sightseeing possibilities in San Francisco.

"Sure, this is good," said Sergeant Louis Jaffe of New York City, a ship-bound veteran of 20 months in the western Pacific. "No mud, no filth, no duties—but it isn't home."

A spokesman from the office of Major General Homer Groninger, commander of the port of embarkation here, said: "Our 'operation Santa Claus' (the name the army gave its plan for handling returning veterans) has been too successful. We've brought back more men than the railroads can handle."

Leave Passes

With more than 51,000 unhappy servicemen on their hands, army and navy authorities at San Francisco were liberal with leave passes. Sight-seeing tours were organized and port officers planned Christmas parties with Red Cross bags of gifts.

At Los Angeles, a huge theatre on the dock was being readied for a Christmas day show for harbor-bound men. An estimated 15,000 men were still aboard ships last night. At Santa Ana staging area mess sergeants were flown in from other bases to help feed the troops, and German prisoners of war used as kitchen police.

Portland, Tacoma and Seattle also had huge backlogs of servicemen.

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Commander Denies Rift With Russia

Tight Report Said To Have Absolutely No Basis

TOKYO, Dec. 21 (AP)—General MacArthur today denied a broadcast report that his headquarters had become embroiled in arguments with the Russians over assignment of Soviet occupation troops to Japan and that MacArthur had threatened to resign.

"I am here to serve and not to hinder or obstruct American government," the supreme commander of the allied powers said in a statement issued by his press relations office.

"It is my full purpose to see the thing through. The question of Russian participation in the occupation is a matter for other decision than my own."

The statement said the broadcast report, "purported to have been made by Larry Tighe of the American Broadcasting corporation, has absolutely no basis in fact."

It concluded: "Hooh."

"If Tighe made the statement he is alleged to have broadcast from Tokyo, someone must have been feeding him a funny type of 'hooh' being peddled around Tokyo on the radio."

(Taking to the air after issuance of the statement, Tighe said "I reaffirm the story which (Continued on Page 2, Column 2)

Yuletide Spirit Still Prevails

The meanest man in the world may still be at large in Klamath Falls today, but a lot of people sought to make up for his meanness after The Herald and News ran a story Monday night telling of a crippled Western Union boy's bicycle being stolen, and the boy attempting to deliver his messages on foot.

Today he has a new bicycle, given to him by the owners and employees of Ed's Shoe Repair shop at 1023 Main. While the boy was accepting this generous offer, the employees of a large department store were taking up a collection to buy him a brand-new bike as a Christmas gift, and workers at a men's clothing store were doing the same.

So one boy in town will realize this holiday season that kindness comes in equal measure with hard-heartedness in this world.

Who said the Christmas spirit was dead?

Columbia Gorge Covered With Solid Sheet Of Ice

Hopes for a snowy Christmas here faded with the shadows when the sun came out and the snow and ice on the streets melted into messy slush. By noon today most of the overcoats worn downtown had been hung in the closet.

But the rest of Oregon is still having weather troubles. Fourteen inches of new snow fell on Sun mountain during the past 24 hours the snow at Odell lake is 73 inches deep and chains are needed on that highway, Willamette valley roads are ice-covered, travel is impossible without chains on the Columbia River highway, Medford is having rain, Pendleton sleet and Burns snow.

Minnesota and North Dakota are having temperatures ranging from 2 to 12 below, the rest of the midwest from five below to 15 above and the eastern seaboard mercury is hovering around the zero mark.

The official reading in Miami this morning was 50 and about the same in parts of Texas. Forecasters predict that temperatures in the south will "moderate quite rapidly" now.

The forecast for Klamath Falls and vicinity is "rain tonight and tomorrow."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP) Adm. R. K. Turner asserted today that Adm. Husband E. Kimmel did not comply with "entirely clear" orders and expressed the opinion that if Kimmel had done so losses at Pearl Harbor would have been cut "materially."

Turner also told a senate-house committee investigating the December 7, 1941, disaster that the Pacific fleet under Kimmel had been prepared for "just such an attack" and was "ready for war."

The navy department, Turner said, had given Kimmel "perfectly specific and entirely clear" orders to take the necessary measures against a Japanese attack.

"Did Kimmel comply, in your opinion?" asked Vice Chairman Cooper (D-Tenn.)

"He did not, in my opinion," said Turner.

Turner, as chief of the navy war plans division had prepared a November 27, 1941, "war warning" message for Pacific commanders.

If Kimmel had complied, pursued Cooper, "would the disastrous effects not have occurred or have been materially reduced?"

"I think they would have been materially reduced," Turner replied, "and there was a good chance we could have inflicted considerable damage on the Japanese fleet."

Car Wreck Ends Life Of General

By RICHARD A. O'REGAN HEIDELBERG, Germany, Dec. 21 (AP)—Gen. George S. Patton Jr., who led the victorious U. S. third army from the beaches of Normandy into Czechoslovakia, died at 5:50 p. m. (8:50 a. m. PST) today, a dozen days after his neck was broken in a traffic accident.

The general's stout fighting heart weakened during the day from effects of pulmonary complications which had beset his apparent recovery from the broken neck and partial paralysis.

Mrs. Patton was with him. The announcement of the general's death was made by Brig. Gen. John M. Willen of the U. S. seventh army.

The general was 60 last November 11.

He was commander of the U. S. 15th army at the time of his death. He had served briefly as acting commander of all American forces in the European theater a few days before his automobile and an army truck collided near Mannheim on Sunday, December 9.

"Hell Of A Way" Patton himself, when his condition was critical after the motor car accident, described it as "a hell of a way to die."

Heidelberg, an old university town, was one of the thousands of places which the third army captured in its rough ride over Germany.

By an ironic twist, Patton had gone unscathed through all his campaigns of war. The peacetime accident left him paralyzed from the shoulders down.

Gen. Joseph T. McNarney, U. S. European theater, commented that it was his "painful duty to announce the death of a great fighter and a great man."

The official announcement said: "Gen. Patton died at 5:50 tonight, it was announced by Brig. Gen. John M. Willen, chief of staff of the seventh army. The general died peacefully."

Expert The expert at armored warfare who campaigned brilliantly in Africa, Sicily, France, Belgium, Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia in allied drives that staggered Germany to her knees last spring had been making an amazing recovery until yesterday.

It was then that the respiratory condition developed. By morning today, doctors were gravely worried about the deterioration in his condition. As Patton's life ebbed away, his heart became affected.

Shortly before his death, Maj. Gen. A. W. Kenner, chief of army surgeons in Europe, left Europe as headquarters in Frankfurt for Patton's bedside.

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