

Occupation Forces Mostly Fresh; Big Training Job

by HAL BOYLE
 NEW YORK, Dec. 9 (AP)—What type of men is America sending to Germany to handle occupation policies?

That worries more people than the senate war-investigating committee which raised the question of the conduct and character of American military government representatives in making public the Meade report.

In Germany during the last summer I found American administrative officers pitifully eager to get good men for the good jobs at their disposal. I talked with many army officers. The army has lost thousands of who wanted older, more stable soldiers "better able to settle down and take care of them-

selves than the green kids we are getting."

The American military government had to take a skeleton staff of the veterans who remained and around this nucleus build up all over again—at the most critical period of the occupation.

In small German cities far from the main policy-making centers, young American combat veterans, drafted from regular army duties, have had to take over functions of government with which they are unfamiliar.

Yet you can't watch these men at work without feeling that a majority are doing the best they can. They work long hours. They get bitter over all-embracing criticisms in the American press of the caliber of men in their branch of service.

To fill the vacancies in key headquarters posts vacated by trained men who went back home to better paying executive jobs, authorities have had to hire where they could. Many discharged enlisted men and army officers of ability have remained. Government offices in Washington have hired others and sent them over.

Most are trained serious men. Others aren't. A number are adventurers and carpetbaggers—and will privately admit they "came over for the ride."

The standard of honesty is that of any large group of Americans in a position to "make a little extra." The days of major carpetbagging are over, but I still couldn't name a man or woman I met in two months in Germany who wasn't willing to "trade with the enemy" at least to the extent of exchanging cigarettes and candy bars for souvenir bric-a-brac.

Anything beyond that, however, is subject to vigilant inquiry by the army's own internal police system.

Tidal Wave Sinks Ship

LE HAVRE, France, Dec. 9 (AP)—The German-built liner Europa, renamed the Liberté by the French, snapped her moorings in a gale-driven tidal wave today, gashed her side against harbor wreckage and sank into the mud on a shallow side of the Le Havre basin.

The 49,746-ton vessel assigned to France as war reparations, settled with a heavy list upon recession of the tidal wave, which had caused the sea to rise three feet above normal. However, a rising tide later righted her, indicating she had retained some buoyancy.

An official of the General Transatlantic company said there was no danger that she would be a total loss. Divers stood about, ready to check on the extent of the damage when the weather moderated.

Demo-GOP Problem Looms

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP)—The republican house leadership faces this question: When is a democrat a republican?

The problem arose in connection with six California congressmen, registered as democrats, but who won both the democratic and republican nominations in the June 4 primary.

They are Reps. Engle, Miller, Holifield, Elliott and King.

What the republican leadership has to decide is whether these self-admitted democrats are entitled to sit in on the republican party caucus on January 2 to choose a speaker of the house, republican floor leader and other majority party officials for the 80th congress beginning the following day.

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Suburban News

The Shasta View Home Economics club will meet at 1 p. m., Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Floyd Hoover, 3931 Freida. There will be an election of officers and a Christmas party and gift exchange. Grace Goodrich, president, asks all members to attend. At the last meeting the day's award, a quilt, went to Mrs. Christine Clark of Summers lane.

Farm Meeting Starts Today

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9 (AP)—An estimated 5000 farmers from every section of the nation met in San Francisco today for the 28th annual convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

National authorities on farm legislation and agriculture are scheduled to address the gathering, among them Undersecretary of Agriculture N. E. Dodd.

The federation, which President Edward A. O'Neal terms the nation's largest farm organization, has a membership goal of 1,500,000 by 1950. At present it boasts 1,000,000 members.

Wheat Shipments Get Priority

PORTLAND, Dec. 9 (AP)—Wheat shipments for the Orient have been given top priority for rail movement, Fred S. Keiser, associate director of the office of defense transportation, reported.

He explained 300 empty cars daily will be made available Monday in the program designed to speed grain deliveries in Pacific areas occupied by U. S. forces. Only 65 cars were assigned here daily previously.

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Shipwrecked Jews Get Food By Air

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9 (AP)—British bombers dropped five tons of food and supplies today to 800 Jews shipwrecked on Szyrna island, near the Dodecanese, while en route to Palestine.

The British destroyer Chevron and a minesweeper were cutting through the Mediterranean toward the lonely island, 90 miles northwest of Rhodes. Four Halifax planes carried the relief supplies to the Jews through weather one veteran described as "the worst I ever saw in the Mediterranean."

The materials dropped by the planes were supplied by the Jewish agency and hauled to the airport last night by agency trucks.

Flight Lt. Allen Ross, commander of the expedition, said the Jews were sheltered in a valley on the barren island. Their ship was believed to have foundered in high seas Saturday during an attempted dash for Palestine. Bad weather prevented flying yesterday.

The Jewish agency said most passengers were believed rescued. Other reports listed eight as missing.

The British announced that 756 European Jews detained on Cyprus sailed during the day from that island for Palestine, bringing the total number admitted under the current immigration quota to 1054. Hundreds of others, diverted to Cyprus after the royal navy intercepted ships taking them to Palestine, remained in detention camps.

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THE FOUR TWO TIMERS
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Reserve Officers Form Chapter Here
 Organization of a Klamath chapter of the Reserve Officers Association will take place at a dinner meeting at the Willard hotel Wednesday at 7 p. m.

Col. W. H. Sweet, senior instructor of the Oregon military district, 6th army, will be the principal speaker. Military movies will be shown.

All commissioned officers of World War II were invited to attend. Reservations should be made with Jack Vaughn, Specialized Service company.

Sea Going Steer Roped From Boat

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9 (AP)—A steer, principal actor in Philadelphia's sea-going rodeo, was on his way to Greece today after a 90-minute hunt in the Delaware river.

The steer leaped into the river from the Greek freighter Alexandria. Police, using a harbor patrol boat, gave pursuit. They finally roped and hauled the animal aboard.

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