

# LIKE EPHEMERAL STALIN OFFER

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Old Joe Stalin, braced again by an American correspondent for an expression of his views, comes through with a cautious statement that peace in Korea would be a pious idea.

He adds that he might be willing to talk it over at a face-to-face meeting with Ike after Ike becomes President of the United States.

As confidently anticipated by Joe, his statement throws everybody into a tizzy—everybody, that is, except Ike and his secretary-of-state-to-be, John Foster Dulles. They talk it over quietly and calmly and afterward Dulles issues a courteous statement to the general effect that if Premier Stalin has any CONCRETE PROPOSALS to make regarding peace they will certainly be seriously and sympathetically received in Washington.

They then go on about their business.

Ike, incidentally, was suffering from a jumping toothache during his conference with Dulles, and his first matter of business after it ended was a session with the dentist. The ever-vigilant reporters who dog him day and night report that he was rubbing his jaw as he got into his car to head for the dentist's office.

Concrete proposals. Just what would BE a concrete proposal?

Well, suppose that Stalin, who started the Korean ruckus in the first place, should order the communist Chinese to get the heck out of Korea, where they have no business to be, and at the same time should order the communist North Koreans to stack their guns and quit fighting.

That would be a concrete proposal. It would be an evidence of good faith.

I'm quite sure, as Mr. Dulles says, that it would be seriously and sympathetically received in Washington—after the 20th of January, at any rate.

That would be a DEED. I doubt if further words, unaccompanied by deeds, will get us very far. But I'm certainly pleased with the firm courteous reply made to Stalin by our President-to-be and our secretary-of-state-to-be.

It sounds like we finally have the right kind of people handling our foreign affairs.

## Death Claims Local Pioneer

Mrs. Myrtle Butin Kester McCullough, 82, a Klamath county resident for 64 years, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. L. Hanks, 2345 Hope street, early this morning.

Mrs. McCullough came here in 1884 with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Butin. She was born in Galesburg, Ia. She married Charles Kester in 1893, and later married Charles McCullough.

Funeral services are to be held Monday, 1:30 p.m., from Ward's Klamath Funeral Home, with interment in Bedford Cemetery, Poe Valley.

Survivors include two sons, Earl and Glen Kester, and two daughters, Mrs. Ramona Hanks and Anita Kester, all of this city; a sister, Mrs. Jessie Dumara, Winters, Calif.; three grandsons, Glen B. Kester, Jr., U.S. Air Force; Dwayne E. Kester, U.S. Air Force; Japan; Lee Kester, Poe Valley, nine step children and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. McCullough was a member of the Presbyterian Church and the Rebekah Lodge here.



'PERPETUAL' RIDER. Michael Patrick O'Brien, the man without a passport, reads an American magazine aboard the ferryboat Lee Hong plying between Hong Kong and Portuguese Macau. O'Brien, who claims he is an American while the State Department says he is Hungarian, has been on the ferry since Sept. 18. Authorities at either end won't let him land because of his passportless status. The 57-year-old "perpetual" traveler says all he wanted for Christmas is "off — off this bucket, off this patch of salt water."

## Holiday Toll Approaches New Record

By The Associated Press

The mounting toll of Christmas holiday accidents dead Friday reached 340 with more than half of the extended week end yet to come.

Deaths in traffic since 6 p. m. local time Wednesday numbered 278—about half of the all-time record toll of 555 for a four-day Christmas period, set in 1936.

Fires killed 29 persons. Thirty-three others died in other types of mishaps.

Unless the rate of highway deaths slackens before midnight Sunday, it appeared a new record for this type of fatality would be set.

Last year's Christmas week-end toll of all accidents was 789 deaths—535 of them in traffic.

ICY ROADS

Highways in some parts of the Midwest and Northeast were icy, but clear, dry weather was reported over most of the country yesterday.

Some cities reported a record number of accidents. In Chicago, police said the 24 hours of Christmas Day were among the worst in the city's traffic history. There were some 1,200 accidents. More than a dozen persons were killed, including four by hit and run drivers.

Traffic Chief Michael Aearn blamed the heavy toll on drunken drivers and increased traffic because of the relatively mild weather.

The Associated Press survey continues through the extended holiday weekend to midnight Sunday. The National Safety Council has estimated a traffic death toll of 590 for the 102-hour period.

ALL-TIME HIGH

Council President Ned H. Dearborn said if the present trend continues, however, "we are headed for an all-time high for the holiday death toll."

The death toll by states, listing traffic, fire and miscellaneous, is: Alabama 3 0 0; Arizona 2 0 0; Arkansas 3 0 1; California 10 2 0; Colorado 2 0 0; Connecticut 1 1 0; Georgia 5 0 2; Illinois 16 1 1; Indiana 12 0 0; Iowa 3 1 2; Kansas 2 1 0; Kentucky 3 0 2; Louisiana 3 1 0; Maryland 5 0 0; Massachusetts 3 1 1; Michigan 1 0 0; Minnesota 5 0 0; Mississippi 1 0 0; Missouri 12 0 0; Nebraska 2 0 0; New Hampshire 1 0 0; New Jersey 2 1 2; New Mexico 3 0 0; New York 2 1 1.

North Carolina 4 0 0; Ohio 26 0 1; Oklahoma 9 0 0; Pennsylvania 16 1 1; South Carolina 7 0 1; South Dakota 1 0 0; Tennessee 5 1 3; Texas 1 1 1; Utah 0 0 0; Vermont 0 0 0; Virginia 1 4 0; Washington 4 0 0; West Virginia 3 4 4; Wisconsin 1 0 1.

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — The Miami Daily News quoted an operator of a veterans surplus store as stating Friday he bought a supply of blood plasma to get publicity.

The newspaper said William A. Weintraub conceded he bought the plasma "for its unusuality" from the Marine Junk Company at Memphis, Tenn.

Weintraub previously said he received 43 pints of plasma in a shipment of Army surplus goods from the Army General Depot at Memphis, Tenn.

The Memphis depot denied any such shipment and said it did not handle plasma. The Defense Department at Washington ordered an investigation.

A Marine colonel was reported flying here to question Weintraub when the store operator told the News it was all a publicity gag.

He said he actually received 21 pints of plasma and 21 pints of distilled water.

There still was no explanation of how the plasma got into private hands. Labels indicated it had been donated to the Red Cross.

Weintraub's office reported him unavailable after he gave the new version to the Daily News.

At Mobile, a spokesman for the Marine Junk Company said the plasma Weintraub referred to may have come from surplus stores of laid-up soldiers, but that the company had no record of the plasma being sold.

## Sled Crash Injures Boy

Seven-year-old Billy Addington, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Addington, 210 Tunnel Street, was struck by a car early this afternoon as he sledged down Tunnel onto Oregon Ave.

He was taken to Klamath Valley Hospital in an ambulance where he was found to have broken bones. However, hospital attendants said there may be some internal injuries.

Driver of the car was Harold Arthur Mabley, 211 Nevada Street, driving a 1946 LaSalle sedan. The sled was demolished.

Mabley was not held. There are special sledding areas set up by the city recreation department and with traffic control for use by young sledding enthusiasts.

HURT IN FALL

Leroy Jackson, 17, was treated at Klamath Valley Hospital yesterday for a head injury he received when he fell down a flight of stairs at the Cory Hotel. Kiley's ambulance took the Chiloquin boy to the hospital.

# Klamath Falls, Oregon, Friday, December 26, 1953

Price Five Cents—12 Pages KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1953 Telephone 8111 No. 2918



INSPECTS COLOR COMPANY. Gen. James A. Van Fleet (left), inspects the 8th Army color company which has been selected to take part in the presidential inauguration ceremony in Washington, D.C., Jan. 20. Three combat men from each regiment in Korea were chosen to represent the 8th Army. All of the men have the required number of rotation points and thus will remain in the U.S. Men in front row are from the 25th Division, in rear are Marines. Inspection took place in Seoul, Korea, recently.

## GOP May Cut German Force

BONN, Germany (AP) — The Republican economy axe is believed certain to fall on what is projected as the largest American diplomatic establishment in the world.

Cuts of 25 to 50 per cent in the American and German staffs of the State Department in Germany are being widely forecast among U. S. officials here.

Before the Republican election victory, State Department officials had worked out plans to employ about 1,000 Americans and 5,000 Germans in West Germany during the year starting July 1, 1953.

They were to be assigned to the new American embassy in Bonn and to the consulates, a general which will succeed the U. S. high commission when West Germany regains sovereignty under the Allied-West German peace pact.

This proposed State Department setup in Germany would dwarf the big American diplomatic establishments in Britain and France, which have about 500 employees each.

The high commission now has 1,213 Americans and 6,200 Germans on the payroll.

About 50 per cent of the Americans are political appointees who could be fired outright. The others are career people.

In addition, the Mutual Security Agency has a total of 164 American and German employees.

"We are bracing for a cut up to 50 per cent when the Republicans take over," said one responsible U. S. official. "The big exodus of Americans begins here next year. That is certain."

## NLRB Rules Against Union

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Labor Relations Board ruled Friday that union action against handling of Canadian shingles in a United States plant is a violation of the Taft-Hartley labor law.

The split decision, with one out of four board members dissenting, was in a Snotomish County, Wash., case.

The order was issued against the Washington-Oregon Shingle Weavers' District Council (AFL) and the Everett local 2580 of the Shingle Weavers Union (AFL).

The trial examiner had held that it was under an avowed union policy that workers refused to work on non-union Canadian shingles at the Sound Shingle Co. at Marysville, Wash., in 1951. It is a shingle and shank-processing firm. The carload of shingles had come from North Shore Shingle Co., Ltd., of Vancouver.

The order entered by the NLRB ordered the unions to "cease and desist from engaging in or inducing or encouraging their members to engage in a strike or a concerted refusal in the course of their employment to perform services for Sound Shingle Co., or any other employer, where an object is to require such employer to cease doing business with North Shore Shingle Co., Ltd., or other Canadian shingle manufacturers."

The board majority held that the union action amounted to a secondary boycott, which is outlawed by the Taft labor law.

## Extradition Starts For 3

Extradition proceedings have been started, Sheriff Red Britton said today, to bring three men held in East St. Louis, Ill., here for prosecution on at least one charge concerning a Dec. 14 burglary of the Klamath Potato Distributors office.

The men have been identified as Jimmy Gulane and Fred Maylor, both of Klamath Falls, and Charles Liles of Oakridge.

They were apprehended in East St. Louis earlier this week, and in possession of a 1932 Buick automobile stolen here from Fred Taylor, 850 Riverside, and of a check protector, typewriter and case of whiskey stolen from the potato company office.

The three men have been charged with larceny, involving the car theft, but additional charges of burglary and forgery may be placed against them later.

Among the articles taken from the office was a pad of company checks, and several of them were made out and cashed here, with the signature of E. C. Lemler forged. The sheriff's office has collected about \$600 worth of forged checks.

The safe was taken from the office and hauled out on a hill at Algoma where it was split open with an axe. However, the safe was empty except for some papers and wasn't locked. The safe-cracking effort went for naught.

## Officer Relates Strange Tale Of Capture, Release by Reds

BERLIN (AP) — An American officer told a dime novel story Friday of kidnaping by the Russians, fights with Soviet guards, and finally release in the pitch darkness of a forest more than 10 miles from the American border.

Lieut. Horace Sincore, of Homestead, Fla., stumbled into the U. S. sector Thursday midnight, flopped onto a curbstone from weariness, and rejoined his infantry unit while Christmas still had only a minute or two to go.

Sincore, old correspondent, a strange story, winding up with a sinister note as though the Russians had hoped for an excuse to shoot him down.

The officer was the first ever released by the Russians without going through the regular channels set up for that purpose.

His return to the U. S. sector wound up precisely a week, and the night he was on maneuver with his outfit, a block and a half from the Soviet zone border, and was picked up by an Eastern patrol, at gunpoint.

"I was kidnaped," Sincore said sharply, his black eyes flashing. "I told them that every time they tried to interrogate me. They threatened to keep me a long, long time so I said maybe I was abducted but they didn't know what that meant."

Then they said I was perhaps picked up but I told them I didn't look much like a woman."

For weeks, Sincore was interrogated by the same team of two Russian civilians, he said. "I told them my name, rank and serial number only and everything else was top secret."

The lieutenant did not know of the American protests about his long detention but he told the Russians he was certain "my people will not let me down."

On Christmas Day, he said a Russian officer brought him four bottles of beer and drank three of them himself.

Then he proposed a "ride." With two other Russians, Sincore entered a car and was driven "a long way" from his Potsdam detention barracks.

In the middle of a wooded area, early at night, the leader of the Russian group ordered the car stopped with the excuse he needed "to relieve himself," Sincore said. "We got out but the Russian jumped back in the car and it drove off."

"I stood there alone and had no idea what it was all about. I jumped behind a tree and the car came back driving very fast. Three or four times it raced up and down the road and I did not show myself. Then I started walking and saw a sign that said 18 kilometers (more than ten miles) to Berlin."

Sincore said he walked so long his legs gave out. A German woman guided him through a forest past a Russian checkpoint and finally he came out somewhere in the Tempelhof Air Base area.

Asked if he thought the Russians might be "shot while attempting to escape," Sincore said he certainly "had that impression."

## Allied Planes Blast Supplies

SEOUL (AP) — Allied fighter bombers spewed death and destruction over North Korea Friday while American Sabre jets clashed with Communist jet fighters near the Yalu River.

A Fifth Air Force spokesman said the fighter-bombers wrecked 15 Communist supply dumps, six artillery positions, 10 troop bunkers and 27 buildings. Secondary blasts indicated ammunition stores were hit.

Allied bombs also cut rail lines in 16 places and damaged a bridge. The Air Force reported 16 Sabres and 16 Russian-built MIG jet fighters clashed near the Yalu River border of Manchuria. There were no reports of MIGs destroyed or damaged.

On the ground, an Eighth Army patrol fought a bitter pre-dawn battle with 25 to 40 Communists near Kumsong on the Eastern Front.

Light patrol activity was reported on the Western and Central Fronts as the temperature dipped to two degrees above zero.

Christmas Day, a large MIG formation turned back to its Manchurian sanctuary without firing a shot in the deepest Communist jet penetration of the war.

## New Theory Reported In Brink's Case

BOSTON (AP) — Unconfirmed reports said today the \$1,219,000 loot from the Brink's robbery of Jan. 17, 1950, may have been placed in safe deposit boxes in various banks by a respectable Boston man acting as a "front" for the robbers.

The FBI refuses to comment on the report of how the loot was hidden after the daring evening robbery but three Boston papers report today a lawyer was chosen by the gang to secret the cash.

The reports said the gang's plan called for the lawyer to hire some 40 safe deposit boxes in banks throughout the country where the money could be placed by him without suspicion.

The newspapers added that the lawyer's identity has been known to investigators for some time and said that he has been under surveillance for many months and is expected to be brought in for questioning in a few days.

A grand jury investigating the Brink's robbery recessed last Monday and is scheduled to resume next Monday.

The reports continued that the FBI has traced \$35,500 of the Brink's cash to some of the vaults and that about \$30,000 of the loot was used to buy government bonds.

Another unconfirmed report said three men died before they could be questioned by the FBI in connection with the Brink's case. Two of the men were slain and the third died of a heart attack while fleeing.

The report said the men who were to have been questioned were: Carlisle M. O'Brien, Rhode Island diner owner who was slain May 17; George R. Killen, South Boston gangster, shot to death outside an all-night restaurant a half mile from Brink's headquarters; and Louis (The Pig) Uva, Boston bookie who died while hiding out in the U. S. to avoid questioning in Killen's death.

The FBI shrugs off questions relating to the Brink's robbery investigation with a curt "no comment."

Meanwhile, Police Chief Meredith of Towanda, Pa., said early today that a suspect in the Brink's robbery offered him a bribe for his release from a gun-carrying charge six months after the fabulous Boston robbery.

The police chief named Joseph "Specs" O'Keefe, 44-year-old Boston gunman, listed in FBI affidavits as a possible participant in the Brink's robbery.

O'Keefe is serving time on the gun-carrying charge in Towanda but currently is in a Boston jail while a grand jury is hearing evidence in the Brink's robbery.

He appeared before the grand jury for about three minutes before he was charged with contempt of court for refusing to tell the jurors any more than his name and address.

Meredith arrested O'Keefe and Stanley Gusciora of Stoughton, Mass., on June 11, 1950, for having five pistols and 150 rounds of ammunition in their car while driving through Towanda.

In a statement from Towanda, in answer to a reporter's query, Meredith said: "I and three state policemen, Donald Burke, John Mancausa and Stanley Gusciora near Towanda on June 11, 1950, on a charge of violating the Uniform Firearms Act."

"At the time we booked them and were putting them in county jail O'Keefe asked me if there wasn't some way we could patch this up."

"I said, 'What kind of patching material do you have?' I wanted to see how much money he had and he could get it. O'Keefe told me, 'name it and it will be cash on the barrel head.'"

"I told Mancausa what O'Keefe said and I knew both knew I had been offered a bribe."

## Bank Sues For Stadium Sale

An equity suit to bring about sale of Gems Stadium has been filed in Circuit Court here by the First National Bank of Portland, against Klamath Baseball Inc.

The bank holds a mortgage or trust deed to the property, against which the baseball corporation issued \$31,100 worth of bonds Feb. 1, 1950, to get out of financial difficulties at that time.

The suit asks an accounting of all property subject to the lien of these bonds, to have it declared a first lien, and for a court-ordered sale of the property. It also asks that a receiver be appointed to safeguard and handle the property during the pendency of the suit.

Klamath Baseball Inc., the suit contends, has failed to pay 1951-52 and 1952-53 property taxes on the ball park, failed to pay interest on the bonds due last Feb. 1, and in various other ways has violated terms of the mortgage or trust deed held by the bank.

Gems Stadium was used as the home of the Klamath Gems professional baseball club during the four-year life of the Far West League, and last summer after the baseball league folded, the ball field was converted into a hardtop race track for once-a-week use.

It probably will be used for auto racing again next summer.

## Will Meet if Red Has 'Concrete Plan'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The incoming Eisenhower administration Friday challenged Russia's Premier Stalin to put forth "concrete proposals" on promoting peace and promised they would be "seriously and sympathetically received."

A statement taking that position was issued by John Foster Dulles, who will be the new administration's secretary of state, after Dulles had talked with President-elect Eisenhower by telephone Friday morning. Eisenhower is in New York.

The statement was the first reaction of the new administration to replies given by Stalin to four questions presented to him by the New York Times and published Thursday morning.

Stalin expressed willingness to meet with Eisenhower in response to one question and he also said Russia was interested in ending the Korean war.

Dulles made this statement: "I have read with interest the published account of Mr. Stalin's views. If these mean that Mr. Stalin has concrete proposals to make to the new administration after it takes office, he can rest assured that they will be seriously and sympathetically received."

"Diplomatic or United Nations channels of communication are always available for such purposes and for exchanges of views designed to find ways to promote peace and international good will."

The normal diplomatic channels for contact between Washington and Moscow are the Soviet embassy here and the American embassy in Moscow.

UNITED NATIONS

At the United Nations Russian and American delegations have a constant opportunity of quick and informal contact.

There was a bit of cautious optimism on Capitol Hill, but in administration circles in downtown Washington the feeling seemed to be that Stalin had offered little if anything new in a reply to four questions submitted to him by the New York Times. The Times published his response yesterday.

Stalin declared that "aggressive actions" taken in the West's cold war policy against Russia are the main cause of world tension and said (1) he regards "favorably" the idea of a meeting with Eisenhower; (2) war between the U. S. and the Soviet Union is not inevitable; (3) Russia is "interested in ending the war in Korea"; and (4) the sources of world contention lie "everywhere and in everything wherever the aggressive actions" of the cold war find expression.

STALIN

Stalin has on several occasions in the past responded to written questions posed by U. S. newsmen and almost invariably he has expressed a belief that a U. S.-Russian war is not inevitable and a willingness to meet with the U. S. chief executive.

Nor did there appear to be much fresh hope, from the Western viewpoint, in Stalin's expressed willingness to co-operate in any new diplomatic gestures looking toward peace in Korea.

This reply, it is true, created the most interest in Washington, but some skepticism was expressed as far as the Truman administration leader was sincerely interested in a new approach to the peace problem, or whether this was more of the same Kremlin propaganda.

In any event, it was evident that as far as the Truman administration is concerned, something more than Stalin's words—some concrete evidence of hope for a truce—would be needed to create any real interest.

As for the idea of a Stalin-Eisenhower meeting, Washington wanted more information on Eisenhower's attitude and on whether Stalin would be willing to take any affirmative action to bring about such a meeting.

LONDON

It was clear, from London dispatches, that Great Britain would want to sit in on any such talks. There is considerable interest in conferences between Stalin, Eisenhower and Prime Minister Churchill reminiscent of the Big Three meetings of World War II days.

It was noted that Eisenhower has had considerable experience in dealing with the Russians at first hand. As supreme commander of Allied powers in Europe in the war, he faced high Soviet officials across the conference table on numerous occasions.

And Eisenhower, during his successful campaign for the presidency, did pledge that he would go anywhere if it would promote peace. "There is nothing that I would not do," he said at June 7 news conference, "to promote the whole cause of peace and security for the United States in this world."

Truman in the past has taken this position, that it is Stalin's turn to come to this country, and the Russian Premier has never said he would do that.

Capitol Hill comment was cautious. "We should beware of Trojan Horses in Russian peace talks," said Sen. Douglas (D-Ill.).

Sen. Mundt (R-SD) said Stalin should agree to come to this country, if he is sincere.

"It sounds like the same old line," said Sen. Wiley (R-Wis.), a member of the U. S. delegation to the United Nations.



THIS IS BABY SITTING? Two-year-old Ann Holman (reading the book) has everything under control as the baby sits with her one-year-old brother, Jim. Mrs. Phil Holman of Lincoln, Neb., their mother, went out to hang up the wash the other day, and left Ann in charge. When she returned moments later, she found Ann keeping the waiting little Jim in check by sitting atop him. The scene was re-staged for the photographer.

**SHOOTING HOURS**

DECEMBER 27

Open 7:05 A.M.

Close 3:41 P.M.

## Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity and Northern California: Mostly cloudy with occasional snow flurries through Saturday. Highs both days 35, low tonight 15. High temp yesterday 31. Low last night 15.