



CAUGHT IN THE ACT. Still wearing rubber gloves, Ernest Verdick, 28, keeps his hands up as detectives search him in the basement of a St. Paul, Minn., bar where Verdick was caught. A "silent" burglar alarm warned the bar proprietor who lived upstairs. Verdick tried to hide in a heating pipe tunnel but his shoes protruded. He told police he spent two thirds of his life in correctional institutions and was released from the Washington State prison last July after serving a burglary term.

Ike Plans to Put Pressure on Chinese

WASHINGTON (AP) — Plans of the Eisenhower administration for dealing with the Korean War appear likely to aim at putting new pressures on the Chinese Communists while easing the battle burden of American forces.

To this end, the belief here is that, as a minimum, President-elect Eisenhower and his secretary of state, John Foster Dulles, will promptly call for:

1. A United Nations economic blockade of Red China.
2. Maximum speed-up in the training of South Korean forces and their assignment to front line positions.
3. How far beyond these minimum actions the new President and his advisers may be willing to go remains to be seen, because despite his trip to Korea, his unprecedented mid-Pacific conferences with prospective aides and his meeting with Gen. MacArthur in New York, Eisenhower so far has not tipped his hand.

Americans Die In Iran Crash

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — An Iranian Airways plane crashed in a dense fog Thursday night a few miles from Tehran airport, killing 22 persons, including four Americans.

Only two passengers survived the Christmas night tragedy. The plane, inbound from Isfahan, 210 miles south of Tehran, circled for a landing, several hundred yards in an open field, then broke apart. There was a small fire that burned out quickly. Investigators believe the pilot miscalculated the altitude in attempting a blind landing.

The dead Americans: Miss Cecil Ann Demosky, 29, Point Four public health field nurse stationed at Shiraz, daughter of Charles Demosky, Route Four, Ogden, Utah.

M-Sgt. Thomas Rispoli of the U. S. Military Mission, of Atlanta, Ga. He was stationed at Shiraz. Mr. Blakemore, 38, Great Neck, Long Island, N. Y., a high school teacher making a study of the Middle East on a Ford Foundation grant.

Mrs. Blakemore, 37, wife of the high school teacher. The Blakemores boarded the plane at Isfahan. Miss Demosky and Rispoli went aboard at Shiraz. All the other passengers in the C-47 were Iranians. All members of the crew were killed.

The survivors were Adil Young, 29, and a Point Four engineer named Khasale. Both suffered minor injuries.

A new factor of uncertain weight was injected into the costly situation yesterday with publication by the New York Times of a reply from Premier Stalin to four questions posed by the Times.

Stalin said Russia is interested in ending the Korean War, and that he would co-operate in any new diplomatic approach toward a truce. However, the question remained: How much of a price would he pay for peace?

A more public endorsement of peace in Korea is not noticeably different from the past Russian position, which—at least for propaganda purposes—has been in favor of a truce. The new statement, however, raised the question whether Stalin may have been convinced by now that the Communists have nothing more to gain in Korea.

Some authorities here believe that Eisenhower's major plans—charted in broad outlines aboard the cruiser Helena—are still fluid and may continue to shift, upon taking office, he gets a final look at all the Korean information and gets full authority.

At the same time, there are some elements in the situation and some factors in Eisenhower's and Dulles' own thinking which clearly point to probable lines of action.

Earlier this month the United Nations General Assembly had its Korean peace appeal to the Chinese and North Korean regimes thrown back in its teeth. The Reds made clear they would only make peace on their own terms—that is, when and if the U. N. was willing to stop insisting upon voluntary registration of prisoners.

The rejection had been unexpected. Two months ago the Truman administration had considered what to do in such a situation. The conclusion then—a conclusion certain to be laid before Eisenhower's people—was that if the U. N. peace bid was spurned by the Reds, the U. N. itself ought to undertake some new action.

The State Department feeling was that the minimum would be for the U. S. to take the lead in seeking General Assembly enactment of an economic blockade of Red China. Truman officials decided not to pursue the matter, largely because of the impending change of administration.

Both the general and Dulles argued during the campaign that U. S. forces, as the "first team" of the free world military, should be disengaged from the Korean fighting as rapidly as possible and that this could be accomplished by expanding the training of South Koreans.

Actually, the Truman administration has had a large-scale program producing hundreds of new Korean soldiers every week, but Eisenhower has intimated that more may be done.

Dulles has argued publicly that to replace American divisions with Koreans would remove two great incentives Russia has for seeing that the Korean War goes on: (1) It would end the commitment of an important segment of American military power, and (2) it would end Moscow's opportunity to propagandize the war as a fight of white men against Asiatics.

Many lines of action are open to Eisenhower, if it is assumed he is not to work a miracle and bring a quick peace.

What kind of a plan was laid before him by the former U. S. commander and U. N. chief of Korea, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, has not been disclosed, but the opportunities for action beyond the minimum lie in these possibilities:

1. He could order an offensive to the narrow neck of the Korean peninsula. This would require more American divisions. The U. S. Army presently has 20 divisions of which eight are in the Far East, seven in the U. S. and five in Europe. Seven is considered by military men the least number that the U. S. should have in its strategic reserve. It is understood that military leaders in Korea urged him to launch an offensive aimed at destroying the enemy and with the narrow neck of the peninsula as its probable geographical objective.

2. An offensive up to the Manchurian border of North Korea could be ordered, but apparently military men consider it undesirable because defense lines at that point could not be manned as economically as at the neck.

3. Opportunities for air action beyond the limits of Korea have long been debated. They cover possible bombing of targets just north of the Yalu River, bombing of China ports, and bombing of major war centers and railways in the interior. Speculation about these actions has normally pointed up the chances that if the United States engages in all-out bombing of Chinese targets it would find itself in a war with Red China.

4. There has also been serious consideration of a naval blockade of Red China. That would entail a large-scale commitment of American naval and aircraft and would raise the question of Communist retaliation.

5. Eisenhower may be under some pressure to use the Chinese Nationalist troops in Korea. Chiang Kai-shek once offered to send a portion of his army from Formosa,

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- ASPARAGUS TIPS** LIBBY'S, All Green Buffet tin **33c**
- STEWED TOMATOES** LIBBY'S No. 303 tin **19c**
- SWEET POTATOES** IN SYRUP, Blue Plate 22-oz. tin **38c**
- RIPE OLIVES** LIBBY'S PITTED Buffet Tin 2 for **27c**
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Brown or Powdered

SUGAR 1-lb. pkg. **10c**

- Margarine** Holiday 5 lbs. **89c**
- CATSUP** Dennison 14-oz. Bottle **15c**

- CAKE FLOUR** Swansdown Large pkg. **35c**
- HERSHEY SYRUP** 16-oz. tin **15c**

- FLOUR** Drifted Snow 10-lb. bag **89c**
- PUMPKIN PIE** HUNT'S FILLING 16-oz. tin **19c**

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Pair Share Adventures

HONG KONG (AP) — Bill Davis of Cookeville, Tenn., and Jesse Marley of Doniphan, Mo., joined the Navy in May, 1952, went through boot camp together and started Korean duty at the same time aboard the U. S. Cruiser Los Angeles.

Now they're in adjoining beds in the British naval hospital, here. A ship's cable snapped in port here Sunday, breaking the left leg of each.

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