

Allies, Reds at Last Sign 'Nervous Truce'

By ROBERT TUCKMAN

PANMUNJOM (AP) — Generals of the U. N. Command and the Red armies signed today at long last a compromise armistice in the bitter, three-year Korean War. It means not peace but a nervous truce.

A hush fell suddenly across the battlefield 12 hours after the truce was signed. But almost until the final minute Communist and Allied guns roared in thunderous barrages. The shooting halted officially at 10 p.m. (8 a.m. PST).

The two generals signed in 10 minutes a document that was 2 years and 17 days in the writing. Hardly had they completed the signing when these ominous, clashing warnings were sounded:

The Chinese Red Peiping radio boasted that the Communists had won "a glorious victory" and cautioned Red soldiers to remain vigilant and guard against any disruptive actions from the other side.

U. N. Commander Gen. Mark Clark told his troops flatly there will be no "immediate or even early withdrawal" from Korea and declared that the U. N. is staying on—"a reminder to the enemy and his emissaries that our might and power stand behind the pledges of the United Nations to defend the Republic of Korea against any aggressor."

South Korean President Syngman Rhee declared again his conviction that the armistice "will prove to be the prelude to more war . . . more suffering and ruin . . . further Communist advances by war and subversion."

He said South Korea would not disturb the truce of "a limited time" while a political conference tries to unify the country and work out plans for withdrawal of Chinese Communist forces from the North.

The 8th Army commander, Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, said the armistice was "just a suspension of hostilities, which may or may not be preparatory to permanent peace."

And in Washington, President Eisenhower thanked the armistice with thanksgiving but warned that "we may not now relax our guard nor cease our quest."

On the battle line only an occasional machine gun burst or of artillery broke the silence. Only in the air did the war really continue, but in a decreased intensity. Allied planes bombed Red troop

concentrations and Sabre jets prowled the North Korean skies for MIGs, but found none to fight. Within 12 hours from the official end of the fighting, troops of each side must pull back 1 1/4 miles, leaving between them a buffer zone 2 1/2 miles wide running the entire length of the 150-mile front.

The brief signing ceremony at Panmunjom ran smoothly in sharp contrast to the months of sharp words, demands, counterdemands and walkouts that marked the long-drawn negotiations.

Without a word to each other, Lt. Gen. William K. Harrison Jr. signed for the Allies and Gen. Nam Il for the Communists in a bare, one-room, Oriental-type building hastily constructed by the Communists for the occasion.

The chief negotiators began penning their names one minute after the appointed hour of 10 a.m. and were through signing the 18 documents involved at 10:11.

Each looked at the other for a long moment after they were through. Nam Il arose from the table and walked out the north door. Harrison went out the south door.

Commanding officers of troops from 16 United Nations members in the war witnessed the ceremony. No representative was present from South Korea.

Gen. Clark signed nine copies of the truce document at Allied advance headquarters in Munsan three hours later. About 400 guests and 100 newsmen watched him sign in an Army theater building. The nine other copies were sent to North Korea for signing by the Communist commanders. North Korean Marshal Kim Il Sung and

Chinese Gen. Peng Tehahual.

Tuesday morning the Reds will be handed the copies signed by Clark, and the U. N. Command will receive the copies signed by Kim and Peng.

Clark will sign the nine Communist-signed copies in Seoul Tuesday. There will be no ceremony. After the signing is over each side will have three copies of the document in English, three in Chinese and three in Korean.

Present when Clark signed the armistice was Maj. Brig. Gen. Choi Duk Chin, South Korean truce delegate, who began boycotting the armistice talks late in May in protest against a cease-fire that leaves his country divided.

Choi said he attended as an observer on instructions from President Rhee.

Their work done, Allied truce delegates prepared to leave the Munsan base camp for other assignments.

Attention swung immediately to the Joint Military Armistice Commission, which will supervise the truce and arbitrate any armistice violations.

A spokesman for the commission said the Allied members would meet with the Communist members for the first time at Panmunjom Tuesday.

The first big task ahead in the armistice is the exchange of prisoners. These include 3,313 Americans and about 8,000 South Koreans and 1,000 from other Allied nations held by the Reds, and 74,000 North Korean and Red Chinese held by the U. N. Command.

The secret record of the negotiations, released after the signing, showed that the Reds held 12,736 prisoners of war.

The exchange of prisoners who want to return home is expected to begin in a week or less.

Th. U. N. said about 7,800 North Koreans and 14,500 Chinese captives have said they do not want to return home and will be turned over to a repatriation commission composed of Switzerland, Sweden, Poland, Czechoslovakia and India.

India's troops will guard them, probably in the buffer zone, while Communist agents confer with them.

The Communists said they would return 300 prisoners a day, including sick and wounded. The U. N. Command told the Reds it will turn back prisoners at the rate of 2,400 able-bodied men daily, plus 360 sick and wounded.

No words were spoken by the signers during the cold and businesslike armistice session.

Harrison and Nam Il looked at each other only once, and that was after each had completed signing all 18 copies of the document.

Then Nam Il, sporting a chestful of medals, rose abruptly from his signing table and marched out of the building.

Harrison got up a minute later and walked out, stopping to shake hands with top U. N. military commanders who had been invited to watch the proceedings.

There was no incident, no hitch in the proceedings.

Harrison and Nam Il entered the Communist - built armistice hall

from opposite ends at precisely the same moment—just at 10 o'clock.

Harrison took his seat before a green cloth-covered table on which were the blue allied copies of the armistice document and the blue and white U. N. flag.

Nam Il sat down at another table on which had been placed a red-starred North Korean flag and a maroon Communist copies of the armistice document.

The flags, each standing about two feet high on small standards, were the ones used during the more than two years of the negotiations.

Between the two tables was a third table that was used by the aides of the two generals for exchanging the copies.

The first copies were signed at 1 minute after 10 and both Nam Il and Harrison went through with the signing of the remaining copies in a crisp manner, looking up occasionally only to speak a few words to aides flanking them.

Harrison used the same pen to sign all 18 copies. It was his own pen—he had carried 10 years.

He smiled only once, at the end of the signing.

Artillery boomed not far off just five minutes before the signing got under way, and just afterward another barrage thundered outside the neutral circle.

Large delegations of news correspondents were on hand on both sides.

Television and newsreel cameras hummed constantly through the signing.

Harrison's three fellow American delegates occupied three chairs at the end of the Allied table to Harrison's right. Nam Il's four Communist fellow delegates were seated at the end of the Communist table to Nam Il's left.

The other American delegates were: Rear Adm. John Daniel, who negotiated the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners last April with the Communists; Maj. Gen. George Finch; and Brig. Gen. Ralph Osborne.

Harrison declined to make any statement to newsmen. Persons close to the general, a lay Baptist preacher who on occasion has conducted church services for his men, described him as having misgivings.

Gen. Clark's message to all personnel of the U. N. Command said the truce means that "our duties and responsibilities during the critical period of the armistice are heightened and intensified rather than diminished."

He warned that the purpose of the armistice was to "permit the opposing sides to attempt a solu-

tion of the conflict by political

conference."

"I join with you and your loved ones in the hope that the armistice will indeed prove to be a step toward peace."

"But I must, at the same time, make it plain that although the thunder of guns dies down and a welcome silence descends upon the battlefield, the conflict will not be over until the governments concerned have reached a firm political settlement."

"Meanwhile, we remain in strength—a reminder to the enemy and his emissaries that our might and power stand behind the pledges of the United Nations to defend the Republic of Korea against any aggressor."

"We cannot turn our backs on the conflict and go home. That would be reckless and dangerous. We must face the fact, the stern reality, that this is not peace, but a suspension of hostilities."

Bitter experience has taught us that we must be prepared for any eventuality.

"There have been past occasions when we lowered our guard, reduced our military establishment, and a statement: 'It means that the Communists have been forced to renounce their attempt to conquer Korea by military force.'"

But, he went on, "the 8th Army recognizes that the armistice is not a definite end of the war. It is just a suspension of hostilities, an interruption of the shooting, which may or may not be preparatory to a permanent peace."

"We must be constantly ready and alert and ready for a resumption of hostilities in case the political discussions break down or the enemy breaches the terms of the armistice."

"There must be no thought of going home until permanent peace and stability have been restored in Korea. The armistice does not mean that the 8th Army can quit and go fishing."

In Seoul, South Korean President Syngman Rhee said:

"I have opposed the signing of the truce because of my conviction that it will prove to be the prelude to more war, not less; to more suffering and ruin; to further Communist advances by war and by subversion."

"Now that it is signed, I pray that my judgment of its effects

may turn out to be wrong. We

shall not disturb the armistice while a political conference undertakes within a limited time to solve peacefully the problem of the liberation and reunification of Korea."

He did not specify what he meant by "limited time." But he warned recently that South Korea would act on its own if the political con-

ference doesn't come to an agree-

ment by six months from now on plans for withdrawal of Chinese Communist troops from the North. Rhee got official word that an armistice would be signed when

Clark called on him half an hour before the signing ceremony began.

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Bad Driver Won't Appear in Court; He Erred Again

EAST HAMPTON, Conn. (AP) — Frank Gleixner, 16, was arrested here May 16 on a charge of operating an uninsured vehicle, and arrested again in nearby Portland July 4 on a charge of speeding.

He was scheduled for trial here tonight and in Portland Wednesday night, but he won't appear in either court.

He's dead. His car failed to round a curve on a road here yesterday and crashed into a tree.

Activities To Halt For Tobey Funeral

TEMPLE N. H. (AP)—All activity in this country town of 400 persons will halt tomorrow for the funeral of Sen. Charles W. Tobey, who died of a coronary thrombosis in Bethesda (Md.) Naval Hospital. He was 73.

Sen. Tobey's body arrived in Manchester last night and will be placed on public view later today at the Goodwin Funeral Home there.

Troops Told 'Not A Peace'

AT THE FRONT IN KOREA (AP)—Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor told his troops today the Korean cease-fire is only an armistice and not a peace.

In the absence of a true military victory, the 8th Army commander will ban any victory celebration and told his men they must be ready to fight again at a moment's notice.

The message was read to all troops of the 8th Army by their unit commanders immediately after the 10 o'clock signing of the armistice at Panmunjom.

Corps and division headquarters amplified Taylor's expression and gave specific orders that there were to be no celebrations at the front at the final cease-fire.

Latest List: 219 Korea Casualties

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Defense Department identified 219 Korean War casualties in a new list (No. 864) that reported 19 killed, 184 wounded, 7 seven missing and 9 injured. Issuance of these lists lags some time behind the period when the casualties occurred.

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