

American POW's Stick To Compound As Effort For Talks Breaks Down

PANMUNJOM (AP) — The Allied campaign to win back balky war prisoners appeared to have collapsed today and an Indian spokesman said 22 Americans and 1 Briton who chose communism are fully aware that time is running out.

Two POW leaders who conferred yesterday with Indian Lt. Gen. S. Thimayya said it made no difference to them that the 90-day period for interviews expires in one week—Dec. 23.

There appeared to be virtually no chance that the Americans and Britons would agree to attend interviews before the deadline. And the U.N. Command considered other ways of reaching the prisoners—including Christmas carols broadcast over the compound public address system.

The music would be interspersed with appeals to abandon communism and return home, a spokesman said.

One officer said "a number of things" are under consideration, including a request to the Indian command for permission to send explainers right into the compound.

As hope faded for interviewing the unrepatriated Americans, U.S. envoy Arthur H. Dean left Tokyo for Washington. He told newsmen he was still hopeful that a Korean peace conference can be arranged even though nothing was accomplished in seven weeks of preliminary negotiations.

Dean left his chief assistant, Kenneth Young, to continue the negotiations. If the Communists apologize for accusing the United States of conniving with South Korean prisoners last June.

Dean broke off the talks as a result of the Communist accusation.

South Korea's President Syngman Rhee told newsmen he would give a peace conference a full 9 days to make progress toward uniting Korea before taking independent action. But Rhee emphasized that he would wait only a "certain time" for the conference to get under way.

Gen. Thimayya, chairman of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, reiterated today that Indian troops will free unrepatriated Americans, British, Korean and Chinese prisoners or turn them back to their captors Jan. 22.

The Indian command issued an official statement quoting Thimayya as saying:

"Unless the two commands agree to allow him to have further custody of prisoners beyond Jan. 22 he would have no alternative but to release them or return them to the former detaining side."

If the Indians should turn prisoners back to their captors, Allied officials said, 22,000 anti-Red Chinese and North Koreans would be promptly freed.

The U.N. Command today renewed its request for interviews with "any number" of the 77 South Koreans, 22 Americans and 1 Briton still to meet Allied explainers.

The Communists asked to talk with 35 anti-Communist Koreans in Compound C3 of the South Camp—the same prisoners the Reds have asked for repeatedly after interviewing about half of the men from the compound.

The Indians told both commands that their request was denied because the prisoners refused to attend.

With the explanations all but finished, it seemed that the only likelihood any of the 22 American prisoners would come home was if they turned themselves in to Indian guards, as South Korean Pic. Kim Min Do did today.

Kim was one of the prisoners in the North Camp who had not yet been interviewed when the communique talks broke off last Saturday. All of the 250 South Korean prisoners were interviewed before Saturday elected to stay with the Communists.

Kim was returned to the U.N. Command.

Tax Cut For Some Seen Coming

By CHARLES F. BARRETT

WASHINGTON (AP)—Treasury and congressional staff experts today reported agreed on a restricted tax cut for some parents who must pay child care expenses while they work.

The proposed relief is so slight, however—a maximum \$300 deduction with strict limitations—it seems certain to run into strong demands by lawmakers for more liberal provisions.

More than 25 bills already are pending to give a tax break to millions of working mothers, widows, widowers and others.

The plan is part of a mammoth proposal for revision of almost all revenue laws. Some 70 staff experts from congressional committees and the Treasury have been working privately on recommendations for almost a year.

Informed sources said the staff proposal on child care expenses would provide a tax cut only to single heads of household—widows, widowers, separated parents, and others. It would not give relief to married couples who hire baby sitters while both husband and wife work, as proposed by some members of Congress.

Also, the proposal would apply only to workers who have children under 7. The theory is that caring for school-age children is not so much a problem as caring for younger ones.

The plan would permit workers meeting these qualifications to deduct from their incomes, for tax purposes, up to \$300 annually of actual expenses for child care. Less than 25 million dollars in annual tax revenue would be involved.

Some congressmen have proposed a \$800 limit on the deduction while others have urged allowances to cover all expenses of child care for working mothers.

Advocates of tax relief in this field argue that in many cases the expense of baby sitters or other child care is necessary to employment by the wage earner, and should be deducted on the same basis that business expenses are deducted.



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Educators Have Faith In Report

SALEM (AP) — The State Board of Education said Tuesday it has complete confidence in the committee of educators which is preparing a social studies outline for high school teachers.

Two Lumber Firms Face Damage Suits

PORTLAND (AP) — Two Central Oregon lumber firms were sued in unrelated federal court damage suits Tuesday totaling \$365,460.

Brooks-Scarlett of Bend was sued for \$172,700 by Ovid O. Wheeler, 39, a workman who lost part of his right hand in a mill accident. Alexander-Stewart of Prineville was sued for \$192,760 by Lonnie Stewart, 37, and for \$38,880 by Stewart's wife, as a result of a woods accident.

The plaintiffs allege permanent disabilities and each of the men seeks \$150,000 general damages based on their life expectancies.

NATO Aides Cheered By Atom Plan

PARIS (AP)—The North Atlantic Council of Ministers went into the closing sessions of its 12th meeting today considerably cheered by the Eisenhower administration's pledge to work for a sharing of atomic tactics with America's 13 NATO allies.

The prospects of limited atomic cooperation, raised yesterday by U.S. Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson, helped ease some of the sting left by Secretary of State Dulles' threat the day before that American aid to Europe may be cut if the European army isn't approved soon.

Wilson promised only that Congress would be asked to approve letting the NATO nations have "pertinent information" on how to use the atomic weapons America is building. He did not say the Allies might be told how to build them themselves.

Nor did he offer to share U.S. atomic weapons with anyone, but observers pointed out he said nothing to the meeting of Allied foreign, defense and finance ministers which would exclude the possibility of shipping atomic weapons to Europe, where the United States already has six atomic cannons.

The McMahon atomic energy law at present bars the sharing of U.S. atomic secrets with foreign powers. Wilson said Eisenhower is prepared to ask Congress to amend the law.

The NATO ministers quickly approved these goals for their 1954 campaign to forge a stronger West European defense wall against Soviet aggression:

- 1. A 25 per cent hike in air power to give NATO close to 5,700 planes by the end of 1954. A high American official had said earlier the United States would contribute at least half the total increase.
- 2. A 5 per cent increase in ground forces to give NATO 103 front-line and reserve divisions.
- 3. A 15 per cent boost in naval craft, for a total of about 1,900 by the end of next year.

Wilson promised NATO allies the United States would keep up its supply to them of modern weapons and munitions. He called on West Europe's military leaders to hurry on with the job of devising procedures for using the weapons to best advantage.

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