

ARMY CHARGES RETURNED POW

Herald and News

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Top Defense Officials Concerned

By FRED S. HOFFMAN
WASHINGTON (AP)—Cpl. Edward S. Dickenson, a Virginia farm boy who changed his mind about staying with the Communists in Korea, faces Army charges that he dealt illegally with his Red captors to get better treatment. If tried and convicted of one of the charges, he could be sentenced to death.

The Army notified Dickenson of the charges last night, then placed him under arrest at its Walter Reed Hospital here. He has been undergoing a physical examination.

The 23-year-old soldier stands accused of unlawfully holding "intercourse with the enemy" to get "favorable treatment." The formal charges say his activities hurt other prisoners of war held by the Reds.

Officials explained that the filing of these charges—based on accusations by former fellow prisoners—is only a preliminary action. It does not even necessarily mean he will be brought to trial.

An official announcement by the Military District of Washington said no decision will be made on whether to try Dickenson until after an investigation of the charges and evidence has been finished and its results "fully reviewed for legal sufficiency." The Army said this preliminary will be held "at the earliest date possible."

Dickenson, whose home is in the remote mountain town of Cracker's Neck in southwestern Virginia, was one of 21 American soldiers who refused to return to United Nations lines when the Korean truce was signed last summer. He later asked neutral Indian guards to take him back.

The young Virginia told reporters at the time that the Chinese Reds "kept me back" with threats.

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Defense Brass "Concerned"

WASHINGTON (AP)—Top Defense Department officials were described Saturday as surprised and deeply concerned over the Army's filing of court martial charges against Cpl. Edward S. Dickenson, former prisoner of war in Korea.

One official said the military services were under specific orders to take no legal action in the POW situation without approval of the defense brass.

This official said that the first notice Secretary of Defense Wilson and his aides had of the Dickenson development was when an officer of the military district of Washington delivered copies of an announcement to newspaper offices in Washington.

The announcement said Dickenson, 23-year-old Virginia farm boy who changed his mind about staying with Communists, was being charged with dealing illegally with his captors in Korea to get better treatment. Officials explained that the filing of these charges was only a preliminary action. He was placed under arrest at Walter Reed Hospital here where he has been undergoing physical examinations.

The concern attributed to the defense brass was said to be over the possible effect the action against Dickenson would have on the cases of 21 Americans who have been turned loose at Panmunjom, Korea, by the neutral nations repatriation commission.



IT WAS PLENTY SLICK this morning, as Bill Blakley found out. Bill, who works at Klamath Furniture, was bragging about how easily he got around in the snow, so he was sent to get the bookkeeper. And this is what happened.



A BEAUTIFUL WINTER SCENE was presented Saturday morning by the Murdo Merrison home on Lincoln street, all decked out with a six inch covering of snow.

Oil Docks Burned

Oregon Trout Season Will Open May 1, Close Oct. 10

PORTLAND (AP)—The 1954 Oregon trout season will open May 1 and close Oct. 10, the State Game Commission announced Friday.

The winter steelhead season will close March 1, the commission reported after a second public hearing on this year's fishing regulations.

The commission turned down requests for extending the steelhead season to March 15 and for continuing the practice of opening various zones to trout fishing at staggered dates.

Only minor changes were made in tentative regulations which were announced following earlier public hearings. These included:

The winter deadline on Wilson River and Drift Creek, tributaries of the Alsea River, will remain the same as last year.

Lake of the Woods in Klamath County will open May 29 along with most other Cascade lakes.

The Metolius River opening was changed to close the river to angling for a distance of 100 feet above and below the bridge at Camp Sherman.

The winter deadline on the north fork of the Scappoose Creek was changed to a point 200 feet below Bonny Falls.

The winter deadline on the South Santiam River was changed to the Cascade Ranger Station.

The middle fork of the Santiam River was opened to winter angling up to the confluence of Quartzville Creek.

The 400-foot closure below the diversion dams on the North Santiam at Stayton was amended to include both the north and south channels.

Diamond Lake opening was changed to May 1.

The commission reported that printed copies of the complete regulations will be available about April 1.

Tanker Hit Touches Off Costly Fire

SEATTLE (AP)—A spectacular pier fire at the Pt. Wells oil "tank farm" on Puget Sound north of here early Saturday, started when a tanker sideswiped a pier, was stopped before it reached the huge tanks filled with gasoline and oil linking the shore and nearby hillsides.

Standard Oil Co. officials scaled down estimates of the loss at midday Saturday, placing the figure at approximately \$120,000, not including the petroleum products which exploded and burned.

Hundreds of Coast Guard men and employees of the oil company fought the billowing blaze for three hours before bringing it under control. There were no injuries although the flames leaped hundreds of feet into the air, raced along docks and piling and spilled over the waters of Puget Sound with amazing rapidity.

The fire started shortly before midnight Friday night when the Standard tanker, J. L. Hannah hit the 1,000-foot pier as it came in with 130,000 barrels of oil and other products aboard.

The crash severed 10 feed lines which extended from the storage tanks ashore to the pier end. Highly inflammable liquids spewed out on the ship's side and sparks set off by the grating of metal on metal set them aflame.

Within seconds the entire end of the structure was sheathed in flames while the Hannah backed away and into the stream. It did not catch fire and suffered only minor damage in the collision.

For two and a half hours growing crews of firefighters poured foam and water on the south section of the dock and it was believed the north 50 feet were safe. Firefighters said the blaze was under control and only smoke and sparks rolled from the dock with a few flickering flames visible in spots.

Then, suddenly, fuel pipes on the north section caught fire with a tremendous whoosh and the flames were away again, racing the remaining 500 feet in a matter of seconds, driving firemen and officials from the "legs" of the pie shaped structure.

Explosions from 50-gallon containers of "Flamo," a liquid gas, punctured the air with window-breaking reverberations, spreading the flames in great onion-shaped masses.

Fuel from the pipes poured onto the waters beneath the pier and flames spread over a wide area of the water, keeping back fireboats which had difficulty getting within an effective range from the water side.

The pipes had been shut off but fuel between the shutoff valves and the pier end provided hundreds of gallons of inflammable liquid which spread flames on the water's surface to within 25 yards of the nearest storage tanks loaded with fuel oil.

Pro-Red Situation Tightens

By FORREST EDWARDS
PANMUNJOM (AP)—Twenty-one Americans and 328 other pro-Red prisoners in Korea's neutral zone were caught today between a new Communist refusal to accept them and a tougher Allied attitude.

Two Communist generals rejected for the second time an Indian proposal that the Reds accept "under protest" the 21 Americans, 1 Briton and 325 South Koreans who renounced their homelands for communism.

Indian guards abandoned the captives last night after the Reds wouldn't take them.

The U. N. Command virtually told the Communist Command to take them back.

"We welcome any statement that you will make as to your plans for removing them as rapidly as possible from their present camp to any area north of the present demilitarized zone," Maj. Gen. J. K. Lacey told the Reds at a session of the Military Armistice Commission.

Growing Allied impatience with the pro-Reds was reflected also in Washington, where U.S. Defense Secretary Wilson said the 21 Americans "must make up their minds quickly" if they want to come home. "Their pay is going to be cut off very shortly," he said.

Pentagon officials said that only the Reds' refusal to take back the 21 had given them a few hours or days of grace before "undesirable" discharges become effective.

Indian Lt. Gen. K. S. Thimayya conferred at Red headquarters Saturday with Communist generals Lee Sang Cho and Ping Kuo Yu, on his suggestion that the Reds accept custody of the 347 POWs under protest.

"The situation remains the same," he reported. "Nothing short of continued custody by the Indian Command would satisfy them. . . . They made it quite strong."

He said, however, the Red generals proposed sending Communist Red Cross personnel into the camp to care for the men, which he agreed to provided it is in accord with the armistice. Thimayya said no further meetings were scheduled with the Reds.

Two Injured In Smashup

A car-snowplow accident early this morning near the Swan Lake Moulding Co., on South Sixth street, sent Mr. and Mrs. George L. Stevens, owners of the Stevens Hotel, to the Klamath Valley hospital for treatment.

Mrs. Stevens, most seriously injured of the two, according to the attending physician, received a fractured right leg and cuts and bruises. Stevens suffered sprains and bruises. Neither was in serious condition according to reports.

The accident occurred about 3 a.m. when a snowplow truck operated by Roy J. Laird, 4410 Cottage, was hit in the rear by a Packard sedan operated by Stevens.

According to Oregon State Police the truck was traveling east and plowing snow at about ten miles per hour when the crash occurred. The trucks' clearance lights, tail light and blue flasher lights were operating, the police report stated.

Portland Plagued By Rain And Slides; Relief Seen

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
City street crews were busy in Portland Saturday clearing slides which resulted from a week of rain and snow.

A. M. Piebuch, general public works foreman, said a big section of scenic Southwest Terwilliger Boulevard may be closed most of the winter.

A big section of the route gave way Saturday near the point where a huge slide piled up debris 15 feet deep and 500 feet wide. Piebuch said the area is so soft that it is too dangerous to bring in heavy equipment.

The Terwilliger slides are moving downhill toward Southwest Barbur Boulevard, a major traffic route. No homes are in immediate danger.

A letup in the rain and snow Saturday morning and the prospect of lighter precipitation over the weekend were generally welcomed in Western Oregon. Forecasts ranged from showers to snow flurries and lower temperatures. The colder weather was expected to improve slide and flood conditions.

Johnson Creek southeast of Portland was back in its banks after flooding Friday and forcing several families to leave their homes.

Many Portland streets were slick with a thin layer of ice and motor traffic moved cautiously.

At Astoria, where a hillside slide two weeks ago forced more than 30 families to evacuate dwellings, one-half to one inch of sleet fell in small granules overnight. There was no further hillside slippage.

North Bend on the coast had 1.32 inches of rain in the 24-hour period ended at 4:30 a. m. Eugene had .98, Newport .73, the Portland Airport .67 and Salem .58.



TOM SMITH

Smith Seeks County Post

Thomas R. (Tom) Smith, resident of Klamath Falls since 1935 and owner of the Second Street Neighborhood Grocery, 615 North Second Street, has filed for the office of Klamath county commissioner, on the Republican ticket.

Smith came from Portland to manage Wayman's store which later became Hardy's Manstore. He was also associated with the Oregon Woolen Store for several years, leaving there to go to Brookings where he raised Easter lily bulbs.

Since his return to Klamath Falls he has been employed at Dick Reeder's.

Smith has never held public office but believes his judgment will be for the interest of the county and the taxpayer.

Top Cowboys Seek Title

DENVER (AP)—The pick of the nation's cowboys, shooting for a \$35,028.22 jackpot, bucked their way into the spotlight Saturday as the 48th annual National Western Stock Show and Rodeo wound up its third best year in history.

The rodeo wranglers, after eight days of preliminary go-rounds, rode and roped their way into the finals in five events.

Going into the finals, Jim Bynum of Wakarusa, Tex., held a firm lead in the steer wrestling division by downing the steers in 6.5 and 4.5 seconds. His nearest competitor is Charles Colbert of Clarksville, Tex., who required 22 seconds to down his two steers.

Bynum already has picked up a check for \$1,402.25 for winning the first go-round. The same prize is offered for the second go-round.

Another Texan, Don McLaughlin of Smithfield, led the race in the calf roping division, whose \$5,135.33 purse is the biggest in the show. McLaughlin had the lowest accumulated time recorded for roping two calves.

Paul Templeton, Wenatche, Wash., was first in the saddle bronc riding event Friday afternoon. Ross Dollard, Lakeview, Ore., was third in steer wrestling.

Taylor Names Relief Units

SEOUL (AP)—Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, U.S. 8th Army commander, Saturday identified the two American divisions to be withdrawn from Korea as the 40th and 45th.

He said the 45th Division, the former Oklahoma National Guard, will return to the United States between Feb. 15 and March 15, and the 40th, former California National Guard, considerably later.

The withdrawals were announced recently by President Eisenhower, but this was the first official information on the units affected.

Both divisions have been in Korea about two years.

Taylor's announcement said the only soldiers to be transferred with the outfits back to the United States are those entitled to rotation home on points. Men not yet eligible will be transferred to other divisions.

It was not stated whether the divisions would be returned to their old home states.

Warner Canyon Skiing Held Good

LAKEVIEW—Warner Canyon ski conditions are "good" this weekend, according to District Ranger Don Peters.

A 5 p.m. Friday reading had the temperature at 32, with four inches of new snow on the ski course and snow still falling. Peters said the highway from Lakeview to the ski area is open but is not free of snow.

The tow and snack bar will be open Saturday and Sunday.

Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Occasional snow flurries through Sunday; colder, High Sunday 28; low Saturday night 15. 49 High yesterday 49 Low last night 19

Weather Eases In Southeast

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
Snow which piled up to nearly a half foot in sections of the Southeast tapered off Saturday but it was on the chilly side over wide areas and into New England.

The snow fall, and freezing rain in some areas, slicked highways and driving conditions were hazardous in many parts of the storm belt.

Snowfalls at Washington, D.C. and Charlotte and Greensboro, N. C., measured more than 6 inches. The snow belt extended from south western Virginia to southern New Jersey.

It was colder in the Northeast with readings ranging from 11 above at Boston to 8 to 15 degrees below zero in northern Maine.

There was some warming in the week of cold weather. However, sub-zero readings were reported again Saturday in sections of northern Montana and northern North Dakota.

KLAMATH BASIN	
POTATO SHIPMENTS	
Shipped	Same Day
Texas	Last Year
63 cars	49 cars
TOTAL FOR SEASON	
1953-54	1952-53
6034 cars	6706 cars



THREE BOYS WITH A BID on little Gail Putman's tricycle visited KFLW Friday. Left to right are the Kufner boys, Dick, 5; Ronald, 3; Eddie, 15 months. Big brother Bobby, who called in the bid on Thursday night's radio auction, was in school when the other three delivered their bid. The boys, sons of Mr. and Mrs. James Kufner, 1428 Kane, are some of the many who, realizing what a trike can mean to a boy, especially a boy 5 1/2 years old with polio, called in to add their dimes and dollars to the March of Dimes campaign to help victims of polio.

Popotamus Aspects New African Plant

MPALA, Uganda (AP)—A hippo made an inspection visit Saturday at the Owen Falls hydroelectric project which Queen Elizabeth II will open officially in a few days.

He evidently didn't like the saw.

The hippo first sauntered into the queen's rest room.

He approached the control housing delicate instruments, giving an employee who tried to stop him a look of defiance.

From there he proceeded to the visitors' gallery, solemnly inspecting the machinery that vantage point.

Finally, in a burst of rage at the hostile reception, he smashed through two windows, turned his back on the whole contraption, and proceeded to urinate on the upper Nile River.

Scientists preparing to switch plant over from steam to hydropower heaved several sighs of relief.