

British Ship Explosion Kills 10, Injures 1000

GIBRALTAR, April 27—(AP)—The 1,152-ton British ammunition ship *Bedenham* blew up today with an earth-shaking blast as she unloaded at this Mediterranean rock fortress. Ten workers were believed killed and more than 1,000 injured.

Naval authorities said 500 tons of ammunition—all aboard the *Bedenham*—went up in smoke.

The blast, described by witnesses as the "worst ever heard," smashed nearly all the windows in Gibraltar town at the base of the rock and shattered others in La Linea, a mile away on the Spanish mainland. Many of the injured were victims of flying glass.

Sabotage Possibility

It was understood a fire on a lighter alongside the *Bedenham* touched off the ship's cargo of ammunition as it was being carried to storage houses at the ordnance wharf. The lighter also blew up. Authorities were investigating the possibility of sabotage.

A British admiralty statement put the number of dead at six and indicated that neither the ship's captain nor any of the crew of 25 were among this number. The admiralty said there were some injuries, however, among the crew. Most of those unloading the ship were Spaniards from the mainland.

The explosion hurled crewmen and dockworkers into the air and sent up huge clouds of billowing smoke. It caused panic among many residents of Gibraltar town. Women ran screaming toward air raid shelters.

British authorities at this guard-post to the western approaches of the Mediterranean cut off communications with the Spanish mainland and closed the frontier gates on the connecting causeway.

CENTENARIAN DIES

OIL CITY, Pa., April 27—(AP)—A 102-year-old former Oil City carpenter died today in Huefner, Clarion county, 20 miles from here. He was Henry Hargenrader, one of the few remaining centenarians in this section.

Churchill Cancels Speech To Avoid Political Dispute

LONDON, April 27—(AP)—Winston Churchill today cancelled a planned speech in the United States—presumably to avoid getting embroiled in the American political dispute over General MacArthur.

The Conservative leader explained that "events have happened" which make it difficult for him to fulfill an engagement to speak on world affairs at the bicentennial of the University of Pennsylvania library, May 8.

Only Two Reasons

Churchill did not specify what the events were. Obviously, however, there could only be two: the dispute in the United States centering around President Truman's removal of MacArthur from the far eastern commands and the developing split in Britain's labor party, which increases the possibility of an early general election here.

While both incidents undoubtedly influenced Churchill, several sources suggested that, of the two, the MacArthur affair carried much the most weight.

Difficult For Churchill

As the political expert of the British Press association pointed out, it would be difficult for Churchill to make a speech on world affairs in the United States "at the present juncture without getting involved in issues that are causing much controversy in the

Extended Forecast

Extended forecast for the period Saturday, April 28 through Wednesday, May 2:

Eastern Pennsylvania, eastern New York and mid Atlantic states: mostly fair and warm weather; temperature average 10 to 12 degrees above normal; quite warm Saturday, somewhat cooler north portion Sunday and south portion Monday; warmer again Tuesday; scattered showers mostly over north portion Sunday and again Wednesday, total rain one-half to one inch north and a quarter of an inch or less in south portion.

Western Pennsylvania, western New York, Ohio and West Virginia: scattered showers or thunderstorms late Saturday or Sunday, and again about Wednesday, total amount one half to one inch north and one quarter to one half inch south portion; temperature will average 10 to 12 degrees above normal, warmer Saturday, a little cooler north portion Sunday, warmer north portion Monday.

U.N. Troops Continue To Withdraw

BULLETIN

U. S. Eighth Army Headquarters, Korea, Saturday, April 28—(AP)—U. N. forces today abandoned strategic Kapyong, on one main invasion highway 33 miles northeast of Seoul.

The Allies continued their orderly withdrawal all along the front. They fell back (four words deleted by censor) north of Seoul.

TOKYO, Saturday, April 28 (AP)

Allied troops withdrew steadily southward in a pelting rainstorm Friday along the 100-mile-wide Korean battlefield, leaving a muddy no man's land behind.

The advancing Chinese Communists pressed within 10 miles north of Seoul on the western front Friday night, but the United Nations retirement was at a faster rate than the casualty-riddled Chinese and North Koreans could advance.

Contact Slackened

Field dispatches said that while contact was broken or slackened along most sectors of front, thousands of fresh Chinese troops were moving southward Friday night toward the central front.

It was the familiar Chinese tactic of passing fresh assault waves through the exhausted Communist divisions which began the major Red offensive Sunday night.

Thus far, in five days of bitter fighting, the Chinese and North Koreans were estimated to have suffered a devastating toll of nearly 37,000 men killed or wounded from allied ground, air and sea action.

Chinese Casualties Mount

This boosted total enemy war casualties to more than 862,500 since the North Korean Reds began the war by invading South Korea last June 25.

A field dispatch from AP correspondent George A. McArthur on the west-central front said U.N. troops jammed on trucks and marching in the almost steady downpour moved southward throughout the day in a solid stream.

They passed through Uijongbu. That road junction 11 miles north of Seoul, still was in allied hands but might be abandoned soon.

"It was an army in retreat," McArthur said, "but an army that still maintained its spirit and its capacity to inflict a tremendous toll on the enemy."

Residents Leave Seoul

Flashes of fire from allied artillery bombardments lit the skies north of Seoul Friday night as 300,000 Reds pressed south. A half-million residents were ordered by the South Korean government to leave the city.

Allied rearwards north of Uijongbu covered the U.N. withdrawal. Of no military value, the capital appeared about to change hands for the fifth time. The Reds have captured it twice and lost it twice.

MacArthur Issue Delays Draft Bill

WASHINGTON, April 27—(AP)—The firing of General MacArthur today brought a delay of at least two weeks—more likely a month—in efforts to reach a compromise on new draft-UMT legislation.

"Senators will be completely occupied next week and for some time in the MacArthur hearings," Chairman Russell (D Ga.) of the

Senate Armed Services committee explained to reporters.

He referred to the hearings his committee and the Senate Foreign Relations committee will conduct into the MacArthur issue.

Iron Out Compromise

Russell and Chairman Vinson (D-Ga.) of the House Armed Services committee have been guiding efforts of a Senate-House Conference committee to iron out compromises on legislation to extend the draft and to do something about universal military training (UMT). The conferees met for the fourth time today and reported some progress, although still deadlocked over UMT. Russell said Vinson agreed to the delay.

The bill the Senate has passed calls for a start on UMT, to go into effect when the draft is deemed to be no longer needed. The House bill would set up a commission to study UMT and to submit a report on which Congress would have to act later.

Big Difference

Another big difference is that the Senate set the minimum draft age at 18 years (at present it is 19) and the House voted for 18½. House conferees were reported to have suggested an 18-year minimum for future UMT service, if the actual combat age for draftees were held to 19.

Those things now will have to await a time when the lawmakers are not so occupied with the MacArthur issue. The present draft law expires July 9, and Russell said he expects to get the Senate-House committee together again "before a month."

Taft Backs MacArthur Strategy

WASHINGTON, April 27 (AP)—Senator Taft (R-Ohio) urged today that the United States not try "to end this war by appeasement of the Chinese Communists" and not be deterred "by any possibility the Russians may come in."

In an angry Republican-Democrat debate in the Senate, Taft called for immediate adoption of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's strategy against the Communists.

'Will Wake Up'

Interrupted from time to time by Democrats, the Republican leader also declared that unless Congress takes a firm stand "we will wake up some morning" and find that what he called the appeasement policies of Secretary of State Dean Acheson have been adopted.

Taft upheld the MacArthur program for making use of Chinese Nationalist forces under Chiang Kai-Shek on Formosa and for air operations over Manchuria. Bomb the Reds at their home bases, he urged.

Acheson's Policy

He said Acheson's policy involves appeasing the Chinese Reds by surrendering Formosa and admitting them to the United Nations. He dismissed President Truman's announced plan to confine the war to Korea if possible. That can't go on forever, Taft said.

"The choice the country has is between Acheson and MacArthur. That is the only issue. What I am afraid of is that we will go the Acheson way."

Fraternities Invite Frosh Tomorrow

All fraternities will hold open house tomorrow afternoon from 2 to 5 o'clock to enable freshmen to become acquainted with the fraternity system here at the College.

Interfraternity council is sponsoring the event, with Robert Houseworth and Roger Clinton in charge.

Questionnaires for the freshmen will be available at the houses and pledging rules will be explained. The fraternities will answer any questions that may be asked by the freshman.

13 Men Killed In 2-Plane Collision

CARNEY, Okla., April 27—(AP)—A giant B-36 bomber and an F-51 fighter plane collided today during a practice bombing run on the state capital. Thirteen men were killed.

Witnesses said the six-engine B-36, world's largest bomber, exploded when hit, scattering wreckage and bodies over a square mile area.

Four other airmen parachuted to safety.

The bomber, from Carswell Air Force base at Forth Worth, was believed to have carried a crew of 15 and a civilian technician. The F-51 carried only the pilot.

Officials at Carswell said the B-36 was making a radar bombing run on Oklahoma City. The F-51 was making "pursuit tactical passes" at the huge bomber in interception maneuvers, a Carswell spokesman said.

Residents in this area, some 50 airline miles northwest of Oklahoma City, said the roar of the explosion rattled windows and brought them running from their homes.

BULLETIN

WASHINGTON, April 27—(AP) Rep. Frank Buchanan (D-Pa.) died tonight in the naval hospital at Bethesda, Md. After an illness of four weeks.

State General Assembly Faces Tough Job In Next Two Months

HARRISBURG, April 27 (AP)—Pennsylvania's General Assembly has been in session four months—but its only been a long warm up for the job still ahead of it.

The 1951 session has passed 73 bills. Thirty-seven have been signed by Gov. John S. Fine.

To date the session has been divided into three phases of activity.

Marked Time

For two weeks after they convened, the legislators marked time while awaiting the incoming governor's inauguration. Then the Senate fought a pitched battle for six weeks over Fine's cabinet.

For the past nine weeks the assembly has debated the governor's \$2,200,000,000 budget and his \$163,000,000 tax program. The pivotal feature of the tax program is the hotly disputed state

income tax of one half of one per cent.

Rejected Tax

The House rejected the income tax when it came up for passage the first time. But parliamentary maneuvering and the vote switch of some Republican legislators squeezed the measure through on a second try.

The Senate will now take up the bill with the degree of success enjoyed by the bill there indicating when the session will complete its work.

With the tax program still churning up the political surface, many other major issues of the session have been shunted to the background, causing both branches to prepare themselves for a lengthy session.

Length of Session

Estimates of the length of the session range from late May until July, or the latter part of June. The one other major piece of

legislation which has been acted on deals with lifting the present ban on the sale of colored oleomargarine in Pennsylvania. The Senate agriculture committee rejected bills to that effect two weeks ago, but a new move is reported underway to seek approval for the measure.

Under Wraps

1. Establishment of a Fair Employment Practices commission to guard against discrimination in business or labor organizations because of race creed or color.

2. Increase minimum and maximum levels of the state's unemployment and workmen's compensation rates.

3. Reapportion the state legislative districts to increase House membership from 208 to 210 members.

4. Grant Pennsylvania's school teachers a \$92,000,000 salary increase

Votes To Cut 'Voice' Funds

WASHINGTON, April 27 (AP)—The Senate Appropriations committee reportedly voted today to go along with the House on a 90 per cent slash in State department funds for the "Voice of America."

Two committee members who asked not to be named said the group voted "very closely" to provide only \$9,533,939 to build up facilities used for the "voice" broadcasts. The administration had asked \$97,500,000.

The "Voice of America" item is included in the House-passed bill carrying \$473,165,268 in supplemental funds for a group of government agencies.

One member of the committee told a reporter at least two of the members were absent when the vote on the "voice" program was taken and a move to reconsider later was possible.

Alumni Club Holds General Elections

In the elections held recently by the Penn State Alumni club, Mrs. Carl Gettig was elected secretary, succeeding Daniel DeMarino.

Other officers who were re-elected were Frank Neusbaum, first vice-president; and Reuben Jaffe, third vice-president. Robert A. Higgins is president of the club; Musser Gettig, second vice-president; Russell Clark, treasurer.

Newly elected persons to represent the club on the Alumni council were Harold E. Dickson, Betty J. Haugh, and Mrs. Mervin Lucas. Those reelected were Thomas Beaver, William W. Sieg, Ivan Walker, Russell E. Clark, Eugene J. Reilly, and B. M. Hermann.

DUFF HONORED

WASHINGTON, April 27—(AP)—Senator James H. Duff, Pennsylvania Republican, was one of 10 Senate and House members presented scrolls yesterday by Liberty magazine as "honest politicians."