

Queen Mary Dies At Home in London

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—Queen Mary, the grand old lady of British royalty, died tonight at her London residence.

The 85-year-old grandmother of Queen Elizabeth II succumbed after a prolonged battle with a gastric ailment. The official announcement of her death was made by Prime Minister Churchill to a hushed House of Commons.

Queen Mary, often called the "Grandmother of England," was the widow of King George V, who died in 1936. Her long life spanned the period from the imperial 19th Century days of Queen Victoria, through two world wars, to the tense times of the atom bomb and the cold war.

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—President Eisenhower tonight sent his "deep personal sympathy" to Queen Elizabeth II on the death of 85-year-old Queen Mary.

His message (in part) read: "Please extend to Her Majesty and to all the members and people of the British Commonwealth my deep personal sympathy on the passing of Queen Mary."

The immediate cause of death was not stated officially in the first announcements of her passing. A royal medical bulletin hours earlier disclosed that her heart was weakening.

The end came peacefully. Churchill sobbed as he announced in Commons that the revered widow of one King and mother of two other monarchs had died at 10:20 p.m. (5:20 p.m., EST).

Queen Elizabeth was notified immediately at Buckingham Palace of her grandmother's death. The young Queen had paid a bedside visit to her aged grandmother only a few hours before.

Queen Mary's oldest son, the Duke of Windsor, who once sat on the throne as Edward VIII, had rushed from Florida when his mother was first stricken. He was the first member of the royal family to arrive at his mother's residence, Marlborough House, after her death.

The lord chamberlain, the Earl of Scarborough, will announce the length of the court mourning as soon as Queen Elizabeth II decides the question.



Queen Mary Dies at 85

French Police Raid Red Labor Headquarters

PARIS, March 24 (AP)—A thousand helmeted French police raided Communist-dominated Labor headquarters today and arrested three leaders a few hours before Premier Rene Mayer was due to take a plane for Washington on a prestige-building, help-seeking mission.

The Communists promptly charged the raids were timed to impress American officials. Non-Communist newspapers scoffed at the idea the government would use this means to bolster the French delegation's position in negotiations for more U.S. political and cash support.

Last-minute complications arose for Mayer when the French Treasury ran short of ready cash and he postponed his departure.

Steelworkers Will Remain In the CIO

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., March 24 (AP)—The United Steelworkers of America pledged today to remain in the CIO and promptly touched off speculation it might race with Walter Reuther's auto workers union to win a guaranteed annual wage.

Steelworkers president David J. McDonald took to the United Auto Workers (UAW) convention platform to deny vehemently published reports that he was considering swinging his million-member union into the AFL or John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers.

McDonald, a known opponent of some Reuther policies, backed the late Allan S. Haywood for CIO president at the December CIO convention.

Since Reuther, rather than Haywood, was elected to fill the late Philip Murray's shoes, there have been rumors that McDonald was dissatisfied in the CIO.

But McDonald, who succeeded Murray as Steelworkers president, emphatically told the 3000 auto workers delegates:

"The United Steelworkers will not destroy the CIO. It will be our firmest endeavor to make it bigger, better and stronger."

The steelworker membership is second in the CIO only to the 1,350,000-member auto workers union and a bolt by such a big union would have serious effects on the parent organization.

UN to Meet Again To Name Lie Successor

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 24 (AP)—The UN Security Council failed again today to elect a successor to Secretary General Trygve Lie.

It decided to meet once more Friday and see whether Soviet Delegate Andrei Y. Vishinsky has brought new orders from Moscow permitting an agreement.

Vishinsky, former foreign minister who was named permanent delegate by the new Malenkov administration, is expected here Thursday after consultations with his new Kremlin bosses.

U.S., Reds Continue Battle for Old Baldy

SEOUL, Wednesday, March 25 (AP)—A mighty battle for Old Baldy still raged at dawn Wednesday as Chinese Communists and U.S. Seventh Division troops fought in a shroud of fog and clouds for the crest of the strategic bastion guarding the main invasion route into South Korea.

Both sides poured fresh troops into the massive struggle and both sides were taking tremendous casualties.

Crashing artillery barrages and the flow of battle across the shell stripped crest of Old Baldy made it impossible to estimate the toll there in the first 36 hours of fighting. But officers at the front estimated the Chinese had suffered more than 1000 casualties in the early fighting on the wings—at T-Bone and Pork Chop Hills to the west of Old Baldy and at White Horse Mountain and Upper and Lower Alligator Jaw to the northeast.

AP Correspondent Stan Carter reported from the front that Americans and Colombians of the Seventh Division had taken heart-breaking losses.

Latest reports from the front said Chinese troops held one-third of the muddy, shell-ripped slopes which command the vital Allied supply highway 45 miles north of Seoul.

An American counterattack during the day bogged down under furious Red mortar and artillery fire.

U.S. tanks pushed up for direct fire attacks against Reds embedded behind the hill.

Some 15,000 rounds of Red artillery and mortar shells were poured into Allied positions Monday night alone. U.S. big guns fired back at the rate of 700 shells per minute.

Seventh Division officers said the battle might last for several days. But these officers doubted that the Chinese would unleash a general offensive now during the height of the rainy season.

4 Anti-Reds Make Flight To Freedom

FRANKFURT, Germany, March 24 (AP)—Four anti-Communist Czechs seized a flying airliner at gunpoint over Red Czechoslovakia last night and flew it across the Iron Curtain to freedom in West Germany.

Three passengers and the pilot, Miroslav Slovak, 24, were in on the plot to divert the plane from its scheduled Prague-Brno run.

The co-pilot, radio operator and the other 23 passengers were not.

Two of the latter seized their chance and joined the plotters in asking asylum as political refugees after the C-47 landed at the U.S. Air Force's Rhine-Main base near Frankfurt.

The remainder elected to return home. They probably will be handed back soon, along with the plane.

This was the ninth time in four years the Czechs have taken to the air to escape the ring of death the Communists have thrown around Czechoslovakia's borders on the ground.

The fugitives hedge-hopped low across the border to escape detection by Czech air patrols which shot down an American thunder-jet fighter two weeks ago.

12 A-Bomb Crews View Heart of Nuclear Blast

LAS VEGAS, Nev., March 24 (AP)—A dozen picked crews—trailblazers in a stepped-up Air Force program of A-bomb training—flew their huge B36 bombers near the heart of a brilliant nuclear blast today.

The sky over Nevada Proving Ground was filled with 53 planes as Atomic Energy Commission scientists unleashed their second pre-dawn detonation — another tower shot—of the spring series. The B36s and said they came from bases in all parts of the country. All are attached to the Strategic Air Command, with headquarters at Offutt AFB, Omaha, Neb.

"We want the lead crews of

bombers which might some day be involved in a real atomic operation to know at first hand what a blast is like," an Air Force spokesman said. "We want to make sure that they don't suffer from buck fever, or that they get so fascinated with the flash that they are blinded. We plan the same sort of training for crews of other planes at later dates."

The explosion simulated atomic artillery for 1300 Army troops in foxholes 4000 yards from Ground Zero. Under Brig. Gen. William C. Bullock, the troops moved forward in another maneuver in the Army's continuing indoctrination program.

FBI Report Probed By Taft, Sparkman

WASHINGTON, March 24 (AP)—Sen. Taft (R-Ohio) and Sen. Sparkman (D-Ala.) examined a secret 25-page FBI summary of an investigation of Charles E. (Chip) Bohlen today and said they found nothing beyond what Secretary of State Dulles had already reported.

Taft said he and Sparkman were in general agreement. The Ohio senator said, however, he preferred not to make any statement until after reporting to the Senate foreign relations committee. He has been supporting Bohlen since the outset of the Senate controversy over the nomination.

Taft and Sparkman both declared they found nothing in the FBI summary that had not been given to the committee in a recent "evaluation" by Dulles.

Taft told newsmen he had received assurances from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover that Hoover was taking "full responsibility" that nothing of any consequence was left out of the summary.

The two senators had been assigned by the committee to scrutinize the FBI report—a summary of multiple field investigation re-

ports—after some senators challenged Dulles' assertion that the FBI files contained nothing to disqualify Bohlen for the key diplomatic post at Moscow.

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