

POW Exchange Expected Soon

MUNSAN, Korea, Friday, April 10 (AP)—The Communists today were expected to sign the Korean War's first formal agreement for an exchange of sick and wounded prisoners, to begin possibly ten days hence.

Business-like meetings of liaison officers at Panmunjom the past four days gave rise to increasing speculation that the armistice talks themselves might be reopened shortly, as the Communists have proposed. Neither side has mentioned such a reopening at the conferences on sick and wounded.

Ike Backs Hall for GOP Post

WASHINGTON, April 9 (AP)—President Eisenhower joined other GOP leaders today in endorsing Leonard W. Hall of New York for chairman of the Republican National Committee. This makes his election tomorrow a certainty.

At the same time the national committee issued a statement singing the praises of the first 75 days of the Eisenhower administration as a period of "memorable and significant" results.

The committee listed what it called "75 accomplishments based upon 13 pledges" made during the campaign, in the inaugural address, and in the State of the Union message.

The report will be furnished by committee members when they meet tomorrow to choose a successor to C. Wesley Roberts.

Among the "strides forward made on each pledge," the report mentioned creation of a new executive department of Health, Education and Welfare with cabinet rank. It also listed budget cuts of \$444,707,300 promised by the first of six departments and 13 independent agencies to report on efforts to trim the 1953-54 Truman budget. The committee recalled that Truman said it could not be cut.

The report went on to say the record was achieved in co-operation with the Republican Congress and added:

"It was achieved quietly, without fanfare. Its impressiveness grows daily."

Liaison officers go back to Panmunjom at 11 a.m. to tackle the few minor points remaining before the formal signing takes place.

Plans call for the Communists to turn over 600 sick and wounded—no more than 125 of them Americans—at the rate of ten a day. The United Nations Command will deliver 5100 North Korean and 700 Chinese sick and wounded at the rate of 500 a day.

In another move in the Communist peace offensive, the North Korean radio at Pyongyang announced that seven British civilians held since early in the war had been freed in Manchuria for repatriation.

A Communist correspondent at Panmunjom said it was unlikely Maj. Gen. William Dean would be among those sent home because the captured former 24th Division Commander was in excellent health.

Reds Seek to Create 'Business Lull' - Reuther

PHILADELPHIA, April 9 (AP)—CIO President Walter P. Reuther observed today that Communists may be seeking to conquer the U.S. "through the back alley" with peace overtures intended to create a business depression.

The labor leader spoke to 1,200 delegates attending the 16th annual convention of the Pennsylvania CIO Council.

Korea Split Undecided

WASHINGTON, April 9 (AP)—The White House said today the Eisenhower administration has reached no conclusion that a permanent division of Korea is either desirable or feasible.

Further, Press Secretary James C. Hagerty told reporters, the administration has never decided that such a division would be "consistent with the decisions of the United Nations."

He also said there has been no consideration of a United Nations trusteeship for Formosa.

The statement came at a time when mounting possibilities for a temporary truce in Korea had stirred widespread discussion of plans for negotiating a more final, long-term peace settlement for the war-wrecked land.

It was noted that the White House pronouncement did not rule out any future agreement on some sort of division of Korea. It merely stressed that no conclusions or decisions have been reached yet.

It is known that a north-south dividing line at the narrow waist of Korea, about 80 miles north of present battle lines, is one idea which has been receiving official

Reds Shoot Down, Capture U.S. Ace

TOKYO, Friday, April 10 (AP)—The Chinese Communists said today they had shot down and captured Capt. Harold E. Fischer Jr., who often scorned his radar gun-sight and shot down most of his ten Red MIGs by aiming like a duck hunter.

A Peiping radio broadcast asserted that MIGs of the Chinese Red Air Force shot down the double jet ace Sabre pilot in a dog-fight over Manchuria Tuesday, but all Allied pilots are forbidden to intrude in Manchuria's skies.

Fischer last was seen by his wingman in a furious clash with a Red fighter near the Suho Reservoir on the Yalu River, the boundary between Korea and Manchuria. The Communists often accuse the Allies of sending their planes over Manchuria.

The 27-year-old farm boy from Swea City, Iowa, one of the hot-

Marines Hold Hill Near Truce Zone

SEOUL, Friday, April 10 (AP)—U.S. Marines Thursday recaptured a Western Front hill within artillery range of the truce village of Panmunjom, knocking out more than two-thirds of 350 Chinese Communist attackers.

The Reds overran Carson Hill in a massive assault before dawn Thursday. But pockets of Marines battled on for more than three hours until a relief column drove up the slopes and recaptured the height.

A 1st Marine Division officer said sharpshooting Leathernecks killed or wounded an estimated 220 Reds between 3:45 a.m., when two Chinese companies swarmed up the hill, and 8:35 a.m. when the Marines again reported the hill secured.

Overcast skies curtailed aerial action Thursday. Marine Panther jets smashed a Red supply dump on the Haeju Peninsula behind the Western Front in the day's biggest strike.

Carson Hill lies only a few miles east of Panmunjom where Red and Allied officers are arranging the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners.

As Marine reinforcements stormed up the shell-marked hill they found dozens of Chinese bodies hanging on the barbed wire.

The two Chinese companies attacked behind a withering artillery barrage clearly audible in Panmunjom.

The Reds swarmed up the slopes and through a gap between two machine guns, leaping into trenches and bunkers where Marines and Chinese battled hand to hand.

The Communists were all over the hill for more than three hours, but groups of two to 11 Marines fought on and were still shooting when reinforcements counter-attacked and won the hill back.

test pilots in Korea, was on his 70th mission hoping to add to the score which had made him the scourge of the Red Air Force.

Vishinsky Revives Old Plans in UN

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 9 (AP)—Russia's Andrei Y. Vishinsky today trotted out a batch of old Stalinist proposals—often beaten down in the UN—as elements of Premier Malenkov's new peace formula. Only on the subject of Korea did the Soviet chief delegate take account of recent developments.

Here are the proposals that Vishinsky and his Polish associate, Foreign Minister Stanislaw Skrzyszewski, said would ease tension and help bring peace:

1. For the West to stop stuffing arms into its pockets and stop building up its armed forces.

2. Ban the atomic bomb immediately and cut the armed strength of the five great powers by one-third.

3. Dissolve the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, abandon the Schuman Plan, the European Defense Community, and stop plans for rearming Western Germany.

All these have been rejected by formal UN votes.

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