

POW Compromise Appears Possible

PANMUNJOM, Korea, Thursday, April 30 (AP)—A possible compromise which would send 15,000 Chinese prisoners who have renounced communism to a neutral nation while leaving 35,000 balky Korean captives in Korea appeared to be taking form today at the armistice negotiations.

35 American Ex-Prisoners Arrive Home

TRAVIS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif., April 29 (AP)—Sped home by pushing tail winds, 35 Americans freed in Korea by the Reds arrived today in a huge transport plane—the joyous vanguard of 149 released sick and ailing U.S. prisoners of war.

TOKYO, Thursday, April 30 (AP)—The second group from the 149 Amer can sick and wounded freed last week by the Reds is scheduled to start its homeward flight today.

The first group of 35 repatriates landed in California Wednesday.

There was no indication of the time of departure or size of the second group.

However, several repatriates in Tokyo Army hospitals were told to get ready to leave today.

Some of the emotion-choked service men—26 walking patients, nine on stretchers—got their first glimpse of their homeland in more than two years while a band blared and jet planes buzzed a welcome from overhead.

Sgt. Edward G. Anderson, of Alabama City, Ala., led the walking patients down the ramp after the big C97 Stratocruiser taxied to a stop at the end of a swift 8-hour, 20-minute flight from Hickam Field, Honolulu.

His face protected by a white mask, Pfc. John M. Jankovits, of Philadelphia, was the first of the nine litter patients carried off to a waiting hospital ambulance.

All 35 were rushed to a hospital on this Air Force base 6 miles northeast of San Francisco for a steak dinner and medical examination.

The Communists said Wednesday they were prepared to name an Asian nation as the neutral to take custody of prisoners who say they do not want to go home. There is speculation the Reds favor India.

After four days of maneuvering, three of them without progress, the Allied and Communist delegations appeared to be reaching the hard bargaining stage in their efforts to write an armistice agreement.

The official Communist Central Committee newspaper, People Daily, said in Peiping "this is high time to strive for peace by concrete deeds. The test is a grave one which the U.S. side simply cannot evade."

UN Wants 60 Day Limit
In Wednesday's 64-minute meeting, the Communists agreed to ease their demands for a six-month questioning period in a foreign neutral country of all prisoners refusing to return home voluntarily.

The UN Command said 60 days was long enough to determine the attitude of the prisoners. The Allies want the prisoners left in Korea pending settlement of their future.

In Tokyo, a high Allied source suggested a possible compromise on this point: Leave the North Korean prisoners on the peninsula but send the Chinese to a neutral nation.

Undecided on Neutral Nation.
President Syngman Rhee of South Korea made virtually the same suggestion in Seoul Wednesday. He told a news conference he would insist on Koreans remaining in their own country, but was agreeable to removal of the Chinese prisoners.

Another point at issue was the selection of the neutral nation to take custody of the prisoners refusing repatriation.

The Allies proposed Switzerland but the Communists rejected that nomination.

On Wednesday the chief Communist negotiator, Korean Gen. Nam Il, said the Reds favored an Asiatic country as neutral custodian.

Rain Slows UN Action In Korea

SEOUL, Thursday, April 30 (AP)—Rains pelted the inactive Korean battle front Wednesday as ground fighting dropped to a low ebb and most Allied war planes were grounded.

There was speculation that the opposing forces were taking it easy while truce negotiators at Panmunjom tried to arrange an armistice.

South Korean raiders killed or wounded 38 North Koreans and destroyed six Communist bunkers in two early morning dashes into Red lines on the Far Eastern Front.

The Reds struck back with five jabs at Allied lines—three in the east and two in the west.

Brief thrusts were reported on Allied forward positions east of Panmunjom, site of the truce talks and at Outpost Vegas, also in the west. All were repulsed, the Eighth Army said. It reported ground contacts "continued at low ebb." Since Sunday when the truce talks resumed, skirmishing has been confined to platoon sized actions, generally between North and South Koreans.

Rockview Men Held for Action

BELLEFONTE, Pa., April 29 (AP)—Seventeen Rockview Penitentiary prisoners who took part in the January riot at the prison were held for grand jury action today.

The 17 appeared before Thomas Mosier, justice of the peace, in a day-long series of hearings. State policemen and prison guards and officials presented evidence at each hearing.

Eighteen other inmates were given hearings yesterday before Guy G. Mills, State College justice of the peace. Charges against three of this group were dismissed because of lack of evidence.

A 36th person involved in the riot was held several weeks ago on charges of riot.

Charges sustained against the prisoners included riot, larceny, robbery and armed robbery.

The cases will go to the Centre County grand jury, probably at its September term.

Student Legislature Convenes in Harrisburg

HARRISBURG, April 29 (AP)—Constitutional revision and the Chesterman report will be the chief issues before a three-day model legislature opening here today. The legislators will include more than 600 selected students from 50 Pennsylvania colleges and universities.

to the rest of the world!" he exclaimed. "We have convinced our own people that this great democracy of ours is honeycombed with traitors, spies, subversives and sexual deviates."

Lehman declared the Bill of Rights was being abridged "by indirection, innuendo, smear and attack," and that this was the achievement of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin, Sen. William Jenner of Indiana and others of "their ilk."

Finletter, who has been mentioned as a possible Democratic candidate for New York City mayor or governor of New York State, said certain other broad issues "are emerging" on the national scene.

"We see the attempt of the Republicans to give away the great natural wealth of the nation—the oil of the tidelands as well as the power of the Niagara and the St. Lawrence to the privileged few," he said.

Democrats Hit McCarthy, Resources 'Give Away'

NEW YORK, April 29 (AP)—Prominent Democrats keynoted the party's future line of battle tonight by denouncing what they called "creeping McCarthyism" and a Republican "give away" of natural resources.

They took the closing of the "first 100 days" of President Eisenhower's GOP administration as the signal to open national debate and outline party strategy for the 1954 congressional and 1956 presidential election campaigns.

Sen. Herbert H. Lehman of New York, former Air Secretary Thomas K. Finletter and other speakers ended any semblance of a two party honeymoon in speeches prepared for delivery at a Democratic State Committee dinner in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

Lehman struck at what he termed "would-be thought control police of congressional investigating committees."

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Reds Sting French With Sneak Attack

HANOI, Indochina, April 29 (AP)—Vietminh troops stung the French with a diversionary raid on a native military training camp in the Red River delta today while the French built up defenses against enemy columns closing in on key centers of Laos, far to the southwest.

Communist-led rebel detachments attacked the camp at Namdinh before dawn and captured 350 vietnamese recruits, soldiers in the army of Viet Nam being trained to fight alongside the French.

After pulling out, the raiders fired mortar shells into Namdinh, a city of 50,000 population in the delta 50 miles southeast of Hanoi. The raid was staged as the French announced that the invaders of Laos, a neighbor of Viet Nam in the Associated States of Indochina, had captured the French-laotian defense post at Bannambac, 40 miles north of the royal Laotian capital of Luangprabang.

2d French Defeat
This was the second French reverse in the area announced in as many days. Yesterday the French command reported the loss of Pakseng, 42 miles northeast of Luangprabang.

With the Communist leaders apparently throwing more and more of their best fighting men into the Laos invasion, the possibility increased that the Vietminh might launch an all-out assault against Luangprabang this coming May Day weekend.

With advance Vietminh elements reported from 12 to 25 miles from the royal capital on the north and east, the French high command moved to increase the effectiveness of aerial assaults of the enemy by basing squadrons of fighters and bombers on airstrips within Laos.

Possible UN Appeal
In aged King Sisavang Vong's residence capital, the 6000 residents joined French and Laotian troops digging ditches, stringing barbed wire entanglements and erecting other defense fortifications.

Cautious Action Urged by Taft On Oil Issue

WASHINGTON, April 29 (AP)—Sen. Taft (R-Ohio) urged the Senate today not to accept any "half-baked proposition" for federal administration of the submerged continental shelf beyond state boundaries.

Taft said he would bring to the Senate floor within two weeks a separate bill dealing with this outer belt of undersea land "in a comprehensive way."

Taft spoke critically of an amendment by Sen. Monroney (D-Okla.) to limit state ownership to three miles off-shore, provide for federal leasing of the remainder of the continental shelf and devote all federal revenues to reduction of the national debt.

The Monroney amendment, Taft said, deals with the complex problem of the outer continental shelf "in a half-baked way."

A vote on the amendment, one of a series proposed by opponents of the "state ownership" bill, was postponed until Thursday by agreement.

Monroney said the pending bill to establish state ownership of lands within their boundaries constitutes an invitation to other states to claim off-shore boundaries of 10 1/2 miles equivalent to those claimed by Texas and Florida.

Taft said no one, from the President on down, questions federal ownership of the outer continental shelf.

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