

U.S. Moves to Halt Debate on POWs

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Jan. 4 (AP)—The United States moved today to block any attempt to raise the Korean issue in the UN Assembly before Jan. 23, the date set in Korea for release of thousands of war prisoners.

Court Ruling Turns Back Tax Revolt

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 (AP)—The Supreme Court today turned back the last charge in a three-year-old Texas "housewives' revolt" against being required to pay social security taxes on domestic servants.

The high court laid down an adverse ruling in a test case indirectly affecting more than 700,000 American housewives who employ cooks, maids, laundresses, etc., and pay them more than \$50 in a three-month period.

The tribunal's action came in denying a review to Mrs. Carolyn M. Abney of Marshall, Tex., who had carried the case to the Supreme Court after fighting unsuccessfully in two lower federal courts to have the tax law declared unconstitutional.

Legal experts said the decision virtually means the end of the trail in the campaign waged by Mrs. Abney and 11 other Marshall housewives since the law went into effect early in 1951.

These experts said Mrs. Abney could file a request that the high tribunal reconsider its denial, but they said it would probably be a waste of time and money. The court, it was pointed out, rarely grants such requests.

Work Started On Big 4 Talks

BONN, Germany, Jan. 4 (AP)—The Western Big Three and Russia took first steps today toward opening preliminary talks which will lay the groundwork for the Big Four foreign ministers' conference in Berlin Jan. 25.

Simultaneously in Washington, the State Department said Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov probably will discuss President Eisenhower's proposal for a peace-time atomic energy pool when they meet in Berlin.

Henry Suydam, State Department press officer, told a Washington conference that U.S. Ambassador Charles Bohlen had discussed the President's atomic proposal with Molotov in Moscow last Wednesday. Since the Russians agreed Dec. 21 to enter atomic talks, Bohlen discussed with Molotov how to "get actual negotiations going," and the Soviet foreign minister promised to take Bohlen's remarks "under consideration" and get in touch with him later, Suydam said.

Engraving Bureau Robbed of \$16,000

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 (AP)—A daring thief stole \$16,000 in new \$20 bills from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing by switching two dummy packages for the real thing, officials discovered today.

It was by far the biggest theft in the bureau's long money-making history, and apparently occurred over the holiday weekend when Christmas wrapped packages were commonplace.

The audacious switch was discovered today when a bureau employe lifting a bundle of money detected the bogus packages. They were lighter than the ordinary 8-pound bundles and contained only paper cut to the size of money.

Henry J. Holtzclaw, assistant director of the bureau, called a swift inventory which confirmed the loss.

A diplomatic source said the United States has told the UN Command in Korea that only the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission has authority to interpret armistice terms regarding the release of the prisoners.

The informants said this meant the United States was anticipating any move by India—or perhaps Russia—to call the Assembly back for debate on the release of the prisoners.

The American position is that the armistice itself clearly states that only the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission shall interpret the provisions on prisoners on war held by the commission. The Americans feel there can be no appeal on this question to the assembly.

Assembly Meeting Discussed
There are reports that diplomats in various UN countries are discussing informally the possibility of an assembly meeting before the prisoner deadline. India was said to be taking informal soundings.

The Americans feel these informal talks could become formal overnight if Lt. Gen. S. Thimayya, India, chairman of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, decided the commission must refer to a higher authority the question of releasing the prisoners.

Thimayya has not given a final word on this matter but Gen. John E. Hull, UN commander, has informed him that the UN Command would not accept any proposal aimed at keeping the prisoners in neutral custody after 12:01 a.m. Korean time, Jan. 23.

American Interpretation
It was said the American position on the interpretation of the armistice was sent to Hull for use if and when developments in the neutral commission make it necessary.

The Assembly recessed Dec. 9, subject to the call of the president, Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit of India—with the approval of a majority of 31 members.

UN Troops Construct 'Free Lane'

MUNSAN, Tuesday, Jan. 5 (AP)—United Nations troops, working in wintry weather, built a "freedom lane" today down which their commander said more than 22,000 Chinese and North Koreans must be allowed to travel away from communism if they have not decided otherwise by Jan. 22.

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Yesterday Gen. John E. Hull told the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission that his UN Command would not tolerate any change in the peace date for prisoners as prescribed by the armistice terms.

UN troops strung barbed wire fences and set up blocks on side roads marking a clear channel for the first southward movement of the more than 7500 North Koreans to South Korea and many of the 14,500 Chinese to Formosa.

With only 16 days left, the UN Command was taking no chances of being caught unprepared by masses of newly freed, excited and even delirious prisoners swarming from the Panmunjom neutral zone section into the Munsan area.

Negotiations May Assist Release of Other Yanks

HONG KONG, Tuesday, Jan. 5 (AP)—An American freed from three years of "really hell" in a Shanghai prison said yesterday Western nations might obtain release of many foreigners imprisoned in Red China by working "at the prison warden level."

In Washington, the State Department listed 98 Americans held against their will in Red China, 29 of them in prison.

Arnold Kiehn, 44, who reached Hong Kong Sunday, gave this advice in an interview:

"Get Hong Kong to issue transit visas for prisoners whose passports have expired and send the actual visa document to the military control board of the city of imprisonment with an explanatory letter."

Avoid working through any Western consulates in China because they "could easily get into trouble themselves."

Among the foreigners or organizations in Shanghai "somebody might have guts enough to help out and if they would I'm sure almost all these prisoners would be let out."

Letters handled by India's consulate would have a powerful effect but it was doubtful if the Indians would be willing. An Indian who visited Kiehn narrowly escaped trouble.

Kiehn is near-sighted and lame from beri-beri, a disease caused by malnutrition.

"I hope someone is able to take this up," he said, "for it is really hell in those Red prisons and health and sanity are always at stake."

He estimated deaths of prisoners at the rate of 15 a day during the winter of 1951-52.

He said the Reds running the prisons are rather simple-minded and do not think some prisoners can get into Hong Kong because their passports have expired.

Deaths Total 433 During Holidays

By The Associated Press
Accidental deaths during the New Year's weekend reached a record for such a holiday period but were less than predicted and far below the toll for the three-day Christmas weekend.

During the 78-hour period from 6 p.m. local time Thursday to midnight Sunday the toll was: traffic 317; fires 40; miscellaneous accidents 76; total 433.

The previous record for a three-day New Year's weekend was 424, set in 1949-50 and equaled the following year. The record for traffic deaths for such a period, set in 1949-50, was 304.

The National Safety Council had predicted 360 traffic deaths.

1954 Tax Program Cause of Conflict

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 (AP)—Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey and Rep. Daniel A. Reed (R-N.Y.) today were reported at odds—but not in bitter conflict—over a Republican tax program for 1954.

Well-posted sources said a proposal by Reed to lower excise taxes has developed as the chief stumbling block to harmony between him and the Eisenhower administration.

Reed, chairman of the tax-writing House ways and means committee, generally has called for more and deeper tax cuts than the administration has been willing to accept.

Reed, Humphrey at Odds
Usually informed sources said Reed and Humphrey were unable to reconcile all their views in a private conference yesterday and in talks at the White House with GOP congressional leaders today.

But the sources added that the difference of opinion seems much less bitter than last year, when Reed waged a fierce, last-ditch battle against an administration request to extend the excess profits tax for six months, to Jan. 1 this year.

Reed, who has been out of town and missed earlier legislative conferences at the White House, returned to Capitol Hill to go into a closed afternoon caucus with Republicans on his committee.

Staff Recommendation
Reed later reported the GOP members were brought up to date on staff recommendations for a big tax revision program, rewriting thousands of pages of tax laws and providing about 1½ billion dollars annually in tax reductions in many fields.

The chairman said the full committee probably will go to work on this program in executive sessions starting next Monday. He added the committee probably will not take up major tax rate issues until later.

No Disagreement
Others attending the caucus said the revision recommendations provoked no disagreement today, but were discussed only generally.

House GOP Floor Leader Charles Halleck of Indiana said he saw "no evidence of big controversy" in the morning White House sessions.

Others said both Reed and the administration appeared to be willing to state their case on tax policy and let Congress decide, with little acrimony between them.

Adenauer Holds 78th Birthday

BONN, Germany, Jan. 4 (AP)—Rugged old Chancellor Konrad Adenauer observes his 78th birthday tomorrow, but he plans to take only a few hours off from his gruelling work schedule to celebrate.

Facing what may be the most critical year in his five decades of public life, "Der Alte" the Old One, is too busy with such momentous matters as the impending Big Four conference on unifying Germany to spend much time on birthdays.

Adenauer will have a powerful voice in the decisions of the Berlin conference scheduled for later this month, even though his West German government is not formally represented.

There are no signs that age is catching up with the veteran leader.

Tomorrow he will be at his desk as usual in Palais Schaumburg, Germany's White House. But he plans to ease up a bit on his usual 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. working day.

Floods and Winds Beat Europeans

LONDON, Jan. 4 (AP)—Floods and wind-whipped blizzards pounded northern Germany, parts of Scandinavia, England and the Lowlands today in winter's worst onslaught of the season.

Germany's Baltic coast, battered by winds 55 miles an hour, experienced its worst floods in 70 years. Considerable damage to shipping and harbor installations was reported in some areas, but no casualties were recorded.

However, four persons were reported missing in the area of Stockholm, Sweden, where heavy snowfall ending unseasonably mild weather caused traffic chaos.

Residents of the lowlands of eastern England and the Netherlands, which bore the brunt of last February's devastating floods, heaved sighs of relief as their dikes and seawalls withstood 24 hours' hammering by raging seas. But the lowlanders braced themselves for another test in about two weeks when the next high tides are expected.

The February floods cost more than 2000 lives and millions of dollars in damage in Britain, Holland and Belgium.

Air ROTC Board To Screen Men

The Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps advanced selection board will screen fourth semester students this week for acceptance into the advanced program, Lieut. Col. Jack W. Dieterle, professor of air science and tactics, has announced.

Interviewing of students will begin today. Students to be interviewed this afternoon will appear at the Armory at 3 p.m. to fill out interview forms. Interviews will begin at 3:30 p.m.

EUTAW HOUSE
POTTERS MILLS
Featuring Thick Prime
STEAKS

Today **WARNER** Theatres
Carthage
Tony Curtis
Joanne Dru
"FORBIDDEN"

State
Phil Carey
Roberta Haynes
"THE NEBRASKAN"

Nittany
An English Thriller!
"THE ASSASSIN"
Richard Todd

See It This Weekend!
Sean O'Casey's
"JUNO and the PAYCOCK"
"A show you won't want to miss"
AT CENTER STAGE
Tickets at Student Union