

# Rhee May Give Aid to French

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—Diplomatic sources said today that Syngman Rhee, fiery President of South Korea, has offered to send one and possibly two ROK divisions to Indochina to help the French fight Communist-led rebels.

Gen. John H. H. Hull, supreme commander of U.S. and UN forces in the Far East, promptly denied that Rhee had offered two divisions, but he declined comment on whether one division had been offered. Hull is here for consultations.

There was no official confirmation of the Rhee report. Informed quarters in both Washington and the Korean capital of Seoul were inclined to discount any possibility of South Korean forces joining the battle against the Red Vietnamese in Indochina.

Surrounded by reporters at the White House, where he reported to President Eisenhower on the Korean situation, Hull did not reply directly to a question whether he would approve of sending ROK units to the aid of the French.

He merely said the United States has supported South Korean troops militarily. The ROK army has been equipped by this country and trained by American officers.

Upon his arrival here today after a flight from Tokyo, Hull told newsmen Rhee was "a great patriot" who will continue to "collaborate with the United States all the way through."

The diplomatic sources which reported Rhee's offer of help to the French did not explain how he could afford to make it in view of his statement to an Associated Press correspondent in Seoul yesterday that he is determined to reopen the war against the Chinese Reds in North Korea, with or without American support.

## Grand Jury Indicts CIO Transport Head

NEW YORK (AP)—A Brooklyn grand jury today indicted Michael Quill, head of the CIO Transport Workers, on a charge of criminal libel.

The indictment was an outgrowth of a bitter attack by Quill on Transit Authority member Harris J. Klein while Quill's union was seeking a 50 million dollar package increase from the Transit Authority.

Quill issued a statement saying Klein had offered to back the union's demands for wages and other benefits if the CIO supported Klein for a judgeship appointment.



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# Poet Slayer Justifies Self In Outburst

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (AP)—The confessed slayer of poet Maxwell Bodenheim and his wife—in a display of "madness" which did not entirely convince police—cried out today that he deserved a medal for killing "two Communists."

"I did the country a favor," shouted 25-year-old Harold Weinberg, a former mental patient. "I killed two Communists. I ought to get a medal from Washington, D.C."

Smiling at times and again atremble, Weinberg interrupted a court appearance to break into "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Then he demanded of Felony Magistrate Louis A. Palumbo: "Are you a Communist?"

Palumbo ignored the question, and sent the ragged Greenwich Village dishwasher off to Bellevue Hospital for a mental examination.

## Wolcott to Present New Housing Bill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—Rep. Jesse Wolcott (R-Mich.) said today the administration's housing bill which he will introduce in the House will not specifically provide for a new public housing program.

Instead, Wolcott said, legislative authority for public housing contained in the Housing Act of 1949 is "enough authorization to effectuate" Eisenhower's request for 35,000 public housing units in each of the next four years.

The House Appropriations Committee last year attached a rider on an appropriations bill limiting new units this year to 20,000.

Wolcott is regarded as critical, in general, of the idea of public housing. It was understood the White House had previously expected him to spell out in his housing bill details of Eisenhower's proposals on this controversial question.

# Ike Fails to Allay Friction in Senate

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—President Dwight D. Eisenhower failed to make much headway today with selling Senate Republicans his advice that the GOP soften its political punches against Democrats whose votes are needed to help his program along in Congress.

One of the President's closest political allies, Sen. Frank Carlson

(R-Kan) took the Senate floor to say he didn't think the Democrats "should be crying foul" because of a political pasting from the Republicans.

In the light of outcries from Democrats that Republicans are trying to label all of them left wingers and political sadists stained with the red of communism, Eisenhower spoke out yesterday against extreme partisanship in these times. He said he would advise his executive family against indulging in it and that this went for the Republican National Committee chairman, Leonard W. Hall.

Yet, under the National Committee's auspices, Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wis) is still on a speaking foray in which the theme has been "20 years of treason" under the last two Democratic administrations.

Sen. William Jenner (R-Ind), also under National Committee sponsorship, is stumping his home state saying he intends to "tell the truth regardless of politics."

Carlson, who was by Eisenhower's side through the 1952 presidential campaign, said he was in accord with the chief executive's policy of "sponsoring a movement to be kind to Democrats." He told the Senate he has many fine Democratic friends he would not want to see "unduly criticized or castigated."

But he said he considered it a matter of record that previous administrations made "an effort to shield Communists" and that he hoped the GOP wouldn't be criticized for pointing it out.

## George Attacks Bricker Plan

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—Sen. George (D-Ga) told the Senate today that he doesn't want "any president to make an agreement with Turkey that will preclude me from killing a cat in my back alley at night."

And, he shouted: "Neither do I want him to negotiate an agreement with India that will preclude me from butchering a cow in my own barnyard."

George spoke in defense of his move to revise the controversial Bricker amendment. His substitute plan has two parts: one would declare invalid any portion of a treaty or executive agreement in conflict with the Constitution; the other would require approval of Congress before executive agreements could become effective as internal law.

## Pope Sends Message To Italian People

VATICAN CITY, Feb. 11 (AP)—Pope Pius XII, reported on the road to recovery after three weeks of dangerous illness, marked his improvement today by sending a message of blessing to the Italian people.

The message marked the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Lateran Pacts by Italy and the Vatican which established the sovereignty of Vatican City. It was the first direct word from the Pope to issue from the Vatican since he took to his bed Jan. 25 with a stubborn gastric ailment.

## Red Strikes Hit Italy

ROME, Feb. 11 (AP)—Communist-led strikes paralyzed Italy's industrial north today, underscoring the number one problem facing the day-old regime of Premier Mario Scelba. They were due to hit Rome next Tuesday.

## Russian Skiers Slight 'Moscow' Movie

FALUN, Sweden, Feb. 11 (AP)—Russian skiers here for the worlds championships went to a movie last night.

They selected a French movie. They did not choose to see "Escape from Moscow," starring Clark Gable and Gene Tierney.

## President Asks State Heads To Visit Korea

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—President Eisenhower, in a move believed unprecedented, has asked a group of state governors to go to Korea and appraise the situation there for the benefit of the American people.

Gov. Dan Thornton of Colorado, chairman of the Governors' Conference, announced in Denver that he will lead a delegation to Korea about April 1.

Eisenhower's invitation was interpreted here as another move in his program to bring state executives into closer relationship to major national problems. The White House already is cooperating in plans for a three-day meeting of the 48 governors here late in April to discuss national security and other problems.

White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty said that so far as he knew this is the first time the federal government has initiated an inspection trip abroad by a representative group of governors.

Thornton told reporters that so far four governors have agreed to make the trip with him. He listed them as Govs. Allan Shivers of Texas, John Fine of Pennsylvania, Johnston Murray of Oklahoma and Robert Kennon of Louisiana.

## Federals Drop Erickson Case

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (AP)—The government said today it had no hope of convicting gambler Frank Erickson for his refusal to answer Senate Crime Committee questions in 1951.

As a result, Federal Judge John F. X. McGohey threw out of court a contempt of Congress charge against the pudgy, one-time kingpin of a 20 million dollars a year gambling ring.

U. S. Attorney J. Edward Lumbard said his case against court decisions involving the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution.

Erickson currently is serving six months in prison as an income tax evader at Milan, Mich. Dismissal of the contempt charge freed him from a further possible sentence on conviction of up to 10 years.



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