

Guerrillas Shoot French Soldier

PORT SAID, Egypt, Dec. 17 (AP)—Guerrillas swung back to the attack on departing British-French forces in Port Said today, killing a French Foreign Legionnaire as he boarded ship.

Legionnaires rushed back ashore from a tank landing ship, flushed out a sniper hideaway and arrested three guerrillas.

Gruenther Says Break Unlikely In Red Empire

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, who led the Western armies guarding Europe, said today it would be "foolish to assume that the dismemberment of the Soviet empire is just ahead."

The former supreme commander of NATO forces gave that advice in a meeting with newsmen during which questions arose about Russia's internal troubles with her empire.

'Implacable' Hostility
In addition to the continuing military threat of the Soviets and their "implacable" hostility, Gruenther said that in the diplomatic and economic field "we are going to have very, very severe competition for quite some time ahead."

While the general foresees no quick collapse of the Soviet world, he said he does believe that it was a "fantastic mistake" when the Russians used troops to crush Hungary.

Disarmament Proposals
Gruenther was asked about published reports concerning disarmament proposals, which arose last week.

He said that such speculation "right in the middle of the NATO conference, was not helpful."

NATO Meeting Ended
The foreign and military ministers of the NATO nations concluded their meeting Friday.

Gruenther said he felt that the meeting was "definitely a step ahead," but that he did not mean that it produced "any miracles."

The legionnaire was the first of the French forces killed this way. The sniper's rifle shot broke a calm prevailing after a week-end of bloodshed touched off by the ambush slaying of a British officer.

British tanks and troops attacked the Arab slum quarter, a guerrilla refuge.

The day had been so calm that British soldiers spent most of the time helping the UN police force protect the embarkation of 384 Italian residents fleeing Port Said.

The Italians left behind about 1000 of their countrymen who are defying threats of vengeance from guerrillas.

The underground bands accuse the Italians of collaborating with the invading armies.

The UN police detachment in Port Said drew a pat on the back from Lt. Gen. Sir Hugh Stockwell, commander of the British-French task force. He said the police, largely Scandinavians, "have proved their worth tremendously."

Stockwell told newsmen 27 Egyptian men were killed and an undetermined number wounded in the moonlight battle set off between British troops and Egyptian guerrillas by the ambush slaying of a British major on patrol late Saturday night. The major was described as the only British casualty.

A few hours after the battle ended, at 2:30 a.m., Sunday, the British withdrew to a narrow, wire-guarded strip on the waterfront.

Supreme Court Decision
WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—The Supreme Court today rejected pleas by Alabama and the city of Montgomery for reconsideration of its Nov. 13 decision banning racial segregation on local buses.

Streets of Britain Stilled by Return Of Gas Rationing

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Britain's first day of "Suez" gasoline rationing left some city streets as deserted as a village lane today. It brought strange turn-of-the-century vehicles out of hiding.

In Edinburgh, Harold Marshall perched himself in the saddle of a high-wheeled bicycle from grandma's day and pedaled to his work as a research engineer.

Lt. Col. Eric Trevor cantered his chestnut mare six miles to his real estate office in the heart of London.

A London firm used an electrically powered brougham built in Paris in 1900 to transport its directors.

A chain-driven, solid-tired electrical truck of 1922 vintage crept back to work in the Southampton dockyard.

Thousands of Britons left their cars in garages and turned to crowded public transport systems to get to work.

Overuse of TV Seen by Butler

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—The chairman of the Democratic National Committee said today he believes the public was given too big a dose of TV and radio oratory during the 1956 campaign.

Both the Republicans and the Democrats were guilty of the overdosage, Paul M. Butler told a special House committee studying the political campaign with a view to recommending election law changes.

Butler estimated the Democrats invested about two million dollars in radio-TV campaigning and the Republicans probably more.

The effect of the frequent political harangues which sometimes broke into regular programs, Butler said, was that the public became bored.

Russia Challenged to Allow UN Observers in Hungary

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—The State Department challenged Russia today to allow United Nations observers inside Hungary to determine the truth of Soviet charges that the Hungarian revolt was "stimulated from the outside."

Press officer Lincoln White said the Hungarian government "is obviously under control of the Soviet Union" and that with a UN inspection "the answer to who stimulated whom would become very evident."

U.S. Protest Rejected
Another development today was a blunt Russian rejection of an American protest against massed Soviet tanks "threatening helpless Hungarian civilians" outside the U.S. legation in Budapest.

The U.S. government refused to withdraw its protest.

Russian Charge d'Affairs Sergei R. Striganov had a sharp interview with Deputy Undersecretary of State Robert Murphy.

Striganov told reporters he had "resolutely declined" to accept a vigorous American protest made 10 days ago against the action of Soviet tanks in the Hungarian capital.

U.S. Note "Unjustified"
The American note, he said, is "an unjustified attempt" to interfere with relations between Russia and "the Hungarian People's Republic."

In turning down the protest, Striganov renewed Russia's contention that the Hungarian rebellion was "stimulated from the outside."

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Eisenhower, Nehru Air Tense Global Problems

GETTYSBURG, Pa., Dec. 17 (AP)—President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Prime Minister Nehru of India sat down today in rural seclusion and weighed together the problems of a tense, uneasy world.

Suez, Hungary, Red China, military alliances, foreign aid—all these and others were likely topics for the two chiefs of state in the isolation of the President's country mansion.

But details of the specific subjects they discussed, and any meeting of minds or lack of it, may become known only with the lapse of time.

Discussions 'Personal'
Presidential press secretary James C. Hagerty labeled the Eisenhower-Nehru conversations "entirely personal." He all but ruled out the possibility of any communique setting out even in a general way the nature of the discussions.

Briefing for reporters by Hagerty and K. B. Tandan, press secretary at the Indian embassy, merely produced word that Eisenhower had told them that he and Nehru had been "discussing many things in the international field."

No 'Specific Topics'
Hagerty said the President didn't describe what those things were or "break them down into specific topics."

The presidential secretary estimated Eisenhower and Nehru were spending more than 12 hours in private conversations today. Tandan told a questioner Nehru "usually works very late at night."

Eisenhower and his guest are leaving at 9 a.m. tomorrow to motor back to Washington.

Eisenhower and Nehru drove from Washington to the President's Gettysburg farm this morning.

And within minutes after their arrival, they were sitting side by side on the glass enclosed porch, starting in on a discussion which

brought Nehru half way around the world at Eisenhower's invitation.

No other top officials of government were present to intrude on their seclusion, although each was accompanied to Gettysburg by a small staff.

None of these staff members was venturing to say what might come of the discussions at this important and even critical phase of history.

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