

REFUGEES

L.T. P.G. Thursday, December 25, 1947

From Germany news of an invasion, an invasion of such proportions that it would need three or four Army divisions to check the tide (thousands of homeless, hungry Germans moving across the frontier separating the British and Russian zones.) The Germans call this area the "green frontier", the no man's land between ~~xxx~~ death and life - the living-death under the Soviets, and the hope-of-life under the western democracies.

(Last night alone, with hopes raised by the spirit of Christmas, more than twelve hundred Germans crossed the line of the British zone and pleaded for housing and food.) This ~~is~~ ^{is} an area ^{(already} ~~xxxxx~~ ~~xx~~ over-populated and desperately short of food. For Christmas dinner some of them got a boiled ~~xxxxx~~ potato, some less than that, but they were happy, because they had reached the land of freedom.

A United Press correspondent interviewed a family of homeless wanderers, the Trenkmans. Karl Trenkman, aged fifty, and his wife and two young

children, arrived in the British zone ~~from Wittenberg,~~
after walking fifteen miles, under ~~the~~ cover of the
night, through deserted forests, ~~They were fired on by~~
~~the Russian sentries.~~ ^{and slept} ~~They, ~~walk~~~~ in the snow. ^{Altho} ~~under the~~
^{fired on by Russian sentries} ~~cover of the forests.~~ [^] Finally they found Christmas
shelter in a stable, feasting on rye bread and a
few scraps of cheese. Before he ate, Karl Trenkman
called on his family to give thanks and remember that
the Christ ~~kind~~ child was born in a stable.

The Commandant of one single German refugee
camp two miles from the frontier, reports he is
receiving more than two hundred people a day. ^{at the}

^{moment he} is
^{is} housing over four thousand people in accommodations

intended for twenty-five hundred. The refugees

^{say they are trying to avoid two things:-}
~~declare they seek to escape~~ starvation, and

conscription by the Russians to work in the ~~unarium~~
unarium mines and on railway ~~construction~~ construction
gangs.

From British headquarters comes the statement
that nothing can be done to check the migration -

- not unless three or four army divisions are
mustered to patrol the frontier between the iron
curtain and ~~democracy~~ democracy.

TURKEY FOLLOW REFUGEES

It seems people in ~~many~~ various parts of Europe decided to celebrate Christmas by getting out from under the iron curtain. Eighty-one fugitives from Communist dominated Romania arrived at Istanbul Turkey, and observed the traditional Christmas festival ⁻ⁱⁿ a Turkish army barracks. The party included politicians, soldiers, sailors, musicians and artists, and, a few ~~fishermen~~ fishermen, who succeeded in dodging under the Iron Curtain.

PALESTINE

Christmas Day in the Holy Land, ~~was for~~
~~from peaceful~~ After a tense night, ^{found} ~~with~~ troops still
^{famous} guarding the road from Jerusalem to Bethlehem,
where Christians attended services commemorating
the nativity. Christmas Day, ^{in the hills of Judea,} ~~was~~ Dawned with new
outbreaks of violence. Clashes between Haganah and
the Arabs, with many ~~xxxxxx~~ ^{TP Near the coast,} casualties. ^{in the no}
man's land between ~~xx~~ Tel Aviv and Jaffa, British
armored cars broke up a battle between Arabs and
Jews. ^{TP to the North,} In Haifa, six British were wounded in a smiliar
~~xxx~~ police operation.

Meanwhile, the British are speeding up their
plans for the evacuation of Palestine. This morning
several of the latest microfilm cameras arrived by
air, to be used for ~~xxxxxx~~ copying all public
documents, thus to preserve them in case of a
destructive blitz after the British withdraw.

ADD PALESTINE

Late news ~~from Palestine~~ gives a mounting list of casualties, with indications that the Jewish Army Haganah and the extremists of Irgun and the Stern Gang are joining forces in punitive operations against the Arabs along the entire coast of the Holy Land. ¶ In the notorious "robber's valley", near Haifa, a full scale battle developed when Arab snipers/attempted to cut off Jewish military supplies moving north. Haganah sent shock troops into action, armed with machine guns and hand ~~grenades~~ grenades, and the battle continued until the British ~~arrived in~~ armored cars, swept across the area, forced ^{ing} the ~~Jews~~ Jews to retire and then laboriously cleared ^{ing} the area of the Arab snipers.

During the battle, Haifa was completely isolated, all transport from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv blocked, ^{and} hundreds of trucks from Syria and Lebanon ^{left} waiting at Acre, ~~fifteen miles to the north.~~

LEBANON FOLLOW PALESTINE

report and capital of
News from Beirut, Lebanon, tells of a secret meeting of militant Arabs somewhere in Syria, under the chairmanship of Fawzi the Arab leader of the Nineteen Thirty Six revolt against the British. The Arab chiefs attending the conference are said to have discussed Fawzi's plan to attack key cities ~~is~~ of the Holy Land. Fawzi, they say has recently returned from ^{the} Djebel Druze Country, where he conferred with a top leader of the Druze ~~tribesmen~~ tribesmen who is said to have ^{promised to} ~~informed the Arab that he could~~ raise ten thousand armed Druze ^{Fighting men} ~~warriors~~ for the conflict in Palestine.

Information from Beirut hints that the leaders of the Arab League have approved Fawzi's plan to attack and that he may send his troops into action in some areas of the Holy Land on January ~~1st~~ First. ~~However,~~ Another report says that Fawzi's plans have been delayed by the outbreak of cholera in ~~the Syrian provinces~~ ^{That} the dread disease hindering the movement ^s of the Arabs, ^{with} Fawzi ~~having~~ ^{ing} ordered his men not to enter the infected area.

GREECE

(Foreign diplomats in Moscow are taking a *sombre* ~~grave~~ view of the news of the ~~infa~~ formation of a Communist guerrilla government in northern Greece. They consider it ^a Soviet sponsored guerrilla government ~~is~~ and think it will have grave implications in the tangled politics of the Balkans.)

Observers point out that the move has been expected, since the proclamation of the Truman doctrine nine months ago. Russian newspapers and government spokesmen have persistently asserted that the Greek Army, rebuilt with American aid, represents/a menace to neighboring Balkans states - these Balkan states of course under Soviet domination. One Soviet spokesman declared that Greece is now firmly in the hands of the United States, with America controlling its government, its industry, and managing the Army.

As yet the Russian newspapers have made no comment, merely publishing a five paragraph dispatch of the official Tass News Agency, which reports the

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formation of this Communist guerrilla government
and the composition of its ministry.

WRECK TO FOLLOW TYPHOON

~~On the other side of the world,~~ ^{TP} Off the
~~rocky~~ coast of south west Finland the U S Freighter
Victory Park went aground ^{today} and broke in two in a
blinding snowstorm. Seven of her crew ~~were~~ swept away
by ~~the~~ mountainous seas, ~~two~~ and two others died
after forty-one crewmen ^{were} ~~had been~~ rescued by Finnish
soldiers from the nearby fortress of Uto, near Abo.
The rescuers arrived ~~only~~ just in time, ~~according~~
~~to a report from~~ ^{the} Captain ~~Sapp, he~~ and his men being
~~up to their necks in water when the soldiers sighted~~
~~them by the beams of flashlights. In the stormy~~
darkness.

TYPHOON

~~Manila, capital of the Philippine republic~~
~~is altered tonight by the approach of a howling~~
~~tropical typhoon.~~ ^{IP} Early this morning residents of
~~Manilla~~ ^{Manilla} ~~the capital~~ were awakened by storm warnings - ~~long~~
~~blasts of whistles~~ - and soon after daylight winds
~~of near~~ ^{of near} ~~approaching~~ gale force tore ~~the~~ the roof from one of the
city's main radio stations, and destroyed
communications in many ~~parts of the city~~ ^{districts; and} the ~~Grand~~
Manila hotel lost most of its roof. ~~and the~~
~~weatherman has warned that gales of sixty miles an~~
~~hour or more are expected to lash the city, as the~~
~~typhoon center passes slightly~~ ^{to the} ~~east, of the city later~~
~~in the day.~~ Two ships ~~are~~ reported wrecked, ~~in the~~
~~wake of the typhoon,~~ and a radio message has been
picked up saying that Tacloban on Leyte ~~Island~~ is
burning, ~~to the ground, the~~ ^{with the} ~~flames roaring through~~
~~the town~~ fanned by the furious gale.

PEACE BRIDGE

At Fort Erie, Ontario, this Christmas Day, a twenty-four hour guard is being maintained at the international Bridge -- the peace bridge connecting Fort Erie with Buffalo. Canada on Guard - the purpose, ~~being~~ to enforce the new austerity tariff regulations imposed by the Canadian government. These ^{are to} restrict importations into the United States. So today twenty extra guards were added to the usual customs inspectors.

The last time the international peace bridge was guarded was at the American-end during the war, when Uncle Sam maintained a border patrol to prevent men of military age from getting across to evade the draft. ~~Canada guards the Peace Bridge guarded because of austerity~~

Americans living near the Canadian line like to go across, call on Canadian uncles and aunts and grandmothers, do ~~a lot~~ ^{often} shopping that they can do to advantage in the Dominion and then return to the States. And judging by this new ~~recently~~ ^{recently} importations ~~the~~ must have been on a ~~large~~ ^{considerable} scale.

some

SPECULATION

In Washington ^{Congressman} ~~representative~~ Brent Spence of Kentucky, former Chairman of the House Banking Committee, challenges Harold Stassen to appear before a House investigating committee and prove his charges of commodity speculation by government officials.

^{The Kentucky Congressman} ~~Spence~~ calls on candidate Stassen to back up his accusations, saying that if the former Minnesota Governor has any specific evidence, he should give it to the Special House Committee Investigating market trading.

Meanwhile, the Department of Agriculture is expected to issue, tomorrow, the second installment of its list of traders in the commodity markets. Later that list will be published, ^{including} ~~comprising~~ seventy-one local, state and federal employees who were in the wheat market on September seventeenth, Nineteen Forty-Seven.

DOG

One of the standard features of the news is a dog story; - but, here's a dog poem. The ~~xxx~~ list of Christmas books brings out a handsome volume written by a friend of this program, Edward Anthony, ^{publisher of Woman's Home Companion.} The title - "Every dog has his say." Each of the various blue ~~ri~~ ribbon breeds is represented, also the mongrel. Each, with ^{su} ~~perb~~ drawings by Morgan Dennis, has his say in the form of verses by Ed Anthony. So, in keeping with the Christmas spirit, let's take ^{just about} the most sentimental kind ^{of} ~~the~~ dog - the collie, who says:

"In fiction tales we keep performing

Heroics that are most heart-warming.

We rescue babies left to smother

In burning houses. There's no other

Dog in the world so oft selected

To save the child that's unprotected."

~~xxx~~ In the book every ^{other} dog has his say. ~~and~~

~~this program, I've had my say.~~ ^P And now, Nelson, you have your say.

CHINA WARLORD

In northern China, the last of the Mandarins, ruling a tiny kingdom with complete autocracy, is girding himself for the final showdown of his long swashbuckling ~~fa~~ career. Marshal Yen Hsia-Han, warlord of Taiyuan in ~~the~~ Shensi Province, is fighting what onlookers ~~of~~ believe to be his last battle - and his enemies are the Communists, who are infiltrating into ^{Marshal Yen's} ~~the Hsia-Han's~~ kingdom and teaching Red philosophies to his subjects.

The last of the Mandarins has his stronghold in a delapidated walled city, built by the Tang Emperors a thousand years ago. ^{He is reported to be} ~~He is~~ the undisputed master of a paternal régime - his subjects acknowledging filial ^l ~~l~~ obedience to their warlord. He defeated both nationalist and communist armies when they came to occupy his provincial capital after the surrender of Japan.

In modern fashion he calls himself a Socialist. ^{He} ~~and~~ owns all the coal and iron mines - ^{all} and ^{the} pig bristles. ^{In fact he} ~~he~~ has a monopoly of pig

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bristle production. He owns two railways and all the farmlands, which he rents out to his subjects on what he calls a socialist basis - the last of the Mandarins collecting the rents, of course. *An Asiatic feudal lord who, with a quaint sense of humor calls TP* Added to all this, he conducts a retail sales monopoly and an import and export business, and operated ~~by~~ ^{as an} *And he has* airline. What he terms his own scientific method of taxation, benevolent in theory but ruinously high in practice. *TP* One of his treasures is a vast industrial plant said to be the biggest in China, which turns out cigarettes, textiles, steel products, machine tools and artillery. *He alone* ~~he~~ takes the profits. Quite a socialist is the *TP* last of the Mandarins.

He lives in the manner of a hundred years ago, in a vast ~~palace~~ palace with guarded gates, and all the trappings of an ancient Mandarin - splendor of old supported/~~supported~~ by modern industry in a sealed kingdom without trade unions.

All of which ^{looks like} ~~is an~~ attractive booty ~~to~~ the
Communists, and they are talking plenty to the local
workers. Added to the Red propoganda, they ^{are} ~~are~~ moving
Communist
Red armies toward his walled city. But his supporters
have faith in the old man ^{— — —} ~~—~~ he's nearing seventy. They
say he has won ~~in~~ many battles before, and ^{is} ~~is~~ quite
capable of outwitting the Communists - even if he
has to give his subjects a new theory, a new "ism"

U N CHRISTMAS

Today the cities of Binghamton, Endicott and Johnson City, in New York State, held the biggest blind date party in history. The guests, a hundred-and-eighty-two foreign members of the U.N. Permanent Secretariat, at Lake Success -- all invited to the homes of people of the three upstate cities. The idea of entertaining the U. N. staff at a good American Christmas was proposed by ^a~~the~~ Binghamton Ex-G I, who said he thought it would be a fine gesture to return the hospitality shown to American soldiers in foreign lands during the ~~war~~ war.

So last night a special train, provided by the Erie railroad, made the two-hundred-and-twenty-five mile trip, carrying the strangers-in-our-midst to meet their warm-hearted hosts in Binghamton. And it seems a good time was had by all, even the Russians. One Soviet diplomat says: "The most wonderful sight was the children's faces when they saw the Christmas tree."

Two visitors from Jugoslavia made a great

discovery. They say the Christmas breakfast sausage served them at Binghamton "smelled ~~ka~~ just like home."

All of which goes to prove that an old-fashioned American Christmas has something for everybody, even including a sausage that smells like Jugoslav Home-Sweet-Home.

CHRISTMAS

In Tokyo, the Japanese made a valiant attempt to celebrate Christmas, a custom they have inherited from ~~our~~ our G I's. The only trouble with the Japanese Christmas, apart from nobody being ~~able~~ able to buy anything, is the Japanese language itself. The closest Japanese word for Christmas, which has been gladly adopted by the Nipponese, is Kur-Ush-Inasu. Say it quickly, and perhaps it does sound a little like Christmas. But the sting is in the meaning, for Kur-ush-inasu translates into the words - "giving us hardships", which every American father will understand of course as he pays the Christmas bills.

However, the Japanese celebrated Christmas as well as they could. And now, ^{again} ~~Nelson,~~ Merry Christmas ^{to all and to you Nelson,} - Kur-ush-inasu ^{to you.}