

Foreign countries that do not admit American reporters will have no more help from the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. That provision was enacted today in Washington by the House of Representatives. Unrra had asked the House for five hundred and fifty million dollars. That completes the one billion, three hundred and fifty millions which the United States contributed as its first share of Unrra expenses. ~~This is not all they are going to be asked to~~ ~~pick in~~ President Truman has announced that he will ask for more, next year.

The Administration fought vehemently against the provision to restrict contributions to countries admitting American newspapermen. <sup>Which</sup> ~~that~~ would cut off all the countries in southeastern Europe, all the countries under Russian influence. <sup>And</sup> of course it will prevent any Unrra supplies being sent to Russia itself.

Commissar Molotov today turned down scornfully and abruptly an appeal from the Anglo-American Press Association in Moscow to mitigate the strictness of Soviet censorship. The English and American newspapermen had sent a polite letter setting forth their case in complete detail, showing that peacetime censorship of all dispatches destroys the value of foreign correspondents and has created a general distrust of all news emanating from the Soviet Union. Molotov replied tersely that the letter was not solid and therefore it was found not necessary even to consider it.

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In spite of the strong Administration opposition in the House, that condition was definitely tacked onto the appropriation. The final vote, <sup>being</sup> ~~was~~ a hundred and eighty-eight to a hundred and sixty-eight.

## BRITAIN

The British Labor Government sprang a thundering surprise on Parliament today. Having already moved to nationalize the Bank of England, the Attlee Cabinet now announces that it will also take over aviation, commercial aviation. And, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer told the House of Commons this afternoon, the state will also take over the entire system of cable and radio communication throughout the British Empire. This announcement created ~~nothing short of~~ a sensation.

One result of this will be to give the British Government complete control <sup>over</sup> ~~of the~~ news. It will therefore affect not only British newspapers, but also our own. With the Government owning the cables and radio stations, not an item can be transmitted to us save by British Government consent.

The Labor Government is going to organize three airlines. One of these will be operated inside the

British Isles; the second from the British Isles to all

*parts*  
~~terminations~~ of the Empire, the United States and the

Far East; the third ~~will carry traffic~~ to South America.

~~and back.~~

## JAPAN

In Tokyo, General MacArthur today emphatically squelched Prince Konoye, former Premier of Japan. There has been a movement among the Japanese upper classes to build <sup>up</sup> Konoye, ~~and~~ give him <sup>a</sup> ~~an~~ spurious reputation as a liberal. There was even a report that the revising of the Japanese Constitution was to be entrusted to Konoye. It was this that MacArthur repudiated. He issued a statement with the words: "A major misconception seems to exist with reference to the part being played by Prince Konoye in the revision of Japan's Constitution. He has not been selected for that purpose by Allied authorities."

The job of revising the Constitution was first given to the Cabinet of General Higashi-Kuni. That Cabinet resigned the day after the order was issued. So MacArthur ordered the succeeding government to get busy. There the matter stands, and MacArthur included

in his statement these words: "Prince Konoye's further connection with the matter arises entirely from his relationships with the imperial household, and has no sponsorship from Allied headquarters."

So far the revising of the Constitution has not gotten beyond the stage of preliminary work.

YAMASHITA

A story from Manila today reports that General Yamashita may take the stand and testify in his own defense. So said one of the officers assigned as counsel for the former "Tiger of Malaya." The number of murders for which Yamashita is held responsible has now ~~climbed~~<sup>soared</sup> to sixty thousand. And a hundred and twenty-three specific cases of torture and other atrocity are laid at his door. ~~Again, much of the testimony heard today is of a character that cannot be told on the air at a time when many people are having their dinners.~~

## JAVA

British troops are now seriously engaged in the task of crushing the natives of Java for the benefit of the Dutch. More fighters and bomber planes were rushed to the island to reinforce the British. They have conquered most of the city of Magelang in eastern Java from the Indonesians.

At Batavia, conversations began last night between ~~the~~ acting Dutch Governor Van Mook and Dr. Soekarno, President of the Indonesian Republic. Van Mook said these conversations were purely <sup>exploratory.</sup> ~~tentative. It is rumored that they began by stating their decisions.~~ According to a story from The Hague, officials of Queen Wilhelmina's government said Van Mook ~~had~~ disobeyed instructions <sup>in</sup> ~~by~~ meeting Soekarno. The Hague sticks by its guns, refuses to deal with <sup>the Indonesian rebels.</sup> ~~Soekarno at all.~~

Although Dr. Soekarno broadcast a message to his people to stop trying to battle the Allies in Soerabaja



## PALESTINE

The story from Palestine today is one of explosions, destruction, sabotage, and shootings. Five men ~~are~~ dead, and ~~the~~ railways of the Holyland <sup>cut all</sup> ~~have been~~ <sup>over the place -</sup> ~~cut in fifty places~~ <sup>TP</sup> from Dan to Beersheba. The British ~~military authorities have~~ <sup>are</sup> restricted <sup>ing</sup> all traffic between cities. They lay the sabotage and disorders to the Jews.

<sup>TP</sup> ~~But~~ The worst of all the explosions occurred in the Consolidated Refineries at Haifa, ~~which is~~ Jewish property. ~~Nevertheless, the British charge that the Jews are trying to break all railway communications. They have imposed a curfew.~~

~~Outwardingly, people are calm in Palestine. But armed patrols are abroad everywhere, searching all motor cars and their riders. There are searchlights and barbed wire entanglements at all strategic points, and the troops are alert in the towns.~~

HITLER

*well,*  
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The British authorities are now satisfied that Adolf Hitler is dead, Hitler and Eva Braun, whom he married the day before they killed themselves.,

^ An official report to this effect was issued today at British occupation headquarters. <sup>TP</sup> After the most exhaustive investigation, the British ~~can~~ find no substance for the fable that Hitler is alive and in hiding. All such stories <sup>that</sup> ~~which~~ have been reported have been investigated and ~~have been found to be quite~~ <sup>found without a vestige</sup> ~~baseless~~ <sup>of a foundation.</sup> So says the report. <sup>TP</sup> It includes a detailed

narrative of the last ten days of Hitler's life, <sup>those</sup> ~~while~~ <sup>days when</sup> the Russian army was rolling irresistibly over Berlin, <sup>and over</sup> ~~toward~~ the Chancellery <sup>in the catacombs under which</sup> where he and Eva Braun were in hiding. ~~entire~~ <sup>All of which agree with</sup> ~~To all intents and purposes, the report~~ <sup>that</sup> ~~agreed in with a story~~ <sup>at the time</sup> ~~cabled home~~ by the United Press,

~~It is~~ the story ~~as~~ told by Hitler's confidential stenographer and his chauffeur: - <sup>how on</sup> ~~According to that, it~~  
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~~was on~~ April Twentieth ~~that~~ Hitler realized Berlin was doomed. His first decision was to fly to Berchtesgaden; ~~and~~ make a last stand in the mountains. But, he procrastinated. *Then, on*

~~by~~ the afternoon of April Twenty-Second, he called a staff conference, ~~where he~~ announced ~~that~~ the war was *said* lost and <sup>^</sup>he intended to stay where he was and die in Berlin. He was hysterical, *everybody* - blaming <sup>^</sup>everybody but himself. The people around him begged him to escape. *And* But he refused. <sup>^</sup>Goebbels, Martin Bormann and others decided to stay with him.

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During the next few days, his hysterical tantrums recurred from time to time. The lack of fresh air and exercise began to make him ill, and aggravated the *state* ~~condition~~ of his nerves. Heinrich Himmler sent him a special courier asking him to escape, but he refused. He told his confidantes about his plan to commit suicide,

and gave instructions that his body and Eva Braun's were to be destroyed, <sup>as he</sup> ~~he~~ wished nothing recognizable to be left.

On April Twenty-Ninth, Russian tanks smashed into a large square almost around the corner from the

Chancellory where Hitler was hiding. On that day ~~it~~ we

~~are told der Fuehrer's~~ <sup>are told der Fuehrer's</sup> ~~appears that his~~ <sup>reason gave way,</sup> ~~at least partially~~ <sup>what was left</sup> ~~of it.~~

He issued orders to his Air Force to make an all-out

attack, an Air Force <sup>that</sup> ~~which~~ no longer existed. He

dispatched a telegram denouncing Grand Admiral Doenitz,

Commander-in-Chief of the German Navy. <sup>TR</sup> On the evening of

that same day, he married Eva Braun in a small conference

room in the Chancellory. It is believed ~~that~~ she suggested

the marriage. <sup>We are told</sup> ~~It is definitely known~~ that she urged him

not to run away.

He called in the members of his staff for a supper party. Around the table the principal conversation

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was suicide. A woman secretary, unable to stand it any longer, ran out of the room. Hitler then ordered his favorite dog killed.

At half past two of the afternoon of the following day, April Thirtieth, he called in his staff and shook hands with everyone, saying good-bye. He ordered two hundred liters of gasoline. Then, he shot himself in the mouth, <sup>so says</sup> ~~according to~~ the British official report, ~~and~~ <sup>Braun</sup> Eva took poison. The bodies were then burned.

<sup>British account</sup>  
The ~~report~~ adds that there is almost no doubt <sup>but what</sup> Goebbels also killed himself. Hitler's chauffeur believes that Martin Bormann, the deputy fuehrer, was probably killed when he tried to escape from Berlin in a tank.

And so ended what was undoubtedly the weirdest adventure in empire building, an historic nightmare ~~to~~ ~~the entire world~~ that shook a planet.

## TAXES

Congress ~~is~~ all through with the tax bill.!

The Senate did its part today, <sup>^</sup> approved the compromise measure by a voice vote; ~~that is~~ the measure as agreed upon in conference. It has gone to the White House, and we are told that <sup>the</sup> President ~~Truman~~ will sign it.

The new tax bill will be ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ of considerable relief to business, relief to the tune of three billion, one hundred and thirty-six millions. Also, it will save individual taxpayers two billion, six hundred and forty-four million.

The Senate got through with its business in short order, not like the long debate in the House on Tuesday. The only debate in the Senate was over the fact that the conference had not provided any real relief for small business. By one clause, veterans - that is enlisted men - don't have to pay any income tax on what they ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ earned while in the service of Uncle Sam. Officers do, but they have three years grace and can pay up in twelve quarterly installments.

HIGGINS

Andrew Higgins of New Orleans had made plans for a reconversion program involving twenty-five million dollars at his three shipyards in New Orleans. The Union called a strike, stopped production. Higgins has just announced that he is going to close the plants ~~and~~ abandon the program.

## CHAIN GANG

After the last war, a doughboy returned home to Atlanta, ~~Georgia~~, to enjoy the privilege of walking the streets for weeks in search of a job. Finally he took part in the hold-up of a small grocery store. The proceeds of the robbery were five dollars and eighty-five cents. But Robert Elliott Burns was sentenced to imprisonment-- from six to ten years in a Georgia chain gang. He escaped once, was caught and sent back, escaped a second time and came north. There he told such a convincing story of ~~the beastial~~ cruelties <sup>that</sup> ~~that were~~ ~~perpetrated on some of these southern chain gangs, that~~ the Governor of New Jersey declined to extradite <sup>him,</sup> ~~Burns~~.

Burns wrote the book which became famous under the title: "I Am A Fugitive From A Chain Gang." Both book, and film, were a great success.

When Ellis Arnall was elected Governor of Georgia he investigated, and as he said in Atlanta today,



time proved that all the charges made in the book were true. The new Governor put through a program of prison reform, fired the old Prison Commission, abolished the chain gang, and established a modern Department of Corrections, "to reclaim, not wreck and ruin," as the Governor put it.

All this is news because Burns, having confidence in this new Georgia Governor, traveled to Atlanta and surrendered - to the custody of the Governor. Arnall thereupon took Burns into the Board of Pardons, which today commuted his sentence - made him a free man, restored his citizenship, so he no longer is under the shadow, a fugitive from justice, that's the finale to "I Am A Fugitive From A Chain Gang."

SUPERFORTS

Before many minutes are up, you may learn of a new long-distance record broken. Those four B-29s that left Hokkaido at nine minutes past four yesterday afternoon, our time -- in command of Brigadier General Frank Armstrong Jr., have flown the Great Circle route by way of the Aleutians to Kodiak, to Sitka, thence across Canada to Winnipeg. They passed over Winnipeg early this afternoon and are scheduled to arrive at Washington, D.C. along about now.

## HIGH FLIGHT

Do you remember the thrilling poem entitled High Flight that was written by a young airman? Well, a friend of mine, during the final year of the war, had this poem printed on a handsomely illuminated card, ideal for framing. This friend then gave these copies of High Flight to the families of airmen who lost their lives.

The poem seems to have been the source of great solace and comfort to many parents whose boys flew off into the blue, never to return. I have just ~~xxx~~ learned that some of the copies are still available, and will be mailed to ~~the~~ families of airmen. You send in the name of the young flier who was lost, and your own name and address. Send them to me, in care of this station, and I will pass them along to this gracious and thoughtful person, who has been doing this fine thing.

There is no cost to this at all, for you. If you had a son, or a brother, or a husband, a flier, in Army, Navy or Marine air forces, who failed to come

back, and if you want a copy of High Flight, drop me  
a card and the illuminated poem will be sent to you.

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And now, what say you, Hugh.