

Stalin's recent foreign policy has been predicated on a gamble that the U. S. would be in a great depression. Sumner Welles, former Under Secretary of State, discusses the situation in a special article on page 15-A.

ESTABLISHED 1888

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Final Edition

U. S. Begins Evacuating 14 Disputed Panama Bases

PAID OFFERS 1,523,000 DOLLARS

Previous Decision To Keep Sites Is Reversed

Demands Made For New Canal

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States today began withdrawing some 2,000 troops from the fourteen bases which Panama has refused to lease in this country.

In a sudden policy shift, the Government decided late yesterday that the troops should be called off Panama not even though it believes it has a legal right to keep them there until World War II peace treaties are signed.

Dispatches from Quarry Heights, Canal Zone, said the troops began withdrawing from the bases at daylight.

The Army explained it was able to act so swiftly because it made plans long ago. The withdrawal is "in accordance with plans prepared for some time, to be used in event we didn't have the right to stay there," said an official spokesman for the Army. Maj. Gen. Floyd L. Parks.

Under Secretary of State Robert Lovett, was asked to make a conference if the United States is willing to resume negotiations with Panama for use of the bases. He replied that naturally we would always be glad to discuss arrangements of this sort.

The unexpected action followed the Panamanian Assembly's unanimous rejection of an agreement that would have given this country the right to use the bases for periods of from five to twenty years.

In the midst of these rapid developments in Panama City and Washington, demands arose in Capitol Hill for survey work on a new canal. Senator Knowland (R-Calif.) suggested a new water route across Nicaragua and Rep. Boyd (R-Mich.) said there should be one "outside Panama."

There had been no previous inkling that the United States was contemplating any such move. In fact, officials earlier in the day had said flatly but privately that this country would not consider occupying the bases on grounds that it possesses such rights until one year after World War II peace treaties are signed.

However, the State Department in formally announcing the decision noted the Panamanian Assembly's unanimous rejection of the bases agreement and added:

"The necessary steps will be taken immediately to begin the evacuation of all sites in the Republic of Panama outside the Canal Zone area which United States forces are now stationed."

It said the withdrawal will be completed as quickly as possible "consistent with the number of personnel and the amount of material involved."

The evacuation, it was disclosed, scaled down its original demand for a 99 year lease to twenty years for the Rio Hato airbase and five years elsewhere.

The Army now must fall back on its own defenses within the ten-mile wide Canal Zone and the waterway. Its main airfield in the Zone is Albrook Field which is too small to accommodate the big B-29 Superfortresses. The only other big airbase in the general Caribbean area is in Puerto Rico, over 1,000 miles away.

What Am I Saying?

By FRANK MORGAN

Christmas. . .

Here's to Christmas, a day of good-will, of cold weather, and warm hearts. Which brings me to the thought that Christmas is a day on which neither war nor peace is the future of so much interest as the present.

WEATHER

Occasional light rain and snow today. Clouds will clear tomorrow with lowest temperatures in the 30's.

Temperature at 1 P. M. today. . . 31

High and low last 24 hours. . . 30-32

High today. . . 31

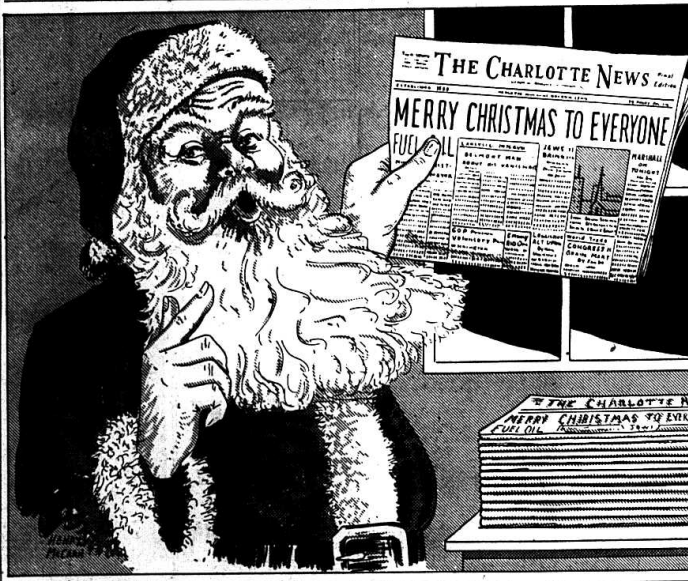
Low today. . . 29

More weather data on page 17-A

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Largest Afternoon Newspaper In The Carolinas

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1947



News Empty Stocking Fund

Citizens' Generosity Brings Christmas Cheer

This evening, on Christmas Eve night, St. Nick will fill many Christmas stockings of deserving children who might otherwise have found on Christmas morning that they had been overlooked. He will fill these stockings through contributions made to The News Empty Stocking Fund.

Because of the contributions from the generous readers of The News, St. Nick has added many names to his list of children in this community. These are fortunate but deserving children who will find an empty stocking tomorrow morning.

Checks drawn on the Empty Stocking Fund have been distributed by the Christmas Bureau, sponsored by the Community Council and The News. These checks were mailed to those in need of funds to provide even the least in Christmas gifts for their children. A real Christmas has been made possible for many who otherwise might have been forgotten.

Final tabulations on the number of persons served this year by The News Empty Stocking Fund have not yet been completed. A detailed report of the work of the Christmas Bureau will be made and published at a later date. Workers at the Christmas Bureau were still busy early today serving emergency cases reported to them in order that not one single deserving person would be overlooked.

The generous contributors to The News Empty Stocking Fund have indeed provided a

Merry Christmas for many needy persons in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.	
Amount previously acknowledged	\$6,894.71
Ann and Ellen Culbreth	10.00
"A Friend"	2.00
"A Friend"	1.00
"A Friend"	1.00
"A Friend"	1.00
Mrs. Emily Baker Laxton	5.00
Mrs. & Mr. Joseph McLaughlin Jr.	5.00
Lucinda and Robert Mason	10.00
A. F. Morris, Maxton	10.00
Dr. & Mrs. O. Hunter Jones	1.00
Nancy Lou Jones	1.00
Mrs. J. B. Thompson	5.00
Mrs. & Mr. J. P. Williams	1.00
Robert Henry	1.00
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Wood	1.00
Kenneth Whitsett Jr.	1.50
Jessie Lee Whitsett	1.50
Mrs. & Mr. James Tompkins	2.00
Children	4.00
"A Friend"	1.00
"A Friend"	1.00
"A Friend"	1.00
"A Friend"	1.00
Mr. & Mrs. Book Club	1.00
Recreation	2.50
Sharon Williamson	2.50
Wally Warren, Sara Ann Little, Lybette Cole	2.00
Total to date	\$7,441.02

Driver Killed

Raleigh (AP)—J. S. Trulove, about 25, of Raleigh R. 3, was killed last night when his truck left the Yates Mill Road and overturned. There were no witnesses to the accident. Trulove was a driver for Garland C. Norris Company.

Man Drives Truck Over His Daughter

A distressing pre-Christmas incident in which Howard Poy, 26-year-old proprietor of the Poy Electric Co. at 815 Parkwood Ave., drove his truck over the leg and arm of his wife, the 10-year-old daughter occurred yesterday afternoon.

According to preliminary medical reports at the Howard Poy, the girl was killed, suffered fractures of the arm and leg and abrasions on the face. Indications are that there were no internal injuries or severe head injuries. The child was taken to the Memorial Hospital.

Mr. Poy drove his truck into the front yard of his home at Parkwood Ave., where he also maintains his electrical shop. Mrs. Poy was on the porch when the child was a considerable distance away from the truck. Mrs. Poy stopped to speak to his wife and in the meantime the child was running around the side of the truck opposite to Mrs. Poy. She was unnoticed as the truck started.

When the truck started, Mrs. Poy was on the porch when the truck started. When the truck started, Mrs. Poy was on the porch when the truck started.

One phase of Senator Langer's proposal, which would give postal employees the job of answering the letters, has "yellowed" worried.

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'Austerity' Measure

France Moves To Curb Inflation

PARIS (AP)—The National Assembly today passed a "austerity" measure designed to help pay for a two billion dollar reconstruction program by draining off funds of Frenchmen who make more than \$3,780 a year.

The deputies passed the bill last night, 300 to 268, with the far left—the Communists—joining the right—the followers of Gen. Charles De Gaulle—in opposition to the government measure, which was entitled an "exceptional levy in the struggle against inflation."

The upper chamber, the Council of the Republic, was expected to give its approval to the bill within 48 hours. The lower chamber, the National Assembly, was scheduled to go to work on the French budget for 1948, calling for expenditures of 854,000,000,000 francs (\$1,842,000,000).

The last measure requires Frenchmen to pay 130,000,000,000 francs (\$2,900,000,000) worth of Government bonds or pay that amount in taxes. The taxation will be a sliding scale levied on those with an income of above 450,000 francs (\$3,780 a year).

Funds raised will be used to help pay for a \$2,000,000,000 reconstruction program. The remainder of the budget, under Finance Minister Rene Mayer's plans, will come from aid furnished by the United States.

One major purpose of the measure was to drain off excess purchasing of luxuries and power politics.

The Pontiff specifically blamed "a growing tendency toward insincerity" for the world's ills.

Foreign Ministers conferred in London, which he said had left the world further than ever from the true peace.

He sharply condemned those nations which he said had adopted "the lie and the garbled word" as accepted weapons of offense in an effort to "win at any cost the battle of class interest and theories of ideology and power politics."

The Pontiff named names in placing the blame for the present state of world affairs. He said the 4,000-word address contained many passages which Western leaders, at least, interpreted as condemnation of Communism and of the post-war policies of the Soviet Union.

The Pope spoke from his apartments in the Apostolic Palace and his address was broadcast by the Vatican radio and Italian stations. It was to be broadcast in twelve languages today and tomorrow.

Despite a cold, which forced him to cancel the traditional ceremony of receiving Christmas greetings from the College of Cardinals, the Pontiff was in good voice as he delivered a strong appeal for peace and an attack upon the men and nations who were achieving their ends by the sword.

After another postwar year, charged with miseries, suffering, delusions and privations," he said, "the human mind is weary and yearning for peace and justice."

He said the world must be brought to a halt and must be arrested at this of this dolorous and humiliating moment.

The Pope's address was received with interest by the American people. Many of the world's great leaders of the morning after Christmas were in good voice as they received the Pope's address.

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Presidential Amnesty Is Extended To Picked List

Full Citizenship Is Restored

WASHINGTON (AP)—Presidential Christmas pardons restoring full citizenship rights are on route today to 1,523 men convicted of violating the wartime draft act, including some who contended they were conscientious objectors.

The lucky ones were called from a list of 15,800 by an amnesty board headed by Owen Roberts, former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

Most of them have completed their sentences, but under a procedure, generally include the right to vote, but generally include the right to vote, but generally include the right to vote.

Similar amnesty has been granted from time to time in the past to a total of 618 others, after being sentenced, served at least a year in the Army.

Roberts and his associates, Attorney General Tom C. Clark, U. S. Circuit Court Judge of the Eastern District of New York, and the National Commander James F. O'Neill of the American Legion, have been granted amnesty, but generally include the right to vote, but generally include the right to vote.

The amnesty board, headed by the Attorney General, has been granted amnesty, but generally include the right to vote, but generally include the right to vote.

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