

The Charlotte News

Final

December 18
Our Sixtieth
Anniversary
Month

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Egypt Charges Truce Broken As Jews Open Drive To Clear Fire in Jerusalem

No Peace At The Manger Guns Block Road To Bethlehem

By JAMES M. LONG

JERUSALEM (AP)—The struggle Christmas Eve and the smaller Christmas pilgrimages to the cradles were disrupted today for Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus Christ.

War and the weather were no mans.

Hand-bagged gun posts, barbed wire and mine snares laid out during Arab-Jewish battles barred the Jewish hill roads that Joseph and Mary traveled on their way to Bethlehem in the last year. The Holy Land, once a year, was still without hope of true peace.

Rain, hail, cold winds and fog have swept this area for the past 24 hours. It was dreary weather for travel.

FEW PILGRIMS

Thousands have made the trip in previous years. About 150 Christians in Jewish-held zone Jerusalem planned to go today.

When the shrines along the road were closed, the Jews of Bethlehem and the Jews of Jerusalem went for a night of prayer.

The pilgrims going to the shrines today will pass through a no-man's land into the Arab-held old walled city of Jerusalem and then travel by a road of dirt and rubble to the Arab Legion built for the shrine at midnight.

The shrine has turned the road into a quagmire.

Flights include a few down foreign consular representatives, among them the British and the United States missions in Jerusalem. The Arab Legion, who observe of Christmas Eve at the shrine in the Church of the Nativity.

Soldiers will be there tonight, but they will wear the red and white head dress of the Arab Legion and the uniforms of the Egyptian Army. Few of these are Christians.

MAIN ROAD CLOSED

The main road to Bethlehem usually traveled by Christian pilgrims from Jerusalem is closed and under guard. This route, which passes the Jewish shrine of Rachel's tomb, is 12 miles long.

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Council May Be Asked To Make Study

Delegates Demand Immediate Action

PARIS (AP)—Egypt formally notified the Security Council today of renewed fighting in the Negv area of Palestine and asked the Council to examine what it called "flagrant violations" of the truce by Israeli forces.

The cable from Egypt's Foreign Minister broke into the Council's debate on the Indonesian conflict. It also raised the question of further sessions on the Palestine situation.

The message said Israeli forces "unleashed an attack Dec. 22 on Egyptian airbases at El Arish, Rafi and on Khan Yunis and have bombed these regions."

The message said that "Palestine had been the object of repeated Jewish attacks throughout the day."

Egypt declared Israel's action "a flagrant violation of the truce and a serious violation of the Council's orders."

The Council is expected to meet Monday to consider Egypt's complaint.



Not taking any chances, Dorothy Bateman settles down for a snooze beneath the Christmas tree at Thompson Orange, so Santa Claus can't possibly miss her when he makes the rounds tonight. And when she wakes up tomorrow morning, she'll be more than Dorothy beneath the tree. (Photo by Jeep Hunter of Tom Franklin Studio.)

Dutch Told To Release Prisoners

Withdrawal Move Fails To Carry

PARIS (AP)—The Security Council today ordered an immediate end to the fighting in Indonesia and prompt release of Indonesian leaders captured by the Dutch.

The Council's Christmas Eve vote on the Indonesian-Columbian-Syrian demand for withdrawal of Dutch forces from areas seized since the September 1948 cease-fire and the release of captured Indonesian leaders was a 5-4 vote against the Dutch. Seven votes are needed for passage.

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Reds Hold All Of North China

NANKING (AP)—Write off all of China north of the Yangtze. The Communists have taken over the entire area.

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Christmas Brighter For Most Of World

LONDON (AP)—Christians throughout the world looked forward today to a brighter Christmas than last year.

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Amnesty Order Military Pay Hike Frees 15 Japs

Proposals Criticized

WASHINGTON (AP)—A proposal to boost military pay by an average of 15 per cent touched off Capitol Hill reaction today ranging all the way from the right to the left.

Lawmakers who would steer any such bill through Congress seemed quick and careful study, but at least two others said they are flatly opposed to the idea of upping officers' salaries more than those of men in the ranks.

U. S. Begins Christmas Celebrations

of 18 lighted Christmas trees down its center. Santa Claus appeared last night aboard a 40-foot crane, which lowered him into a lighted area where he stepped out and distributed candy to youngsters.

In New York, a lady social worker yesterday donated full Santa Claus regalia—including beard—to 30 pre-school age children and 40 mothers at a municipal shelter party.

At Indianapolis, Ind., a Christmas Eve tradition will be repeated: Schools and church groups will gather in elaborately decorated Monument Circle for caroling.

From a mountain-top outside Hot Springs, Ark., Mr. Flash a series of tableaux symbolizing the Christmas story. Some 100 chorists will help celebrate the 18th annual Christmas Eve observance.

Snow Over Wide Area

CHICAGO (AP)—The Christmas Snow was falling over a wide area of the country early today.

Snow was expected today or tonight in many other portions of the United States.

Truman To Extend Greetings To U. S.

President Truman is expected to extend greetings to the United States for Christmas.

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No Paper Christmas Day

The News Will Omit Publication Saturday

The Charlotte News will not publish an edition on Saturday. In keeping with a custom of many years, broken only during the war period, The News will suspend publication on Christmas Day that all members of the organization may spend the day with their children and families. Publication will be resumed Monday on the regular schedule.

Austrian Treaty Talks Proposed

The United States proposed today that Britain, France, Russia and the United States should begin talks on an Austrian peace treaty about Feb. 15 in London.

The proposal was made by Samuel Reber, a State Department official who is chairman of the deputy group of the Big Four Foreign Ministers Council which handles all work on the Austrian pact.

The big issue is setting up a formula for determining what properties in Austria the Russians may claim under their right to "reparations" made up of a part of today's News.

Saturday Comics In Today's News

Today's News will feature a special section of Saturday Comics.

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Air Force Reports Old St. Nick On Way

WASHINGTON (AP)—Air Force officials today reported that Santa Claus was seen in the sky over the city of New York.

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Holiday Trip Ends In Death For Ten

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