

The Iron Curtain isn't iron, and can be penetrated very easily. Dewey Pearson reports from Germany. Pearson's column, describing American use of radio to reach East Germans, is on Page 16-A.

# U. S. Strength Doubled Since Korean War Began

## Costello Again Refuses To Tell How Much He's Worth

NEW YORK — Underworld boss Frank Costello today defied Senate crime investigators for the fourth time in their efforts to find out his net worth. He said he wouldn't answer.

With the same sullen stubbornness he has displayed when the matter came up previously, Costello said the committee was asking for information it had no right to.

"I refused before," Costello said. "I'm not going to answer that question."

The gambler, labeled by the committee as head of a national crime syndicate, pictured himself to the committee as one now engaged in purely legitimate business.

**ASSETS SECRET**

And he said he wasn't going to talk about what assets he has.

Costello pictured himself as promoter of jet broilers for the benefit of housewives with small apartments.

He conceded before the Senate crime committee the jet broiler business hadn't taken up much of his time so far.

"It's in its infancy," he said. "It's just started."

The broiler was described as an infra red broiler for use in apartment houses, but Costello said he didn't understand its mechanical details.

**DEWEY INVITED AGAIN**

Prior to Costello's appearance, the committee had issued an invitation to New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey to appear before it on some gambling at Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Sen. Charles Tobey (R-N.H.) said Costello's refusal to answer "makes us suspicious and I don't want to be suspicious."

The world can't think well of a man who covers up," he added.

Costello has disclosed he has around \$150,000 in cash in his home safe and in two bank accounts, but beyond that, he contended his holdings are his own affair.

"Do you have a safe deposit box?"

**NC Senate Committee Okays Vehicle Inspection**

RALEIGH — The issue of automobile inspection was revived in the Legislature today.

This came when the Senate Roads Committee, by a narrow squeak, gave its blessings to a bill providing for a subcommittee.

This measure would require vehicle owners to present a certificate of inspection when they get their license tags each year.

There would be no revival of inspection lanes but highway patrolmen would patrol local roads.

Approved arrangement would make the inspections.

The roads committee tied seven-alls in its vote, and Sen. Junius K. Powell of Columbus, chairman, broke the tie in favor of the bill.

Meanwhile, it was learned that a special appropriations subcommittee

**OUR WEATHER**

Cold tonight with freezing temperatures. Expected low tonight 29 degrees. Thursday, fair and cool.

Low last night, 42 degrees. Low tonight, 31 degrees.

Sunset, 6:26 A. M.; sunrise, 6:55 P. M.

**Weather Data on Page 13-A**

**WHEN DOES SPRING START?**

Does Spring start today? Only according to the astronomer, who calculate it from the time the sun directly over the equator on its journey north.

In 365 days, day and nights are exactly equal, the world, over the equator, has equal day and night.

But there are other ways of calculating when Spring's arrival. Botanists say Spring begins when the average daily temperature reaches 43 degrees, and life begins to stir in the plant cells; that's long since in the South, say yet in the North.

The Weather Bureau calls March 1 the start of Spring, for record-keeping purposes.

## Forces Size Disclosed By Truman Nearly 3 Million Men Under Arms



KEY WEST, Fla. — President Truman served notice today that the United States has doubled its armed forces since the invasion of Korea to resist "still further Communist attacks against our free nations."

An exchange of telegrams between the President and Secretary of Defense Marshall disclosed that this country's uniformed forces now stand at more than 2,900,000 nine months after Korean Reds launched their unprovoked attack June 25.

Mr. Truman made the telegrams public shortly before leaving at 7:30 A. M. (EST) for a visit to Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas aboard the destroyer Saratoga. He is due back at 5 P. M.

The President will fly back to Washington tomorrow to spend the Easter week-end with Mrs. Truman and his singing daughter, Margaret.

Mr. Truman's announcement was a new warning to Soviet Russia and other Communist nations that the United States is determined "to establish and maintain world peace."

It emphasized the speed with which the country is rebuilding its defenses by disclosing Marshall's telegram giving the size of this country's armed force as doubled July 15, 1950.

"This doubling of our strength has been accomplished less than nine months after the Communist aggression against the Republic of Korea," General Marshall wired.

"For your information, the strength we have already attained — a total strength in excess of 2,900,000 — was not attained in World War II until more than 21 months after our build-up started in June 1940, following the fall of France, and more than three months after Pearl Harbor."

The President took unusual steps to seek world-wide disclosure of the progress of American defenses, and the exchange of telegrams was beamed around the globe by the State Department's Voice America.

He telegraphed Marshall: "I wish to commend you and all the members of the Army, Navy, and the Air Force for the strenuous efforts which have made such progress possible."

"This tremendous gain in our strength has been made necessary by the lawless aggression of Communist Russia, and the menace of still further Communist attacks against our free nations."

"The armed forces we are building up, and the supplies for them which our factories, farms, and mines produce, are for their protection and preservation of our freedom."

**U. S. Seeks Agreement With Allies On Parallel Field Freed In Contempt Case**

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Acheson said today the United States is consulting with its Allies on a common point of view with its Allies on the 38th parallel problem. But he said no new authority is required in the United States to command military forces to cross the old boundary between North and South Korea.

Acheson told a news conference in the U. S. Government building that consultations are continuing through their diplomatic representatives in Washington. Assistant Secretary of State Dean Rusk meets with these representatives twice a week.

His latest meeting ran on for an hour yesterday and a spokesman, describing it as routine, said no decisions were reached. The next meeting will be on Friday.

The biggest differences over the parallel are between the United States and Britain, with the British position against any great new extension of the Korean campaign into North Korea. The British hope for a negotiated settlement with the Chinese Communist faction.

At the same time British diplomats here have reported for several weeks now that they recognize the necessity of crossing the parallel to keep the Communist forces off balance and to gather information about their next military moves.

Agreement that tactical cross

## Reds Quit East Base Below 38th

Foe Withdrawing Into North Korea

By OLEN CLEMENTS

TOKYO — An American tank force today tumbled into the Chinese stronghold of Chunchon. It met only flag-waving Korean civilians.

The Chinese, who had made the central Korean road center their troop massing point behind the spearhead of the march into north of Parallel 38.

Chunchon is 8-12 miles south of the Red Korean border.

It was from Chunchon that the Chinese mounted their two mass offensives over theuary and February against Wonsu, deep in central Korea.

**RESIST IN WEST**

On the western front, South Korean and American tank forces ranging up the historic invasion route of Korea bumped into bitter Communist resistance north of Seoul.

An American tank patrol on the road to Uijongbu ran into a heavy mine field.

The small arms and mortar fire were so intense that it was impossible for the men to leave the tanks and remove the mines," an operations officer said.

At Chunchon, thousands of soldiers machine-gunned the Chunchon area as the tanks rumbled down the last mountain pass into the valley.

On the east coast South Korean units were officially placed within 8-12 miles of the old border between North and South Korea. Patrols may have reached or crossed the imaginary line.

AP Correspondent Tom Bradford from the central front that United Nations troops were unopposed by the vanishing Communist armor.

They were probing the area between the main Allied lines and Parallel 38.

From Eighth Army headquarters, a correspondent said Erickson reported: "In pulling back from Chunchon, the Chinese Communists

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## Labor Heads Blame Congress For Mobilization Squabbles

By HAROLD W. WARD

WASHINGTON — Labor leaders at a precedent-making nationwide rally, said Congress had "failed the people."

"In adopting the Defense Production Act last year," Green said in a prepared speech, "Congress went out of its way to lard the addressing a conference of CIO, law with special privilege for

business interests. Under that law, which expires on June 30, it is virtually impossible to stabilize the cost of living.

"In deference to the real estate lobby, Congress acted to decontrol rents, in obedience to the financial interests of the nation, the adopted tax laws that took the poor and spare the rich."

"Second, the Administration has come intimidated by the reactionary coalition that rules the room in Congress. Apparently, it decided to appease Congress in order to get some co-operation from Congress."

"This policy of appeasement resulted in the appointment of big business executives to almost every significant position in defense agencies.

**RESULTS SPEAK FOR SELVES**

"The results speak for themselves. Not a single recommendation by labor representatives in the defense program was adopted. Our views were either ignored, or the exact opposite of our proposals was put into effect."

"We decided, therefore, to take a dramatic step. We voted unanimously for the withdrawal of labor representatives from any defense agencies in which they were serving. We felt that this was the only way we could effectively im-

**PRISONERS TAKEN**

Chinese prisoners were taken north of the city and in Chunchon itself.

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## RFC Foes Lunch Drive To Abolish Loan Agency

WASHINGTON — Senators seeking to abolish the Reconstruction Finance Corp. (RFC) open the first phase of their fight today with a move to block President Truman's plan to shake up RFC's top command.

Their announced goals are to (A) beat down the President's proposal to reorganize the controversial Government lending agency, and (B) go on, then, to slash it.

In advance of hearings before the Senate Expenditures Committee, chairman McClellan (D-Ark.) said he considered there was a great difference in being a party member in 1941 and being one in 1951.

"I think that being a member of the Communist Party ten years ago fulfilled certain needs of a man who was a liberal," he told the committee.

"There are variations in political party affiliations of which the committee should be aware," Parks said. "For instance, he said, some Southern Democrats actually vote and act like Republicans."

There are variations, too, he said, among Communists.

At the outset, Parks told the

**Actor Disclaims Membership Now Larry Parks Says He Was Red In 1941**

By BARNEY LIVINGSTONE

WASHINGTON — Movie Actor Larry Parks said today he was a Communist ten years ago but later said the party membership was a renewed wish by the House Committee on Un-American Activities for Communist influence in Hollywood and movie making.

Parks is best known to movie fans as the lead role in "The Jolson Story."

In voluntarily admitting to party membership a decade ago, Parks said he considered there was a great difference in being a party member in 1941 and being one in 1951.

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**FULFILLED 'NEEDS'**

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**FAVORS EQUALITY**

"I was taught that equality meant equality," his statement said. Equality of people before the law and before God."

For that reason, he stated, he believed equal rights for Negroes that anti-Semitism is a crime against humanity, and that all men have a right to worship freely.

Actor Howard Da Silva and Actress Gale Sondergaard were others cast as witnesses for the opening session.

**What's Inside**

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