M'Mahon Urges Atom Arms Boost

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THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Largest Afternoon Newspaper in The Carolinas

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Toll Of Illinois Refinery Explosion Rises To 13

WOOD RIVER, Ill—(AP)—A terrific explosion rocked the big Shell Oil Co., refinery here last night, killing thirteen workmen.

About twenty persons were injured seriously.

The explosion occurred at one of the refinery's large oil cracking units where a special night crew was working.

Panic broke out as flames lashed out from the explosion and enveloped workers.

Four bodies were recovered soon after the blast. Seven other men died at hospitals a few hours later.

"I saw men knocked to the ground," Willie Burchell, 47, of East Alton, Ill., a boilermaker's helper, said.

"They were screaming and begging for help, running with their clothes afire."

SERIES OF BLASTS

Burchell was atop a pumphouse, 20 feet above the ground. There were four or five explosions beneath him. Blocked by flames, he reached safety by sliding down an eight-inch pipe to the ground where flames licked at his legs as he leaped.

The seriously injured were rushed to hospitals here and at Alton, Ill. All were badly burned. Other injured were treated at the refinery.

Those who died at hospitals were identified as:

Robert McGregor, 30, Alton, a mechanical engineer; Malcom Curtis, 36, Wood River, Ill., a pipefitter; Harry Ollerton, 35, Livingston, Ill., pipefitter's helper; Elvin Ray, 39, Sorento, Ill., pipefitter's helper; Louis W. Dike, 50, East Alton, Ill.; Joseph Mangers, 36, Alton, Edward G. Graner, Brighton, Ill., Joseph R. Sullivan, 27, Roxana, Ill.; Cortland W. King, New Douglas, Ill.

One of the dead at the scene was listed as Henry Lamb, 43, Alton, a pipefitter foreman. The bodies recovered at the scene were badly charred.

Listed as unaccounted for were:

The other charred bodies removed from the blast were identified as those of:

M. G. McMillen, 41, Wood River, Ill., an operator first class at the cracking plant; F. G. Plummer, 27, Grafton, Ill., a boilermaker's helper, and F. B. Ryan, 38, Caseyville, Ill., boilermaker's foreman.

FIRE PUT OUT

A flash fire following the explosion shot flames more than 50 feet into the air. It was quickly snuffed out by company firefighters, but the intense heat hung on keeping rescue workers from probing deep into the debris.

Cause of the explosion—the second major mishap at the refinery in less than a month—was not definitely determined. A company spokesman said a number of things may have caused it, including a pocket of gas or static electricity. A company official estimated damage might exceed $100,000.

Last August 21 a fire created by lightning striking a gasoline storage tank caused $175,000 damage.

Normally 14 to 16 men are in the night crew, but approximately 40 men were in the area as members of a special cleaning unit at the time of the explosion.

L. F. Smith, working about 100 feet away from the cracking unit which breaks down crude oil into high test gas, said the blast "shook our building like a leaf."

"We saw two men running down the road with their clothing aflame. Another man tore off his clothes while he was still running. We couldn't hear the men screaming but we saw them. It was awful."

VICTORY FOR STEAM

With a pretty girl wearing Gay 90's garb at his side, 76-year-old Jack Brause accepts the winner's wreath after jockeying his 1913 Stanley Steamer across the finish line in Yonkers, N. Y. He took 53 hours and four minutes to drive his "hot-rod" 1,078.6 miles in a race with a 1910 Stoddard-Dayton gas-powered auto, winning by a margin of 37 minutes. (Acme Telephoto).

JET CRASH TAKES TOLL ON CARRIER

The 27,000-ton carrier Essex (shown here as she cleared drydock after reconditioning) was the scene of a serious crash and fire yesterday in which two died and five are missing. A twin-jet Navy Banshee fighter crashed on the flight deck after returning from a mission over Korea. (Acme Telephoto).

Town Near Capital Tragedy Scene

3 Die In Fire At Home For Aged

COLESVILLE, Md. — (AP) — Flames roaring through one wing of a home for the aged burned three persons to death today and injured perhaps a dozen others.

All three of the dead were women. One burned in her wheel chair on an upstairs floor. Another was being bathed in bed when the fire was discovered in mid-morning.

Reports conflicted as to whether any of the injured were in serious condition. Most of them were believed to have been overcome by smoke.

Ten were admitted to the Washington Sanitarium. A nurse there said "some of them are in bad condition."

Fire Departments from a dozen neighboring communities, along with ambulances and rescue squads, jammed the narrow highway leading to the three-story frame building.

Colesville is a small community in heavily populated Montgomery County 15 miles north of Washington, D. C.

The screeching sirens of fire apparatus and ambulances drew approximately 3,000 persons to the scene. Roads were blocked for miles around. Ambulances had difficulty reaching hospitals with the victims.

County authorities asked for help and Washington police were rushed to the scene to assist in breaking the traffic jams.

All Washington hospitals had been alerted to prepare emergency rooms for injured persons.

Louis Kenglar, Montgomery County fire inspector, said the home, Mrs. Jolliffe's Home for Elderly Persons, had 69 beds but probably had only 50 patients today.

Kenglar said the fire began in a closet, from unknown causes.

It was discovered by Viola Oliver, a nurse who first raised the alarm and then started carrying patients out.

The blaze evidently was limited to a comparatively small area of the main building, a rambling structure.

The known dead were listed as Mrs. Marie H. Douglas, Mrs. Margaret Gates, and Mrs. Augustus Bashford, all patients. Addresses were not available.

One of the first firemen at the scene gave this description to newsmen:

"The old folks were leaning out of windows and screaming.

"Some of them had made their way out of the building and were running around the yard crying for some one to do something to aid their friends inside.

"We got into the building just as quickly as we could and began carrying them out while the other firemen got water on the blaze."

On Greek-Turk Admission

Denmark Blocks Council Vote

OTTAWA —(AP)— Last ditch opposition by Denmark today blocked immediate action by the North Atlantic Council on an American proposal to expand the Atlantic alliance to include Greece and Turkey as full members.

Danish Foreign Minister Ole Bjorn Kraft was reported to have insisted in today's session that his government would much prefer to seek Greek and Turkish demands for security guarantees against Russia met by writing a new Mediterranean pact of which they would be members.

Nevertheless, Kraft has asked his government at Copenhagen for instructions on how he should vote when the issue comes up for decision — requiring unanimous agreement for approval — possibly late today or tomorrow.

NORWEGIAN OPINION

Norwegian Foreign Minister Halvard Lange, according to reports from inside the closed meeting, also expressed favor for the Mediterranean pact device and support of that is still his official position. However, he reportedly told the council Norway would not veto Atlantic treaty membership for Greece and Turkey if all the other nations wanted it.

Speeches by other foreign ministers last night and today made clear that they support the proposal formally put by U. S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson last night, although some were frankly critical of it.

Some sharp criticism of the American proposition ran through the morning debate, but indications were all governments—except for the two Scandinavian—would support the proposal when it came to a vote. Moreover United States officials appeared wholly confident that in the end Denmark and Norway also would go along and the council before ending its Ottawa session Thursday would vote for their admission.

Denmark and Norway had asked their home governments for

See DENMARK on page 7-A

NURSE SLAIN

Pauline Campbell (above), 34-year-old nurse, was slain in front of her rooming house at Ann Arbor, Mich., early Sunday. Her unidentified assailant struck two crushing blows on her head, dragged her into the street and left her. Police said the killer evidently was a maniac. (AP Wirephoto).

DEATH TOLL RISES

CAMPINAS, Brazil (AP)—The death toll in a movie theater collapse here Sunday has risen to 25, most of them children. Another 65 were gravely injured and long lines of blood donors have flocked to hospitals to give them transfusions. Estimates of the total number injured ranged from 300 to 800.

Surprise Allied Drive Thrown Back By Reds

U. S. EIGHTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Korea—(AP)—An Allied armored force with infantry support launched a surprise attack on the dormant western front at dawn today. It was stopped by firmly dug-in Reds.

The Allied doughboys and tank crews fought all day in the mud and a steady drizzle in their unsuccessful effort to gain a hill mass west of Chorwon. Chorwon is the southwestern point of the Reds' old Iron Triangle troop assembly area. The town is eighteen miles north of Parallel 38.

The Reds held grimly to bunkers and trenches on the hill mass. Communist mortar and artillery fire, anti-tank guns and mines helped check the Allied thrust.

About 400 to 500 Red troops were dug in on the hills as the tank column surged up a road in a surprise attack on the Communists from the rear.

Allied infantrymen hit the slopes from the south at the same time.

They reached a spot only a few yards from the crest of one hill but were forced back by enemy fire and the slippery condition of the hillside.

American and South African fighter pilots hurled fire bombs on the height in an effort to dislodge the Reds. Heavy Allied artillery and mortar fire was poured on the Communist foxholes.

Then the doughboys tried again. They met with no better luck as the Chinese defenders rushed in replacements from nearby hilltop positions.

OUR WEATHER

Considerable cloudiness and mild today and tonight. Wednesday, partly cloudy and slightly warmer.

High temperature yesterday, 70 degrees.

Low this morning, 61 degrees.

Sunrise, 6:08 A. M.; sunset, 6:26 P. M.

More Weather Data on Page 7-A

NOT HUMID ON MARS

What's the weather like on Mars? Scientists believe the humidity is very low, averaging less than one-tenth of one per cent. The polar caps are not great crusts of ice, like the earth's, but fields of hoar-frost only a fraction of an inch thick, which evaporate in the long Summer season of the midnight sun. When they have disappeared the polar caps become the warmest spots on the planet, with temperatures as high as 65 or 70 degrees. But the scientists doubt that animal life similar to the earth's exists on Mars.

Camp Building Measure Passes

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Congress gave its final approval today to a $5,864,301,178 military construction program designed to shore up this country's defenses against Russia.

House approval of a conference committee agreement adjusting House-Senate differences over a few items sent the bill to President Truman.

The measure authorizes construction of hundreds of air bases, depots, training camps and other military installations in this country and abroad. Congress has yet to appropriate the money to pay for them.

The biggest share of the program is for the Air Force— approximately $3,480,000,000 including about $1,000,000,000 to build a string of secret overseas bases girdling Russia.

Here's what other branches of the armed services get:

Army—Inside continental United States, $890,000,000; outside, $175,000,000; secret facilities, $300,000,000. Total, $1,360,000,000.

Navy and Marines—inside continental United States, $597,000,000, outside, $74,000,000; secret, $113,000,000. Total, $785,000,000.

In addition, millions of dollars will be shared by all three services.

THREAT CARRIED OUT; MAN KILLS CHILD, SELF

GUILFORD, Me. —(AP)— Carrying out a threat made to his estranged wife, Philip Stymeist, 30, last night killed their daughter, Deborah, 4, then ended his own life with a pistol bullet.

Their bodies were found in Stymeist's automobile on a rural road after he had eluded police. Medical Examiner Norman Nickerson returned a verdict of murder and suicide.

Before driving off with the child, Stymeist, a wood worker, had beaten his attractive wife, Irene, 25, so severely she required medical attention. Mrs. Stymeist, who had discussed a divorce yesterday with a lawyer, quoted her husband as saying: "I'm going to get the little girl and kill her and myself." The couple separated a month ago.

Mrs. Stymeist reported the threat to officials and a posse was formed, but too late to prevent the tragedy.

Allies To Meet Reds, Discuss New Charges

TOKYO — (AP) — The Communists tonight charged four Allied soldiers had invaded the Kaesong neutral zone. The Reds demanded a meeting of liaison officers Wednesday "to settle this matter."

The United Nations command replied that its representatives would go to the meeting at 9 A. M. Wednesday (7 P. M. Tuesday, EST).

The meeting place will be Panmunjom, six miles east of Kaesong, site of the suspended truce talks.

The Communist note asserted that "four of your military personnel" entered both Kaesong's neutral zone and Panmunjom at 2:30 Tuesday afternoon, a dispatch from Munsan said.

"We request your liaison officer to come to Panmunjom at 0900 hours tomorrow to settle this matter," the Red note said.

NO DETAILS

A release earlier from headquarters of the supreme Allied commander, Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, said the Reds made the charge in a radio contact with the United Nations command advance headquarters in Korea. It gave the number of soldiers as three, instead of four. There were no details of the alleged incident.

The announcement by Ridgway's headquarters came as a surprise to correspondents in Tokyo. The usual advance notice that an announcement is coming was not made.

It was the twelfth time since the Korean war armistice talks opened at Kaesong July 10 that the Communists have charged the United Nations with violating the five-mile neutral zone.

MAYBE PRESENT PRICE OF BEEF WAS THE CAUSE

BRYSON CITY —(AP)— A pot of bear meat was the state's main exhibit here yesterday in the trial of Garland C. Willis and Richard Burns, both of the Lands Creek section.

State witnesses testified they found the pot of meat on the kitchen stove in Willis' home. Others testified they saw Willis and Burns "packing a dead bear" down the road last Wednesday.

Both men were convicted of taking and possessing a bear out of (hunting) season. The crime is punishable by a minimum fine of $50 and costs. Magistrate W. O. Calhoun deferred sentence until Saturday.

NAVY ASSISTANT NAMED

WASHINGTON —(AP)— President Truman today nominated Herbert R. Askins of Phoenix, Ariz., to be Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Large Crowd Hears Opening Testimony In Drunk Driving Count Against Judge

FRANKLIN, Va. —(AP)— An overflow crowd caused Police Justice T. B. Kingsburg, III, to move police court to the National Guard Armory today to hear the case of W. H. S. Burgwyn, a North Carolina Superior Court judge charged with drunk driving and leaving the scene of an accident.

An estimated 100 persons filled all available seats in the temporary courtroom as the preliminary hearing opened. Many in the crowd were North Carolina residents.

Commonwealth's Attorney J. W. Pulley called Police Chief W. L. Burrows of Franklin as the state's first witness. Burrows remained on the stand an hour and 15 minutes and the court took a brief recess at the completion of his testimony.

Burrows told the Court that on July 1 Judge Burgwyn's car struck a street sign in front of a Franklin funeral home and continued on without stopping.

Burrows said he and Police Sergeant R. L. Rhea, standing a block away, saw and heard the sign fall. Getting into a police car they searched for the car which had struck the sign, Burrows testified.

His testimony was that they pulled behind the defendant's car on High St., followed it five blocks and observed it was weaving.

Burrows said the police car's siren was sounded as the officers pulled up beside Judge Burgwyn's car and that the latter vehicle swerved, struck a parked car and continued for several blocks before halting.

"He showed every evidence of being under the influence of intoxicants," Burrows said, telling the court of taking Judge Burgwyn to the trial justice's home to obtain a warrant. The justice was not at home and the accused was taken to the hospital for a blood test, the chief said. The test was not given, however, Burrows said, when Judge Burgwyn did not answer officers' questions as to whether he wanted to take the test.

C. B. Godwin Jr., Suffolk attorney, represented Judge Burgwyn, of Woodland, N. C., at the hearing. It was not indicated whether the defendant would be called to testify.

MASS OUTPUT OF WEAPONS IS PROPOSED

Senator Would Equip Air Force, Army And Navy

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Senator McMahon (D-Conn) called today for all-out mass production of atomic weapons to equip a mighty atomic Army, Navy and Air Force. He said emphasis on atomic rather than conventional armaments would save U. S. taxpayers $30,000,000,000 a year.

The chairman of the Senate-House atomic energy committee declared in a prepared Senate address that all-out mass production could bring the cost of an A-bomb down to less than that of a tank.

He urged that this country spend $6,000,000,000 a year to equip an atomic Army, Navy and Air Force he said could guarantee American security by making it impossible for Russia to attack the free world.

He said that only $750,000,000 actually was paid out of the Treasury for the atomic program in the year ending last June 30.

"Dollar for dollar," McMahon declared, "atomic deterring power is actually hundreds of times cheaper than TNT. An atomic weapon can produce, at a cost of twenty or thirty dollars, the same explosive force which once costs literally thousands of dollars to produce by ordinary means.

"Money spent upon the atomic bomb could pulverize a dozen enemy war plants at no more expense than destroying a single plant with TNT—and this says nothing of the fact that one plane can deliver one A-bomb as against the huge armadas needed to deliver an equivalent cargo of blockbusters."

McMahon offered two resolutions. One would put Congress on record favoring "all out" U. S. atomic development and production.

The second would urge a special session of the United Nations assembly to consider disarmament — under proper safeguards.

The U.N. has tried unsuccessfully for the past five years to agree on such a disarmament program. The failure has hinged on Russia's refusal to go along with a system of international inspection.

McMahon contended that money spent in producing atomic energy would not be wasted if the world agreed on disarmament as he proposed.

The atomic energy materials will not deteriorate, he said, and can be converted to peacetime production of power.

3 PER CENT

McMahon observed that since World War II ended, only three cents in each military dollar have been alloted to atomic bombs.

"I am here to report to the Senate and to the American people that the atomic bottlenecks are being broken," he said. "The day is coming when the quantity of atomic weapons we are capable of making could be sufficient, beyond any question, to serve as the paramount instrument of victory.

"There is virtually no limit and no limiting factor upon the number of A-bombs which the United States can manufacture, given time and given a decision to proceed all out.

"If we mass-produce this weapon, as we can, I solemnly say to you that the cost of a single atomic bomb will become less than the cost of a single tank."

McMahon said an atomic army would mean "fewer foot soldiers armed with rifles and more specialists equipped to fire an atomic shell wherever the enemy masses his troops—fewer mortars and more short-range guided missles with atomic warheads — fewer flame-throwers and more radiological warfare."

He said in his conception, an atomic Navy would have "nuclear-powered submarines almost unlimited in range; nuclear-powered aircraft carriers capable of launching planes which carry the atomic bombs on both strategic and tactical missions; ship-based atomic artillery; ship-based guided

See M'MAHON on page 7-A

DUNKEL'S PICKS ON SPORTS PAGE

Dick Dunkel, nationally famed for his expert rating of football power around the nation, reveals his predictions for the coming season on the sports pages today. Dunkel's system is generally regarded as the finest available.

Other features today:

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