

By HAL BOYLE
HONG KONG—(AP)—This crown colony's first postwar million dollar robbery has bared a strange tale of mixed generosity and revenge. It could happen only in the Orient, where time moves so slowly that a man can feel free to devote a lifetime to getting even for a wrong.

The story was told in a long letter to all Hong Kong newspapers by the robbery victim himself—a wealthy Chinese dealer in dental supplies.

The jewelry—valued roughly at a million Hong Kong dollars, or more than 200,000 American dollars—was stolen from his home last week by three bandits during his absence.

Explaining the source of his wealth, Tan wrote:

"About eight years ago while I was a resident in Singapore, I had the unhappy experience of being made to suffer a grievance at the hands of a certain rich man."

SECRET VOW

"I then made a secret vow that my one intention in life would be to avenge that grievance most unfairly directed against me. My one intention was that I should work very hard in order to show that man I could make money enough to outwitch him by establishing an institution to compete with his own."

"Therefore, from that time onward I in fact exerted my utmost in order that I might arrive at my goal in the shortest possible time."

Tan had only fifteen American dollars in capital when he set out to regain his lost "face," he mentioned in the letter so fact that he was almost in a position to seek his revenge when the war broke out and forced him to shelve his plan temporarily. Fearing currency deflation, he invested most of his wealth in diamonds.

"Unfortunately, that man has since died during the Japanese occupation. Tan continued, and consequently I am now deprived of the chance to avenge that grievance since he undoubtedly would be unable to see for himself what I would be doing."

Deprived of his personal vengeance, Tan brooded long over what to do with the fortune he had built up and when he felt was unnecessary for his own needs.

DECIDES ON MEMORIAL

He decided finally to express his family's gratitude for "the peace and freedom which we all are enjoying today," he would erect a war memorial and entertainment center for the benefit of "all Allied soldiers, sailors and airmen," and particularly those brave American Allies who sacrificed their utmost in stopping at some bomb over Japan in order that the war might be speedily brought to a successful conclusion.

Unfortunately, the war then disrupted his plans. However, the funds he had set aside for the memorial and a 16 carat diamond which he feels at present prices might be up to 200,000 Hong Kong dollars, or more than 50,000 dollars American.

Tan now has offered the proceeds from this jewelry to the committee to erect a war memorial on land which he will donate. If the stolen jewelry are recovered all but the 20 percent which he has offered as a reward will be available to build a recreation center.

Tan pointedly emphasized that his gift does not spring from war profits.

ATOM BOMB TEST ON SHIPS ORDERED

Meat Strikers 'Stand By' For Instructions



TWO IN LOVE—Actress Ginger Rogers and her ex-husband, actor Martin Luther King, are oblivious of others on the crowded dance floor of the Hollywood Macomba. Ginger wears a new chapeau for the occasion. (Arme Photo.)

Get Orders As Seizure Time Nears

Previously Given Work Notices

CHICAGO—(AP)—The striking AFL meat packers are today telegraphing all its locals to "stand by for instructions from our general office."

The telegram, signed by Earl Jimerson, president of the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of America, and other international officers of the union, said "do not be misled by any news item you may hear on the radio or see in the newspapers regarding Government seizure of meat packing plants and the action of the unhampered returning to work."

"Disregard all the above (such news items) and stand by for instructions from our general office," it said. "Our organization has the pledge of high Government officials that the Government will put into effect any wage increase determined by the fact-finding commission retroactive from the date of Government seizure."

"Up to the present time we have not received the official seizure order; therefore, stand by for further instructions."

The announcement of the telegram came shortly after President Truman's order that meat packers who struck meat packing workers would return to work when the Government strikes the plants Saturday at the same wages they had been earning.

EXPECTED RAISE

Yesterday, Jimerson and Patrick Gorman, executive secretary-treasurer of the union, ordered their men back to work effective Saturday, because, they said, they had received assurances from sources as cannot reveal that the Government will apply any wage increase retroactive to the date of seizure.

Meanwhile, the CIO United Packinghouse Workers announced a strategy meeting Friday to decide whether their 150,000 workers should return to their jobs Saturday.

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson said all meat products will be sold at the same price as OPA retail prices after his department takes over operation of the meat plants Saturday.

President Truman's decision to seize the meat plants where 283,000 CIO and AFL workers have been made idle by a wage dispute stirred much speculation whether the Administration might resort to similar action in other current major strikes. The White House had nothing to say on that topic.

FEW CHANGES

Otherwise the country's critical labor picture showed few important changes. However, effort to resolve the wage dispute of 650,000 shipyard workers by means of a compromise proposal were being studied, with the possibility of a decision during the day.

The most important question for the women who do the country's marketing is whether Federal operation of struck meat plants would restore a normal flow of meat to their neighborhood butcher shops. No one yet knew the details.

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THE NEW MAYOR OF NEW ORLEANS—De Lesseps S. Morrison, who broke the long rule of Huey Long "old guard" in New Orleans, is shown "astonished and happy" over victory as supporter (left) wept for joy while his mother laughed as returns nominated.

him for mayor of the Crescent City without necessity for a runoff. The returns gave Morrison 67,028 votes to Mayor Robert S. Maestri's 62,107. The totals for five other candidates still left Morrison a clear majority of 2,048.

Great Fleet Of Fighting Vessels To Be Target

To Start In May In Marshalls Area

By WILLIAM A. KINNEY
WASHINGTON—(AP)—The Navy raised the curtain today on its plans for testing the atomic bomb against a great armada of fighting ships—an experiment expected to revolutionize sea warfare.

A guinea pig fleet of 97 vessels, ranging from carrier and battleships, submarines and transports to an assortment of smaller craft such as landing ships, will be the atomic target in the vast operation to start in May.

The laboratory selected is the anchorage of Bikini Atoll, one of the northernmost of the Marshall Islands which were wrested from Japan by amphibious assault two years ago.

DETAILS OFFERED

Vice Adm. W. H. P. Blandy, head of the Navy's Division on Special Weapons, ticked off for the Senate Atomic Energy Committee the details of the epochal experiment, known by the code word "operation crossroads."

1. In the target fleet will be 50 operating ships—two aircraft carriers, four battleships, two cruisers, 14 destroyers, eight submarines and 15 transports.

2. The undertaking "is not a combined or international operation, but rather a scientific experiment by the United States Government alone." The question of permitting foreign observers has not yet been decided.

3. The unmanned target ships "will be anchored and placed in a manner calculated to give effects varying from probable destruction to negligible damage" in each type.

4. The first test, early in May, calls for detonating an atomic bomb at an altitude of several hundred feet above the target vessels. A second test, tentatively set for July 1, will be an atomic burst at the water's surface in the target area.

5. A deep water test in the open sea is planned later, but technical details are expected to come off this year.

6. "Task Force One"—a fleet of 10 additional U. S. Navy ships, with a complement of 20,000 men—will set up the experiment and make arrangements for recording its results by all modern scientific techniques.

Blandy, who has been named commander for the entire task by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, revealed that some of the best-known units of the U. S. Fleet had been assigned for target vessels. They include:

The Saratoga, oldest U. S. carrier, which carried the 13th Air Group.

See **ATOM BOMB** on page 2-A.

Succeeds Arnold

Spaatz Named As Air Force Chief

WASHINGTON—(AP)—President Truman today announced Gen. Carl A. Spaatz's appointment to be chief of the Army Air Forces, succeeding Gen. Henry H. (Hap) Arnold.

The President told his news conference that Gen. Arnold will retire upon his return from his current South American tour and that Spaatz will take over his assignment.

Arnold wanted to retire sometime between Feb. 1 and Feb. 15, the President said, but he added that he did not know the exact effective date at this time.

A War Department source said

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Views On Management And Labor

Truman Insists U. S. Steel Should Accept Compromise

WASHINGTON—(AP)—President Truman said today much current industrial strife was a contest for power between management and labor—both of which, he said, have too much power.

The public interest, he added, demands settlement of the steel strike on the basis of his 18 1/2 cents wage increase proposal.

Mr. Truman said, however, that he did not intend to seize the steel industry at this time although he could not rule out that future possibility.

It was necessary for the Government, Mr. Truman said, to assert the power of the people in preventing strikes against the public interest.

The President disclosed that consideration is being given to Federal operation of a Government-owned steel plant in Utah. The Government built a plant at Geneva, Utah.

Mr. Truman's views were expressed at a news conference.

READY TO TALK

Asked about a proposal by Benjamin F. Fairless, president of U. S. Steel, that he call an all-management conference on wages, the President said he was always ready to talk to business leaders.

However, he added, the best thing Fairless could do is send word that he accepts the White House proposal for settling the steel strike.

Mr. Truman said he thought it was not practical to seize the steel industry at the present time. He would not say the industry would be seized eventually if the strike is prolonged, however.

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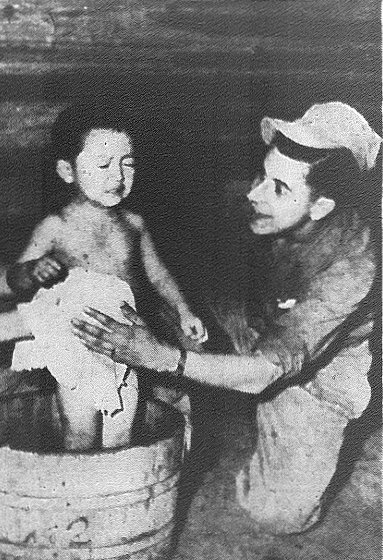
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MARINES IN ACTION—Pictured at Harjo Repatriation Center at Sasebo, Japan, Marine Pfc. George E. Taborn, of Illinois, and James E. McClary, Pittsburgh, give a helping hand in bathing little Hiroshi Yamada, one of the thousands of Jap civilians and soldiers being repatriated. (Photo by Tom Shafer of Acme.)

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Wife's Charges

\$5 Kisses Too Costly For Husband

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—His wife's kisses cost him \$5 each, Sidney Haskin's attorney executive charged in Domestic Relations Court.

His wife, actress Dolores Welch, confirmed it.

"I did it to discourage him," she told reporters as she left the courtroom. "He was always buzzing and pecking around. It was annoying. He asked the President 'If he didn't have \$5 with him, I'd take what he had on account.'"

Her contended divorce suit is set for trial next Summer. Meanwhile, Judge Kurtz Kaufman deferred her request for alimony.

Fairless' Proposal

National Wage Policy Urged By U. S. Steel Corp. President

PITTSBURGH—(AP)—A National wage policy was urged today by President B. F. Fairless of U. S. Steel Corp. as the steel companies and CIO-United Steel Workers turned anew to President Truman for a solution of the four-day steel strike.

"Termining wages," a national problem, Fairless offered "a proposal which I believe might open the way to a solution not only of the steel strike but the other strikes that now plague the country."

In a nation-wide radio address last night he asked the President to summon "immediately" leaders of industry for their advice on what wage increase "this country can endure without the danger of an inflationary spiral."

The 175-member USW wage committee, on the other hand, asked Mr. Truman to turn over "a billion dollars worth" of Government-owned steel plants for operation by individuals willing to accept "in the interests of the nation" his 18 1/2 cents an hour pay increase suggestion.

Already, the 29-state steel strike had forced 15,000 coal miners into idleness. Fabricating plants were curtailing hours and working forces. Milk deliveries were jeopardized in New York and on the West Coast by container shortages.

Fairless, speaking for the American Iron and Steel Institute which represents virtually the entire industry, termed "ridiculous" the repeated charges by Murray of a "big-business conspiracy" to break up labor unions.

"You don't destroy unions by offering them the highest wage increase in history," Fairless said

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WEATHER

Mostly cloudy. Occasional light rain tonight, followed by clear, dry Friday. Not so cold. Moderately clear Friday.

Temperature at 5:30 today: 57 High; and low last 24 hours: 57. Forecast today: 57-65. Saturday tomorrow: 57-65.