

Electric Strike Brings Phone Shutdown Threat

Bataan 'Death March' Finger Pointed At General Homma As Trial Opened

By JAMES HALSEMA MANILA (AP)—Japanese Lt. Gen. Masaharu Homma must have seen omens for the brutal "death march" of American and Filipino troops from Bataan in 1942, but had "a very thin interest" in his captives, one of his former staff officers testified as Homma's war-crimes trial opened today.

The witness, Maj. Gen. Toshiyuki Takatsu, said that Homma's headquarters on Bataan were less than 100 yards from the death-march route, and that Homma traveled twenty miles down the highway and the prisoners were described merely along the way.

Describing the death march among captives as 300 daily, the O'Donnell prison camp, Takatsu said medicines were "not sufficient" and "I think there was a lack of food which was mostly rice. Also there was not much water." He said he reported those conditions to Homma's headquarters but nothing was done.

INTEREST "VERY THIN" His statement that Homma's interest in prisoners was "very thin" was quoted by prosecutors from an earlier, written statement, and Takatsu today declined to elaborate. He explained to prosecution counsel Lt. Benjamin F. Schwartz, Los Angeles, that he "honored" not to speak badly of Homma in the latter's presence.

Defense counsel had objected that many of the specifications read against Homma in his trial for violations of the laws of humanity were vague, and the prosecutors introduced additional charges.

In establishing widespread criminal assault and brutal treatment of American and Filipino women, they said they would offer photo-

Wages Chief Question In All Disputes May Idle Almost Million & Half

By ASSOCIATED PRESS A strike affecting 17,400 Western Electric Co. employees in New York City and New Jersey began today, bringing a threat of a shutdown in national telephone service.

Joseph A. Bierne, president of the Independent National Association of Telephone Workers, said members of 45 unions in the federation had been asked to authorize a national sympathy strike. He said a work stoppage by the union's claimed membership of 250,000 paying members would affect some 450,000 Bell system employees.

LATEST DEVELOPMENT The Western Electric strike and that of a sympathy railroad was the latest of several fast-breaking developments on the labor front in the next few days which threatened to boost the number of idle to more than a million and a half in the next few days.

The Western Electric strike affected 21 plants in New York City and northern New Jersey. Henry M. Hays, counsel for the Western Electric Employees Association, said of 81 unions operating in plants under the American Telephone and Telegraph Company Subsidiary, and employees in the company's plants on the West Coast, Hawthorne, Ill., Baltimore and New York, only 10 were not affected. They are represented by the other five unions.

The Western Electric Employees' union is two of the industries, steel and packing, already have been set by CIO union leaders for Jan. 16 in 147 of the country's steel packing plants employing 200,000 union members.

Government cancellations and other officials in Washington stop the impending work stoppage. After the Packinghouse Workers Union announced its strike, Secretary of Agriculture Anderson said the proposed work stoppage would not only mean meat distribution but also the supply of meat to the public.

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British Hang 'Mouthpiece' Of Hitler For High Treason

William Joyce's Career Ends LONDON (AP)—William Joyce, notorious "Lord Haw Haw" of the German air waves, died a traitor's death this morning on the gallows of Wandsworth Prison.

The 46-year-old American-born Joyce, who sold his voice to Adolf Hitler as a radio propagandist at the outset of the war, was executed shortly after 9 A. M. (4 A. M. EST) on high treason charges of which he was convicted by a British court last Sept. 12.

He died on the same scaffold with John Amery, 35-year-old son of a former British Cabinet member, was hanged on Dec. 19 on treason charges growing out of similar radio activities.

PRIVATE AFFAIR Only a small group of prison officials saw Joyce plunge through the trap. Under English law no spectators may witness an execution.

Execution of the death sentence was announced in two typewritten sheets which were posted outside the prison gate shortly after the hanging.

Prison officials said Joyce walked to the gallows from a death cell, his arms pinioned behind him with the broad blades of an infamous guillotine.

Prisoners of the war, who were in the yard, were ordered to stand at attention as the execution proceeded. The trap was sprung by J. Pierpoint, nephew of Albert Pierpoint, famous hangman who executed Amer-

Joyce's death under leaden skies in the stormy weather of a week ended a fantastic career which had him from fascist street fights to England to an infamous place as Hitler's No. 1 English language broadcaster.

Mad Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels said Joyce was a member of his radio work, which consisted of four daily broadcasts.

Joyce, who came to England from America in 1932, was a follower of Sir Oswald Mosley while a student at London University and was a member of the British fascist group until 1933, when the two parted amid rumors of a quarrel. Joyce then organized a "National Socialist League" in Britain, which he headed until he departed for Germany in August, 1939.

HIS CAPTURE He fell into British hands at Lueneberg on May 28, 1945, after Germany's collapse. He was wounded slightly during the course of his capture. His German wife also fell into British hands and was brought to England with him while he was awaiting trial.

Joyce faced his unsuccessful defense largely on the contention that he was an American citizen and hence could not be found guilty of treason to Britain. An appeal on the same grounds was denied by the House of Lords, which ruled that even an alien could be convicted of treason if he had enjoyed the protection of the King.

He lost his last hope of escaping the death penalty Monday when Lord Chief Justice Butler told him he was a traitor.

A crowd of about 250 persons waited outside the prison gates for the anti-aircraft sirens and the execution which was slated at 9:07 A. M. There was no demonstration as the chief warden ordered forward to read the proclamation.

Fire Rages In Chicago Suburb CHICAGO (AP)—Fire sweeping through the block long adobe plants of the Borm Air Products Corporation and the Borm Air Products Co. today, causing damage estimated at \$1,000,000.

Clergy from Chicago and nearby by Berwyn aided in fighting the spectacular blaze, which broke out at 11:45 P. M. and burned for more than eight hours.

Cloody with slightly higher temperatures today and tonight. High and low last 24 hours: 41, 23. Sunrise today 6:34. Sunset today 6:24. Sunrise tomorrow 6:33. Sunset tomorrow 6:23.

Truman Will Make Report To Nation

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman's report to the nation by radio tonight will deal with the "whole labor situation," the White House said today.

The President had practically finished the half hour talk to start his report at 8 P. M. EST, when he began speaking his first address this morning. He saw no signs yesterday after returning from his two-day river cruise.

DIRECT APPEAL The speech has been described by labor leaders as an overall report on the President's legislative proposals, and an effort by the President to stimulate interest by direct appeal to the people in the hope that it will be reflected in Congress, where his program has been blocked.

Asked at his news conference to say whether the speech would emphasize current labor-management strife, Press Secretary Charles G. Ross replied that the public labor situation would be covered.

He was asked if a speech of this type is normally delivered through the Democratic National Committee headquarters for suggestions. He replied:

"This is the only speech of this type that has been delivered, and I have not heard of any other in the past procedure on any speech."

It was Mr. Truman's first report on the "trouble" which technique of the speech has been a familiar and public attention on key labor and other legislative proposals stalled on Capitol Hill.

Boy Accidentally Kills Mother MANVILLE, N. J.—A 14-year-old boy "playing soldiers" with his father's hunting rifle accidentally shot his mother to death at the supper table last night, Police Chief John J. DeLuca said today.

The mother, Mrs. Margaret Kelly, 25, had remonstrated with her son, Michael, and the father, Steve, to stop from his supper table to take the rifle away from the child, the chief said.

In doing so, the son went off the bullet striking the mother's muscular vein, Jasinski added.

2 Killed, Several Hurt In Explosion In Japan HONG KONG (AP)—Two persons were killed, two others were reported missing and a number were injured when a tunnel in which the Japanese had stored explosives blew up last night, in Kowloon, breaking three houses and scattering great chunks of rock over a wide area.

National Bank Call Issued WASHINGTON (AP)—The Comptroller of the Currency today issued a call for a statement of the financial condition of banks at the close of business Dec. 31, 1945.

The Federal Reserve Board issued a call to its member banks for similar condition reports, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation issued a call to all insured banks not covered by the other two calls to report on their condition as of the same time.

5-Year-Old's Sign 'I'm No GI, But Gee I Do Need A Home' DETROIT—Diligently peddling his treble five-year-old kid Knut Wolfenden today and around the City Hall today.

His mother, Mrs. Mary Wolfenden, walked beside him, waving a sign which said: "I'm no GI, but gee I do need a home."

The City Council was discussing Detroit's severe housing situation, and Mrs. Wolfenden explained that she and her son were demobilized and had no home. She was ordered to leave their rented home by Jan. 31 and they had no place to go.

Mrs. Wolfenden said the home had been sold to an Army veteran and she needs a place to live but no one would rent to her.

Mrs. Wolfenden said her husband, from whom she is estranged, is with the Army in Germany.

'LORD HAW HAW' IS DEAD—Britain took vengeance today on a traitor when William Joyce—"Lord Haw Haw"—was hanged. He is shown above in a characteristic pose as a Nazi propagandist against England.

Stark Declares No Advance Word On Pearl Attack

WASHINGTON (AP)—Admiral Harold R. Stark said today that so far as he knew, there was no advance information in Washington that the Japanese would attack Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

The 1941 Chief of Naval Operations made the statement in conjunction with an address before the House of Representatives by the late Gen. Lucius D. Clavin, Democrat, Illinois, at a joint congressional hearing that reports of such advance knowledge were "utterly without foundation in fact."

STARK'S TESTIMONY Stark testified before the Senate-House committee investigating the Pearl Harbor disaster that:

"I know of no one in any official position who knew in advance the precise hour or place of attack."

"I know of no man or group of men who maneuvered the 1941 Japanese situation to make it easier for the Japanese to attack Pearl Harbor."

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Queen Mary Brings Vets

NEW YORK (AP)—The British liner Queen Mary, bearing 8,000 veterans of the renowned 82nd Airborne Division, arrived today at the head of a spectacular parade of troops bringing home the greatest number of servicemen of any day since V-J Day.

The Queen Mary was the flagship of 11 transports, carrying a total of 20,837 troops, scheduled to dock here during the day. The number of servicemen was exceeded only once for World War II—on July 20 when 31,455 set foot on their native soil again.

Today's arrivals would have set a new record had the carrier Wasp, with 8,830 Army officers and men, been able to arrive on schedule. The Wasp was held up by Atlantic storms and will not reach port until Saturday or Sunday, Navy officials said.

The Queen Mary, met by New York's new Mayor, William O'Dwyer, and Maj. Gen. James M. Gavin, commander of the 82nd, docked 30 minutes late because of strong tides and a brisk wind which pushed the huge vessel half a mile past its Hudson River pier.

With the aid of seven tug she turned slowly and eased her way down the Hudson, with shouting, waving servicemen crowding the rails despite the stinging cold winds of a gray winter day.

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