

Hal Boyle
Ship Sails
Without
'Madame
Butterfly'

By HAL BOYLE
ROME—(AP)—The liner Vulcania is speeding toward America today with hundreds of happy war brides. Pretty Julia isn't one of them, although she wanted to be. Julia was a real life "Madame Butterfly"—one of the thousands of girls who lost their hearts to foreign soldiers in wartime. But this "Madame Butterfly" couldn't live on promises forever. She could wait only so long. Two and a half years ago Julia first met her American captain in Caserta. She was only 19—soft, pretty and unworried. She had never come out with men before. It is an old, old story but it was all new to Julia. She fell deeply in love with the young captain; he was married but she told friends he had assured her he would divorce his wife and marry her. When the captain was transferred to Rome the impressionable young girl followed him. She bore a child that could bear no family name. She loved it dearly and for a time was happy over the prospect of future life in America with the man for whose love she had forsaken her strict religious upbringing. Then the baby sickened and died. RETURNS TO U. S. In her sudden loneliness Julia was cheered only by thoughts of that life ahead in the new world with her captain. But six months ago, the captain returned to the United States, his Army service completed. "I will be back for you in six months," he told her. "If I am not back in six months I will never come." Throughout the long Rome Winter Julia lived only by his letters. Only two letters came. In both the captain said his wife was seriously ill and that he feared to ask her for a divorce. He promised to send a package but it never arrived. After that Julia's letters and cablegrams went unanswered. She brooded for weeks. On Holy Friday Julia was to meet her sister, Carla, but she had no heart for Rome's pre-Easter crowds. For hours she sat alone in her room and stared at two pictures of her captain. She wrote a brief note to her sister, and then rose and put on her prettiest dress. From a drawer she pulled a hidden pistol and held it to her body and pulled the trigger. And with the bright rays of that first bullet flaming within her she squeezed the trigger a second time and died. FAREWELL NOTE. When Carla came in search of her she found Julia lying near two pictures of the one she had loved most. The farewell note read in part: "Carla, excuse me if I do not do it in this manner. It is so terribly hard but I do not wish to nor am I able to continue. Try to say as little as possible about my death. I do not wish to harm him. He loves his wife. "I love him a hundred times more than at first and I don't wish to live without him. It was six months yesterday since he left, and the waiting period has already passed. I don't wish to wait all my life. "Mother and you who have done so much for me must forgive me this."

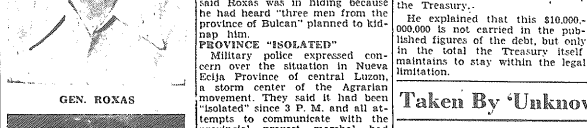
REPUBLICAN MAY GET CHIEF PLACE
U. S. Seeks To Pierce Soviet 'Iron Curtain'



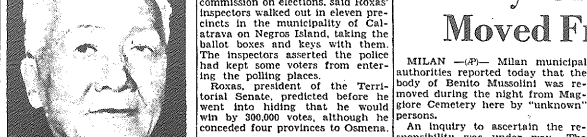
Denying rumors that her recent trip to Las Vegas meant divorce action against her third husband, Phil Terry, Joan Crawford took time to pose for this daughter, Christina. Joan designed her Bonnet and the identical one her daughter is wearing. (Acme Photo.)

Candidate In Hiding
Roxas Leading In Philippine Voting

MANILA—(AP)—A rumored kidnap plot sent Presidential Candidate Manuel Roxas into hiding today as incomplete and unofficial returns from 13 precincts in and around Manila put him out ahead of President Sergio Osmeña in the Philippines general election. Reports and rumors of violence echoed through the islands after an estimated 3,000,000 Filipinos voted today for candidates to lead them in the first four years of independence. The military police command reported that Governor Ramon Imperial of Camarines Sur, province of southeast Luzon, and two members of his party were wounded seriously when ambushed this afternoon. A seven-year-old boy was killed by automatic rifle fire from a house near the scene of the ambush. The grounds of Roxas' residence bristled with machineguns, and a detachment of the Philippine army was on guard duty. Roxas' secretary, Alfredo Jacinto, said Roxas was in hiding because he had heard "three men from the province of Bulacan" planned to kidnap him. PROVINCE "ISOLATED" Military police expressed concern over the situation in Nueva Ecija Province of central Luzon, a storm center of the Agrarian movement. They said it had been "isolated" since 2 P. M. when attempts to communicate with the provincial provost marshal had failed. Frederico Sian, supervisor for the commission on elections, said Roxas' supporters walked out in eleven precincts in the municipality of Calatrava on Negros Island, taking the ballot boxes and keys with them. The inspectors asserted the police had kept some voters from entering the polling places. Roxas, president of the territorial Senate, predicted before he went into hiding that he would win by 300,000 votes, although he conceded four provinces to Osmeña.



GEN. ROXAS



SERGIO OSMEÑA

More Russians Go To Korea
LONDON—(AP)—The Chungking radio said today there was concern among American military authorities in Orient over the reinforcement of Soviet troops in Korea. Several contingents of Soviet troops have left Vladivostok recently for various destinations in Korea, the broadcast reported.

Will Press
For Treaty
With Austria

Part Of American Drive In Europe

PARIS—(AP)—A well informed diplomatic source predicted today that Secretary of State Byrnes would press for an early treaty with Austria at the meeting of four foreign ministers as part of an American campaign to pierce the Soviet "iron curtain" across eastern Europe. This American informant said the Austrian question would be put on the agenda of the conference of foreign ministers of the United States, Russia, France and Great Britain at specific American request. The meeting is to begin Thursday. Discussion of an Austrian treaty has been set tentatively for the period after debate on French demands for internationalization of the Ruhr. It was said that "DIPLOMATIC INVASION" Diplomatic observers said the United States decision to recognize Yugoslavia was the first move in an "American diplomatic invasion" of Eastern Europe. A member of the American delegation said the treaty with Austria could not be called a peace treaty, because Austria disappeared as a nation following its absorption by Germany in 1938. Thus, he said, Austria was not at war as a nation. The proposed treaty would recognize Austria as an independent nation, permit the withdrawal of the four armies of occupation and enable the Austrian government to regulate its international relations. Members of the American, Russian and British delegations arrived for the meeting in increasing numbers. None of the leaders of the delegations is expected before tomorrow.

Secretary Byrnes Leaves
By Airplane For Paris

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Secretary of State Byrnes left by plane today for the Paris meeting of foreign ministers which will try to break the deadlock over European peace treaties. He took off at 12:35 P. M. EST in President Truman's plane "The Sacred Cow" and is due in Paris tomorrow. The minister's conference opens Thursday. IN NEED OF PRAYER. As for peace on his mission, Byrnes said he really had hope, but that if he were to say anything today he would have to quote from the old hymn "Standing in the Need of Prayer." He is known to be seriously concerned over the possibility that the talks among Foreign Ministers today might have to give way and himself may fail to crack the stalemate on peace settlements. The flight was scheduled to leave from Newfoundland, and was expected to require 17-12 hours.

Greece Granted
Credit By U. S.

ATHENS—(AP)—Minister of Coordination Stephanos Stephanopoulos announced today that the United States is granting Greece a credit of \$10,000,000 to enable her to purchase surplus American Army stores. He said the credit was repayable in 30 years.

Taken By 'Unknown' Persons

MILAN—(AP)—Milan municipal authorities reported today that the body of Benito Mussolini was removed during the night from Magiore Cemetery here by "unknown" persons. An inquiry to ascertain the responsibility was under way. The discovery was made by workers who were in the cemetery to exhume other bodies. Mussolini was buried in a pauper's grave in the cemetery soon after his execution by partisans near the Swiss border in April, 1945. The bodies of Claretta Petacci, his mistress, and five henchmen who were executed at the same time were buried near his grave. Mussolini was captured on the

Tragedy On LST

Asheville Sailor
Kills 9 Shipmates

By RICHARD CUSHING
SHANGHAI—(AP)—A nineteen-year-old seaman killed nine shipmates and wounded a tenth in a berserk blaze of gunfire aboard an LST in the Yangtze River today, then stabbed himself. The Navy announced that the ship was given a 50-50 chance to survive three deep gashes in the upper abdomen inflicted with his own knife. The shooting occurred on the LST, 17, anchored far up the Yangtze from Shanghai. PROBE LAUNCHED This was the way the tragedy was reconstructed by the Navy as gangway messenger. At midnight it was believed he went off to the fantail, where he frequently sat alone. Later he obtained a carbine from the cabin of the gunnery officer, who was away on watch. He also had a pistol which had been concealed among his own effects. At about 3 A. M. he entered the sleeping compartment of the LST, where 30 men were asleep. Switching on the lights and without a word, he fired his carbine. Several were killed outright and two were wounded.

See SAILOR KILLS on page 3-A

But One Of
Democratic
Justices Due
To Be Chief

Stone Death Cuts Court To Seven

By PAUL M. TOST
WASHINGTON—(AP)—Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone's sudden death cut the disagreeing Supreme Court to a seven-man tribunal today and stirred wide speculation on President Truman's possible choice for the nation's highest judicial place. The hard-working, 73-year-old Stone first two dissenting opinions at his colleagues in a prolonged court session yesterday, then faltered over the first of three majority opinions he had prepared. He paled and his first words trailed off. The court session was halted abruptly. Doctors found Stone nauseated. They said he had indigestion. He was taken home. A few hours later his secretary announced his death from "a massive cerebral hemorrhage."

DEATH ANNOUNCED

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Merger Bill
Approved

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Legislation calling for merger of the armed forces into a single department of defense was approved today by the Senate Military Committee. Chairman Elbert Thomas, Democrat, Utah, said the initial vote was 10-0 for reporting the bill. One against and one not voting. He said six other Senators not present would record their votes later. Thomas said the bill reported "without change" in the one drafted by Thomas and Sens. Hill, Democrat, Alabama, and Austin, Republican, Vermont, after months of public hearings last year. It carried the retired Navy Admiral's name as President Truman. "No one, however," he added, "is so optimistic as to believe it will go through Congress and be signed by the President without any amendments."

Substitute Plan

Sen. Bridges, Republican, New Hampshire, had proposed a substitute measure to retain the present separate War and Navy Departments, create a new Air Force Department and establish unity of command. The bill was not made public but it was learned that Sen. Hart, Republican, Connecticut, had introduced a similar bill. The bill was not made public but it was learned that Sen. Hart, Republican, Connecticut, had introduced a similar bill. The bill was not made public but it was learned that Sen. Hart, Republican, Connecticut, had introduced a similar bill.

Fugitive Japs
Turn Cannibal

MANILA—(AP)—Unsurrounded Japanese Army units in central Mindanao are eating the bodies of villagers slain in raids on remote districts. Father Edward Haggerty, S. J., Charleston, W. Va., reported today on his return from his fourth inspection tour. Haggerty, author of "Guerrilla Padre," served three years as chaplain of Mindanao resistance forces. He said 151 villagers were killed in Sumalao, Bulidnon Province, since August by Japanese raiders, and that the bodies were cut up and portions carried away for food. Philippine Army officers said a force has been detailed to round up the estimated 400 to 1,000 Japanese in central Mindanao, but that precipitous terrain makes the job extremely difficult.

Body Of Mussolini Reported
Moved From Cemetery At Milan

MILAN—(AP)—Milan municipal authorities reported today that the body of Benito Mussolini was removed during the night from Magiore Cemetery here by "unknown" persons. An inquiry to ascertain the responsibility was under way. The discovery was made by workers who were in the cemetery to exhume other bodies. Mussolini was buried in a pauper's grave in the cemetery soon after his execution by partisans near the Swiss border in April, 1945. The bodies of Claretta Petacci, his mistress, and five henchmen who were executed at the same time were buried near his grave. Mussolini was captured on the

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Weather

Official Weather Bureau Forecast
Partly cloudy and warm today and tonight. Wednesday cloudy, but much warmer. Temperature with showers.

Professor Maxwell's
Advance Predictions

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (The News-Observer) Professor Maxwell's advance predictions for the weather for the week ending April 29 are as follows: (The News-Observer) Professor Maxwell's advance predictions for the weather for the week ending April 29 are as follows:

Jackie Coogan's Former
Wife Seeking Divorce

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—Custody of an unborn child, a title to an \$1,000 diamond ring, a divorce. Those were the demands today in a suit filed by Flower Barry, 23-year-old former wife of Jackie Coogan, against Hal Baker Coe, Los Angeles manufacturer. She charged extreme cruelty. The actress, anticipating next November, requested permanent custody. In addition to the ring, which she says Coe gave her, she seeks undisputed ownership of her Beverly Hills home. Married in September last Aug. 18, they separated April 7.