'Lapse Of Memory'

Churchill Slipped In Saying Atlantic Charter Had Territorial Changes Clause

LONDON—(AP)—One of Winston Churchill's private secretaries told the Associated Press today that the Prime Minister had a "lapse of memory" in speaking on Poland yesterday and confused the wording of the Atlantic Charter with a British Government statement on foreign policy drafted in 1940.

Churchill's sensational statement that there was an insertion in the Atlantic Charter that territorial "changes mutually agreed" appeal could be made, before the peace table, brought this explanation at No. 10 Downing Street:

"Mr. Churchill was speaking from memory and just made a slip.

"What he attributed to the Atlantic Charter was actually in the British Government's statement of foreign policy laid down in 1940. Later during yesterday's debate Foreign Secretary Eden pointed out that Mr. Churchill had erred."

AP MADE QUERY

The Secretary's statement came when the Associated Press called the British Foreign Office to learn if there was any explanation of Churchill's statement. A Foreign Office spokesman declined comment, and suggested that No. 10 Downing Street be asked the question.

"Give me a quarter of an hour," a secretary said at No. 10.

"I'll see what I can do."

Ten minutes later he called back with the lapse of memory explanation.

The text of that section of Churchill's statement before the House of Commons yesterday was:

"Our British principle has been enunciated that, as I have said, all territorial changes must await conference at the peace table after victory has been won, but to that there is an exception in principle, and that exception is changes mutually agreed. It must not be forgotten that in the Atlantic Charter is inserted an exception that there should be no changes before the peace table except those mutually agreed."

In the debate which followed Kenneth Pickthorne, a National Conservative member, jumped on this point, asserting that the Atlantic Charter contained no insertion, but that it said the United nations desired to see no territorial changes which did not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned.

Eden, in the debate, said:

"What Mr. Churchill intended to convey was that, in the view of His Majesty's Government, there was an exception to the general principle that there should be no territorial changes before the peace table. Mr. Pickthorn was perfectly correct in pointing out that the exception is not in the Atlantic Charter. The exception was in cases where the changes were mutually agreed, but that was not part of the Atlantic Charter, but part of a statement of our own policy which we made in September, 1940, when the Prime Minister said we had not at any time adopted since the war broke out the line that nothing could be changed in territorial structures of various countries."

Finn Offer Rebuffed

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Finland's new offer of $235,444 on its World War I debt got the cold shoulder from the United States.

And therein lies a strange diplomatic situation.

The State Department apparently was willing for the installment to be accepted when it came due yesterday—though the two nations aren't on speaking terms and Finland is still officially considered "enemy territory."

TREASURY BALKS

But the Treasury Department has balked, being unwilling to thaw out part of Finland's frozen funds in this country.

It was from those funds that the Finns proposed to pay the installment, the same way the last payment was made on June 15.

The State Department sent a letter to the Treasury yesterday. Though the contents weren't revealed, the State Department evidently indicated it would not object to receiving the money.

A Treasury official said last night the letter seemed "on the surface" to lay down "a new policy" which isn't clear to the Treasury, and will require further study.

This left the question open for future discussion. But the due date had passed and no money changed hands.

The Treasury declined to make a further statement, but the background is this:

Recently Finland asked permission to use part of the frozen funds to pay interest which she owed to holders of Finnish Government bonds. The Treasury refused.

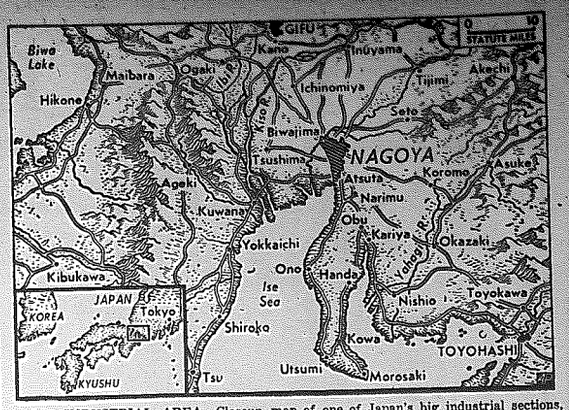
If the Treasury now were to free the money to pay our Government, some officials are reported to feel that this would be inconsistent and unfair to the bond holders who were denied their interest payments.

RELATIONS BROKEN

Breaking diplomatic relations occurred since the last debt payment was accepted June 15. The United States has never declared war on Finland, but we designated Finland "enemy territory" at a time when Germans and Finns were fighting against Russia.

Accepting $63,000 of the $235,444 payment due yesterday is interest on the debt, which now amounts to $8,850,000.

Finland has never defaulted on an installment. The United States allowed a postponement during the Finnish-Russian War of 1940.



JAP INDUSTRIAL AREA—Closeup map of one of Japan's big industrial sections, the Nagoya area. Inset locates position with respect to Tokyo and Korean mainland.

11 Days On Rafts

Ten Survive B-29 Landing In Pacific

By VERN HAUGLAND

21ST BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Saipan, Dec. 16 (Via Navy Radio)—Ten happy men who survived a B-29 water landing in returning from the Tokyo raid of Dec. 3—thirteen days ago—and spent eleven days afloat on three rafts rejoined their unit today.

The airplane's co-pilot went down with the ship but the other ten escaped injury and weathered the long sea wait in such remarkably good condition that none was hospitalized upo his return here.

SAVED BY DESTROYER

They were picked up by a destroyer, Dec. 14, more than 300 miles north of Saipan almost at the same time that another destroyer was picking up eleven survivors from another B-29 crash about 300 miles away. This plane was returning from the Nagoya raid, Dec. 13. These eleven were brought here yesterday.

The ten survivors of the Tokyo strike who were brought here, are:

Airplane Commander Capt. Francis James Murray, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Navigator Lt. Allan C. Ayers, Corpus Christi, Tex.; Flight Engineer 2nd Lt. Franklin I. Tennyson, Washington, D. C.; Bombardier Flight Officer Thomas L. Waters, Long Island, N. Y.; Central Fire Control Sgt. Franklin Moore Jr., Oshkosh, Wisc.; Left Gunner Sgt. Charles C. Dean, Camden, Ark.; Right Gunner Cpl. Dale R. Coates, Madison, S. Dak.; Radio Operator Cpl. Orville J. Granneman, St. Louis, Mo.; Electrical Specialist Cpl. Edward Yeager, Battleground, Wash.; Tailgunner Sgt. Clifton L. Sewell, Baltimore, Md.

Capt. Murray, the skipper of the ill-fated B-29, told how the Superfortress became a terrible ire-encased trap over Tokyo, Dec. 3, when the defrosting equipment failed.

Thick frost on the windows prevented the pilots from seeing other planes in their formation and forced them to drop out to avoid a collision.

Bombardier Waters was unable to see when the other planes in the formation dropped their bombs and was forced to drop his by guess—probably in the center of Tokyo—and the gunners were unable to see the enemy fighters which concentrated their fury on the blinded B-29.

Due to enemy fire, which failed to injure any crew member, the plane lost first one engine and then another and finally a third just before she was "ditched" at 8:30 P. M. in the pitchblack night in heavy swells. The plane broke in two in the middle. All but the co-pilot got out within two minutes, Capt. Murray said.

He added that the co-pilot was probably knocked out. He was never seen again.

PLANE SINKS

The tail end of the plane sank within ten minutes and the nose went down a half-hour later.

For five days the men in the three rafts kept their position and then gave up hope and started sailing toward the Philippines with the wind and the current, Capt. Murray said.

"We rationed food and water. In ten days, five planes passed over us very high without seeing us—B-24s. At 2:30 P. M., Dec. 13, Yaeger (the electrical specialist) heard a plane which turned out to be another Navy B-24, in Navy terminology known as a PB4Y.

"Dean fired two rockets which the plane did not see, then he asked me for a third which had a punctured primer and would not work when we tried it before. This time it went off. The plane saw it and circled back.

"Everyone of us cried and we are not ashamed to admit it."

The PB4Y dropped rations and flares and departed.

Next morning at 8, a PBM (Martin Mariner) piloted from a base somewhere in the Marianas by Navy Lt. Robert W. Kobert, Sioux City, Iowa, sighted the men and dropped a note saying that they would be picked up within an hour by a destroyer. They were—at 9:15 A. M.

Dickinson To Speak At Second St. YMCA

M. S. Dickinson, pastor of the St. Paul Lutheran Church, will speak at the Second Street Branch of the YMCA Sunday at 6 P. M. William Neely is in charge of the program and will introduce the Rev. Dickinson. Leroy Johnson is president of the class.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty

"I'd watch your boy friend's line, Sis . . . He just told me what lustrous pigtails I have, and how my buck teeth enhanced my beauty!"

The Musical Tempo

Solace For Soldiers In Christmas Music

By LOUISE YOUNG WORKMAN

At this, America's third wartime Christmas, music is more than ever, a vital part of the Yule-tide. Familiar, carols, old and loved, will this year be sung tearfully by thousands the world over, but sung, nevertheless, for the solace which the melodies and words have for the human heart. Soldiers and sailors in far corners of the earth may not audibly sing the blessed "Joy to the World" and "Silent Night" but in the hearts of most of them the songs will echo as this, the happiest season of Christendom approaches.

For many at home the Christmas music will have new meaning, bringing hope and comfort to many hearts.

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Mrs. J. Kenneth Pfohl of Winston-Salem, president of the North Carolina Federation of Music Clubs, in a report just released to members of the state's executive board gives a resume of the six district meetings recently completed. Mrs. Pfohl traveled more than 1,500 miles from "Manteo to Murphy" in attending these meetings. She reports that in all the meetings attendance was excellent and that "music is marching on" in both the Senior and Junior Divisions.

At the December meeting of the Charlotte Music Club this week fourteen new members, including a number of outstanding vocalists and instrumentalists, were received, according to announcement by Mrs. E. D. Blair, the president.

Scheduled for 8:30 tonight is a recital by beginners in the art of singing at the home of Oliv Maine, well-known voice teacher. On Monday evening, Mrs. Maine will entertain her pupils at the annual banquet in the Gold Room of the Barringer Hotel.

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From Willis Bergen, Port Chapelain at Charleston, S. C., where the ships bringing home our wounded service men are almost daily returning hundreds, comes a plea to Mrs. C. R. Wharton of Greensboro, chairman of War Service for the North Carolina Federation of Music Clubs, for more recordings, portable phonographs, spring wound or electric. Mrs. Thomas W. Bird, chairman for the Southern District or Mrs. B. C. Allen, chairman for the Charlotte Music Club, will be happy to receive such gifts and will promptly send them on to Charleston.

May 22, 23, and 24, were announced this week as dates for the semi-finals and finals in the 1945 Biennial Young Artists Contests of the National Federation of Music Clubs. The Manhattan School of Music in New York is the place. The semi-finals will take place May 22 and 23, and the finals May 24.

Classifications are the same as in recent years: piano, violin, and voice, and the awards are $1,000 to each winner. State and District Auditions will precede the National finals. Stuart Pratt of Meredith College in Raleigh is state chairman for these important contests. Bulletins and application blanks may be secured from him.

Plans have just been made public for the third annual Young Composers Contests of the National Federation, involving composers in the age group of 16 to 25. Classifications and prizes are the same as for last season. A $100 award is offered for the best composition for chamber orchestra, and $50 is the second award.

Awards of $50 and $25 are also offered for a composition for piano and one or more string or wind instruments. What is more important, performance of winning compositions is promised.

The closing date for the submission of manuscripts is April 1, 1945. H. Merrills Lewis, Woman's College, Furman University, Greenville, S. C., national adviser to the student division, will furnish additional information for those who are interested.

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Tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock at the First Methodist Church chapel, the 100-voice choir of Harding High School will present a program of Christmas music to which the public is invited. The choir will be directed by Oliver Cook, director of music for Harding High School. The young singers will wear their new vestments, maroon-colored robes with white surplices and maroon stoles, and will sing an attractive program.

The program is being sponsored by the Youth Council of the churches of Mecklenburg County.

Fellowship Club To Meet Monday Night

The Men's Fellowship Club of the Hawthorne Lane Methodist Church will meet Monday night at 6:30 o'clock, with Norman Black, president, presiding.

Program Chairmen A. W. Lawing and C. M. Stone have a special Christmas program in store. Included on the program will be Miss Bowers MacKorell with a Bible story, and Miss Jean Woodside, who will sing "Holy City," accompanied by Mrs. Charles Stone.

'Paying Proposition'

Bradley Will Push Offensive Regardless Of Poor Weather

TWELFTH ARMY GROUP ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS — (AP) —The offensive of the American First, Third and Ninth Armies is a "paying proposition" and Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, commander of the Twelfth Army Group is going to push ahead regardless of poor weather.

At a press conference yesterday Gen. Bradley said German battle casualties were anywhere from three to five times greater than those of the Americans and the Germans cannot long stand this heavy rate of attrition.

TIME FAVORS ENEMY

Gen. Bradley said the Yanks were capturing a considerable number of green troops and it was better to take them now than waiting until they had several months' experience.

"If we had three months of good weather it would make a whale of a difference," he said. "We are going ahead the best we can without it because time is playing in favor of the enemy."

The heavier German attrition rate, he said, was due to American superiority in air support, artillery equipment and the infantry.

However, he said, we are now suffering from the continuation of August, September and October and the war is being prolonged on account of it."

Discussing Allied air superiority Gen. Bradley said the Germans had flown only 6,500 missions against his troops since D-Day as compared to more than 190,000 sorties flown against the enemy by the Ninth Air Force—air arm of the Twelfth Army Group.

AIR SUPPORT

Gen. Bradley said ground troops at first were skeptical of air support after American bombs killed American troops at St. Lo but since air and ground combat teams have gained battle experience the doughboys now have "full confidence in it."

"Our armies now never hesitate to call for air support even at 500 yards or less from our front lines," he declared.

"Even the German Air Force in its heyday had nothing like the fine co-operation that exists between our ground and air forces. Only because of this co-operation were we able to advance as fast as we did commencing with the St. Lo break-through and continuing through France.

"Our planes stayed over our tanks and troop columns all day long attacking any target in front of them. Air support officers rode in tanks calling to the planes overhead for help when needed.

"It got so the Germans could not move at all in the daytime. If we can flush them out onto the roads they are duck soup."

Transport Gas Users Must Fill Out Forms

All applications for renewals of transport rations must be filled out and returned to the ration boards not later than Dec. 20 if the applicant hopes to receive his renewal coupons by Jan. 1 of next year, J. A. Scoggins, chairman of the Mecklenburg County War Price and Rationing Board warned.

This warning, Mr. Scoggins said, concerns only users of transport gasoline such as truck, bus, and taxi concerns.

Oakhurst Boys To Get Gifts

Sons and sons-in-law of men of the Oakhurst Community in the Armed Services will receive Christmas gifts from the community's company of the Mecklenburg County Auxiliary Police.

Presentation of 45 gifts, to be transmitted to the boys in service through their fathers and fathers-in-law, was a feature of the company's annual Christmas party last night at the Ship Ahoy Restaurant.

The Oakhurst Company of the County Auxiliary Police has been active in various civic affairs in the community. For some time it has sponsored square dances at the Oakhurst School and used the money for civic purposes.

The boys for whom gifts were presented last night included:

Seaman Henry Furr, Second Class Seaman Morris A. Hood, Corporal John Jamison in France, Marine PFC. C. A. Williams Jr., Tech. Sgt. Paul Colley, Coast Guardsman H. I. Long Jr., Ben Brooks, Halsey Punderburke, all of the South Pacific, Ed Frazier in gunnery school, L. A. Penninger in Fla., Lt. Neal Craig Jr. of U.S.S. Stokes, First Sgt. William A. Craig of the Philippines, Air Corps Sgt. Edward Craig in England, Pfc. Hazel Craig of Camp Blanding, Fla., Seaman First Class Ed. J. Long, Seaman Second Donald J. Russell Jr., George W. McManus Jr. at school, and Richard Turner.

'Y' Committee To Meet Monday

Francis O. Clarkson and his YMCA committee will meet for lunch Monday at 12:45 o'clock at Thacker's Restaurant. Discussions will center on the E. 2nd St. Branch of the YMCA.

Among those who will meet are Frank O. Sherrill, W. R. Cuthbertson, William H. Barnhardt, and Frank Dowd Jr.

Sunday School Heads Are To Be Installed

A public installation of Sunday School officers and teachers of Grace AME Zion Church, S. Brevard St., will be held tomorrow at 1 P. M.

The Rev. L. B. West, D.D. of the Brooklyn Presbyterian Church will respond to the query, "How May a Sabbath School Officer Be of Service in the World Today?" "What the Teacher Has a Right to Expect of the People" will be brought out by Professor C. E. Moreland, of the West Charlotte High School. The Rev. J. E. Jones, pastor of the Grace Church, will speak on the subject, "What the People Have a Right to Expect of the Teacher."

The name Libya originally was given by the Greeks to what they thought was the entire continent of Africa.

LUNCH 11:30 to 2:00 — DINNER 5:30 to 9:30
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