

Ernie Pyle
Once Called
Next Thing
To Traitor

By HAL BOYLE
MANILA—(AP)—During the battle for Manila last week, Ernie Pyle, 112 pounds and a middle-aged writer, was being hurled about by the horrors of battle and the emotional impact on tired, dirty men who carry a grudge against the American war machine.

That was Ernie Pyle, killed last covering his fifth campaign in the field. It is as if something of a surprise now to read less than a year after Pyle went to the grave, Henry H. Mencken, the oracle of Baltimore, believes corresponding war "is a sorry lot" and that the "horors of battle and the emotional impact on tired, dirty men who carry a grudge against the American war machine" are the "next thing to a traitor."

EDS NOTE: Mencken said, however, that Pyle did a good job on the line of task he set himself to do.

Mencken, dean of American Intellectuals, soundly observes that it is "a primary duty of reporters to tell the truth until it becomes dangerous."

Mencken said that "there was not much of this" in Pyle's work, but that he was "a conscientious newspaper man who carried out his duties to the letter today because they never quit trying to be a good reporter."

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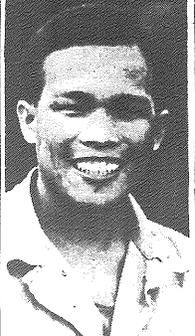
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FACTS ON WARNA

MacArthur Warns Against Weakening Forces



Fearful Of Too Drastic Army Cuts
Pacific Leader Cables Warning

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congress received from Gen. Douglas MacArthur today a warning that any attempt to cut Pacific forces below the 400,000 strength contemplated by July 1 would "weaken to a dangerous degree" military controls over Japan and Korea.

A cable from the Supreme Allied Commander in the Pacific, containing this warning, was laid before the Senate committee by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Army Chief of Staff.

Eisenhower appeared before the Senate Military Sub-Committee to explain further the Army's demobilization policies, which he had outlined to an informal session of Representatives and Senators on Tuesday.

Eisenhower told the committee the telegram from MacArthur had come in code and for this reason his exact words were retranslated. MacArthur reported there were 1,188,000 soldiers under his command in December, that this will be reduced to 650,000 by Jan. 30 and then gradually cut to 400,000 on July 1. This would include the 200,000 in Japan and Korea.

Sen. Charles McNary, Oregon, interrupted that Eisenhower's report that Army forces in the Pacific theater would be cut to 400,000 by July 1, or 23,000 less than MacArthur's estimate.

Eisenhower said this represented an adjustment in Air Force totals, which he said would be covered all troops for Japan, Korea, the Philippines, the Marianas, the Iwo Jima and Tinian.

The MacArthur message gave assurance that his command would follow Eisenhower's new order for reduction of men with 35 percent of 30 months service by April 30, and of those with 40 points and 24 months by June 30.



QUADRUPLETS SEVEN YEARS OLD—The Badgett quadruplets of Galveston, Texas, who will be seven years old on Feb. 1, practice up to sing "Happy Birthday" to each other. The quads, who have two older sisters, are now in second grade at school. Left to right: Joyce, Jeraldine, Janet and Joan, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Badgett. (Acme Photo.)



Electrical Offer Made
Ready With Own Plan

WASHINGTON (AP)—Albert J. Fitzgerald, head of the CIO Electrical Workers, offered today to submit to arbitration the wage issue in the three-day-old strike of 200,000 workers against three electrical manufacturing firms.

Fitzgerald made the offer before the Senate labor committee, where he was appearing as a witness on President Truman's proposal to establish fact-finding boards in labor disputes.

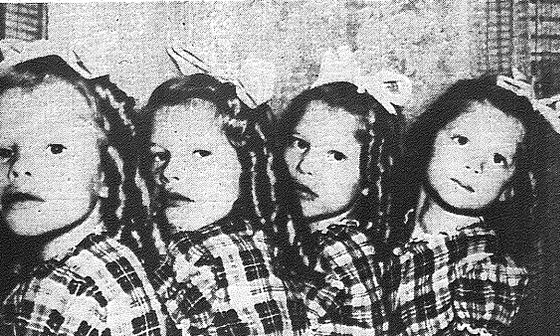
Replying to a question by Senator Morse, Republican, Oregon, Fitzgerald said his union never had refused arbitration on its demand for a 52 a day wage increase. He added that he was willing to have arbitration start from scratch, without regard for prevailing wage increases offers in other industries and the amount requested by the union.

Fitzgerald's offer may possibly open the way for settlement of the strike which has shut down 19 plants of the General Electric Co., Westinghouse Electric Co. and the electrical division of General Motors Corp.

Fitzgerald said his union had attempted for four months to reach an agreement with the companies, but they had refused to negotiate. Every conference, he said, was held at the union's request.

Fitzgerald contended the union was driven to strike "because these companies have combined their forces to prevent a substantial wage increase for their employees and to undermine and destroy their freely chosen collective bargaining agent."

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Former Jap Puppet In Burma Has Surrendered
Not Defensive Shield

LONDON—(AP)—A former puppet ruler of Burma during the Japanese occupation, but surrendered to Allied authorities in Tokyo.

When Kimmel said that he had never felt that the Pacific Fleet was based at Pearl Harbor to defend Hawaii but was there in the event of war with Japan.

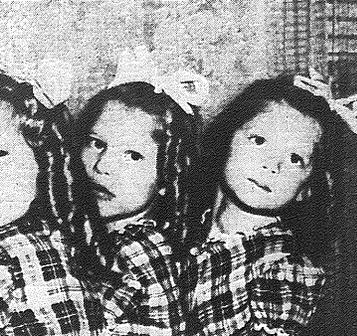
The 1941 fleet commander made the statement in telling a Senate House Inquiry Committee about the "war warning" he received from the Japanese on Dec. 27, 1941, ten days before the Japanese struck Pearl Harbor.

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Panel Will Investigate Industry's Wage Fight
Edwin E. Witte Heads Board

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of Labor Shellenbaker today appointed a fact-finding board to investigate the wage dispute in the meat packing industry.

Shellenbaker said the panel would meet later today with representatives of the CIO and the AFL unions and meat packing companies who are involved in the dispute.

The new panel is headed by Edwin E. Witte, former member of the National War Labor Board. Other members are Clark Kerk, chairman of the new defense War Labor Board's meat packing commission, and Chief Justice Raymond C. Starr of the Michigan Supreme Court.

Shellenbaker will take part in this afternoon's meeting.

Here is an impartial umpire in the meat packing field and now is on the University of California faculty. Starr is from Grand Rapids, Mich.

Witte, who has served at various times as a member of Federal boards dealing with industrial relations, is a professor of economics at the University of Wisconsin.

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Steel Disputants Given 'Last Chance' By Truman
Guardian Of Peace

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Truman gave the two principals in the threatened steel strike their last chance today to work out an agreement together before he proposes a way to end the deadlock.

The President gave CIO President Philip Murray and Benjamin Fairless, U. S. Steel head, until this afternoon to settle their wage dispute.

Should they fail, he said, he will step in with "a proposal in the public interest."

Mr. Truman urged the two men, just before they left the White House last night after a day of fruitless talks, to "sleep over it and pray over it and do their utmost to get together and come back again tomorrow afternoon."

Both said they would.

Presidential Press Secretary Charles G. Ross described the leaving.

The steel proposal Mr. Truman has in mind is his own secret, but there was some speculation it might involve his personal judgment on what would be a reasonable adjustment of the steel wage stands.

Ford Talks Fruitless
China Getting 21 Warships

DETROIT—(AP)—The Ford Motor Company and the CIO Union have had a fruitless session today.

Those of us who were there reported that the session was a complete failure.

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China Getting 21 Warships
Seven Persons Slain In Greek Demonstration

CHUNGKING—(AP)—Chinese authorities in Nanking announced today that 21 warships were being turned over to China by the United States.

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Cattle's Nerve Good, But Not Their Judgment

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Weather

PUEBLO, Colo.—(AP)—A herd of cattle coliced a Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad freight train near Spearhead and overturned the caboose.

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