PHOTO CONTEST

A batch of entries in The News snapshot contest will be found on the Second Front today. Look them over, run through your own picture assortment and send your best one in. It may take first prize.

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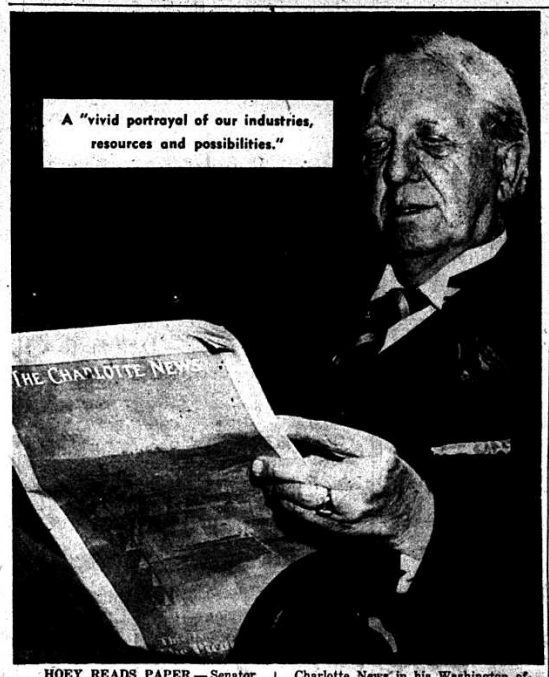
Irgun Says Two British Soldiers Hanged In Reprisal

JESSE JONES TESTIFIES IN PLANE PROBE



HOEY READS PAPER — Senator Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby reads the special Piedmont Carolinas edition of The Charlotte News in his Washington office. The edition was sent to him by air mail. (AP Photo).

Jews Assert Execution Revenged

Searchers Fail To Find Bodies

By EDWARD CURTIS

JERUSALEM — (AP) — The Irgun Zvai Leumi, Jewish underground agency, asserted today it had hanged two kidnaped British sergeants in reprisal for the execution of three of its members.

An extensive search by Welsh guards, Palestine police and a group of reporters for two hours along the coastal plains disclosed no trace of the bodies.

Police, the military and Jewish sources said they had no clue as to the whereabouts of the sergeants.

Two British Soldiers Killed By Mine Blast

JERUSALEM — (AP) — Two British soldiers were killed and three were injured today by an electrically-detonated mine near the Hedera railway station, it was officially announced.

An Irgun "communique" had asserted that the bodies would be found within two and a half miles of Natanya, where the hostages were kidnaped July 12.

Shortly after the "communique" was issued from Tel Aviv, a police source there reported that the bodies of the two soldiers had been found.

Official Government sources, however, were not immediately able to confirm that the sergeants — Clifford Martin and Nervin Paice—had been slain.

IGNORE PLEA

In issuing its "communique," Irgun Zvai Leumi also disclosed that it had received an appeal for clemency from Paice's father, but said it had been ignored because it should have been directed "to those who refused clemency" to the executed Irgunists.

"We cannot do anything about it," Irgun said the elder Paice had been told.

The underground Jewish organization asserted the Britons, seized at Nataneya, were tried by a "military court" and convicted on charges of "illegal entry into Palestine, being members of an illegal British criminal terrorist organization known as the British occupation force in Palestine, which is responsible for the suppression of Jewish rights in Palestine and for the deportation of Jewish citizens from their country."

As members of the British Army, the sergeants also were accused by Irgun of what it called the "murder" of Jewish women and children and of "illegal possession" of arms.

Hagana, another Jewish underground agency of Jewish violent leanings, was reported to have conducted an all night search for the sergeants despite the British curfew.

The Irgunists hanged by the British were Meir Nakar, Absolom Haikin and Yaacob Weiss. They had been condemned for the shooting, bombing jail delivery at Acre Prison May 4 in which 251 convicts were set free and sixteen persons were killed.

It was confirmed officially that G. E. G. Charlton, superintendent of Acre Prison, had been suspended for refusing "for personal reasons" to attend the executions of the three Irgunists. Charlton, 25 years in Palestine Government jobs, was succeeded by Andrew Clowe, who supervised the hangings. An inquiry was in progress.

The day-to-dawn curfew imposed about two weeks ago on the 50,000 Jews in Haifa was lifted today. A search conducted through the Hereday Jewish quarter last night resulted in the detention of nine persons.

The Plane Battle Continues

Hughes Vs. Brewster

In this corner: Mr. Hughes

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—Howard Hughes issued a statement today demanding that Senator Owen D. Brewster, Republican, Maine, chairman of a Senate War Investigating Committee, "give the public the facts concerning the abortive attempt to intimidate and coerce me by offering to call off this investigation of my airplane projects if I would agree to merge TWA (Trans World Airline) with Juan Trippe's Pan-American Airways."

The Hughes statement added:

"I direct these four questions at Senator Brewster and demand an answer:

"1. At lunch in your suite at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., did you or did you not offer to call off this investigation if I would agree to merge TWA (Trans World Airline) with Pan-American Airways and support your community airline bill?

PROMISED ANSWER

"2. Did I or did I not reply that I had already

See HUGHES on page 8-A

And in this: Sen. Brewster

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Senator Brewster, Republican, Maine, cited Nehemiah's Biblical account of how Sanballat "thought to do me mischief" today as his reply to Howard Hughes' contention that Senate investigation of his war contracts is an effort to force a merger of two airlines.

Brewster told reporters:

"I simply refer anyone interested to chapter six in the Book of Nehemiah."

He added that he had "nothing further to say" and that he saw no point in "going any further in this."

Brewster cited no verses. An edition published by the American Bible Society summarizes the chapter in these words:

"Sanballat (practiseth by craft, by rumors, by hired prophecies, to terrify Nehemiah. The work is finished to the terror of the enemies . . ."

The chapter recounts the efforts of Sanballat and Tobiah and Geshem the Arabian to divert Nehemiah from the work of building a wall

See SEN. BREWSTER on page 8-A

Says FDR Ordered Project Continued

Ex-Secretary Takes Stand

WASHINGTON— (AP) — Jesse Jones testified today that the late President Roosevelt ordered that work continue on a $20,000,000 flying boat ordered during the war from Howard Hughes.

Jones, former Secretary of Commerce, said he talked with Mr. Roosevelt following a Cabinet meeting in February, 1944, and that the Chief Executive said he did not believe money already spent on the project should be thrown away.

At that time, the Government had spent approximately $13,500,000 on the 200-ton flying boat which has not yet been flown. Some Government production officials wanted to drop the project.

TELLS VERSION

Jones told in version of the story to a Senate War Investigating Subcommittee inquiring into the award of about $40,000,000 worth of wartime plane contracts to Hughes and Henry J. Kaiser.

Jones said he had signed the original contract on direct instructions from the War Production Board and without knowing the project was opposed by the Army and Navy.

Before Jones was called to the witness chair, Glenn L. Martin, Baltimore plane builder, testified that Kaiser suspended jobs in July, 1942, with a proposal to form a six-company combine to build 500 large cargo planes on a Government order Kaiser said he alone could get.

Kaiser acknowledged, Martin said, that the proposal was "at variance" with the approved Army-Navy plane production program, but said he could get it okayed by appealing to "high places."

When Jones told of his conversation with Mr. Roosevelt, Chairman Ferguson, Republican, Michigan, of the Senate Subcommittee asked:

ASKED QUESTION

"Did the President have anything to do with the making of this contract?"

"Not to my knowledge," Jones said.

Jones read into the record a memorandum, dated Feb. 18, 1944, which he said he dictated for the RFC staff, quoting Mr. Roosevelt as saying that "the conference to be gained from completing one plane" would be too great to throw away.

Early in 1944, Jones said, the Reconstruction Finance Corp. (RFC) which he headed had cancelled a contract which it asked for a report on the feasibility of converting the huge plywood craft to metal construction.

He said he then discussed the contract with the President because Kaiser the Chief Executive was interested and because he was commander in chief of the armed forces.

Jones said he had a number of conversations with Hughes, multi-millionaire plane builder and movie maker, and tried to persuade him to abandon the project.

Jones said he told Donald Nelson, then chief of the War Production Board, about the President's desire that the plane be completed. After that, he said, the contract to be completed the plane was reinstated in March, 1944.

As for the making of the original contract, Jones testified that Nelson came to him in 1942 and asked if the Defense Plant Corp.

See JESSE JONES on page 8-A

Balkan Plan Vetoed

U. S. Moves To Break Stalemate

By JOHN A. PARRIS JR.

LAKE SUCCESS—(AP)—The United States moved swiftly today to cope with the stalemated Balkan problem following Russia's veto of an American proposal for United Nation's action to settle the dispute between Greece and her Northern neighbors.

Herschel V. Johnson, U. S. Deputy Delegate to the Security Council, hurried to Washington for a series of conferences with Secretary of State George C. Marshall and other State Department officials.

Johnson was scheduled to meet first with Undersecretary of State Robert A. Lovett and others today and begin drafting two possible alternatives for again tackling the Balkan problem within the United Nations.

These proposals would then be submitted to Secretary Marshall.

SESSION POSTPONED

Before leaving for the Washington talks Johnson obtained a postponement of a Security Council session scheduled for 3 P. M. (EDT) today.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko was to have given at that time his reasons for vetoing the U. S. proposal for an 11-nation border commission designed to bring peace to the Balkans. He also was to have explained a Russian proposal on the Balkans.

The council is now scheduled to meet tomorrow at 3 P. M. (EDT) to hear Gromyko, whose proposal calls for the evacuation of all foreign troops from Greece and the establishment of a commission to supervise foreign aid to Greece.

Immediately after Gromyko had vetoed the American plan, which had grown out of a U. N. inquiry group's report that Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Albania were primarily responsible for Greek guerrilla warfare, Johnson declared that Russia had "created a very grave situation."

He asked for an immediate ad-

See U. S. MOVES on page 8-A

Soviet Gets U.S. Protest

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The United States has protested to Russia against Soviet removal of former German and Italian assets from the defeated Balkin states—Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania.

Undersecretary of State Robert Lovett told a news conference today that a note had been delivered to Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov in Moscow yesterday asking full information regarding such transfers of property.

Lovett said the State Department took the position in its note that:

1. All removals of property to Russia before the Hungarian, Bulgarian and Romanian peace treaties come into effect are "of provisional character."

2. Austrian assets in these countries can not be seized on the grounds that they are German properties pending allied agreement on a definition of "German assets."

3. Only removals made in accordance with peace treaty provisions can be recognized by the United States as legal.

The note said the United States is concerned because it was one of the signers of the peace treaties with Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania and thus holds responsibility for enforcement of the pact's provisions.

In discussing Italian assets in these countries, the note said disposal of such properties is specifically provided for in the peace treaty.

Indies Peace Move Made

LAKE SUCCESS —(AP)— India demanded formally today that the United Nations Security Council act to settle the fighting between Dutch and Indonesian forces.

The Indian complaint was handed to Dr. Oscar Lange, of Poland, president of the Council, and Ardian Pelt, acting Secretary-General of the U. N., by Sambrandranath Sen, Indian representative.

Meanwhile, Australia also was expected to file a separate Indonesian complaint later in the day.

At Canberra, Australian Prime Minister Joseph B. Chifley said the Australian step was being taken in the hope that "not only will hostilities cease, but that the Security Council will prove its worth in dealing quickly and effectively with a situation of this kind."

At the Hague, a Netherlands Foreign Office spokesman said Australia's action was "regrettable." Asserting mediation offered previously by British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, the Dutch spokesman said the Australian action could not help possible British efforts.

DUTCH ADVANCE

Militarily, the Dutch reported further advances in the islands.

A Dutch communique said Netherlands troops made a new amphibious landing in Sumatra at Lobokpakam, 36 miles east of Medan, on the northwest coast of the island.

At the same time, the communique said, Dutch forces burst eastward from their Medan positions into rich agricultural area.

A dispatch from East Java said Dutch troops, including American-trained Marines and equipped with American-made half tracks, tanks and field guns took off at sunrise in a drive south from Lawang toward Malang, resort town fifteen miles away.

An Indonesian Army communique broadcast from Jogjakarta, Republican capital, said Indonesian units continued their attacks on Dutch positions in Central Java.

Senatorial Felicitations

Hoey Lauds Piedmont Edition

Senator Clyde R. Hoey of Shelby — a life-long resident of Piedmont North Carolina and one of its most enthusiastic promoters — was highly pleased over the special "This Is The Piedmont Carolinas" edition published by The News yesterday.

A copy of the edition was airmailed to Senator Hoey and a number of other public officials interested in the development of the Piedmont area. Yesterday afternoon came this telegram from the Shelby Senator:

"I have just examined a copy of your fine special edition dealing with the Piedmont Carolinas which was delivered by air mail this morning.

"A cursory examination of this paper impresses me with the extent and variety of the subjects treated and the information given as to the industries located in our great Piedmont section.

"I felicitate you and congratulate Charlotte and the Carolinas upon your enterprise and successful efforts in giving this vivid portrayal of our industries, resources and possibilities."

In addition to distribution to regular News subscribers, several thousand additional copies have been sent to public officials, libraries, chambers of commerce, and other organizations. The material in the edition was written by outstanding experts of the region.

Economic Crisis

Britain May Cut Occupation Army

LONDON — (AP) — A Socialist source said Prime Minister Attlee told Labor legislators today that Britain would slash her military commitments in Germany, Italy and Greece almost immediately because of the nation's looming economic crisis.

Attlee won a virtual vote of confidence from Labor members of Parliament after explaining to them the "broad lines" of his plan for meeting the crisis.

The Socialist source, who is connected closely with Labor members of Parliament, said Attlee promised quick and complete troop withdrawals from the Venezia Giulia sector of northeast Italy and from Greece and substantial reductions in the British occupation forces in Germany.

Left wing Labor Party members have been demanding reductions in the armed forces, which totaled 1,297,300 men July 1.

A well-informed source said Attlee also had decided to ask miners, now on a five-day week in the recently socialized coal pits, to work an extra hour a day to increase production of critically needed coal, the mainstay of the British economic structure.

After Attlee told the Labor M. P.'s of plans for troop reductions, the Socialist source said there were cries of "What about Palestine?"

The informant said Attlee did not reply.

It is estimated 100,000 British soldiers are in that mandate.

Forces in Germany were estimated by a well-informed source yesterday at between 200,000 and 300,000. The Prime Minister was said not to have indicated the extent of reductions planned in Germany. The British disclosed recently they would ask the United States to assume 80 per cent of the cost of feeding and administering the economically merged American and British occupation zones.

The Socialist informant implied that Attlee might furnish details of proposed troop reductions in a promised statement to Parliament next week.

Attlee was reported to have told the members of his party, who met in a closed session, that Britain planned originally to keep her troops in Venezia Giulia during the permitted 90 days after ratification of the Italian peace treaty.

The informant said the Prime Minister added that under present circumstances, Britain could not wait. The strength of British forces in the Italian area, bordering Yugoslavia, has not been disclosed. Some 6,000 British troops are in Greece.

Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin, whose strength in international consultations would be affected by any drastic cut in British forces, was said by the Socialist source to have kept strictly silent during the caucus.

Death Asked For Treason

BOSTON —(AP)— The death penalty for Douglas Chandler, 58, former Baltimore writer convicted of wartime treason, was demanded today by a special Government prosecutor as a "warning to potential traitors."

Oscar R. Ewing told the court about to sentence the tall, grey-haired former Nazi radio mouthpiece that "any lesser penalty will encourage the commission of similar crimes in the future."

Chandler, a native of Chicago, served as a Nazi propagandist during the war — broadcasting under the pseudonym of "Paul Revere."

His only defense to the charge was insanity — and he was described by his counsel as a paranoiac suffering from a delusion that the Jews were out to conquer the world.

Ewing told the court that Chandler's broadcast, designed to undermine the American war effort and create loneliness, suspicion and doubt in the hearts of the troops, "was the black wicked heart of a traitor."

"This was planned, premeditated, calculated treason," asserted the special prosecutor, as he declared that it was the "judgment of the Attorney General . . . that the only penalty which will prevent the commission of similar offenses in the future is the death penalty."

Ewing charged that Chandler "expected to return to America after a German victory and be acclaimed by the masses," adding:

"He probably expected to be the Puehrer over here."

Spanish War Pensions Up

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Legislation increasing by 20 per cent pension payments to Spanish-American, Civil War, Boxer Rebellion and Philippine Insurrection veterans and their widows and children was signed today by President Truman. Present rates range from $40 to $100 monthly.

Lineberry Appeals To Public To Exercise Care

Police Chief Warns Of Dangers Of Catawba

By TOM WATKINS
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The fact that six persons have lost their lives in Mecklenburg waters by drowning today caused Stanhope Lineberry, chief of the County Police Department, to issue a general warning to the public to exercise the greatest care while swimming in the "treacherous Catawba River," creeks, lakes, and pools.

In addition to the Mecklenburg victims, the Catawba has claimed the lives of several residents of Gaston County this Summer.

The hottest weather is yet to come, he said, and unquestionably large crowds will be seeking relief from the heat by going to the river "and other places where they can swim."

"Each year," Chief Lineberry said, "the story is the same. Children, men, and women, lose their lives and in most instances the accidents could have been avoided."

He particularly expressed concern about the Catawba River where tricky currents, sudden "drops" and unsafe boats have taken many lives.

Mecklenburg County does not have boat inspection laws and therefore almost anything that floats can be used on the river. The average boat, the Chief said, does not contain life preservers, usually leaks or is improperly built.

CITES RISKS

Poor swimmers, or non-swimmers, who use boats for "joy rides" are taking great risks and are, the Chief said, "flirting with death." Better judgment would be for them to stay on the banks or around the water's edge.

Another thing for the public to remember is that "liquor and river water" don't mix.

"There have been six drownings so far," Chief Lineberry said, "and the chances are that there will be others before the Summer season ends. In issuing this special warning, I sincerely hope that the public will heed and take the advice of this department that through the years has learned something about the tragic accidents that annually occur by drowning."

The use of ordinary sense, refusing to take unnecessary risks, and protecting the welfare of others, will go a long way towards cutting down the death toll, he said.

Artificial respiration when done by experts, is a great thing, but sometimes when done by inexperienced operators, it does more harm than good, he explained.

"Parents should be diligent in watching their children while they are in the water, no matter if it is in a creek, pool, or river. It is better to be safe than sorry," the Chief said.

"But," he added, "it is the grown-ups that really need to be cautious. They often take needless chances that result in their own death, or the death of others, Walking around in boats, diving in unfamiliar water, are familiar and often fatal tricks."

What to do in an emergency is another proposition. Right now he urged the public to be careful so that emergencies won't arise.

Harry L. Miller, 36, 3002 Carol St., was the most recent victim. He went under last night about 9:30 o'clock at Withers Bridge on the Catawba River. He struck his head on a float.

Others who lost their lives were June Baucom 16, and Vivian Ross, 17, who drowned on July 4, while bathing at Mrs. Ewen's Lake at Mint Hill; Paul Stowe, 38-year-old Negro and his eleven-year-old son. They resided on East Hill St. The young girl fell in the river at the Mount Holly Bridge while fishing. Her friends took his life while trying to save her. This also happened on July 4. On May 29 at Withers Bridge, James St. John of Durand, Mich., drowned when the boat in which he was riding with two companions overturned.

WEATHER

Fair and warmer today and tonight, continued rather hot Thursday and Friday.

Temperature at 2:00 today 91
High and low last 24 hours .. 91-70
Sunset today 7:28
Sunrise tomorrow 5:31

More Weather Data on page 8-B