

- THUNDERBOLT -

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CUT SEEN IN PACIFIC FORCES

Secretary of War Robert Patterson said Friday that the Pacific Army forces would be returned to 400,000 by May. He added that as far as he knew neither Russia or China had asked to send troops to join American forces but that negotiations are under way for participation by a British commonwealth force.

Patterson, reporting at a press conference on his tour of Japan before leaving for Korea, China and the Philippines, answered a wide range of questions submitted in writing by both Allied and Japanese newsmen.

Demobilization, he said, is being carried out according to blueprint. Pacific forces will be cut fifty per cent by May and of those remaining a large number will be relieved by new men to replace them in line with American rule of fair play and spreading the load.

Patterson declined to discuss the American soldiers protests against the demobilization slow down, but said he was going to Manila to answer questions. He said he could not tell how long Japan would be occupied. He said there is need in Japan for highly skilled persons from civilian life in the United States and steps are being taken to supply them.

Asked who in the War Department ordered the destruction of Japanese cyclotrens, the secretary replied that the order went out under his name although he didn't see the message. He admitted a mistake was made in not consulting US scientific advisers first.

AUSTRIAN PARTY LEADER ARRESTED

Franz Knappitsch, leader of the "Democratic Party," was arrested by Austrian police, press dispatches reported Friday.

Knappitsch was taken into custody after a search of his farm uncovered scores of weapons, explosives, swastika flags and wagon loads of art treasures that had been taken from the academy of Florence.

The dispatch added the "Democratic Party" polled less than five thousand votes in the recent general elections in the British zone of occupation, which is the only zone where it existed "legally." The party has a monarchist tendency.

WAINWRIGHT HEADS FOURTH ARMY

The War Department announced Friday General Jonathan M. Wainwright, hero of Bataan and Corregidor, has been designated commanding general of the US Fourth army with headquarters at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

PROBE ESCAPE OF HITLER WITNESS

Three persons were arrested Thursday by British security police who are investigating the escape of Major General Nicolaus Von Buelow from a Berlin air raid shelter where Hitler is believed to have died, UP reported.

Those arrested Thursday were Baron von Boselar, of a Rhineland aristocracy who was picked up at his mansion outside Bonn. A man named Karl Kuhne, who is believed to be von Buelow's father-in-law and a woman known as Fraeulein Musch von Groote who allegedly frequented von Buelows residence.

British intelligence officers are questioning von Buelow to determine when he left Hitler's shelter and whether he carried any

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ARAB BOYCOTT WORRIES BRITISH

The British High Commissioner of Palestine announced in a communique Friday that the Arab boycott of Jewish-made goods of "immediate concern" to Britain and that he was consulting the Colonial office in London about possible measures to counteract the boycott. Britain administers Palestine under a League of Nations mandate.

The Communique said the government had received official notice "that certain states in the mid east have taken actions designed to exclude from their territories imports from Palestine. The measure is directed in particular at goods manufactured or produced by the Jewish community in Palestine.

GEN. EISENHOWER NOT INTERESTED IN UNO JOB

Secretary of State Byrnes announced Friday night General Eisenhower had advised him he was not interested in accepting the position of secretary general of the United Nations Organization as he intended to continue in the office of Chief of Staff of the US Army.

The UNO post is considered one of the highest paid in the world, press dispatched said.

UNITED NATIONS TO BACK FREE UNIVERSAL PRESS

The United Nations general assembly Friday agreed to consider a Philippine proposal for calling immediately an international press conference to insure a free press throughout the world.

The proposal was placed on the supplementary agenda of the assembly after Dr. Padro Lopez, Philippine delegate, had protested that it had been omitted from the regular agenda. The secretariat explained that the proposal had not arrived in time for inclusion.

The Philippine proposal which will be submitted in the form of a resolution, calls for an immediate international press conference under the auspices of the United Nations Organization "to formulate principles and adopt ways and means to insure and promote the establishment, operation and movement of a free press throughout the world."

The assembly gathered to fashion lasting peace has got off with a flying start. When 250 delegates from 51 nations late in the afternoon left London

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don's Central hall, they could look back on a day of hard but effective work during which the election of chairmen of six committees and of seven vice presidents of the assembly had followed a lively debate. The leader of the Soviet Ukrainian delegation, Dimity Manuilsky, who had played a prominent part in the morning's exchanges was appointed chairman of the vital political and security committee.

Peter Fraser, Prime Minister of New Zealand, was chosen to head of the social humanitarian and cultural committee. He was nominated by the Canadian delegation and seconded by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt of the U. S.

Faris Elkhoury, speaker of the Syrian parliament, was chosen to head the administrative committee.

The committee surveying possible sites for permanent headquarters of the world organization expressed itself deeply impressed with Hyde Park, the New York state home of the late President Roosevelt. The chairman of the committee stated that Hyde Park would be given serious consideration and that if it was chosen, New York city would be the interim headquarters while the estate was being prepared.

NAZIS USE HUMAN SKIN FOR SADDLES

High ranking Nazis shook with rage Friday at the war crimes trial when a Dachau horror camp witness accused them of visiting the camp to amuse themselves by watching the tortured victims.

The accuser was Dr. Franz Blaha, a Czech surgeon who gave evidence against Alfred Rosenberg, the Nazi party's racial expert, Dr. Wilhelm Frick, Walter Funk, minister of economics, Ernst Kaltenbrunner, Fritz Sauckel, and Martin Bormann, Hitler's Deputy.

Blaha, an inmate in the Dachau concentration camp from 1941 to 1945 told about the experimental freezing of inmates. He said some men lasted twenty four to thirty six hours. Most died at twenty five or twenty six degrees Centigrade. When men were removed from the water, attempts were made to revive them, sometimes by animal warmth for which prostitutes were used, frozen man being placed between the bodies of two women. The majority of the three hundred persons used in the experiments died. This was also true of air pressure liver puncture experiments, he said.

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messages. Von Buelow was arrested on Tuesday at Bad Godesberg, where he had been living quietly in a back street apartment. He is one of the witnesses to Hitler's personal will signed last April twenty-ninth.

BYRNES SAYS WORLD NEEDS TRUTH

Secretary of States Byrnes, outlining the government's new Overseas Information Service in a letter to President Truman Friday said it "will help to achieve security and peace which our peoples so ardently desire." He said "the purpose is and will be solely to supply facts on which foreign peoples can arrive at a rational and accurate judgment" of U. S. policies, adding that "there never was a time, even in the midst of war, when it has so necessary to replace prejudice with truth, distortion with balance, and suspicion with understanding."

FRANCE HAS 111,000 WAR CRIMES

The ministry of justice reported Thursday that in the past year 111,000 war criminal cases had been investigated. Of these 32,432 were dropped. There were 3122 death sentences.

Last year, 1249 sentences to life at hard labor, 7942 lesser terms, 1434 solitary imprisonment sentences, 14,919 ordinary prison terms and 5087 acquittals.

In civil tribunals 31,537 persons were branded with national unworthiness and 7155 acquitted.

SICILIANS BATTLE POLICE

Fighting between police and Sicilian separationists who seek self government for Sicily flared Friday in the Palermo area.

Reuter reported a large group of separatists patriots swooped down on the police and took five policemen prisoner after an hour long battle.

The policemen were loaded into trucks and driven off into the mountains. Reports Wednesday from Palermo said thousands of separationists were surrounded on Montedero hill outside Palermo by carabinieri and Italian troops.

The number of unemployed in Italy had reached two million, BBC reported Friday. The broadcast added riots broke out in several cities. Former soldiers looted luxury shops and crowds demanded work and food.

TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

Central — 1310, 1815, 2015 — "Ten Cents a Dance" with Jane Frazee and Jimmy Lloyd (last times today).

Cleveland — 1315, 1845 — "Love Letters" with Joseph Cotten and Jennifer Jones (today and Tues).

Landes — 1930 — Vienna Boy's Choir (today, Tues., and Wed.).

Red Cross — 1930 — Woman's world champion Trudy Pritzi and Find Mils in exhibition Ping Pong matches.

Volk's — "Shady Lady" with Charles Coburn and Ginny Simms (today and Tues)..

Hollywood — "The Cheaters" with Joseph Schildkraut and Billie Burke (today and Tues.).

Chattanooga — "Men in Her Diary" with Jon Hall and Louise Albritton (today and Tues.).

Music Hall — "I'll Tell the World" with Lee Tracy and Brenda Joyce (today and Tues.).

Varga — "On Stage Everbody" with Jack Oakie and Peggy Ryan (today and Tues.).