

Construction Miracle: China's Yunnan Burma Railroad

By ROYAL ARCH GUNNISON

Special to The Chronicle

KUNMING, China, Nov. 5 (by air mail)—Another "miracle of construction" is being pulled off here in China. The first was the famed Burma road. This one is the Yunnan-Burma railway, which is now under full construction across 300 miles of one of the most unhealthy parts of Southeast Asia.

As the Panama canal's construction was a triumph of medical strategists, so will the completion of the Yunnan-Burma railroad be a victory over malaria, and the potential of plague and cholera. Nearly one million people have worked in some capacity on the Burma road, and countless thousands died on the job. And that was through territory not particularly unhealthy.

What, then, of the new railroad

—a road which must be rushed to completion at the earliest date possible to give China another route over which war supplies can be brought to the fighting zones?

This is the problem that faced the Chinese when they found the country through which the road must pass contains villages where 80 per cent of the population had died from malaria and the other 20 per cent fled the "flying death." American medical men, aided by Chinese experts, are beginning to blitz the malarial mosquito out of its natural habitat.

Dr. Victor Haas of the United States Public Health Service, is the man on the job. He has been "loaned" for the duration of construction, which, according to American engineers out here, should take 12 to 15 months more to complete. Dr. Haas has as his assistants 16 American health men, sanitary engineers, doctors, and plague experts. In turn the

Chinese government's contribution, through Dr. Tsen Yan Fu, director general of the Yunnan-Burma railway, is 15 doctors, 200 subordinates, 500 coolies to help the doctors, and 5000 coolies to dig drains, build delousing stations, and construct sanitary areas around the main railroad construction camps.

Although all the workers (and coolie women work on the railroads and roads in China) are not yet at work, it is estimated more than 250,000 will be needed to do the job. The road is not being built according to old American railroad technique. Instead small sectors are springing up all along the line. Each little sector will stretch out until all the bridges, tunnels, and the roadbed are built. Like "Topsy" it will just grow! Then the track—brought up from Rangoon, Burma, to Lashio, which is also the beginning of the Burma road—will be laid straight out to Kunming. If all goes according

to schedule, and the construction gangs are protected from mosquitoes and Japanese bombers, the last spike and the first train should simultaneously reach Kunming one year from Christmas.

All the equipment for this road comes from the United States under provisions of the lease-lend program—\$15,000,000 of it. The medical assistance cost is split between China and the United States, \$188,000 in all. Added to this are \$500,000 in medical supplies which come from lease-lend.

To protect the workers from malaria, various ingenious schemes are being used. For instance, Dr. Haas has asked the Burma road people, who are now reorganized to give the trucks and the road better and more efficient treatment, to let him have all the lubricating oil that is drained from the trucks when oil is changed. This oil-changing feature, incidentally, is relatively new along the Burma road. The drivers used

to drive the trucks until they ran out of gas or oil, or both, and then wondered what was the matter. Now repair stations are being set up and it is from these that Dr. Haas is going to try to get the oil to spread over water areas where the malaria mosquitoes breed.

The wartime and long range value of this new Yunnan-Burma railroad will be incalculable to China. In the first place, it will give China another facet from which to draw the many wartime and peacetime necessities. Once into Kunming, the mushroom transport and industrial center of South China, the material can be sprayed to the spots in need throughout Southern and Central China. The same is now taking place with the Burma road.

Secondly, the new railroad takes the place of the Hanoi-Kunming railroad, a spectacular engineering feat performed by the French in the early 1900s from Indo-China to Kunming.

BY!

Interpreting The War News

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
Associated Press War Analyst for The Star

CHUNGKING, Jan. 8 (AP)—When you have climbed from India into Chungking over the adventurous aerial route, which is a substitute for the Japanese-controlled Burma Road, then, and then only, can you realize how tenuous is the lifeline between China and the outside world.

It runs as thin and delicate as a spider's thread among and over the great, jagged mountain peaks of this region. Fogs envelop it, ice clings to it and fierce monsoon winds tear at it until the wonder of it is that it doesn't snap. And often the Mikado's men lurk among the clouds hoping they may catch some wayfarer unawares.

Should the spider's web be served it would be a staggering blow to our gallant Allies.

Certainly we can say that if this artery were cut, China not only would suffer terrible material losses, but it would be a challenge to public morale.

All But Isolated

Do not forget that China is all but isolated and this lifeline is the touch of a friendly hand in the dark.

Maintenance of this strategic link is an all-American job.

Yankee fighters protect the route from prowling Japanese. Yankee bombers constantly raid

enemy airfields to force the invaders farther back into Burma, away from the lifeline. Yankee transport planes regularly wing their way into China with those essentials which provide the flint to set off the powder.

It takes a stout heart and a skilled hand to negotiate that skyline. A good deal of it runs across solid mountain ranges where a forced landing would mean anything you can think of that's nasty.

Much of the time, especially at this season, billowing oceans of solid white clouds cover the mountains with an occasional villainous peak of rock jutting up through.

Scaling The Hump

Finally there comes "the hump," or highest part of the range, and over this planes must be lifted at a height of maybe 18,000 feet.

I have been in some odd places in various parts of the world but going over that hump without oxygen was something new.

As your breath gets thin and short, you wonder whether you really have led the sort of life you should—if you see what I mean.

Not all the effort comes in flying, though. The warplanes and transports must be maintained

and you find still more of Uncle Sam's boys scattered along the route to keep the planes in the air. This job of maintenance, of course, plays a big part in holding the route open.

So American skill and nerve keep the lifeline open and thus perform an essential operation for the Allied cause.

There is just one fly in the ointment and this is that the value of the service could be multiplied if a few more transport planes were available.

Need More Transports

One hundred more transports, as I understand it, would make a mighty difference to China's supply problem.

You would understand that if you could be here and see how far these brave people are making their supplies go. And, mind you, it is essentials and not luxuries which come over that skyline.

How many items could you pack into a single transport plane, do you think? Not many, and not a huge amount on 100 transports, and yet the vital war operations of one of the big four of the Allied nations depend on meager supplies which are coming by air.

To anyone on the ground it is obvious that provision of these 100 transport planes would be a grand investment.

The subject is one which is so important that I shall return it in a subsequent dispatch.

**Many In Virginia
Capital Ignore
O.P.A. Gas Ban**

Interpreting The War News

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
Associated Press War Analyst for The Star

(Editor's Note—In tomorrow's article, Dewitt MacKenzie, recently returned from a study of the Indian situation, continued his discussion of the Hindu-Moslem differences. The following is the eighth in a series of ten articles by the noted war analyst.)

The Indian political crisis bristles with more dangerous points than a porcupine with quills, but the greatest of these is the Hindu-Moslem division which through the generations has been marked by a bitterness that frequently has produced bloodshed in communal rioting.

Religious differences are the chief basis of this feud, which perhaps isn't so surprising when one casts an eye about the world and notes other countries where there have been, and still are, similar difficulties. Out of these animosities has grown on both sides a distrust which has constantly intruded and made compromises hard of achievement.

This deep division between the main parties reached the point where the Hindus and the Moslems charged each other with

seeking to rule India. The British have pointed out this situation as evidence that self-government on a unified basis was difficult. The Indians charged that the government was exploiting these differences in order to continue imperialistic rule. Nobody explained why the warring factions, if they knew their quarrel was being exploited, didn't bury the hatchet and thereby spike the guns of their common aversion.

Hindus In Majority

Maybe it will simplify this confused Hindu-Moslem mixup if we take a glance at it from this angle: The population of India is estimated at about 388,000,000. There are some 275,000,000 Hindus and 90,000,000 Moslems. That is to say, the Hindus outnumber the Moslems by three to one.

Now the Hindus are Nationalist. They want a national government which will take in the whole of India. The Moslems object to a national government on the ground that, since the Hindus have a majority of three to one, the Moslems would be a constant minority without a look-in.

The vehicles which are carry-

ing this heavy argument are three organizations whose names have become fairly familiar to the American public. The Hindus are grouped mainly in the powerful All-India Congress, which is dominated by Mahatma Gandhi, and in the Hindu Mahasabha, which comprises the more orthodox Hindus. The All-India Congress claims to be national and to include members of all religions, though its opponents assert that it is chiefly Hindu.

The Moslems are represented by the powerful all India Moslem League. This is under the presidency of Mohomed Ali Jinnah, a brilliant lawyer who is one of India's outstanding personalities.

In Jinnah's forceful leadership the league has developed an explosive idea to safeguard the Moslem minority against that Hindu majority of three to one. They call it Parkistan and it was one of the rocks on which the Cripps negotiations over Indian self government were wrecked last summer.

Favors Two States

The Pakistan (land of the pure) program rejects entirely the Hindu program for a nation government and aims at the division of India into two wholly autonomous states. One of these would be Moslem and the other Hindu, and each would go its way. Pakistan is the name of the proposed Moslem state, which would include the areas in northwest and northeast India where there are Moslem majorities. The Hindu state would take in the rest of India.

The exact territory covered by Pakistan is yet to be worked out but roughly it is this: The northwest India. Then there is a corridor through the United Provinces after which there is another Moslem block comprising Oen-gal—together with Indias greatest port, Calcutta—and the province of Assam.

Jinnah is 66 years old but looks 20 years younger with his slim, dapper figure and unlined face. Iron gray hair adds to the distinction of his appearance, which is marked.

"I would welcome any move which would dissolve the political deadlock," he said. "But what move could be made to secure satisfactory settlement?"

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WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Career Men Conduct Underhand Purge of Pro-Welles Diplomats

By DREW PEARSON (Maj. R. S. Allen Now in the Army)
(Copyright, 1943, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

WASHINGTON — It is a carefully guarded secret inside the state department, but the forced ousting of Sumner Welles has been followed by a purge of other liberal diplomats, especially those who sided with Loyalist Spain against Franco or showed too much sympathy with General DeGaulle.

They are being transferred, or resignations are being requested. Telephones have been tapped, and anyone who shows continued devotion to Sumner Welles or his liberal policies is warned by the clique which now has the ear of Secretary Hull.

Not since the days of Frank B. Kellogg, when the Career Clique deliberately framed one of its enemies, has there been such a reign of terror around the state department. In Kellogg's day, the lobbying by which certain privileged diplomats were promoting themselves to favored positions was exposed by a certain consul inside the state department. Soon he found himself confronted by his enemies with a trumped-up sex crime, with faked affidavits, the publication of which would have ruined him. He was forced to resign.

Today, stories of divorce, domestic infelicity and sex rumors have been spread regarding certain progressive members of the state department whom it is sought to purge. Once these stories circulate to enough people through the gossip underground, the target of the gossip is told by his superiors that his usefulness is over and he must resign.

Never has the state department been more in need of drastic overhauling. One cabinet member, who has constant relations with the state department regarding the war, has told the president that it was almost impossible for him to do business with the department today.

All this comes at a time when we are hoping to win the peace after the war.

Synthetic Tire Tests

Big Bill Jeffers is in Washington today, but his eyes are fixed on San Antonio, Tex., and Phoenix, Ariz.

In or near those cities the government is conducting road tests with the new synthetic tires produced under the rubber administrator's program. Areas in the southwest were selected because the roads are hot, and this provides conditions of the greatest strain. To increase the strain, the trucks are purposely overloaded.

First reports Jeffers received indicated that the synthetic tires wore out in about 6,000 miles. But due to constant changes in the formula and the manufacturing process, the latest synthetic truck tires stand up for 12,000 to 14,000 miles, compared with 18,000 for natural tires undergoing the same tests.

Note—These new truck tires, and all heavy duty tires, are only 70 per cent synthetic, the rest being natural rubber. Synthetic rubber cannot stand up alone in heavy duty tires. Passenger tires will be almost entirely synthetic and will not stand it anywhere near as well.

Army Red Tape

Here is the type of letter which makes Army men see red: "To Commanding Officer . . . Engrs., Atlantic Beach, Fla.

1. The following enlisted man, your organization, has violated uniform regulations: Koval, A.; Private First Class, 32261814 . . . Engrs.

"Soldier had his pocket unbuttoned. Place: 115 Pablo street, Jacksonville beach. Time 2125 (9:25 p.m.)

"2. You will take the necessary action to correct this situation. By order of Colonel LeClune:

"Fred L. Gassman, CWO, 144th Inf. Adjutant."

Capital Chaff

Army because of the new age-retirement order which forces the ouster of 60-year-old but very experienced men . . . Elmer Davis and Bob Sherwood went to the White House after the spanking of OWI's "Moronic Little Kings" broadcast and asked the president to be kinder publicly to OWI . . . Senator Sheridan Downey of California has told intimate friends that he doesn't want to run for re-election. This has stimulated a lot of heart fluttering among possible contenders . . . Here is a list of the men who are likely starters: Byron N. Scott, former congressman from the eighteenth district, now one of the most efficient members of the war production board; Jack Tenney, state senator from Los Angeles; Bob Kenny, attorney general of the state of California; John M. Costello, congressman from Hollywood; Harry R. Sheppard, congressman from the nineteenth district; and Ellis Patterson, former lieutenant governor and perennial political candidate.

Jeffers vs. Ickes

The speech Interior Secretary Harold Ickes delivered before the New York Sales Executives club, in which he assailed dollar-a-year men for "bungling" the war effort, produced one repercussion in official circles that didn't get into print.

Rubber Administrator William Jeffers was so infuriated by Ickes' acid comments about the industrial tycoons who are running the war production board that he complained to the White House.

Jeffers phoned Gen. Edwin "Pa" Watson, the president's military secretary, and complained that Ickes was disrupting morale on the home front by heaping the blame for war production shortages and rep tape on the shoulders of dollar-a-year men.

"If the president's order against government officials quarreling in public doesn't apply to Secretary Ickes, then the White House had better establish some new ground rules," Jeffers protested. Watson promised to refer the matter to the president. Apparently, he did so, because Jeffers later received a phone call from Bernie Baruch, a top White House counselor.

However, what Baruch had to say did little to soothe the rubber chief's outraged feelings.

"Bill, you'd better stay out of this," Baruch suggested diplomatically. "It's a little out of your line. Maybe you'd better let me handle these situations."

Jeffers promised to restrain himself in the future, so far as White House protests are concerned, but he has been doing some loud squawking behind the scenes to friends about Ickes' speech. He says it was an attempt to clear the administration's skirts for 1944 by fixing the blame for production delays on GOP dollar-a-year men.

Factographs

Army and Navy leather requirements this year are expected to call for more than 10 million cattle hides, 2 million calfskins, 8 million shearlings, and hundreds of thousands of lambskins and horsehides.

Japanese soldiers are issued biscuit made of wheat flour and weed, to which vitamins

There are about 150,000 in Great Britain

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WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Pearson Calls Steinhardt, U. S. Envoy to Turkey, Diplomatic Mess

By DREW PEARSON (Maj. R. S. Allen Now in the Army)
(Copyright, 1943, by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.)

This is another in Drew Pearson's series of illuminating articles on the most spot-lighted agency in Washington—the State Department.

WASHINGTON — Cordell Hull has picked some of the lemons in U. S. diplomacy, but one you can't blame on him is the mercurial, unpredictable U. S. ambassador to Turkey Laurence A. Steinhardt.

Steinhardt is purely and personally the president's choice, as the ambassador himself makes quite clear when he meets non-diplomats. "I'm just an American business man," he says with modest self-deprecation. But when he is among state department people, the tune is likely to be, "Of course, I'm practically a career man, having been in the service for 10 years."

Thanks to a \$5,000 campaign contribution and his uncle, Steinhardt's diplomatic star got hitched to the Roosevelt band wagon during the elections of 1932, and has stayed hitched ever since. His uncle, Sam Untermyer, had known Roosevelt ever since he grew up in New York politics, and nephew Larry Steinhardt was promptly made U. S. Minister to Sweden.

A lot of people welcomed the appointment at the time. A lot of people remarked that new blood was being pumped into the diplomatic service. Steinhardt was a young New York lawyer with a fresh outlook and was expected to go places. On the surface he has. He has been promoted from Minister to Sweden to Ambassador to Peru, then Ambassador to Russia, then Ambassador to Turkey—his career being punctuated with fat contributions to the Democratic campaign chest.

But beneath this ambassadorial facade, Steinhardt has fallen into all the petty ways of professional diplomats. He has tried hard. He has worked long hours. He has secured reams of publicity. He has even boasted that he has been able to do what other diplomats cannot do—live on his \$17,500 salary. But when it comes to running a streamlined embassy or contributing to the peace and well-being of the world, Steinhardt has chiefly succeeded in getting in other people's hair.

Typical of his operations was a 2,000-word coded cable sent from Moscow, Oct. 5, 1940, received by the state department at 2:50 a. m. telling why he was not going to admit Polish and Baltic refugees of his own religious faith into the United States. He could have condensed the cable to 100 words.

Or, again, when he ordered typhus serum from the United States and suspected it was being held up in Cairo, Steinhardt frantically wired U. S. Ambassador Alexander Kirk in Egypt to expedite the shipment. When the unperturbed Kirk did not reply immediately, Steinhardt informed him that he would call a press conference and tell the newspapers why the U. S. embassy staff in Turkey "was threatened with death in the typhus plague."

Ambassador Kirk refused to be stampeded.

Through some whim of fate, Steinhardt usually lands in a key country at a time when its policy vitally affects the world. He was ambassador to Russia during that difficult period from 1939 to 1941 between the Stalin-Hitler alliance and the time Russia was invaded. This was a tough assignment. Nobody could have done much to improve Russian-American relations at that time, and eventually the manner in

which the Russians trailed the U. S. ambassador around Moscow got very much on his nerves, and he on theirs. In the end they hinted that a new ambassador might be welcome.

So Steinhardt went to Turkey. There he had a great opportunity. Neutral Turkey was the key to victory in the Balkans. At one time she could have swung the war either way. Although reasonably popular with the Turkish government, Steinhardt has not done much swaying.

He has kept himself in the headlines. When an especially choice lend-lease shipment such as atabrin arrived, he has had himself photographed personally presenting it to the minister of foreign affairs. Or he has helped see to it that the wives of Turkish deputies got lease-lend hair nets and nylon stockings. He even went so far as to offer to the Turkish government some radio equipment which was militarily restricted by the U. S. signal corps and which in the end could not be presented after all. His excuse, when asked about it afterward, was: "Well, it brought some good publicity."

Meanwhile, he protested to the state department when the office of war information distributed to the Turkish press pictures of Nazi saboteurs being court-martialed. The Turkish government, he told other U. S. officials, did not like these pictures because they might upset Turkish-German relations.

On the other hand, Steinhardt went to the Turkish foreign office to protest against the Turkish newspaper Tasviri Efkar and demand that it be suppressed—exactly the kind of protest which the state department laughs at when lodged by foreign ambassadors in Washington against American newspapers.

The ambassador even proposed that issues of Collier's and Life magazine be censored and pay duty when imported into Turkey, despite the fact that Turkish law does not provide either for censorship or customs duty on magazines.

In fact, most of Steinhardt's life as ambassador to Turkey seems to be taken up not with the big problems of war and foreign affairs, but with personal fretting. For instance, he wrote a 1,000-word letter because James Gordon of OWI had imported a case of whisky, even though all customs duties were properly paid. He became indignant when OWI imported several cases of magazines to counteract Nazi magazines which are flooding Turkey.

He refused to let the U. S. Military and Naval attaches, the office of strategic services and OWI have offices in the giant U. S. embassy building in Istanbul which stands empty all but a few weeks of the year, since the capital has been moved to Ankara.

Meanwhile, Steinhardt is under violent criticism for failing to do anything about the Jews, Armenians and Greeks, who are suffering some of the worst economic persecution in Turkish history. However, Steinhardt points out that he is representing the United States and not other peoples.

Meanwhile, the Russians, who don't like Steinhardt, suspect him of sitting in this key spot for the purpose of fanning traditional Turkish suspicion against Russia. In fact, the Russians suspect the state department of keeping Steinhardt in Turkey for this very purpose. All of the ambassador's petty goings and comings could be forgiven if it weren't for this one great drawback to his presence in Turkey.

1943

Lehman Is Elected Head Of United Nations Relief

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—(AP)—Delegates from 44 nations yesterday unanimously elected former Gov. Herebrt H. Lehman of New York as director general of the United Nations relief and rehabilitation administration.

Lehman was nominated by Dr. Tungfu F. Esiang, Chinese delegate. Anders Frihagen, Norwegian delegate, said in seconding the nomination that he knew of "few, if any, men we would rather trust with this great task of rehabilitation."

In his new post, the former governor will direct the program of supplying food, clothing, medicine and other means of rehabilitation to occupied countries as soon as they are freed of Axis domination. He also is U. S. director of foreign relief and rehabilitation.

Lehman's election was preceded by the acceptance speeches of his three vice chairmen—Sir Owen Dixon of Australia, P. A. Kerstens of the Netherlands and Rafael de la Colina of Mexico.

Dixon expressed hope that UNRRA would follow immediately in the wake of liberating armies in Asia and Oceania.

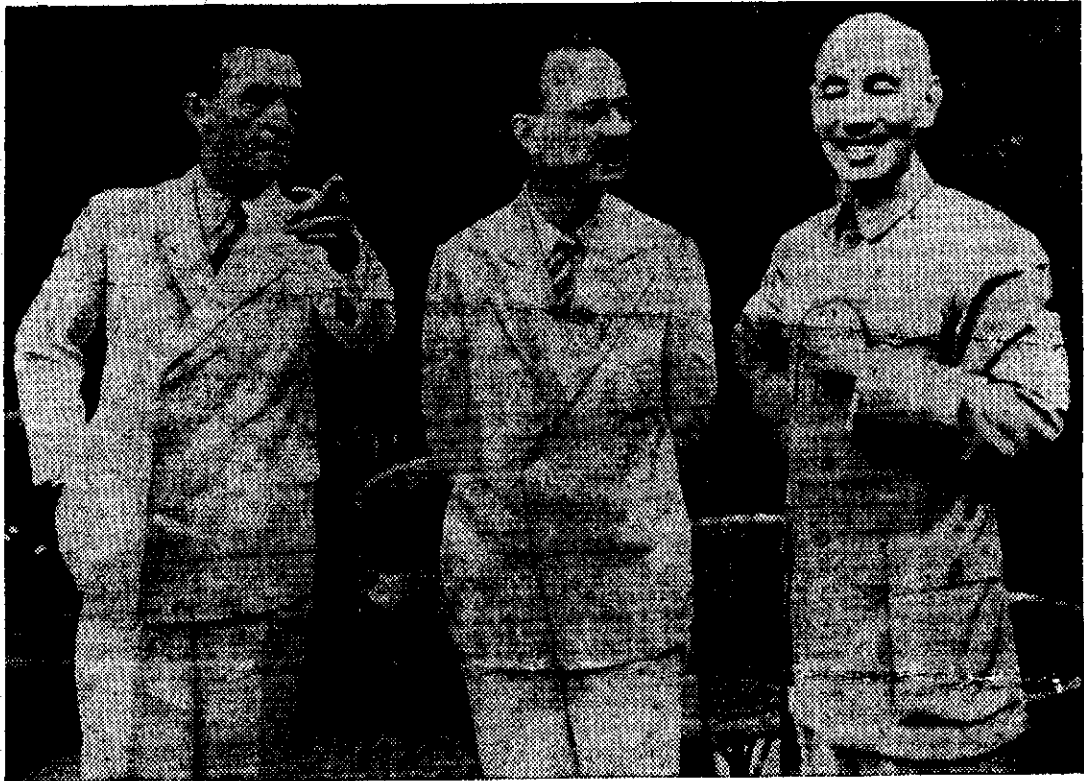
Kerstens declared that if UNRRA failed in its task it would leave greater destruction behind it than the armies, in the form of destruction of hope of the people in the occupied countries.

Dean Acheson, assistant Secretary of State, who was elected earlier yesterday as permanent chairman of the UNRRA council, told a press conference that a major problem facing UNRRA was just how far its scope should extend.

Some countries—France, the Netherlands and Norway, for example—have cash balances with which to work, Acheson said, and therefore could begin to rebuild major losses such as power plants and railroads, should UNRRA rule such projects, while countries like Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugo-Slavia would not be in such a favored position.

Shin Dural

THE FLYING TIGERS by RUSSELL WHELAN



SMILING THROUGH—Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek (right) with his American adviser, Owen Lattimore (center) and Claire L. Chennault.

PRECEDE

Russell Whelan knows the history of every flier in the American Volunteer Group. He can tell you how many dog fights each took part in, and how many Japs went down under Tiger guns. He makes you understand why they flew for China, how they felt about the scrap they got into, and how, occasionally, they died.

CHAPTER TWO

The strangest venture of the Second World war—the venture of the American Volunteer Group which sent 250 American boys to China long before Dec. 7, 1941—was the upshot of a series of critical events in Asia.

The story begins with Chiang Kai-shek, the great lieutenant of the little doctor, Sun Yat-sen,

who had guided the revolution of 1911 that overthrew the imperial Manchu throne and gave the people of China their chance for freedom and the pursuit of happiness.

Ironically, Chiang had learned the art of the soldier in the Tokio Military Academy, and served for a time in the 13th Field artillery of the Imperial Japanese army. In 1908, a youth of 20, he returned to China to work for its liberation from the Manchu rule. After the revolution came the long years of civil war, with Chiang emerging in 1927 as the leader of the Kuomintang party and the general of its small but well-trained army. His dream was the unification and modernization of his country.

When China began to emerge from the cocoon of the centuries, the Japanese decided to strike before it was too late. In 1931 they attacked and occupied the Chinese provinces of Manchuria.

In 1932 they attacked Shanghai and after two months of bitter fighting occupied most of the Chinese areas there. After consolidating their conquest of Manchuria and draining that rich land of much of its wealth, they moved into Chahar and Jehol.

Finally in 1937, when they had put down all pacifist opposition at home, the Japanese military machine struck at the heart of China.

The shots fired, upon the Chinese at the Marco Polo Bridge outside Peiping on July 7, 1937, were shots that should have been heard "round the world." They announced the war to dominate Asia and the Pacific. But they went unheeded in a Europe and an America content in the fool's paradise of peace at any price.

In 1930, as we have seen, the reborn China of Chiang Kai-shek realized that an attack by Japan was inevitable. The question was how to defend against it? China had neither the money nor the materials and crafts to build a navy capable of challenging the ambitions of Tokio. It had the manpower for a large army, but lacked the industries to equip this manpower for modern war. Chiang felt, however, that a strong air force was a practical possibility. Accordingly, after the invasion of Manchuria, he asked the British government to install a military aviation system for China. The British declined, on the ground that such a move might be frowned on in Tokio.

Chiang then turned to the United States government, which agreed, after considerable parley, to send an "unofficial" mission to China.

In 1932 this American air mission arrived in Hankow under Col. John H.

Jouett,* who had recently retired from the U. S. Army Air Forces. Jouett, a pioneer in American military aviation, was a disciple of the late General "Billy" Mitchell, the great prophet of air power who suffered so long without the honors that developments of the Second World War would finally heap upon his name.

With Jouett came nine experienced U. S. Army pilots, among them Christy Mathewson Jr., son of the famous old pitcher of the New York Giants and Harvey Greenlaw, who later was to become second in command of the American Volunteer Group.

At Hangchow Jouett found a couple of dilapidated hangars, a small and bumpy airfield, and an assortment of Russian and British airplanes so old and badly cared for that they offered a greater threat to China than to a potential invader. He learned that the Chinese regarded military aviation as a profession reserved for the elite of money, family, or political power. But he met there the man named Chiang Kai-shek, who could listen, and understand. Chiang gave Jouett a free hand for his plan to build in Hangchow a "Randolph Field" for China. Jouett promptly fired eighty-five per cent of the pilots in the Chinese Air Force, demoted every officer two ranks, and raised the pay of all fliers from \$30 Chinese to \$100 Chinese per month to improve morale and protect against "squeeze," the Oriental term for graft.

Six weeks later the Central Chinese Aviation Academy was established with steel hangars and facilities for two hundred men. A year later it had two hundred and fifty modern fighting ships and three hundred and fifty Chinese pilots trained to the exacting standards of the U. S. Army, the highest in the world.

But Japan didn't like all this, and used diplomatic pressure to force Jouett's mission out of China. Regrettably Chiang had to accede to Tokyo's demand in December, 1934, and for a time thereafter China's air power came under the direction of various soldiers of fortune, Russian, British, Italian, and American, many of these last enlisted through the efforts of Dr. Margaret "Mom" Chung, the Chinese woman-surgeon of San Francisco.

*Now President of the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of the United States. While at West Point, Jouett played end against Knute Rockne of Notre Dame in the famous 35 to 13 game in 1913 which introduced the East to the art and mystery of the forward pass in football.

(To be continued)

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Interpreting The War News

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
Associated Press War Analyst for The Star

CHUNGKING, Jan. 8—(Del-
yed)—China's whole economic
ructure is reflected not only in
ie war effort but in the lives of
ie people.

The cost of living has zoomed
ntil in some categories it is fan-
istic. Along with this there is
flation which has sent Chinese
oney tumbling. The government
as pegged the Chinese dollar at
bout one-seventh of its normal
alue, making it worth approxi-
ately five cents in American
oney.

Industries throughout the
country are handicapped or
hamstrung. The lack of raw ma-
terials and replacements for ma-
chinery are among the biggest
obstacles.

All this naturally is inextric-
ably linked with China's lack of
physical communications with
the outside world. Her economic
status is dependent in a major
degree on the supplies she re-
ceives from abroad, and her life-
line is that slender thread of air
transport which is being kept
open between India and Chung-
king by Uncle Sam's airmen.

Tragedy Or Godsend

Should that tenuous line be de-
pleted it would represent tragedy
for China. Conversely any in-
crease in the supplies now being
received over the skyline would be
a Godsend, China's well being in-
creases or decreases in direct ra-
tio to this help.

This background is by way of
preface to the statement given me
by China's great statesman, T. V.
Soong, who has served his coun-
try in many capacities and is now
foreign minister. You know him
also as China's lease-lend expert
who, until recently, was in Wash-
ington. He is a graduate of Har-
vard and a man of wide educa-
tion and culture.

I gave you just a word of
Soong's statement in Thursday's
dispatch, and that was that 100
more transport planes on the air-
line from India to China would
vastly improve China's position.
He said this increase in planes
would "transpose the economic
picture."

Now, Soong not only is an ex-
pert but he is cautious in his
language. So when he says that
100 more transport planes would
"transpose the economic picture"
we must recognize that he re-
gards this transaction as of great
importance.

Asks Essential Supplies

It is doubly significant that his
suggestion is quite outside the

circle of military requests which
China has made. Soong isn't ask-
ing for warplanes or tanks or
arms of any sort. He wants to
increase the essential supplies,
which act not only as a blood
transfusion to Chinese industry
but mean much to public morale.

However, the bulk of supplies
would be required for military
purposes and industries. It is
amazing how many operations
both in manufacturing plants and
on the battlefield can be held up
by the lack of some comparative-
ly small gargets which must come
from the outside world on the
wings of Uncle Sam's transports.

A dozen planes might conceiv-
ably carry what is needed to pave
the way for the capture of an
important enemy position or to
set all the wheels of a great fac-
tory running.

Having got a closer view of
China's position I must say that
if I had 100 transport planes to
dispose of I would turn them over
to the Skyline Express as fast
as I could.

It would seem clear to me also
that such a gesture would tend
to alleviate the feeling here that
China is being left out in the
cold by her Allies.

Treasury Status

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9. (AP)—The
position of the Treasury Jan. 7:

Receipts, \$39,393,984.42; expendi-
tures, \$234,344,334.63; total debt
\$112,952,084,561.56; increase over
previous day, \$41,503,032.57.

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DAY—By Eleanor Roosevelt

United Nations Conference At White House Is Memorable Scene

WASHINGTON, Tuesday.—Today in the East room of the White House we witnessed a very memorable occasion. The representatives of 44 nations sat around a long table with the President of the United States. Behind them were their flags, brilliantly lit by the lights of the crystal chandeliers and the photographers' and news reels' lamps.

I watched each man go up to represent his country and thought how interesting it was that, before the end of the war, we have the vision this time to realize that there is much work to do and preparation by the peoples of the United Nations is necessary.

Some of us had slipped into the East room to look at the pageant of colors before any delegates arrived. One of the White House guards remarked, "This is wonderful. I only hope that we will stay together this time after the war and not repeat what we did before."

I think the mere fact that this meeting is being held, is a promise that we shall not repeat our past mistakes. It also shows clearly that the governments of the nations know that this must be a joint undertaking. There, in that room, 80 per cent of the population of the world was represented but I could not help thinking that the people who are really going to make the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agreement a success or a failure, will soon have to be brought into the picture.

Every nation which has not suffered to the point of destitution during the war, must set itself to work now to save to lay up huge stocks of food, clothing and machinery for the future. This means that innumerable people will have to conserve food, materials and machinery. It will have to be done by people as individuals in every nation, but particularly by those nations where bombs have never fallen.

Almost always it is women who are the members of the family who have to start to make these savings possible. They have to remind their men of the extra care that has to be taken of this and that.

In this country we have never been very careful of our machinery. The life of many a machine could be lengthened on the farm, in the home and in the factory. The time has come for us to think a bit, because this saving can not begin when the war ends.

It must begin immediately, because the results of the savings must be in the hands of UNRRA as each new area is liberated by our united military effort. This is really a call and challenge to the women in the fortunate countries, from their unfortunate sisters who have suffered so much in the past few years. In this country we can only answer for ourselves, but I hope our answer will be generous.

Panhellenic Luncheon Meeting Is Tomorrow

Panhellenic Luncheon Meeting

University Women Hear Col.

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Kismet son B. meeting home of ceeds. M office. Mrs. named liam G Mrs. Ra A letu dles for member Christm

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United Nations Group Intends Aiding Those Now Stricken

Pact Signed At White House By 44 Nations

WASHINGTON, Nov. 9. (AP)—President Roosevelt climaxed the signing of a United Nations relief agreement today with the declaration that it, coupled with the recent Moscow documents, shows that "we mean business in this war in a political and humanitarian sense just as surely as we mean business in a military sense."

"It is one more strong link joining the United Nations in facing problems of mutual need and interest," he said at the conclusion of a White House ceremony, in which representatives of 43 countries joined with the United States in creating the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to feed, clothe, and revive war-stricken nations.

The President spoke in the historic east room. He faced representatives of the other United Nations and those associated with them as well as the French National Committee of Liberation, who had affixed their signatures to the document pledging each to feed and clothe the millions oppressed by the Axis and, as Mr. Roosevelt put it, to build for the future "a world of decency and security and peace."

To Discuss Policies

Representatives of the 44 countries will journey to Atlantic City, N. J., tomorrow for discussions on policies and practical means of accomplishing their stupendous relief task.

"The sufferings of the little men and women who have been ground under the Axis heel," the President told his distinguished audience and several hundred official guests, "can be relieved only if we utilize the production of all the world to balance the want of all the world."

"In UNRRA we have devised a mechanism, based on the processes of true democracy, which can go far toward accomplishment of such an objective in the days and months of desperate emergency which will follow the overthrow of the Axis."

The President said that responsibility for alleviating the suffering and misery occasioned by the German and Japanese campaigns of plunder and destruction "must be assumed not by any individual nation, but by all the united and associated nations acting together."

"No one country," he added, "could—or should—attempt to bear the burden of meeting the vast relief needs—either in money or in supplies."

Many Areas Stripped
Describing as immediate and urgent the work confronting UNRRA, he said the organization will have to operate at first in areas of food shortages, because

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3.)

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Allied headquarters in Algier said photographs showed that every building of the Fiat Bearing plant was demolished or damaged to such an extent that the factory could not operate. The plant was regarded as the third most important bearing producer in German-occupied Europe. The raid, which also damaged rail yards, recalled the heavy Fortress attack last month on the bearing plant at Schweinfurt, Germany.)

Frontier dispatches to the Geneva newspaper La Suisse said the attack smashed all Turin's street car services, deprived the city of gas and electricity, and cut off the water supply in many quarters.

Victims were estimated in the thousands, the dispatches said, and this morning fires were still raging along entire streets in the center of Turin.

The first wave of 50 American four-engined bombers arrived over the city without warning, bombs hitting targets even before the sirens sounded. A second wave of 40 planes came in over the smoking city at a low altitude, meeting only a weak anti-aircraft barrage.

Fascist newspapers in northern Italy described the raid as the gravest of the many that Turin has suffered.

Nine Colored Men Go To Roanoke

Nine colored men left Winchester this morning for the Roanoke Induction Station. The list, as released by the Winchester City Local Board, was as follows:

Floyd Benjamin, Joseph Avery, Joseph Garfield Cartwright, Arthur Theodore Lewis, Charles Splown, William Blake, Eugene Parker, Ralph Lewis Nelson and Joseph Herbert Willis

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44 Nations Sign Accord To Help Victims of War

WASHINGTON — (P) — Representatives of 44 united and associated nations sat below the brilliant flags of as many countries in the White House yesterday and signed an agreement to feed, clothe and shelter the suffering civilian victims of Axis aggression as their homelands are liberated—an agreement which President Roosevelt hailed as historic.

"Coming after the declarations of Moscow," the president told his distinguished audience in the red and gold east room, "this agreement shows that we mean business in this war in a political and humanitarian sense, just as surely as we mean business in a military sense."

He declared that it represented one more "strong link" joining the Allies and their sympathizers at a time "when our military power is becoming predominant, when our enemies are being pushed back—all over the world."

Later at his news conference, the president re-emphasized what he called the great importance of the relief agreement, pointing out that it represented the first permanent organization of its kind growing out of the war association.

The chief executive told newsmen that the emphasis would be on relief in the broad sense and rehabilitation in a limited sense. For the purposes of the program, he interpreted rehabilitation to cover, among other things, seed, farm implements, and the nucleus of dairy herds.

He said it did not include all sorts of measures to bring people back to their full normal economic level although work will be done in that direction.

Roosevelt pointed out that arrangements to give effect to the international relief agreement will be subject to ratification by legislatures. The constitution still lives, he said.

He said the international relief organization at its first meeting will elect a director and appoint committees, including those on acquisition and distribution of relief supplies. He emphasized that each nation would share in the burden according to its ability.

Representatives of the 43 united and associated nations and the French committee of national liberation (which the president included as a nation by his group reference) will meet today in Atlantic City to confer on practical means of carrying out the

RAT. WAGES.

War May Not End U. S. Rationing

ATLANTIC CITY—(U.P.)—The United Nations are planning a healthy diet of 2,000 calories a day for the freed people of Europe as the Allied armies advance, even though it may mean continued rationing in the United States and other countries, United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Director Herbert H. Lehman revealed yesterday.

"I am sure that whatever sacrifice the people of this country are called on to make," Lehman said, "they will accept it willingly recognizing the great objectives of winning the war and maintaining peace."

Lehman's indication of continued rationing came by implication. At his first news conference held after having been unanimously named to be the world's greatest "vitamin diplomat"—far exceeding the scope of the work done by former President Herbert Hoover, who rose to fame as World War I relief administrator, he said that the 2,000 calory figure had been generally agreed on as the minimum needed to maintain life and health. A similar figure had been adopted by the inter-allied committee on post-war requirements, created in 1941, whose work has since been taken over by UNRRA.

(Food distribution administration spokesmen at Washington said the number of calories in the average American wartime diet ranges from 3,000 to 3,300 daily.)

New League of Nations?

Diplomats are watching the Atlantic City food and rehabilitation conference opening today more carefully than any other international event in this country. They figure that the pattern it adopts will set the stage for whatever type of world peace organization the U. S. A. may join after the war.

Also they are worried. For the preliminary moves look to small nation diplomats as if the worst features of the League of Nations were being sown all over again.

In fact a virtual League of Nations on food and rehabilitation seems to be in the works. Here is what is happening:

Yesterday, one day before the 44 United Nations and Associated Nations meet at Atlantic City, the Big Four—U. S., U. S. S. R., Britain, China—met in Washington and signed an agreement regarding the organization to be created at Atlantic City. In other words, before the 44 nations met, the Big Four decided for them the general structure they would have to okeh.

This structure provides for a sort of

THE GUARDS AND THE GHOST

One thousand five hundred men at Caterham Guards Depot are talking about a "ghost" in the Quartermaster's stores. It is said that the "ghost" made soap move around on the shelves, produced a shower of nails, caused a poker to fall and spilt cleaning material over a spotless floor.

Five guardsmen 200 yards away heard bumping noises coming from the stores.

They thought the bumps were a kind of message.

"So," said one, "we whispered, are you guardsmen?, answer with two knocks if you are." Two knocks came back.

Later a soldier was standing still in the store huts and two large bolts clicked together and he saw a washer roll off the shelf.

That night eight men went into the stores. "While we were standing there at about nine o'clock the phone began to ring. When we answered there was no one at the other end."

An officer, recalling Banquo's ghost in "Macbeth" has named the later phenomenon "Blanco's Ghost."—Reuter.