

RANGER DAILY TIMES

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WASHINGTON COLUMN

BY PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—When young Brig-Gen. Charles E. Saltzman takes over as Assistant Secretary of State for Occupied Areas, he will assume policy-making responsibility for a military government that is currently running over \$1 billion a year in the red. This billion is the present cost of U. S. occupation in enemy countries. It is divided roughly one-third for Germany, one-third for Japan, the rest for Austria and Korea.

All Saltzman will have to do in the next few years is try to liquidate the business or come as close as he can to making it break even. It's a terrific job even for a vice president of the New York Stock Exchange, which is what Saltzman gave up to come to Washington. For the past few weeks, he has been sitting in with the present Assistant Secretary, Maj.-Gen. John H. Hilldring, who is resigning Sept. 1.

Hilldring has been in it up to his ears for over five years. In the War Department, before he moved to State, he shaped policies for the first military government in occupied areas. Looking back on the record, he can point to the fact that the United States has stuck to the same objectives all the way through. This was to try to make the enemy countries into democracies. The methods of trying to achieve that objective have been changed from time to time—from the original directive 1067, to the Potsdam declaration, to the Byrnes Stuttgart policy, to the recently revised 1067 and on to the Marshall plan now being worked out.

GENERAL HILLDRING believes that the U. S. can take pride in the fact that the governments of the American zones in Germany, Austria, Japan and Korea are most successful and most popular with the people.

There comes a time, however, when military government wears out. General MacArthur has been doing some talking on that in Japan. He puts the time limit between three and five years. That points up the need of two things. First, shifting government of the occupation zones from military to civilian control. That is now being worked on. In due time the State Department will take over this job from the War Department, though Army police will remain. Second is the making of peace treaties with Japan and Germany.

The Japanese treaty is not expected to cause great difficulty, because in Japan the U. S. has major control. If Russia doesn't want to go along, the other Allies can make separate peace. German peace is something else again.

In the meantime, much can be done to build up the German economy. The problem is economic first, political second. It becomes a political problem—how to handle communism—only if the business life of Germany is allowed to collapse completely.

MANAGEMENT of the two combined zones, to make them self-supporting by 1951, was set up on a 50-50 basis. If the British want the U. S. to pay more of the costs—and indications seem to point that way—that will raise the issue of whether the U. S. will have proportionately greater control.

Only good would come of that, for it would speed up the recovery of Germany by breaking production bottlenecks and putting American policies and management over lagging German industries.

The French, in the long run, are expected to come along. French leaders are still making speeches against revival of German industry—for political purposes.

In the desire to liquidate the costly American occupation of Germany, there may be some policy demand here at home to turn the job of running western Europe over to the French. They have done a good job in their own zone. It is self-supporting.

But any thought of turning the Ruhr over to the French is out. All that would mean would be the bleeding of Germany. That would throw the German people into an alliance with the Russians. That would mean the collapse of all Europe.

Thirty Bodies Removed From Train Wreck

By David Frost

DUGALD, Manitoba — Thirty bodies were removed from the wreckage of two Canadian national railways passenger trains here today and police said more victims may be found in the still-considering coaches. The trains collided head-on at the Dugald station last night. At least 25 persons were injured in the crash, which involved a holiday train enroute to Winnipeg and a transcontinental express eastbound from Winnipeg to Toronto.

EYE FOR BEAUTY

ATLANTA, Ga. (UP)—A burglar ransacked the house of Mrs. C. W. Wrigley here but took only one tempting article—a calendar illustrated with pictures of scantily clad girls.

READ CLASSIFIEDS DAILY

18 GERMANS CONVICTED BY BRITISH

HAMBURG—Eighteen Germans, 15 of them high ranking S. S. officers, were convicted by a British military court today of killing 50 R. A. F. men who had been recaptured after a mass break from a prisoner of war camp.

The 18 defendants had been on trial since July 1 charged with violations of the laws of war and with the actual killings. Their convictions brought to a conclusion one of the most gruesome chapters in the RAF's wartime history.

In March, 1944, 43 Saran, Alled airmen tried a mass escape for which they had been preparing many weeks. Seventy-eight of them broke out of camp, but only three eluded capture.

Those recaptured were brought back to the camp and, according to the trial evidence, were shot outright. The Germans claimed in their defense that the 50 men had been killed while trying to escape.

DISPOSAL OF GRAIN AWAITS BRITISH NOD

WASHINGTON—The Agricultural Department said today it will not dispose of American grain earmarked for Britain until the British decide definitely what their future buying policy will be.

Britain announced over the week-end that it was suspending all purchases of American food at least temporarily because of the continuing dollar crisis. Agricultural officials said there was no indication how long the buying ban will last.

"Until we know definitely whether this new no-purchase policy is to be a permanent thing, we will make no other disposition of the grain which currently is scheduled for shipment in September and October," one official said.

He said that if Britain decides not to take delivery on the grain, it presumably will be divided among other deficit countries overseas.

Britain's withdrawal from the American food market was not expected to effect domestic prices because her purchases had been relatively small.

Defends Comics Against Police

BUTLER, Pa. (UP)—Comic books have nothing to do with juvenile delinquency because for the most part the "good guy" in the color classics wins out.

This was a magazine dealer's retort to charges of the Pennsylvania Police Chiefs Association that crime stories in comic books had a bad influence on children.

"In the comic books right always wins out," said the dealer who claims comic books sell in great quantity than any other type of magazine.

About 10,000,000 bushels of corn are estimated to be needed to plant the 1947 Illinois hybrid acreage.

READ THE CLASSIFIEDS

Yes - USED FATS Are Still Needed

1637 CLEMENTINE PADDOLEFORD, Food Editor of This Week



Here's the answer to you women who are wondering if you should still save used fats! Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson says, "It is still necessary to conserve every pound of fat, since the over-all fat supply situation is little better now than it was last year." You see, many things we use require industrial fats or their products, and there aren't enough fats in the world to go around, as yet. So every pound we women of America can save will help. Please... keep up the good work until we've got this situation really licked.

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RANGER JUNIOR COLLEGE

Ranger, Texas

BUY U. S. SAVING BONDS

Postal Pussy



Pity poor Kitty, the Philadelphia city hall's pet cat, who tries to snatch letters as they drop down the mail chute. Glass partition frustrates her, but also keeps her out of trouble with postal authorities.

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