Communists Launch Central China Drives; Successes Reported

By the Associated Press

CANTON, China, July 18.—Fighting between Nationalists and Communists flamed into new activity in Central China today.

Official dispatches reported several Nationalist setbacks.

The objective of Red troops—on the march after a two-month stalemate—appeared to be Changsha, Hunan provincial capital and a Nationalist strongpoint. The official dispatches told of these developments:

Four Red divisions (possibly 30,000 men) captured Ichang, Yangtze port 600 air miles west of Shanghai and 200 miles north of Changsha.

Nationalists, yielding to strong attacks, abandoned Paochi, Shensi Province, western terminus of the Lunghai railroad, but counter-attacked west and south of the town.

A big battle is shaping up in Western Kiangsi Province, east of Hunan and directly above Kwangtung—where Canton is situated.

Nationalists lost—but regained—the Kiangsi highway town of Anfu, 300 miles north of Canton.

Reds Report Advance.

The Red radio at Peiping, as heard in Communist-ruled Nanking, said Red forces under Manchurian Gen. Lin Piao had penetrated the Nationalist defenses and driven into Hunan province from both Southern Hupeh and Western Kiangsi.

The broadcast claimed capture of both Ichang and Shasi, 70 miles east along the Yangtze. It said the southern columns of Red troops from Kiangsi had taken Kian on the Kan River, about 120 air miles from the Kwantung border.

The Peiping radio identified the Hunan defender as Gen. Pai Chung-hsi, who withdrew from Hankow in May.

Chinese press reports in British Hong Kong said the new Red drive had caused fresh panic among Nationalist officials in Canton. The defense ministry, these accounts said, has chartered 21 civilian planes to ferry important equipment out of the provisional capital.

Economic trouble beset Communist-held Shanghai. Rice prices shot up more than 30 per cent. The Communist dollar was further inflated, but the official rate of exchange lagged behind the price of rice—on which wages are based. Shanghai employers said they couldn't meet the rice increases.



PROPAGANDA PARADE—An estimated 100,000 workers and students participated in an anti-black-market demonstration in Communist-controlled Shanghai. Huge portraits of Chu Teh (left), commander-in-chief of the Chinese Communist army, and Mao Tze-tung, leader of the Chinese Communist Party, were conspicuous in all the demonstrations. The banner on the front of the first truck reads, "The second propaganda team of the Shanghai-Woosung garrison." The writing on the side of the truck means "Prohibit silver dollar transactions to stabilize the currency."
—AP Wirephoto.

Battle Produces Letter From Petrillo Urging Support for Miller

By the Associated Press

John S. Battle last night produced a letter from James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, to prove his charge that Virginians are being influenced from outside the State to support the gubernatorial candidacy of Frances Pickens Miller.

The letter, which Mr. Battle gave to the press at the same time he telegraphed Mr. Miller he was doing so, was on printed stationery and addressed to "the members of the American Federation of Musicians in Virginia." It bore Mr. Petrillo's printed signature and said in part:

"Various States have enacted legislation which means absolute ruination to the labor movement, therefore we are compelled to take an interest in all State elections, in order to preserve the rights of the working people.

"It is most important that you lend your support to Francis Pickens Miller, a liberal and progressive anti-machine candidate. It is in the interests of yourself, the organization to which you belong, and to all the workers of Virginia—organized and unorganized—that every effort be made to elect Francis Pickens Miller.

Assistance Asked.

"Labor's league for political education in Virginia is conducting an aggressive campaign, through Mr. Jack S. Smits, chairman of this organization * * * won't you please make contact with Mr. Smith and give whatever service is possible in this crucial campaign?

"* * * As president of this great American Federation of Musicians, I cannot impress upon you too strongly the necessity of taking an immediate, active part in this election, to protect the general welfare of all musicians.

"For this reason I solicit your help in the election of Francis Pickens Miller."

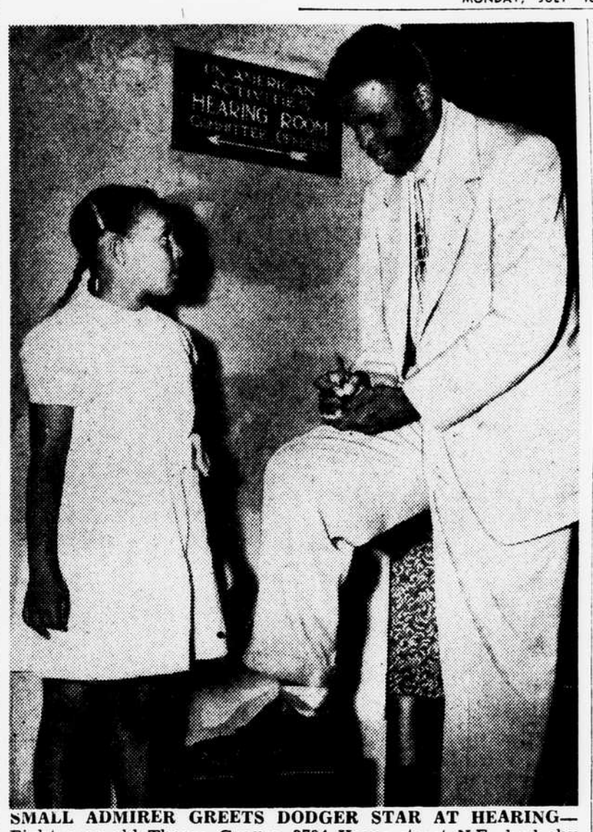
And this is what Mr. Battle, another of the four Democratic candidates for the governorship, said in part in his telegram to Miller:

To Talk on Radio.

"In answer to your telegram of July 16 * * * in which you call upon me to furnish proof of my statement that out-of-State labor leaders are attempting to influence the gubernatorial campaign in your favor, I am releasing the Petrillo letter to the press.

"I will be glad to furnish you a copy of this letter upon request."

This, Mr. Battle said, was just the beginning. He said he "expected to go into this matter in more detail in a radio address" which he will make tomorrow night from Newport News.



SMALL ADMIRER GREETS DODGER STAR AT HEARING—Eight-year-old Theora Graves, 3734 Hayes street N.E., had shy greetings for Jackie Robinson, Brooklyn baseball star, as he entered the House Un-American Activities Committee room today to speak for his fellow Negroes.
—Star Staff Photo.

Un-American

(Continued From First Page.)

to the committee. He prefaced it by commenting:

"It isn't very pleasant for me to find myself in the middle of a public argument that has nothing to do with the standing of the Dodgers in the pennant race—or even the pay raise I'm going to ask Mr. Branch Rickey for next year."

Of Mr. Robeson's declaration that American Negroes had too much affection for Russia ever to fight her, he said:

"I haven't any comment to make, except that the statement, if Mr. Robeson actually made it, sounds very silly to me. But he has a right to his personal views, and if he wants to sound silly when he expresses them in public that's his business and not mine. He's still a famous ex-athlete and a great singer and actor.

"I understand that there are some few Negroes who are members of the Communist Party, and in event of war with Russia they'd probably act just as any other Communist would. * * *And most Negroes—and Italians and Irish and Jews and Swedes and Slavs and other Americans—would act just as all these groups did in the last war.

"They would do their best to keep their country out of war; if unsuccessful, they would do their best to help their country win the war—against Russia or any other enemy that threatened us. * * *

"I and other Americans of many races and faiths have too much invested in our country's welfare for any of us to throw it away because of a siren song sung in bass."

He went on to say, however, that white citizens should realize Negroes resent "slurs and discrimination."

"Just because Communists kick up a big fuss over racial discrimination when it suits their purposes, a lot of people try to pretend that the whole issue in a creation of Communist imagination," Mr. Robinson said. "But they are not fooling any one with this kind of pretense, and talk about 'Communists stirring up Negroes to protest' only makes present misunderstanding worse than ever."

Was Urged Not to Testify.

"Negroes were stirred up long before there was a Communist Party," he added, "and they will stay stirred up long after the party has disappeared—unless Jim Crow has disappeared by then as well."

Mr. Robinson said he had received a number of messages urging him not to show up at the hearing—some of them "from people for whom I have a lot of respect and who are just as opposed to Communist methods as I am."

He explained these apparently were sent because "some of the policies of this committee have become political issues." He said he decided to appear, however, out "of a sense of responsibility."

While not pretending to be an expert on communism, he told the committee, "you can put me down as an expert on being a colored American."

Says Job Is Unfinished.

"I'm not fooled because I've had a chance open to very few Negro Americans," he continued. "It's true that I've been the laboratory specimen in a great change in organized baseball. I'm proud that I've made good on my assignment to the point where other colored players will find it easier to enter the game and go to the top. But I'm well aware that even this limited job isn't finished yet. There are only three major league clubs with only seven colored players signed up, out of close to 400 major league players on 16 clubs.

"But a start has been made, and progress goes on, and Southern fans as well as Northern fans, are showing that they like the way things are working. And as long as the fans approve, we're going to keep on making progress, until we go the rest of the way in wiping Jim Crow out of American sports."

Mr. Robinson's wife sat near the witness table as he testified. When he was finished members of the committee complimented him on his statement. Representative Harrison, Democrat, of Virginia, acting chairman, assured him that the committee had no doubt as to the loyalty of the bulk of the colored population.

Best's Death Penalty Cut To 5 Years in Denmark

By the Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark, July 18.—An appeals court today commuted to five years imprisonment the death sentence previously imposed on Dr. Werner Best, wartime Nazi gauleiter for Denmark.

The court also commuted the death sentence of the Nazi Gestapo Chief for Denmark, Otto Bovensiapen, to life imprisonment. It affirmed the 20-year prison sentence of Police Gen. Guenther Puncke, and acquitted Gen. Hermann von Hanneken, commander of the Nazi occupation army, who previously had been sentenced to eight years.

Best, high commissioner for the Reich in Denmark from 1942 to 1945, was sentenced last October. He was accused of having taken the initiative in mass deportation of Danish Jews.

WHY NOT?
It costs no more to park at the
Capital Garage
New York Avenue
between 13th and 14th

Rites to Be Held Tomorrow For Dr. George von Alexich

Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Dr. George M. von Alexich, 55, former Austrian diplomat and faculty member of the Georgetown University Graduate School, who died last Friday.

Prayers will be said at 8:30 a.m. at the Hanlon funeral home, 3831 Georgia avenue N.W., followed by requiem mass at 9 a.m. at the hurch of the Annunciation, Thirty-ninth street and Massachusetts avenue N.W. Burial will be in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Dr. Alexich, a naturalized citizen, came to the United States in 1940, a refugee from his native Austria. He had served as Austrian ambassador to The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg and resigned from the diplomatic service when Hitler occupied Austria.

He served with the Office of War Information here during the war and, in 1943, was appointed assistant professor of political science at Georgetown. He also had been on the staff of the National Catholic Walfare Conference, since coming to Washington. Representatives from the university and the conference will attend the funeral.

Dr. Alexich was found dead in his apartment at 3900 Cathedral avenue N.W. His widow and daughter, Maria, survive him.

Briton Pleads Insanity Defense In Admitting Slaying of Nine

By the Associated Press

LEWES, England, July 18.—Handsome John George Haigh was quoted in court today as telling police he killed nine persons, drank some of their blood and then dissolved the bodies in acid.

Haigh pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity to a charge of murdering Mrs. Olive Durand-Deacon, 69, a wealthy widow, last February 18. The debonair, 39-year-old businessman walked jauntily to the bench and answered "not guilty" in a clear, firm voice.

Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe, a prosecutor at the international Nuernberg war crimes trial, is Haigh's defense attorney. He read in court a statement he said Haigh gave to police admitting the killing of the widow and the others. He said Haigh was "insane so as not to be responsible for the act," and thus innocent of premeditated murder.

The statement said Haigh lured Mrs. Durand-Deacon to a factory warehouse in nearby Crawley and shot her in the back of the head.

Used Drinking Glass.

"Then I fetched in a drinking glass and made an incision, I think with a penknife, in the side of her neck, and collected a glass of blood, which I drank."

The statement also told of the killing of William Donald McSwann, a London youth, in 1944.

"I hit him on the head, then withdrew a glass of blood from his throat and drank it," said the statement.

McSwann, it continued, died within about five minutes.

"I put him in a 40-gallon tank and disposed of him with acid," it related.

The statement also said Haigh killed McSwann's parent, Donald and Amy McSwann, in 1946, and Dr. Archibald Henderson and Mrs. Henderson, in 1948.

"In each of the last four cases, I had my glass of blood as before," the statement continued.

Three Others Not Named.

A second statement introduced by Sir David quoted Haigh as confessing to police the murders of three other persons whose names were not mentioned. All were killed in the same way, the statement said, and their bodies dissolved.

The statement quoted Haigh as relating that the first case was that of a woman about 35 he met in a London suburb.

"She came with me to this flat," the statement said, "where I duly tapped her on the head with a cosh (short club) and tapped her for blood."

The second was "a youngish man about the autumn of the same year," and the third was "a girl who later told me her name was Mary." The statement did not say what year these killings were supposed to have occurred.

The statement added:

"I have had nothing to do with the disappearance of any persons other than those I have already mentioned."

Knowland Expects Aid For China This Session

By the Associated Press

A reported softening in the State Department's attitude may produce some military aid for Nationalist China before this session of Congress ends, Senator Knowland, Republican, of California, predicted today.

Senator Knowland told a reporter that advocates of a program to help keep Southern and Western China out of Communist hands have agreed to push their proposals soon after the Senate votes on the North Atlantic alliance.

He said those who want help sent to China may seek to include $200,000,000 for China in the general arms program. As an alternative, he said they may try to attach authorization for that amount to a pending bill to approve a $150,000,000 outlay in Korea.

Ching Calls Officials Here To Avert Hershey Strike

By the Associated Press

The Government summoned management and union officials here today to try to head off a strike of 4,400 workers at the Hershey (Pa.) Chocolate Corp.

The meeting was called by Cyrus S. Ching, director of the United States Mediation Service, in hopes of untangling the union shop question that threatens to tie up the Central Pennsylvania chocolate town.

The AFL Bakery and Confectionery International Workers' Union wants the right to require all employes to join the union after 30 days on the job.

Hershey employes returned to work today following a two-week annual vacation with the strike date still not set. The union first called the strike for July 2 but postponed it because of the vacation period.

Hershey's interests branch out into the entire economy of the town and any walkout would paralyze its 10,000 residents. In addition to the big chocolate plant, Hershey owns the power, telephone and light facilities, milk stations, hotels, soap factory, lumber mill and furniture factory.

Wallet Sought as Clue To Slaying in Towson

By the Associated Press

TOWSON, MD., July 18.—Baltimore County police are trying to find a brown calfskin wallet in the hope it will lead to the solution of a Sunday morning slaying.

Roy Donsell Britton, jr., 34-year-old machine shop buyer for the Glenn L. Martin Co., was beaten severely on the head. His body was found about 1 a.m. yesterday behind a block of business buildings on Towson's main street.

A teletype notice asked police all over the State to be on the lookout for the wallet, which was missing from Mr. Britton's pocket. The description said the wallet contained two $50 bills and between $10 and $20 in other currency.

Investigators reported Mr. Britton was last seen about 11 p.m. Saturday in a tavern. They have not been able to account for his movements between then and the time the body was found.

Mr. Britton was the son of a deputy in the Baltimore County clerk's office. He and his wife were separated and his three young children lived with their mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Clement E. Roth discovered the body after Mrs. Roth went out in the alley to put some crab shells in the garbage can. They said they had heard no noise in the alley.

Pennsy Freight Wreck Delays Passenger Trains

By the Associated Press

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 18.—Fourteen cars of a Pennsylvania Railroad westbound freight train were derailed early yesterday 9 miles east of here on the road's main line.

There were no injuries.

A spokesman for the company in Philadelphia said the cars, loaded with iron ore, were in the middle of the long freight train.

Delays of some east and westbound passenger traffic resulted, but the company said one track was open at all times.

Czechs Find New Income—Selling Places in Queues

By the Associated Press

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, July 18.—You can make a pretty good living in this country just standing in a queue—and selling your place.

There are movie queues, free store queues and • tremendous queues for a weekly ration of motorcycles for sale. Limited numbers of these cycles are offered every Monday morning, at prices ranging from $920 to $1,260. The demand is so great a man can park himself outside the salesroom 24 hours in advance and sell the spot at a nice price.

The same can be done in the queues for the few—and very old American movies shown here. You can either buy a ticket and scalp it at a profit or sell your place in line.

Man Plunges to Death As 2 Parachutes Fail

By the Associated Press

RUTLAND, Vt., July 18.—George Beaudoin, 22, of Montpelier, plunged to his death yesterday when his parachutes failed in a demonstration jump before more than 1,000 spectators.

Rutland Airport officials said Mr. Beaudoin's regulation parachute failed to open and that an emergency parachute did not open until he was about 10 feet from the ground.

Mr. Beaudoin jumped from the wing of a plane flying at an altitude of 2,500 feet. The demonstration was arranged as part of a program featuring a model airplane contest at the airport.

Berkeley Springs Homes Flooded by Heavy Rainfall

By the Associated Press

BERKELEY SPRINGS, W. Va., July 18.—A heavy rainfall yesterday sent a creek over its banks, flooding several homes in the lowlying sections.

The Weather Bureau said three inches of rain fell between 4 and 6 a.m.

Warm Spring Run, which passes through the center of town, overflowed into the streets and covered the State park here with three feet of water.

Park Supt. Gracen Heare estimated $1,000 damage was caused to the resort's bath house and pathways.

Jap Radio Workers Testify Today in 'Tokyo Rose' Trial

By the Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO, July 18.—The prosecution in the "Tokyo Rose" treason trial today called on wartime employes of Radio Tokyo to put the finger on the 33-year-old defendant.

The slow-moving courtroom battle is entering its third week. Government attorneys will try to drive home their contention that Mrs. Iva Toguri d'Aquino broadcast propaganda for Japan willingly and voluntarily. The defense has about 20. Some 30 depositions from Japanese who didn't come in person will be offered.

The Government says Mrs. D'Aquino went to work for Radio Tokyo in 1943 as a typist and then became a disc jockey on programs beamed to American troops.

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4 morning, 1 at noon, 1 afternoon and 3 evening
11 daily flights to . . PITTSBURGH
4 morning, 1 at noon, 3 afternoon and 3 evening
8 daily flights to . . . CLEVELAND
2 morning, 3 afternoon and 3 evening
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THIS WEEK ONLY FROM MON., JULY 18, THRU SAT., JULY 23
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Beautifully dry cleaned and pressed
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Men's Business SHIRTS EXPERTLY LAUNDERED CELLOPHANE WRAPPED 17¢
ONE DAY SERVICE 3c EXTRA
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Any BLANKET 69¢
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Kent AMERICA'S LARGEST CLEANERS
There's a Kent Store in your neighborhood. See your telephone book yellow section under Cleaners for nearest store
Store Hours: 8 A.M.-7 P.M. Daily; Sat., 8 A.M.-8 P.M.

LOST.

BILLFOLD, Sat., vic. Eastern Market, containing permit, registration card and money. Reward. LI. 3-2622.

CAMERA, 35 m.m. Kodak in leather case. Reward. Box 134-V, Star. 19*

COIN PURSE, red plaid, with almost $100 and two keys att.; vic. S2 or R4 bus; reward. Call MISS HELEN TOWNSEND, RE. 1820, Ext. 3860. —19

DIAMOND RING "solitaire" yellow gold; Woodward & Lothrop rest room, 7th floor. Call Baltimore, MU. 8090, reverse charges. Reward. 18*

DOG, Pomeranian, orange with little black, vicinity Bo. Arlington. Reward. After 6 p.m. GL. 0706. —20

FOLDER, dark brown, cardboard, containing material; lost in Diamond cab, July 15. Reward. NO. 7377. —18

PIN, green enamel and gold, clover shaped, diamond center, pearl border; Chillum bus or York Theater or vic.; reward. GE. 6852. —18

TRAVELING BAG, with initials H. M. R., in 4700 blk. 3rd pl. n.w., Sat., July 16, bet. 8:30 and 9 p.m. Reward. Phone RA. 7804 after 6:30 p.m. —20

WRIST WATCH, lady's gold Benrus, between Georgetown and Providence Hospital. TR. 6348. —18

ZIPPER WALLET, containing money and receipts, by poor woman; Neisner's, 12th and G; reward. RE. 2491. —18

FOR LOST or unwanted animals call WASHINGTON ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE, 71 O st. n.w., NO. 5730.

FOUND.

CAT, black with white V shape under chin; very affectionate male; owner or good home. Call MI. 4265.

DOG, black and tawny chow-police, or chow-collie, male, last week. 11th and Pa. sve. n.w. VI. 7142, SH. 3749.

PUPPY, smooth, male terrier, white body, brown ears. RE. 7335.

TERRIER, wire-haired, young, male, in vic. of Country Club Hill, Arl., Va. GL. 0906.