

## Negotiations May Last 10 Weeks

# Save American Lives-Aim of Peace Talks

(Editor's Note:—The following uncensored interpretation of the Korean Armistice Conference was written by Frank H. King, AP general executive, upon his return Monday from a three-month assignment in Korea and Japan. He has been a frontline observer of the fighting and has talked with top allied military and diplomatic leaders.)

By FRANK H. KING  
AP News Staff

SAN FRANCISCO, July 10—(AP)—The saving of American lives, both battle casualties and war prisoners, is the basic U. S. objective behind the cease-fire conference at Kaesong.

It has placed the United States in a strange and unprecedented role, that of appearing, in Communist eyes, at least, as suing for peace—as having come into Communist territory seeking terms that will enable the United Nations to withdraw its forces, preponderantly American, from the Korean peninsula.

Actually this is not true, but it is true that the United States has accepted a "face losing" role. It carries with it a degree of humiliation in Oriental eyes.

### Authorities Accept Role

The American authorities have accepted this, during the preliminary negotiations, at least, just to make sure that no opportunity will be lost to try to end hostilities and save the lives of men on the battle line and prisoners in the hands of North Koreans and Chinese Communists.

The tragic fact is that the U. N. command doesn't know how many of the 10,000 Americans listed as missing are alive, where they may be concentrated, their care and health, or anything else about them.

The Communists have never permitted International Red Cross representatives to enter North Korea. In contrast, at Pusan and elsewhere, 160,000 North Koreans and Chinese in United Nations prison camps are fed and cared for better than many of the refugee population of South Korea.

American prisoners in North Korea, with bomb raids continuing, and another cruel Korean winter not too far off, make an unforgettable picture before the eyes of the American truce envoys. A few American prisoners have been used for the purposes of Communist propaganda, by the sending of messages and broadcasts, but these are isolated cases. Likewise, a few have been sent back to the United Nations lines carrying Communist propaganda. They bring it to assure their escape. Occasional prisoners elude their Red captors, but most of the long list of the missing have not been accounted for.

The fate of prisoners is only one of the unsolved riddles of the Korean war. It is feared that the American public may be in for disappointment, disillusion and letdown on others.

### Peace Talks May Take Weeks

First, it may take weeks, many weeks, to stop the fighting, even if the talks go better than expected.

One estimate in Tokyo Saturday was that ten weeks might be a reasonable time—if Armistice terms can be reached at all.

Secondly, cease-fire on the basis of stalemate near the 38th parallel will not bring the boys home by Christmas, or even the next Christmas.

Rotation of soldiers will continue, but American divisions will be tied down on the present strongly-held and fortified

line until the whole question of the future of Korea is clear. This would include the training of an effective Korean national defense force, which would take a long time. This is an authoritative military view.

The present Eighth Army under Lt. Gen. James A. Van Fleet is a tough and formidable fighting machine. It is poised and ready for instant offensive action on a large scale should there be treachery on the part of the Communists during the truce talks.

Meanwhile, the shooting war goes on uninterrupted, especially by air and sea, with the land forces carrying on minor operations across a 100-mile front.

### Overt Action Not Expected

Overt Red acts to destroy the negotiations are not expected.

However, based on the day to day chronicle of exchanges, broadcasts and maneuvers since the first move was made by Soviet Russia to start the talks, the Communists have not acted in good faith. This is the conviction held by the highest United Nations authority.

Every Red move has been a propaganda move, twisting and misrepresenting the actual steps taken. The result is that the Communist world and its satellites are informed that the United Nations have petitioned for an armistice to avoid defeat and thus have brought near fulfillment the Communist boast that the U. N. forces would be driven out of Korea into the sea.

The military facts are that the allies have a more powerful fighting machine in Korea than ever before; it is getting stronger; and it is ready for instant action.

The key to the Kaesong negotiations will become evident only after the American envoys present their cease-fire proposals. The reaction of the Communist delegation at Kaesong will indicate the future pattern. Reaction may not come quickly. Red negotiators may have to refer back to Peiping, and even as far away as Moscow, before answers can be given at the conference table.

The Communists themselves may demand such things as the immediate withdrawal of all UN forces from Korea; with no thought that such a demand would be accepted at this time.

### One Proposal—Succeed or Fail

From the United Nations side will be presented one proposal that will hold firmly as a demand upon which Kaesong peace talks will succeed or fail.

The American envoys will demand an effective "right of inspection" to determine at all times whether a military buildup is being carried out in Communist territory.

Presumably the right of inspection would have some application also in the Manchurian sanctuary, the storehouse and reserve base of the Chinese Communists.

The inspection would be carried out by United Nations teams.

Another American demand will deal with a neutral area or buffer zone to be established between United Nations and Red lines.

The neutral zone is of great importance to the American command, but the right of inspection clause is likely to be the real test of Communist sincerity.

## Battalion Editorials

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TUESDAY, JULY 10, 1951

### 'Death to Court of Justice'...

LET'S Pretend.

First let's pretend that Iran never signed that clause that established the International Court of Justice. She did, of course, but that was before the Court ruled on the oil crisis question.

And the ruling, said Iran, was "fantastic and unfair." So Iran is just going to play like she never signed the clause, one of the stipulations of which requires signers to abide by the rulings of the court.

The World Court had advised that Iran hold up nationalization moves until a five-man board of two Britons, two Iranians and one neutral could try to reach a compromise in the situation.

Just to make the refusal impressive a few of the Iranian rabble-rousers—and they seem to be abundant in that country—stirred up two demonstrations. One shouted "Death to Anglo-American Imperialists, death to the Hague Court."

Now that sounds like rational thinking. Just about as rational, in fact, as the brain-storm of the second demonstration—the formation of a "National Defense Committee" in Iran to fight a Holy War, if necessary to defend Iran's rights.

Even President Truman's offer of help in the crisis was turned down by the Iranian premier with the simple explanation, "It's too late."

And why all this stubbornness? Iran doesn't like those nasty old Britons. And she's not going to do anything that would in any way tend to favor them.

And while that little nation flaunts the judiciary arm of the U. N., the oil production that is the cause of the fight drops to one-half. It may drop to nothing with the now almost certain withdrawal of British technicians from Iran.

Shrugging this fact off Iran continues to plead for her rights to oil nationalization. If the rules of the game of world affairs don't suit her, she'll just ignore them—rather uppity behavior for such an infant in that game.

And, if she keeps up this behavior, Uncle Joe may invite her to his playground. There, everyone plays let's pretend.

### Why Take Advantage Of Our Servicemen?

"SOAK the Serviceman"—it's a good old American motto.

It was brought to mind by recent protests in Houston that certain Houston lawyers had been charging airmen from Ellington Field excessive fees for services rendered in civilian criminal proceedings. The charge was made by Col. William L. Lee, Ellington commanding officer.

The Houston Bar Association has announced that it "may launch" investigations into the charges.

The incident reminds us of several reported swindles of servile folk during the last war. Even the "friendly South" left an unpleasant taste in the mouth of many a serviceman stationed in this part of the country. A lot of merchants and others seemed to take delight in fleecing soldiers and sailors.

This area is soon to have an influx of service personnel. It's up to both College Station and Bryan citizens to determine now to see that no serviceman suffers injustice from the merchants or others of this area.

Today's serviceman can be tomorrow's permanent resident and constructive citizen—if he finds the pleasant community each citizen wants for himself and his family.

## The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions  
"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

Entered as second-class matter at Post Office at College Station, Texas, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms, The Battalion is published four times a week, and during examination and vacation periods, twice a week. Days of publication are Monday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday through Friday during the summer terms, and Tuesday and Thursday during vacation and examination periods. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$5.00 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444) or at the editorial office, Room 201, Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209, Goodwin Hall.

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### Johnson Warns of Communist Feint

WASHINGTON, July 10—(AP)—Chairman Lyndon B. Johnson (D-Tex) of the Senate Preparedness Committee warned America yesterday that a Korean cease-fire might be a Communist feint. He said the nation should look out for a possible "crushing body blow."

Despite Korean peace talk, Johnson said his committee probably will check the possibility of boosting the nation's military forces even higher than the present 3,500,000-man goal.

Reports on Gambling  
In another field, Johnson told reporters the committee had reports of open gambling and prostitution near a number of army camps.

He said committee investigators had found "serious" rent gouging of service men's families around six army camps. The committee, he added, plans to look into all this in cooperation with the Senate Crime Committee headed by Sen. O'Connor (D-Md).

Johnson did not identify any of the army camps.  
"It seems that some of the slot machine kings have moved in and set up operations around some of these camps," Johnson said.

Johnson said committee investigators had spent from two to four days looking into the rental situation for service men's families around the six camps to be covered in a future report.

Wouldn't Pin Point Complaints  
He declined to pinpoint these complaints until the formal report is ready, but indicated that investigators had found instances where shacks with no plumbing facilities were renting as high as \$30 a month to service men's families.

In a statement summarizing the committee's work since it began operations July 17, Johnson said there appears to be "every indication" a cease-fire may be agreed on in Korea.

But he warned it would be "a fatal mistake" for America to drop its guard.

Tabor was graduated from the W. H. Adamson High School in Dallas and from A&M with a B. S. in Mechanical Engineering. He was a World War II veteran of four years.

Tabor is survived by his wife, who lives in Dallas his mother, Mrs. Gertrude Tabor, and a sister, Miss Joy Tabor and his father, S. E. Tabor, all of Dallas.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Earlier News

Editor, The Battalion:

May I offer a suggestion? It has become increasingly annoying to me to read "yesterday's Batt" today (because it is not delivered until then) and find that I have missed something of worth the night before, for instance—"Othello" (last night), announcement of movies at The Grove (last night), etc.

Could it be possible for those of us who do not receive our Batts in time to have some announcement before the day of the event in your paper?

Thank you,  
Mrs. John D. Dameron

(Editor's note: We would like

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to call Mrs. Dameron attention to the three-column story on page four of the Tuesday, July 3, Battalion which announced the "Othello" program. The Battalion was not printed Wednesday, July 4, so a story could not be run on the day previous to the program.

(We would also like to call her attention to the complete list of Grove activities for last week which was published in advance in that same Tuesday paper for the interest of our readers. This service, however, must be discontinued because restrictions have been placed on announcing picture show titles more than one day ahead of time.

### Tears to You

Editor, The Battalion:

This letter has reference to Mrs. Castleberry's article that appeared in The Battalion yesterday, July 6, 1951.

Here is without doubt the saddest story that I have ever heard and it may please her to learn that I am including her article in my collection of sad, sad stories.

Yours truly,  
Rex E. Hall

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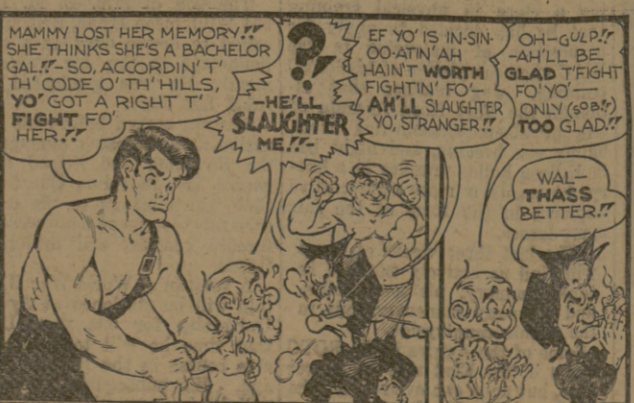
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**THE WICKED CITY**  
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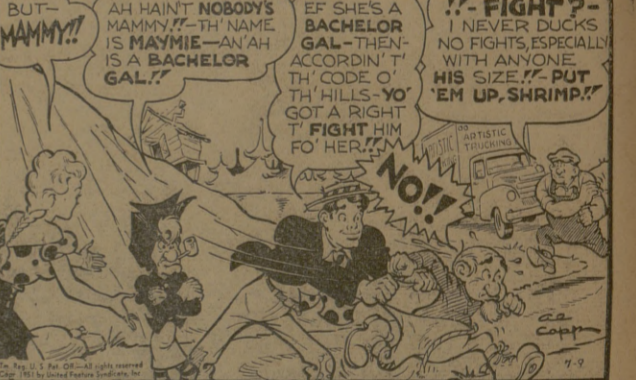
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L'L ABNER A Chip off the Wrong Block



By Al Capp



By Al Capp

