

# Battalion Editorials

Page 2

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1953

## 'Dear Mother'

"During life I have witnessed peace and war in the United States. I love peace. I love mankind. I love them enough to fight for them. That is what I am doing right now—that is why I am not going home."

So wrote Pfc. Richard Tenneson to his mother in explanation of his decision to stay with the Communists in Korea. An American lad, only 17 when he joined the Army, tells his grieving mother that he has not been forced, duped, or brainwashed into refusing repatriation, and that if she could talk with him she would find him just as he left her "except that now I have a goal and a reason for life."

The letter explains nothing. The goal is left undefined; the reasons are vague and confused. The 20-year-old youth who has "witnessed peace and war in the United States" clearly has little concept of what he is renouncing. Certainly he is less to blame than men and women, equipped in some cases with wide experience and brilliant learning, who have renounced the democratic heritage

of their youth in order to become the tools of a ruthless totalitarian conspiracy.

But the letter is a vivid reminder that the struggle with communism is primarily mental, not military. It illustrates the fact that while Red dictatorship may maintain itself in power by a strategy of terror, it prepares the ground for its reign of force by appealing to ideals, to the craving for peace and security and fellowship—while the United States is portrayed as a police state dominated by the "Gestapo FBI" where it is impossible (says the young letter writer) to "live as I wish."

It is a tribute to American democracy that only a comparative handful of United States citizens has "chosen communism." But in large areas of the world there is little to keep ignorant millions from turning to those false promises unless the more advanced democracies can demonstrate beyond doubt that, in Pfc. Tenneson's words, they "love peace" and "love mankind."

—(Christian Science Monitor)

### Wednesday Last Day for POW Talks

## Hope for US Explanations Dims As Deadline Nears

By FORREST EDWARDS

PANMUNJOM—(AP)—A snarl of last-minute delays today all but snuffed out Allied hopes for interviews with 22 Americans who stayed with the Communists as Red explainers chalked up their best score to date.

Gen. John E. Hull, U.S. Far East commander, indicated that the Allies have given up hope that any of the 22 will return home.

Hull said the Americans have had both time and opportunity to change their minds since they were turned over to Indian custody Sept. 25.

The Allies' only chance of contacting the prisoners before the

midnight Wednesday deadline appeared to be through delivery of a 12-page letter addressed to each.

The Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission ruled that the POWs must agree to accept the letter from an Allied explanation team. Lt. Gen. K. S. Thimayya, Indian chairman of the commission, said he would get the Americans' answer tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the Reds won back 34 of 250 Chinese captives as interviews were resumed after a 24-day stalemate.

This not only was the greatest number of prisoners the Communists have won back in a single day but was almost triple their best previous record percentage-wise.

The previous records were set Oct. 31 when 21 of 459 North Koreans—4.6 per cent—elected to return to Communist rule. The best previous record with Chinese prisoners was far below this—10 won back out of 430 interviewed Oct. 17, a percentage of only 2.4.

In eight days of interviews the Communists have talked to 2,681 prisoners and have won back 104 or 3.9 per cent.

Communist refusal to interview entire 500-man compounds in a single day precipitated the long suspension of explanations.

A few prisoners cursed and spat at the persuaders today, but there was none of the violence which marked earlier explanation sessions.

Some of the prisoners walked into the tents with their minds obviously made up, but others appeared to be convinced during long and quiet interviews.

Gen. Hull told newsmen in Seoul he is interested only in being cer-



REFUSES REPATRIATION — Sgt. R. E. Douglas of San Angelo, Tex., (above) is one of the 22 American prisoners of war held in North Korea who have refused repatriation.

tain that the American prisoners have freedom to choose their future.

"The thing that we have stood for always has been freedom of choice," he said.

Chances for interviews with the 22 Americans, 1 Briton and 77 South Koreans dwindled further Monday when the repatriation commission put off until Tuesday discussion of a long protest from the prisoners.

The Americans and Briton refuse to attend interviews until the Koreans are processed and the Koreans refuse to attend until they are permitted to make counter-explanations. The commission has refused to permit this.

No interviews can be conducted after midnight Dec. 23—90 days after the prisoners were turned over to neutral custody. Allied officers said it was unlikely there would be time to talk with the Americans even if all of the prisoners' demands were met.



### Barbara Ann Gordy Weds Ag Student

Miss Barbara Ann Gordy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Quhana Gordy of Bryan, became the bride of Carl Douglas Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Davis of Premont, in a ceremony at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the Baptist Student Center. Dr. W. H. Andrews pastor of the First Baptist Church in Bryan officiated.

The groom is a senior physics major at A&M. The bride is a senior at Stephen F. Austin high school in Bryan.

The bride was married in a white lace & net waltz length dress. She

carried a white orchid with a bridal Bible.

The bride chose as her matron-of-honor Miss Wanda Green of Amarillo. Miss Green wore a blue waltz length dress.

Gilbert Brigham of Denison was best man.

Miss Earlene Carlton sang "The Lord's Prayer" and "I Love You Truly."

After a week honeymoon, Mr. and Mrs. Smith are making their home in College Station.

DYERS-FUR STORAGE-HATTERS  
**American**  
DIAL  
2-1585  
210 S. Main Bryan Pho. 2-1584

## Surviving Twin Is Home for Holidays

CHICAGO—(AP)—Rodney Brodie, the 27-month-old surviving Siamese twin who has spent all his life in hospitals, went home for a surprise Christmas visit Sunday.

His parents made their regular twice-monthly 450-mile auto trip to visit Rodney in a Chicago hospital Sunday and asked attending physicians if they could take him to their downstate home until after New Year's.

The doctors who have cared for Rodney since he entered the University of Illinois Research Hospital held a hurried conference. They decided Rodney was well enough to make the trip.

The father was jubilant. "We have looked forward to this for a long, long time," he said. Mrs. Brodie was equally happy.

"We have no special plans at all," she said. "We hope to spend a nice, quiet holiday with the entire family present for the first time. Our Christmas will be similar to that observed in most homes. It will give all of us a chance to become better acquainted with Rodney."

Waiting to greet their brother at the family's home at Ferris, Ill., near Caruthers in Hancock County, were Rodney's four brothers and sisters.

Rodney, physicians said, has made good progress since he was separated from his head-joined brother Roger, Dec. 17, 1952. Roger died 34 days after the lengthy and delicate surgery.

No date has been set for Rodney's return to the hospital, where he has been treated since October, 1951. The hospital said it would be at the convenience of the parents, who will have to take into consideration road conditions for a return trip.

FAST WAY TO SAVE TIME  
fly **PIONEER**  
2 Flights Daily to  
Albuquerque  
Santa Fe  
Lv. 7:05 am. 2:15 pm  
For Reservations — Phone 4-5054  
fly **PIONEER**  
AIR LINES  
TIMED BY BAYLO WATCHES



WON'T COME HOME — Cpl. Claude J. Batchelor (above) of Kermit, Tex., is one of the 22 U. S. servicemen in North Korea prisoner of war camps who have refused repatriation.

## The Battalion

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

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published by students four times a week, during the regular school year. During the summer terms, and examination and vacation periods, The Battalion is published twice a week. Days of publications are Tuesday through Friday for the regular school year, and Tuesday and Thursday during examination and vacation periods and the summer terms. Subscription rates \$9.00 per year or \$7.75 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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

The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited in the paper and local news of spontaneous origin published herein. Rights of republication of all other matter herein are also reserved.

News contributions may be made by telephone (4-5444 or 4-7604) or at the editorial office room, 202 Goodwin Hall. Classified ads may be placed by telephone (4-5324) or at the Student Activities Office, Room 209 Goodwin Hall.

**JERRY BENNETT, ED HOLDER** Co-Editors  
Chuck Neighbors Managing Editor  
Harri Baker Campus Editor  
Bob Boriskie Sports Editor  
Jon Kinslow City Editor  
Jerry Estes Basic Division Editor  
Bob Hendry Feature Editor  
Barbara Rubin Society Editor  
Jerry Wizig Associate Sports Editor

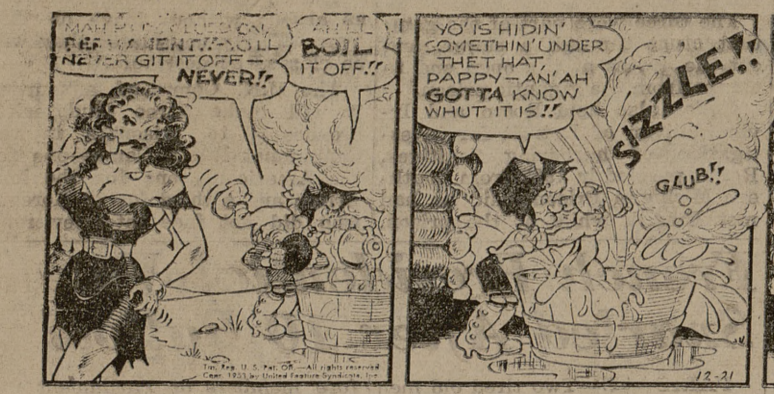
Frank Hines, Jerry Neighbors, Bob Domey, Jim Collins, Ray Wall, Al Owsberg, Annie Goldstein, Bill Parsons, Bill Warren, Jack Farley, John Linton, King McGowan, Jay Ireland, Charles Kingsbury, George Manlitas, E. B. McGowan, Staff Writers  
Gardner Collins, Exchange Editor  
Bob Palmer, Tom Skrubisnek, Advertising Staff  
James Earle, Staff Cartoonist

WHAT OUR DRY CLEANING DOES FOR YOU

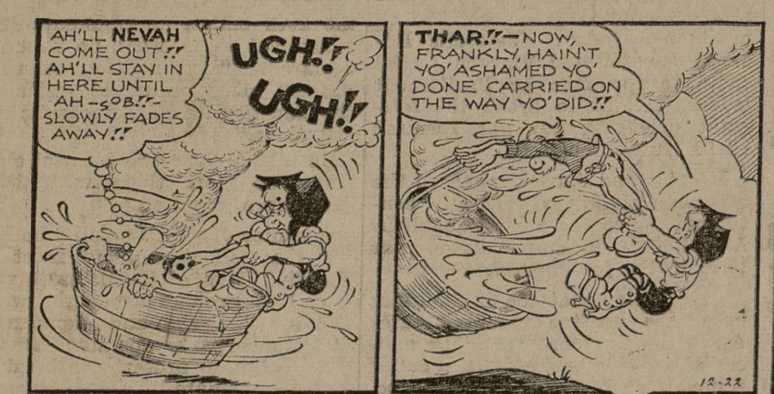
Save Your Money!  
Save Your Clothes!

**CAMPUS CLEANERS**

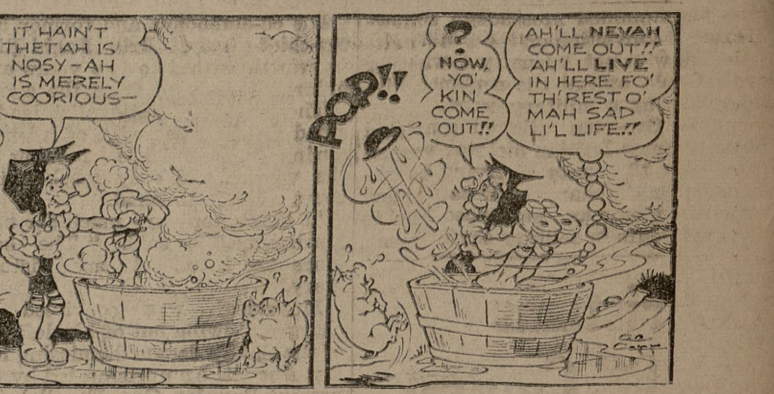
### L'L ABNER The Mad Hatter



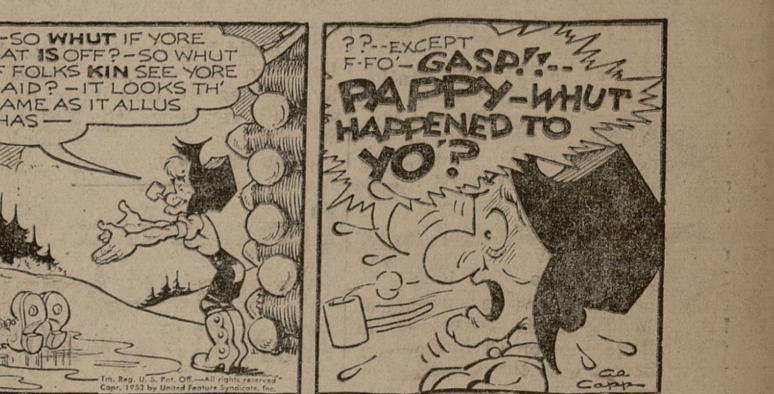
### L'L ABNER Comes The Revelation



### By Al Capp



### By Al Capp



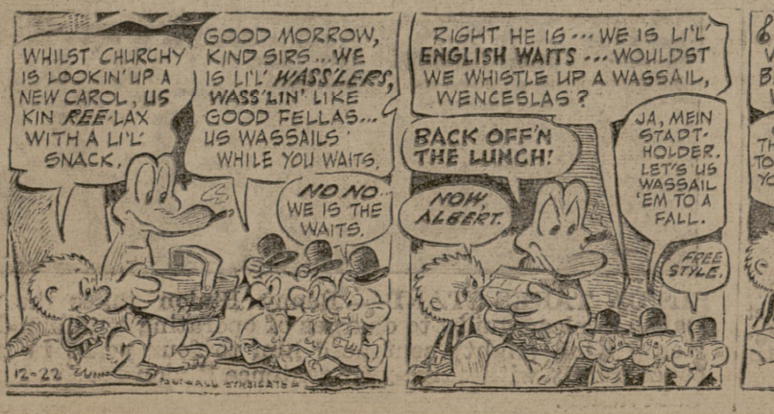
### POGO



### By Walt Kelly



### POGO



### By Walt Kelly

