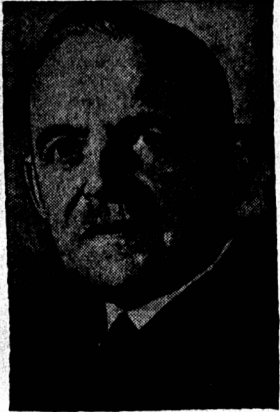
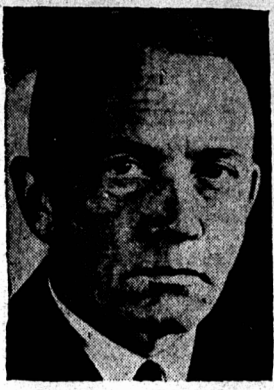


NEWS of the WORLD in PICTURES



While in Washington for talks with President Truman and the U. S. State Department, Alan G. Kirk, U.S. ambassador to Russia, disclosed that prior to his departure to U.S. he had been assigned four Russian bodyguards for "protection." The guards followed him everywhere except to U.S. embassy in Moscow where they were not permitted to enter. The British ambassador gets similar "protection" but it is not accorded to any of the other foreign envoys in Moscow.

Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent, seen above, in Quebec for Christmas holidays, has announced through his office in Ottawa that he has accepted an invitation from the French government to visit Paris following conference of commonwealth prime ministers to be held in London in January. It is believed the prime minister will spend two days in French capital, where he will discuss broad field of Franco-Canadian relations and Atlantic pact problems.



The town of Durham, Ont., boasts an amazing record — for two straight years not one juvenile has run afoul of the law. Yet even with this enviable record the town's 2,300 citizens are not con-

tempted to rest on their laurels. Now a plan is under way to build a new community centre with artificial ice. Clubs like a Wolf Cub group composed of 30 boys and led by Rev. W. H. Simpson, Anglican minister, is one of clubs

credited with preventing juvenile delinquency. Rev. Simpson, who says chief credit for fine record should go to Police Chief F. W. Illingworth for interest in youth work, is shown with B. Catton, F. Illingworth and C. Coutts.



An unusual audience was received recently in St. Peter's, Rome, by Pope Pius in form of a large group of Italian shepherds who came to the ancient city to make their jubilee visits to the Roman basilicas. During the audience the shepherds offered lambs as gifts to his holiness. Standing on the gestatorial chair the Pope is seen imparting his blessing to the many pilgrims.



BRICK FOR HOLY DOOR — Gabrielle Serl of Rome holds one of the 3000 bricks used to seal the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. The bricks bear the names engraved upon the bricks. (NEA-Acme photo by staff photographer Albert Blasetti.)



Maria Bertha Hertogh, 14-year-old Dutch girl who was the innocent cause of racial rioting in Singapore, Malay peninsula, is shown, centre, with her mother, Mrs. Adeline Hertogh, and her father, as she arrived by plane in Amsterdam from Singapore. The girl, who was reared a Moslem after she was lost during the Japanese occupation of Java, was re-

turned to her mother by a British court in Singapore. She had been married to a Moslem, but the marriage was annulled by court decision, causing Moslem riots in Singapore. A score of persons died and more than 200 were injured before British and Gurkha troops restored order with guns and tanks.



Members of the 2nd Battalion, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, Korea, will be spending a lonely Christmas in a training camp somewhere south of the 38th parallel in Korea, so they decided (with the aid of an army photographer) to send a pictorial mes-

sage back to Canada. The unique result is seen here. Representing each of the 10 provinces, they are left to right, top: L-Cpl. Ken Wellicome, Vancouver, B.C.; C.Q.M.S. Edwin Morris, Edmonton, Alta.; Pte. Elgin Brown, Moose Jaw, Sask.; Pte. Dave Parker, Rivers, Man.; Sgt. Ken Gawthorn, Kitchener, Ont.; centre row; Pte.

Ernie Gricken, Fort Coulonge, Que.; Pte. Doug Burns, Norton, N. B.; Pte. Charlie Young, Iris, P.E.I.; Pte. James O'Neill, St. John's, Nfld.; and seated in front, Pte. Harry Steele, Wallace, N.S. The "Patricias" are first large group of Canadian soldiers to be spending their Christmas away from home since World War II.



LEADS FRENCH ARMY — Gen. Jean de Lattre de Tassigny, above, one of France's ablest and most experienced military men, has taken over command of French forces in Indo-China. As both military and political commander in the area, he will direct war against Communist rebels.

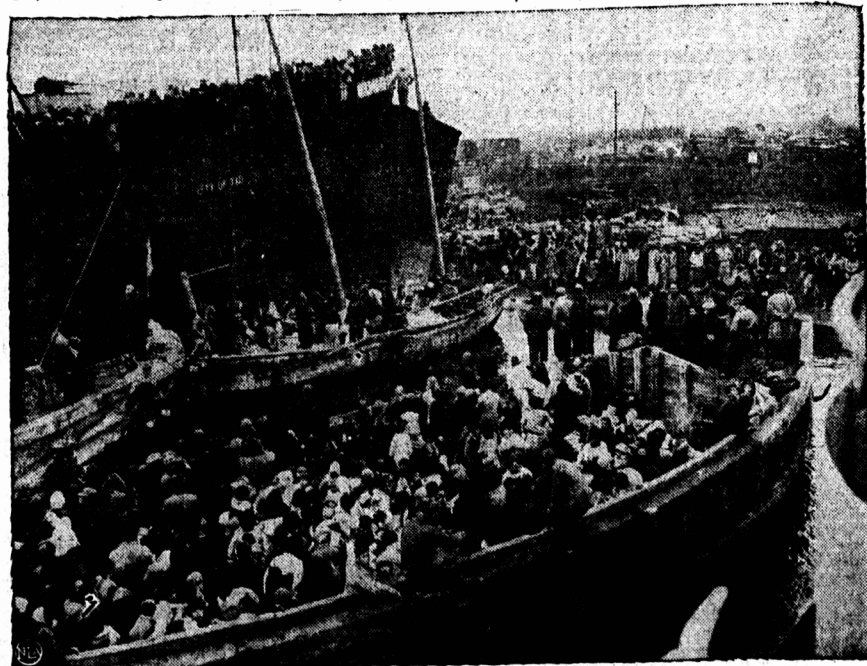


Soviet delegate to the U.N., Jacob Malik, left, is shown shaking hands with Gen. Wu Hsu-chuan, chief of a nine-member special delegation to the U.N., as the representatives of the Chinese Communist government left New York homeward bound. At the time of Wu's departure, the U.N. had, and has had to date, no official reply from Peking on the cease-fire proposal. This has now been followed up by a second message sent to assure the Chinese Communists that negotiations on a Korean truce would be followed by talks on other far-eastern controversies. Prior to his departure Wu told U.N. delegates that his government would not consider a cease-fire order in Korea unless the question of U.S. "intervention" in Korea were discussed. He called the request for a cease-fire order a "trap."



IKE'S MAN FRIDAY — Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, newly-appointed supreme commander of Allied European forces, said he will appoint Lt-Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, above, as his chief of staff for plans and operations. Gruenther was deputy chief of staff with the Third Army when it was headed by Eisenhower early in World War II.

The departure of Communist leader Palmiro Togliatti from Rome to Moscow, ostensibly to convalesce in Russia, following a delicate brain operation a month ago, has given rise to a great flurry of political inferences. Some think he has gone to take command of the Italian Communist underground in the event of war. Others believe he is being quietly removed from active leadership of the Communist party and will be given some honorary post.



FLEEING THE WAR — Hundreds of Korean refugees, packed into all types of boats including a

modern LST, jam Hungnam harbor as they flee the fighting. The vessels are all manned by Korean

sailors, as the refugees try to escape Red drive. (Photo by NEA-Acme staff correspondent Ed Hoffman.)



With world attention focused on Korea, Red China is said to be conducting a Communist offensive to drive the French from their beachhead in Tonking, in Indo-China. Should current Red drive against Tonking fail, it is believed that Gen. Chang

Keng, governor of Yunan province, on the Sino-Viet Nam border, has 25,000 Kouang troops available in guise of an international brigade to stand behind them. Above a captured Communist prisoner, with walkie-talkie on his back, is seen with guards in the background.

In a broadcast from Peking, Foreign Minister Chou En-lai of Communist China denounced the U.N. Korean truce team as illegal, announced that the Reds would not negotiate with it and once again named its price for peace in Korea. It was: removal of the Seventh Fleet from Formosan waters; withdrawal of "foreign troops" from Korea, and a seat in the United Nations for Communist China. Chou's statement ended any hopes that the Chinese Communists would dicker with the three-man truce committee composed of Nagroollah Entezam of Iran, Assembly president; Canada's foreign affairs minister, Lester Pearson, and chief Indian delegate, Sir Bengal Rau, set up by the General Assembly to try to bring about a ceasefire in Korea.



United Nations' trucks and military supplies not vitally needed at the front are seen rolling southward in long convoys from Communist-threatened Seoul. Such withdrawals of valuable U. N. equipment are designed to keep it from falling into the hands of the enemy.



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CLOSING IN — With a terrific land, sea and air bombardment, UN forces continued to hold off Chinese Reds attacking the Hungnam beachhead (1). Fighting flared again in western Korea, as

small-scale action occurred north of Chunchon (2) and south of Yonchon (3). Allied aircraft struck at Chongju and Pakchon on the Reds' supply route (4) from Manchuria.