

Chiang Planes In Fight

TAIPEI, Formosa, April 20—Reports from the flaming battle on Hainan Island Thursday said the Chinese Reds have landed fresh troops in small numbers and the Nationalists have brought in more planes.

(The arrival of reinforcements indicates the big Red drive to take Hainan is on. A civilian pilot reaching Hong Kong from Hainan said without confirmation the Communists put 5,000 new troops ashore.)

Reports from Hainan Island Thursday said the Communists have established three beachheads within 15 miles of the capital, Hoihow, and are battling desperately to join them together.

Other reports circulating in Hong Kong said 5,000 Communist reinforcements began leaving Canton three days ago for jumping off points in the Luichow peninsula.

Some anxiety is noted here in high Nationalist quarters, replacing Tuesday's jubilant optimism. Nationalist despatches from the south China island still predict the Red beachheads soon will be erased, however.

The despatches said Nationalist fighter and bomber reinforcements (probably from Formosa) went straight into battle.

Other planes attacked Luichow peninsula, base for the Red operation 10 miles to the north across Hainan strait.

Warships offshore joined with ground forces inland in a ceaseless shelling of the beachheads.

There were wholly unconfirmed reports that the Reds, who were from 7,000 to 8,000 strong when they landed Monday, widened the beachhead to 18 miles. These rumors said at some points the Communists had driven five miles inland.

The Nationalist navy headquarters insisted that its warships Tuesday broke up an attempt by more than 130 Communist craft to land substantial reinforcements on the northern beaches of Hainan.

Headquarters said a total of 90 of the craft were sunk or set ablaze and the remainder scurried away.

Claxton Urges Speedy Arms Uniformity

SHERBROOKE, Que., April 20 (CP)—Hon. Brooke Claxton, defence minister, said Wednesday night "it is vitally important" that the 12 North Atlantic treaty powers reach agreement speedily on standardization of certain items of military equipment, particularly personal weapons, light motor vehicles, field communications equipment and anti-tank weapons.

His statement to the Quebec command of the Canadian Legion indicated Canada is carrying into the larger arena of pact discussions her steady pressures on the United States and United Kingdom to get on with standardization.

Mr. Claxton said Canada knows and has told her allies what she is prepared to do in standardization, including schedules of the characteristics of the weapons she would like to see generally adopted.

He also said: "One reason for delaying purchase of army equipment is that the time may come soon when we may have anti-aircraft rockets, guided missiles and recoilless weapons of much greater efficiency than those now available."

The other reason was that the army was "relatively very much better off" than the other services for modern equipment at the end of the war and already had two-thirds of the 181,000,000 articles it would need in the first year of war.

"The regular forces now have 48,000 men and all three will soon be enlisting only to fill vacancies caused by retirements and discharges. If another \$200,000,000 was available for defence, it would be spent on buildings and equipment rather than more manpower."

"So long as we have sufficient trained officers and tradesmen, delay in getting into (war) action would be caused by the time taken to provide equipment rather than by the time taken to train men."

"Implementation of Atlantic pact planning requires no major changes" for Canadian defence "because our role in any future emergency is clear."

Canada was developing two of the most important defensive weapons conceived since 1945: in her long-range all-weather fighter and her anti-submarine vessel and had ordered "large quantities of radar and wireless equipment."

Government OK Sought For New Atomic Pile Project At Deep River

OTTAWA, April 20 (CP)—Plans are being laid for a new atomic energy plant at Deep River, Ont. Dr. C. J. Mackenzie, chairman of the national research council, said Thursday.

Dr. Mackenzie said it is hoped that government approval for the project will be obtained shortly. He declined to estimate the cost of building a second atomic pile, but said "a good many millions" would be spent over a period of several years.

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WINNIPEG, THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1950

Sun Rise 5:27 a.m. Moon Rise 6:26 a.m. Sun Set 7:29 p.m. Moon Set 11:45 p.m.

FORECAST: SUNNY, WINDS LIGHT

DYNAMITE CLEARS RED CHANNEL

Fire And . . .



Bucket brigade successfully battles explosive oil fire Wednesday in warehouse at Strathclair.

Flood



Bulldozer operators Frank Frampton (standing) and Alphonse Corriveau of city engineer's department building dike along Red river bank, near Arnold avenue, Fort Rouge.

Sandbags



Crew at city yards, Tecumseh street and Ross avenue, loading sandbags for flood walls.

Boots



Mounted Policemen loading rubber boots destined for flood workers in Gretna area.

Dakota Fears Deluge

BISMARCK, N.D., April 20 (AP)—Already battling the worst deluge in 53 years, Red river valley residents girded Thursday against a further rise of the flood waters, predicted for this week-end.

A. F. Hulteng, Grand Forks city engineer, said the river forming part of the North Dakota - Minnesota boundary, would hit a 44.5-foot crest Saturday or Sunday. It stood at 42.22 Wednesday night, 14.2 feet above flood stage there and was still rising early Thursday. The mark is the highest since the stream hit a 50.2 crest in 1897.

The American Red Cross, caring for more than 3,000 homeless in the state, moved in more emergency housing equipment and bedding as the refugee total grew.

The rising waters were within 100 feet of the East Grand Forks, Minn., business district. Volunteer crews stacked thousands of sandbags and pumps were installed in basements.

National guardsmen, manning amphibious vehicles, worked there and in Drayton, N.D., evacuating more perilled householders.

Elsewhere, Missouri river tributaries in the central part of North Dakota were reported receding although many communities remained flooded. Red Cross officials estimated it would be at least a week before the homeless could return to their houses to start rehabilitation work.

Pumps Scarce, Hurst Warns Winnipeggers

W. D. Hurst, city engineer, warned Thursday that there would probably be no pumps available for private use in the event of floods.

Both the city and the province, he said, will be using the pumps to protect threatened areas throughout the city. We couldn't begin to supply individual requests," Mr. Hurst said.

He revealed that crews of city workmen are now hauling surplus earth for sewer construction projects to the Riverview district for use in building dikes.

Sandbags are also being prepared at the city yards to help protect flood-threatened areas.

RIVER LEVEL REPORT

FEET	Water Elevation	Distance under 1948 peak
25		
24		
23		
22		
21		
20		
19		
18		
17		
16		
15		
14		
13		
12		
11		
10		
9		
DATUM		
Grand Forks	822.10	.9 feet over
Emerson	776.87	11.1 feet
Morris	769.50	6.9 feet
Winnipeg	743.07	6.9 feet

Thug, 17, Sentenced To 3 1/2 Years Prison

Winnipeg's "dirty handkerchief bandit"—a 17-year-old Agnes street youth—was sentenced to three and a half years in penitentiary following a series of crimes which included armed robbery, robbery with violence, house-breaking and theft.

Ex-Red Says Lattimore Trained As Spy

WASHINGTON, April 20 — Louis F. Budenz Thursday named Owen Lattimore as a member of a Communist "cell" dedicated to espionage in the United States.

Mr. Budenz told the senate foreign relations subcommittee that he was informed of this while he was managing editor of the Communist Daily Worker and in connection with his duties with the Communist party's politburo, or political committee. After 1 1/2 hours of hurrying accusations however, Mr. Budenz said he was not saying Mr. Lattimore is a Communist.

Temperatures

Temperature reading during the 24 hour period ending at 6:30 a.m. Tuesday were:

City	Min.	Max.	Precip.
Vancouver	47	64	..
Calgary	35	53	..
Edmonton	28	35	..
Swift Current	29	47	..
Saskatoon	27	49	..
Regina	26	46	..
Brandon	22	46	..
Winnipeg	26	37	..
Port Arthur	23	40	..
Toronto	36	64	..
Ottawa	39	64	..
Montreal	41	64	..
Halifax	34	57	..

CNR Official Backs Crow's Nest Rates

OTTAWA, April 20 (Special)—A high official of the Canadian National railways told the royal commission on transportation Wednesday that the Crow's Nest statutory grain rates must be considered in relation to the productivity of the grain-growing belt.

They were "part of the warp and woof" of the whole inter-related rate structure and of the production economy of the country, said S. W. Fairweather, vice-president of research and development for the national structure.

Thus counsel for the prairie provinces seemed to have found an ally in their fight with the Canadian Pacific railway over the Crow's Nest rates. Mr. Fairweather did not actually come out and endorse them. Indeed, he said a higher authority than himself would have to determine whether the productive stimulus resulting from these rates justified their being kept.

The Crow's Nest issue was reopened by Frank Covert, commission counsel, who asked Mr. Fairweather whether his company had made studies of the Crow's Nest grain rates.

He said it had. It had also made studies of many other rates in relation to the over-all structure. There were a good many instances of low rates to be found, such as the hauling of pulpwood from the Hudson Bay railway, of iron ore and iron concentrates in northern Ontario and Quebec. These came close to being "non-compensatory," that is, unprofitable to the carriers.

But Mr. Fairweather's thesis was that freight rates were inter-related; that every single rate must be looked at from the viewpoint of the development and productivity of industries served by transport.

See CROW'S NEST Page 13

7,000 Dockers Idle; U.K. May Call Troops

LONDON, April 20 — The Labor minister denounced the strike in a spreading wildcat London dock strike was Communist-inspired and hinted troops might be called out to break it.

Opens Way For Run-Off

Dynamite crews Thursday were blasting out ice jams on the Red river south of Winnipeg in an effort to clear the channel for surging spring run-offs in southern Manitoba before the crest of the swollen stream gets to the international boundary.

Engineers of the provincial government's drainage branch said Thursday they were hoping the southern flood crest would hold off for another week.

Meanwhile blasting of ice on the Red is going on in a number of spots between Winnipeg and Emerson to allow free passage of run-offs from flood-swollen Manitoba tributaries before the southern tide arrives.

George Wallace, provincial drainage engineer, said Thursday "If we get another eight days before the flood crest reaches Emerson we can get rid of the bulk of our local water." U.S. engineers expect the crest about April 27 or 28.

Provincial engineers said the danger of severe flooding in Winnipeg and other Manitoba points was "obvious" if local water was still near its peak when the river crest arrived from the south. They said the situation would be "serious" if such a condition should occur.

Blasting operations were concentrated Thursday between St. Norbert and St. Agathe where several ice jams were reported earlier in the day.

Nears Flood Level Thursday morning the level of the Red river at Winnipeg was within two and one-half feet of official flood stage, but still close to four feet below the 1948 peak. Flood experts south of the border predicted that the flood crest at Emerson this year would be a good two feet above that of 1948 when Winnipeg also suffered severe flooding. So far the river level at this border town was still 11 feet below the 1948 high.

A shipment of anti-typhoid serum was on its way by air express to Winnipeg from Toronto. Officials of the provincial government's health department said supplies of serum here were not yet in short supply but more requests are being received daily.

The shipment would make sure that enough serum would be available during the next few weeks. Inoculations are already in progress at a number of points including Gretna, Dominion City, Letellier, St. Jean Baptiste, and Emerson.

At all points along the swelling Red river Thursday record preparations for possible flood danger were being made by disaster committees working with the Red Cross, the army, the Royal Canadian Mounted police, and civic and provincial groups.

Mostly Women All the armed and attempted armed robberies with the exception of the daylight hold-up March 30 of Perth's cash and carry store, 622 Sargent avenue, were of women in suits, he said. "Robbery with violence and attempted armed robbery are close behind."

The youth's crime wave started Feb. 3 when he knocked an Ellice Pharmacy messenger boy off his bicycle and robbed him of \$23. It ended March 31 when he was picked up, along with a juvenile companion, on Sherbrook street after the attempted armed hold-up of Miss Eileen Scarrow of 3 Franklin apartments.

Meat By Air One Winnipeg packing company was reported flying meat supplies to Gretna, Man., where a flood Wednesday cut off the town and flooded one-half of its area.

Two army water-purifying trucks, with trained crews, an amphibious wash, and life preservers are en route to Gretna, prairie command officials stated.

Thursday prairie command officers made a flight over southern Manitoba flooded areas to survey the situation and try to estimate where army assistance would be needed.

Canadian Red Cross headquarters in Winnipeg, through their co-ordinating committee has so far shipped to flooded or flood-threatened areas, 50 boats, 230 pairs of hip-waders and other emergency equipment.

At Emerson, many families have been evacuated.

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Small Talk

"You never remember our anniversary"

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