

Sentences Given Eighteen Japanese

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Senate and House Agree on Rent Bill

WASHINGTON, March 25 —(UP) Senate and House conferees agreed tentatively today on a compromise rent control bill which gives three-judge federal court the final say on raising or removing ceilings.

Faced with the expiration of the present law one week from today, spokesmen for the two Houses met again tonight to put a formal okay on the exact language of the measure.

The compromise which the five Senators and five Representatives finally struck after three days of deadlock, provides for the emergency court of appeals to settle any disputes which arise between local rent boards and the federal housing expedite.

The House originally had voted to give the local boards absolute authority to raise or remove ceilings in their communities. The Senate had insisted on keeping the present system, under which the federal expediter can overrule local recommendations.

Other provisions of the compromise bill:

1. It extends rent controls until March 31, 1949, the date set by the House. That is one month less than the Senate voted.

2. It continues the present provision under which "voluntary" 15 per cent rent increases are permitted if tenant and landlords sign a lease running at least until the end of 1949.

3. Landlords would be guaranteed a reasonable return on their investment, and any landlord who could show that he was operating at a loss would automatically be granted a rent increase.

—This is Red Cross Month—

Congress Sends Tax Cut Bill to White House

WASHINGTON, March 25 —(UP) Congress completed action on its \$4,800,000,000 income tax cut bill today and sent it to the White

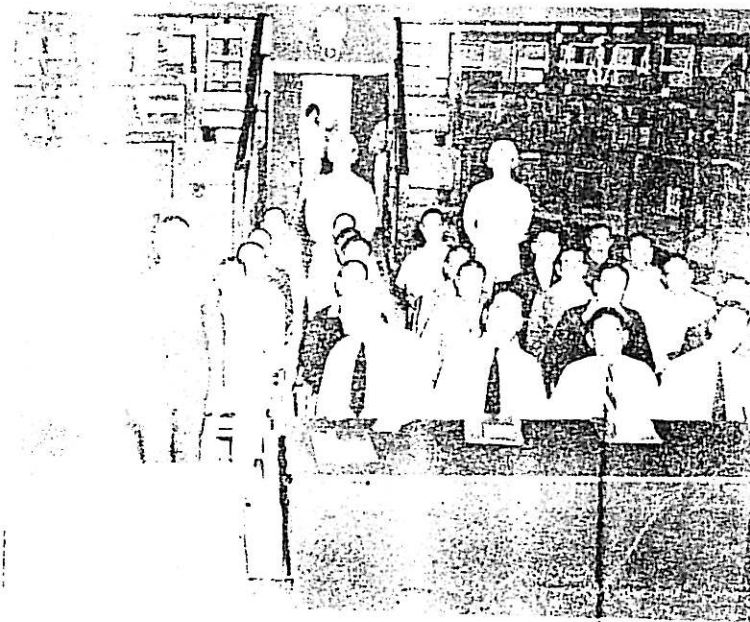
Vol. 4, No. 86

Price 3 Cents

Guam News

Guam, Marianas Islands

Friday, March 26, 1948



PRISON—Umeji Hayashi (standing extreme left) and Masashiro Sagara (with glasses standing), former members of the Imperial Japanese Army, stand as free men after their acquittal of war atrocity charges by a military commission at Commander Marianas yesterday. Kazuharu Yamamoto, (sitting extreme left) was adjudged guilty and sentenced to 25 years imprisonment. The remainder of the group were adjudged similarly and gained prison terms from 15 to 25 years. (Guam News Photo)

Allied Troops Reinforce Allied Police on Yugoslav Border

50 STATUTE MILES



TRIESTE, March 25 —(UP)— Allied troops in the Trieste free territory were moved up to reinforce Allied police on the Yugoslav border today in case Yugoslav troops made new efforts to cross the line.

COMMAR HILL — Eighteen former members of the Imperial Japanese Army were found guilty here yesterday by an American military tribunal of the mass execution of ten civilian inhabitants of the Palau island group during the recent war and sentenced to prison terms in Japan totaling 320 years.

Truman Urged to Protect Public

WASHINGTON, March 25 —(UP) The soft coal industry urged President Truman today to protect the public by speeding his timetable for legislation against John L. Lewis' old coal strike.

Industry officials said the present delay means it will be the earliest before the president can seek a strike-injunction under the act.

They said, the strike which has kept 100,000 coal stock-industries will be forced into idleness.

Mr. Truman invoked the first step of the Taft-Hartley act's emergency provisions yesterday. He announced he was setting up a three man board to investigate the dispute over miners' pensions and report back to him by the April 5 date. He was to announce names of the board members today.

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Next Six Weeks Most Critical; U. S.

VIENNA, Austria, March 25 —(UP)— A United States summary of conditions in Austria warned today that the next six months well might be the most critical since war's end.

The statement painted a bleak picture of Austria's food outlook and said the country may face a political crisis unless American aid comes in sufficient quantity and on time.

Two of the twenty original accused, Umeji Hayashi and Masashiro Sagara, were acquitted of all charges and excused by commission president, Radm. Arthur G. Robinson, from further court attendance.

Lead defendant, former Lieutenant Kazuharu Yamamoto, and his junior officer, former Second Lt. Yokichi Ichikawa were dealt the heaviest sentences of 25 years each. In addition to being found guilty of charges similar to those lodged against his subordinates, Yamamoto was found criminally liable for failure to discharge his duty as senior officer by not taking measures to protect the ten unfortunate nationals, among them five Catholic priests, held captive under his command.

Of the remaining sixteen defendants, six were sentenced to spend 20 years behind prison bars, while the remainder of the group will wait fifteen years before breathing the air of freedom.

Throughout the nearly two-month-long trial, the prosecution wove an intricate web of evidence around the eighteen accused. Proof was shown that each one had played a responsible part in the macabre atrocity. By the due rewarded effort of the defense council in bringing their judicial armament to bear on the innocence of Hayashi and Sagara, with special impact on the injustice it would be to make these two men pay for a crime they didn't commit, both defendants yesterday walked from the quonset courtroom as free men.

The termination of this trial ushers out the fourth in a series of Palau Island cases, and the trial involving the largest number of defendants ever to stand before a war crimes commission here on Guam.

—This is Red Cross Month—