

The Voice

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EDITORIALS
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Start Communist Quiz in Chicago

CHICAGO—(ANP)—The federal grand jury in Chicago Monday, began an investigation into persons and organizations whom it is asserted have had communist leanings. The effort is similar to the drive which took place in New York recently and resulted in conviction of 11 leaders.

Here as in New York colored people are involved. This is especially true where so called leftist unions are concerned.

The C.I.O. United Packing House Workers union is one which it is reported will come in for intensive investigation. One of the first witnesses to be called before the grand jury will be Samuel G. Curry, president of local 347.

At one time this union was extending its influence into many southside organizations. It bought the old Bacon Casino at 49th and Wabash avenue and opened it to community organizations of vari-

ous types. At the start many groups began holding their meetings there until the purpose of the organization apparently alarmed them. This organization has a Negro international vice president, Russel R. Lasley.

The other union which will be looked into is the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers union. This group like the packing house workers group has made a special effort to recruit Negroes. A large segment of the membership of both unions is Negro. They have taken advanced positions on the Negro question and civil rights, all critic for the purpose of strengthening their numbers and advancing the cause of the party.

One difference between the two, however, is that the packinghouse workers are still in the C.I.O., but he was ousted for alleged communist influence when the C.I.O. had its housecleaning of so-called red unionists.

Famed 24th Infantry Regiment Is Disbanded

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—A piece of good news, which also may be classed as bad news (depends upon which way you look at it) came out of the nation's capitol here last week.

The famed 24th Infantry regiment, the all-Negro unit currently

a part of the 25th Infantry division in Korea, will become a part of the historical past.

The U.S. army, acting upon recommendations from commanding officers in Korea have decided to abolish the unit as such and send its troops to other divisions as replacements, integrating them with white troops.

The 24th is the last remaining Negro regiment in the army. On one hand, the integration of Negroes and whites in the armed services is what Negroes throughout the country have been clamoring for. But it's a case of either having your cake or eating it, for with complete integration, comes the end of a colorful all-Negro unit which was responsible for many of the daring sagas that repose on the pages of America's military history.



by **JAMES C. OLSON**, Superintendent
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

During the 1840's, with the number of overland emigrants swelling each year, the federal government was besieged with demands for protection from the Indians along the trail. One means by which the government furnished that protection was to send troops over the trail with the Indians and to impress them with the military might of the Great White Father.

Such an expedition was led across Nebraska in the summer of 1845 by Col. Stephen Watts Kearny, who with 250 men traveled from Fort Leavenworth to South Pass and back again in the 99 days from May 18 to August 24. They went out along the Oregon Trail to South Pass, retraced their steps to Fort Laramie, then cut over to the South Platte, returning to Fort Leavenworth along the valley of the Arkansas and over the Santa Fe Trail.

Colonel Kearney's soldiers were well armed, and had two howitzers with them. Their guide was the intrepid mountain man, Thomas Fitzpatrick. Their mission was to cultivate peace with the Indians, while at the same time impressing upon them the danger of molesting the emigrants.

Kearny felt that his expedition was successful. He reported that the Indians "were distinctly told the road . . . must not be closed . . . and that the white people traveling upon it must not be disturbed, either in their persons or property."

The howitzers, discharged for the benefit and amazement of the Indian, appear to have a particularly salutary effect. Apparently the men's uniforms and fine horses had the same desirable effect.

At Fort Laramie (then a fur trading post rather than a military establishment) Colonel Kearny held a council with the Sioux. He told the thousand Indians assembled on the Laramie plain that he had come to open a road to the waters of the setting sun and that Indians who dis-

Group Discusses U.S. Air Power

WASHINGTON—(ANP)—Two giant new strategic air bases in North Africa are now ready for shorter range A-bomb carrying planes, according to high ranking air force officials.

This information was revealed by members of the House Armed Services Committee after a closed-door session with USAF generals last week.

The airforce "brass" further testified that the United States has only 87 B-36s ready for action, and that two fifths of these are laid up undergoing modernization.

One member of the committee claimed that he was "shocked" by the news that so few of the craft are ready for use. And another thinks the evidence is an indication that the B-36 is "obsolete."

President Truman would neither verify nor deny the testimony of the generals which "was made

turbid the emigrants would be subject to swift punishment. He particularly warned the Sioux against whiskey, stating that it was the greatest enemy among them.

Bull Tail, the principal chief present, promised obedience, after which Coloney Kearny distributed presents. Three shots from the howitzers echoed down the Laramie Valley and the council was over.

Colonel Kearny was much impressed by the size of the emigration. By the time he reached South Pass he had overtaken about 850 men, 475 women, 1,000 children, 7,000 cattle, 400 horses and mules, and 460 wagons. He was fully aware that the road he was opening would be heavily traveled.

public by the committee. At a press conference last week the President said he considered the information furnished to him about the B-36s as being confidential, therefore, he would not comment on it.

Having just returned from a trip to North Africa and Europe, General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, USAF chief of staff, said he was "tremendously impressed" with the progress made in building new air force bases in Morocco.

Heretofore nobody has been willing to discuss these bases which have apparently been an open secret.

Dr. Mays to Council

ATLANTA—(ANP)—Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, president of Morehouse college, will sail this week on the Queen Elizabeth for Switzerland to attend the Control Committee meeting of the World Council of Churches at Rolle, Switzerland, it was announced recently.

He will represent the National Baptist Convention, Inc., and is also a member of the Study Department committee of the World Council of Churches.

Dr. Mays will be accompanied by Mrs. Mays. While in Europe, they intend to visit some of the Scandinavian countries. The president and his wife will return to this country around August 27.

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