

# Stars and Stripes, September 14, 1947

## Italian Troops to Face Yugoslavs On New Line

*TRIESTE, Sept. 13-*

Two divisions of picked Italian troops, plus some Alpine troops will face Yugoslav soldiery sometime on Monday along a "temporary provisional" boundary line running 80 miles from Austria to the sea—a line approved by Britain and the U.S. but not yet by Yugoslavia.

"We hope to make the turnover (of authority and territory) in a sensible and cool manner, but we are prepared for all eventualities," British Maj. Gen. T.S. Airey, commanding Allied troops in Venezia Giulia, told a press conference here yesterday.

The Associated Press reported that all Allied troops would be issued live ammunition for the R-Day movement and that a battalion of Royal Scots had been moved up along the Morgan Line "to give the operation a more Allied flavor." The line has been manned by troops of the U.S. 88th Division.

The temporary provisional boundary was worked out after the United Nations Boundary Commission failed to reach agreement on all sectors of the boundary. Drawing of the line through Gorizia—splitting cemeteries and farms, giving a railway station to Yugoslavia, etc.—was expected to make that city the potential trouble spot.

However, Airey told reporters he did not anticipate any trouble and only hoped that officials in Paris would flash the R-Day signal by noon on Monday to "avoid having troops milling about in the dark."

But there apparently remained several important mysteries concerning the day's operations. Airey said he had "no idea" whether the temporary provisional line was acceptable to the Yugoslavs. He said the Yugoslavs had not yet disclosed their R-Day operational plans.

Allied procedure, Airey said, would consist of establishment of posts on the new provisional line, falling back from the Morgan Line; evacuation of Pola; and establishment of Anglo-American occupation forces in the northern half of Trieste Free Territory.

## LOWER RAIL TARIFFS

*TRIESTE, Sept. 13 (UP)-*

Allied Military Government officials announced here yesterday that reduced Trieste-Czechoslovak rail tariffs, permitting the Free State to compete for central European traffic shipped through the Yugoslav port of Fiume, will commence Monday when the peace treaty becomes effective.

The new rate agreement provides that all payments, for both import and export

shipments, will be made in Czechoslovak crowns. Tariffs over the Trieste-Prague route will be identical with Yugoslav rates via Fiume and Maribor.

## **Independent Daily Newspaper, September 16, 1947**

### **Italian Peace Treaty in Effect: Troop Movements Begin Today**

#### **Pact Legalized At Paris in 5 Minutes Time**

#### **Italy loses Territory; Now 3,000 Miles Smaller**

*By Hermes Secondri  
Staff Writer*

Italy's peace treaty became effective at 2 AM (Rome time) this morning, following deposit of the ratified documents by representatives of the Big Four powers in Paris yesterday noon.

It had been expected that the Italian treaty would have become effective yesterday. The delay caused Allied armed forces in Venezia Giulia to postpone falling back from their positions on the Morgan Line to the provisional boundary of the Trieste Free Territory-born of the peace treaty-until this morning.

Allied troops in Trieste were restricted to quarters until noon today to prevent possible incidents.

It took just a few seconds more than five minutes to legalize the Italian peace treaty. At the end of the simple ceremony, the U.S. representative, Ambassador Jefferson Caffery, commented: "It was a very, very nice, brief affair."

The ceremony took place in the offices of George Bidault, French Foreign Minister. Only representatives of the Big Four were present: Caffery for the U.S., Bidault for France, Ambassador Alexandre Bogomolov for the USSR and Minister H. Ashley Clarke for Britain.

As the ratification ceremony was going on, villagers of Briga, Tenda and the Alpine districts awarded France were voting whether they wanted be French, as the constitution of the Fourth French Republic demands that before France annex any territory, the inhabitants must agree to their new Fatherland by referendum.

Italian newspapers during the weekend claimed that the French had so juggled the population the referendum was certain to come out in their favor. Meantime, representatives of the disputed Alpine valleys, appealed to the United Nations to superintend the referendum.

Under the terms of her peace treaty, Italy regains her sovereignty. Allied troops must clear her borders within 90 days, except the garrison force of the Trieste Free Territory

and some Graves Registration personnel.

As of 2 AM last night, Italy is 3,000 miles smaller. She lost most of her Mediterranean and Adriatic islands. A reparations debt of 360,000,000 dollars must be paid to Russia, Albania, Ethiopia, Greece and Yugoslavia within seven years.

At last face to face with the hard facts of their peace treaty, Italians, as most political observers had predicted, felt most the loss of their port city of Trieste and the Istrian peninsula.

But though the comments were bitter- "they have torn chunks from our living flesh" -there was no indication of hatred. Newspapers were agreed that the country must seek revision of the treaty clauses as soon as possible, and reconstruction in the meantime.

As Italian troops marched into Gorizia, Udine and Monfalcone in preparation to taking their places along the provisional Italian-Yugoslav border, the last refugees streamed across Zone "B" frontiers into Allied-controlled Zone "A".

But there will be little change in the administration of the Free Territory of Trieste. Allied Military Government will control the northern part and a population of about 305,000 people, while the Yugoslav Government will administer the southern half, which has approximately 65,000 inhabitants.

This situation will prevail until the Security Council of the United Nations appoints a Governor for the Trieste Free Territory. Until then, the Allied Governor will be U.S. Lt. Col. James C. Carnes, while British Maj. Gen. Terrence S Airey will command the U.S. and British garrison.

## **Stars and Stripes, Sept. 17, 1947**

### **Yanks Foil Yugo Entry Into Trieste**

*(By telephone from Ernie Reed, The Stars and Stripes correspondent in Trieste, to Pfungstadt, home of the Stars and Stripes in Germany.)*

Troops of the 88th Inf. Div. carried out their withdrawal from the Morgan Line in Venezia Giulia early yesterday, but only after 10 cool-headed GIs had deployed for battle and held their outpost by firing a burst of machine-gun fire to discourage 2,000 Yugoslav soldiers from marching into the riot-ripped city of Trieste.

### **Shouts Heard in EC**

As the dramatic story of the evacuation was reported over the phone by correspondent Ernie Reed last night the shouts of fighting mobs could be heard in the distance and screeching police sirens sometimes made his voice impossible to hear in Pfungstadt.

Reed, who stayed up all night to watch the evacuation, gave the following account:

The machine-gun incident occurred on the road between Girano and Proscio when a Yugoslav unit presented itself at an American post on the Trieste frontier and demanded permission to cross through the Anglo-American occupation zone.

When the Americans, who belonged to C Co, 1st Bn., 351st Regt., refused to let them pass, the Yugoslavs pointed out that the peace treaty authorized them to enter the free state with a maximum of 5,000 men.

The officers in charge of the U.S. detachment, 1/Lt. William V. Ochs, of Chattanooga, and 1/Lt. Lyle E. Lenhart, of Evanston, Ill., said they would consult their superiors. When the Yugoslavs insisted, however, the lieutenants called for a tank, deployed their men and fired a warning burst of machine-gun fire.

As a result, the Yugoslavs withdrew and said they would also consult their superior officers.

Maj. Gen. Terence S. Airey, British overall commander in Trieste, said he had received a letter last night from a Yugoslav staff officer saying the Yugoslavs would enter on the main road into Trieste at midnight and station themselves there.

Airey said a previous agreement between the Allies and the Yugoslav troops would go around Trieste proper to enter the Yugoslav occupation zone south of the city.

Commenting on the incident, Airey said the "cool judgment" and "firm but tactful" handling of the situation by the Americans "avoided bloodshed and a possible major incident."

Airey said the Yugoslav effort to get into Trieste last night was their second drastic switch on previously agreed plans for new troop dispositions in connection with the evacuation.

"The last-minute request for occupation of Trieste was unusual," he added, "because no housing, water supply or other preparations had been made for Yugoslav troops in the city. And we wanted to avoid bloodshed."

In Trieste, meanwhile, rioting continued, with Communist sympathizers in the spotlight.

Public safety officers told Reed at least three had been killed in demonstrations so far and 73 hospitalized. He reported at least a dozen hand grenades had been tossed in Trieste in the past 24 hours.

In a formal ceremony this morning turning the city of Gorizia over to Italian administration, Maj. Gen. Bryant E. Moore, commander of the 88th Div., declared:

"Now arrives the day in which Anglo-American forces terminate two years of duty in Venezia Giulia. We depart from your midst with full confidence in you. Look forward to building a happy community under your great sovereign state of Italy and within the

framework of the United Nations”

## **Chicago Daily Tribune, Sept. 17, 1947**

### **Burst of Yank Fire at Trieste Halts Tito Men**

#### **Prevent Forbidden Entry by Slavs**

*TRIESTE, Sept. 16 (AP)-*

A warning burst of American machine gun fire at a tense moment today in the birth of the free territory of Trieste kept Yugoslav troops from crossing into the area.

Under the terms of the treaty the free state of Trieste will be administered by a governor to be appointed by the United Nations security council. Pending that appointment-Russia has objected to 18 nominees-the British-American military governments will rule in the north and the city of Trieste and the Yugoslavs in the south.

Maj. Gen. T. S. Airey, British commander in Trieste, said the Yugoslav troops would have to go around the free state border area to enter the territory under their control.

#### **Demand Entry for 2,000**

Entry into the free territory was demanded yesterday for a detachment of 2,000 Yugoslav troops which were designated under an agreement to be attached to the allied military government as Liaison troops. The Yugoslav troops had been in zone A, which was under British-American jurisdiction in Venezia Giulia [Istria] until yesterday. The zone passed under Yugoslav authority when the treaty became effective.

Gen. Airey said he received a letter last night from a Yugoslav staff officer saying the troops would enter on the main road into Trieste at midnight and station themselves in the city. Airey said he previously had talked with the detachment commander and he agreed the troops should go around the free territory to enter the Yugoslav section.

The British commander immediately issued orders that the Yugoslavs would not enter.

#### **Yugoslavs Appear**

At 3:30 a. m. a detachment of 34 Yugoslav soldiers and two officers appeared at post No. 5, on the main road to Trieste, and were halted by a detachment of 12 American soldiers.

The detachment was commanded by Lt. Lyle E. Lenhart of 1226 Simpson St., Evanston, Ill., and Lt. William B. Ochs of Chattanooga, Tenn. Among other in the detachment were Pvt. 1st class Reynold Fett, Grand Haven, Mich.; Pvt. 1st class Edward V. Janes, 155 Rugby St., Joliet, Ill., and Pvt. Melvin R. Celmer, 224 N. Keeler av., Chicago.

When the Yugoslavs were told they could not proceed they called up reinforcements in battle formation.

The 12 Yanks held their ground and a battalion of American infantry was immediately sent up from reserve position and with a full complement of armor and artillery. The American officer in charge brought up a tank and ordered the warning burst of machine gun fire. The Yugoslavs thereafter indicated they would agree with the decision of the allied command and take the matter up on diplomatic level.

“Owing to the extraordinary good sense and tactful handling by the American troops an incident was prevented,” Gen. Airey said. “As it was, the affair was settled amicably.”

### **Set Up Machine Guns**

Yugoslav troops set up machine gun emplacements at several points along the new frontier as they reached the limit of their advance. In only one American outpost visited by correspondents was a similar precaution taken. This was in the sector near Gorizia where an Italian road forms a corridor for about 100 yards thru territory which lies within that assigned to Yugoslavia.

An American officer at this outpost said the Yugoslavs advanced at 1:30 a.m. and gave us “five minutes to move back 100 meters.”

“We refused and they came back three times to repeat the demand. We then decided to put on a show of strength. We mounted a 50 caliber machine gun on our side of the line and moved up an armored car equipped with a 37 millimeter gun.”

The Yugoslavs did not repeat their demands but brought up a Russian anti-tank gun to their side of the boundary later.

The toll from Italian-Slav rioting in Trieste mounted to three with the death of a 17 year old Italian student wounded yesterday by a hand grenade.

## **Blue Devil, September 19, 1947**

### **Men Of OP 5 Stop Yugoslav City Entry**

#### **Cool Thinking, Talking Avoid Major Incident as Yugoslavs Attempt to Enter Trieste**

Quick thinking and calm action on the part of American officer, supported by two other officers and five enlisted men prevented a major incident at OP 5, situated near the town of Prosecco, at approximately 0115 hours on Tuesday, 16 September, when a column of Yugoslav troops attempted to enter the Free Territory of Trieste through that outpost.

When the Yugoslav officers in charge of the column informed Lt. William Ochs, of Chattanooga, Tenn., commanding the outpost, that they intended to enter the newly constituted Free Territory, the lieutenant sent for Lt. Col. Robert M. Booth, CO of the 1st Bn., 351st Inf., and kept the Yugoslavs on the other side of his outpost.

#### **Lt. Ochs Story Follows:**

“At approximately 0115 hours a convoy of trucks loaded with Yugoslav soldiers came up the road toward our outpost and demanded entry into the Free Territory, but we refused to let them pass. A well dressed civilian, who was the interpreter, and a captain and his staff approached right down the middle of the road in an American jeep. They left the lights in the jeep burning and as the officer approached us, two columns of fully equipped soldiers, one on either side of the road and about 15 to 20 yards to the rear, approached with them.

“The civilian interpreter asked for an American officer and I told him that I was an officer, that he could say what he had to say to me. Pfc. Edward Janes of Joliet Ill. an interpreter, and myself were the only two Americans at the barrier conversing with the Yugoslavs.

“The Yugoslav captain informed me that he desired entry into Trieste because the Italian Peace Treaty had been ratified and so it was free territory. He said that they had orders to enter the Trieste Free Territory and that he must execute his orders.

“I explained to him that this territory, which we occupy, was the United States occupation zone of the Free Territory. The instructions I had received were that no Yugoslav troops could enter Trieste other than through the area that was formerly Jugoslavia, that they could not enter through the newly acquired territory.

“Then the Yugoslav captain sent a messenger back and a lieutenant colonel arrived that the barrier and said, “My orders state that I must go through and we will go through if we have to use force.’

“I told the colonel that I would refer the information to higher headquarters and also asked for his rank so that an American officer of equivalent rank could be summoned to the scene.

“The Yugoslav officer said we had just fifteen minutes and after that time he would have to act to carry out his orders.

“I sent for Colonel Booth. It was very difficult to get through on the telephone, so I kept sending Private Janes back to the OP telephone to try to reach Colonel Booth. Finally, we got through and it was reported that the colonel was on his way out to the OP.

“About thirteen minutes had passed and sufficient time hadn’t been allowed for Colonel Booth to come to our outpost and as each minute passed the situation became more tense. All the while the Yugoslav colonel was nervously smoking cigarettes and continually checking his watch and becoming more impatient every minute.

“Time had almost run out when Maj. Henry W. Urrutia, 1st Battalion Executive

Officer, came and started discussing the situation. He completely reviewed the treaty and instructions for both sides. The discussion continued for several minutes and Major Urrutia requested that they wait until Colonel Booth arrived, but the Yugoslavs insisted that they must enter Trieste.

Shortly after, Colonel Booth was located and came immediately to OP 5. I was never happier to see anyone in my life. My legs were really shaking. The discussion continued and the Yugoslav colonel asked Colonel Booth if he knew the Peace Treaty. Colonel Booth replied, 'Naturally, and you will not enter.'

"Other representatives (American) arrived: Major 'Mike' Gussie, 351st Infantry S-2, and interpreter, and also the chaplain and the argument continued. The Yugoslav officer was stubborn and maintained he would carry out his original intentions.

"In the meantime, Capt. Joseph P. Lydon, "B" Company CO, alerted his entire company, even the cooks. Captain Lydon stated, 'We were determined that Baker Company would be prepared for any eventuality.' At his time the Yugoslav officer said he had 2,000 troops completely armed, but all I could see was about one full platoon. two kilometers to the rear."

"Two patrols were sent out to either side of the OP to prevent infiltration by the Yugoslav troops. They were dispersed in squad column formation.

Finally, the Yugoslavs agreed to wait until a liaison officer could contact them and discuss the matter more fully. The Yugoslav colonel stipulated that he would withdraw his troops two kilometers to the rear."

The officers and enlisted men at OP 5, when the Yugoslavs first arrived were Lieutenant Lenhart, Lieutenant Soloman, who had just been relieved by Lieutenant Ochs, Private Janes, Pvt. Melvin Celmer, of Chicago, Ill., Pfc. Charles Uphold, of Zanesville, Ill., Pvt. Norman Levine, of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Pfc. Joseph Kirby, of Silver Springs, Md.

## **Blue Devil, September 19, 1947**

### **Jugoslavs Return 2 Americans on 15 September**

#### **Dwyer and Smith in Very Weak State**

At 1030 hours on Tuesday, 16 September, thirty-eight days after their apprehension by Yugoslav soldiers, Lt. John C. Dwyer, of Chicago, Ill., and T-5 Willis Smith of Waycross, Ga., were released to American military personnel at OP 43.

Both men were in a greatly weakened condition due to their confinement and lack of food.

For over a month, practically all their time was spent at a makeshift jail with food that consisted of little more than soup with occasional scraps of meat thrown in.

The majority of time was spent in complete confinement with the exception of an hour each day, during which they were allowed outside.

After their release, Dwyer and Smith were taken to an aid station and from there, removed by ambulance to the 391st Station Hospital.

## **Stars and Stripes, September 20, 1947**

### **Congressman Lauds Yanks Who Held Line at Trieste**

*(Rep. Richard M. Nixon (R-Calif.) was in the Trieste area during the four days of tension caused by the frontier changes. He has written the following account of the most dramatic incidents with the Yugoslavs for the United Press.)*

**By RICHARD M. NIXON**

*TRIESTE, Sept. 19 (UP)-*

I have just seen a bunch of American kids hold the line in action against communism in this southern anchor area of the Iron Curtain. They stood their guns and brought up their few tanks, but they didn't use them. They called the Communist bluff and it was enough.

These American soldiers set an example for our country and all Western democracies for dealing with the aggressive tactics of totalitarian communism.

This instance of aggressive Communist bluff backed by military force occurred the night of Sept. 15-16 as the Anglo-American troops withdrew and the Yugoslavs advanced to new frontiers assigned by the Italian peace treaty.

The Yugoslavs laid the background of confusion by jumping the gun on the agreed hour for the troop movements, forcing a night operation.

Then they tried to force-march 2,000 troops about a dozen miles into Trieste City, where no Yugoslav troops are authorized. Immediately, those troops in Trieste would have caused bloodshed amid the fierce nationalism here.

Eventually, they would have worked hand in glove with Tito to make Trieste a part of Yugoslavia instead of the free state capital it was intended to be in the treaty.

### **Met U.S. Squad**

But the Yugoslavs at about 1:15 a.m. Sept. 16, in the rough rocky, scrub-brush country north of Trieste, met 1/Lt. William V. Ochs, of Chattanooga, Tenn., and 12 of his men.

There were many top-level Allied leaders involved. The top American general was telephoning the American embassy in Rome. The embassy was on the telephone to

Washington, where diplomats contacted the Combined Chiefs of Staff and agree to rush a protest cable to Belgrade. This was done in record time, but it took hours.

On the spot at outpost No. 5, facing the 2,000 Yugoslavs and their 12 pieces of horse-drawn artillery was Lt. Ochs. The Yugoslav lieutenant colonel marched up the country road to Och's sentry post and said the Americans had five minutes to get out of the way.

### **Discounted Own Part**

I mention only Ochs because he was the man in charge during the first critical minutes and because he is the lad I talked to later. From his story it sounded as if the other officer and the enlisted men were the heroes, but I wouldn't discount Och's part.

Ochs is a big blond lad, about 22 and just out of West Point. He had no combat experience in World War II but he impressed me, as a sharp, enthusiastic young officer who was, very proud of his men.

"These soldiers of mine are just boys, you might say," Ochs told me. "Most of them are 18 year olds. But they were just as steady as veterans."

Ochs, who has a winning smile and a boyish look, didn't seem to think he had done much. He said when the Yugoslav lieutenant colonel told him he had orders to march through to Trieste, he (Ochs) replied:

"I'm sorry but my understanding is that you are not to go through."

Then Ochs deployed his men along the line. One of them called superiors in the rear. Ochs argued with the Yugoslavs.

### **Tanks Pulled Up**

"My boys could have been trigger-happy looking at that artillery being deployed against the, Ochs said. "If one of them let go with his rifle it would have caused a hell of a lot of shooting. But they weren't trigger happy".

An American colonel arrived eventually to support Ochs, two American tanks arrived and were placed across the road, and other American troops began to arrive.

The higher-echelon long-distance telephoning in the rear got results, and the three-hour critical period at outpost No. 5 was over. The Yugoslavs didn't come through, and eventually withdrew from this particular area.

There were two other less serious outpost incidents such as this between the Yugoslavs and the American soldiers. I talked to some of the other soldiers who played leading roles. They were the same well-trained alert troops as those at outpost No. 5.

All these soldiers knew what their jobs were and did them. They called the Communist bluff, and won.

# **Spearhead, September 24, 1947**

## **Series of Touchy Events After R-Day Diplomatically Handled by All of 351**

### **Calm But Firm attitude of 351's Officers and Men Prevent Any "Incidents"**

*By Ken Lenzmeier*

When J-Hour, signifying R-Day occurred Monday night at 2200 hours instead of at 1000 hours the following day, nobody in the 351st Infantry know what to expect. But the 351st elements manning the "French Line", disputed boundary between the Free Territory of Trieste and Yugoslavia, were prepared for anything. What happened is history and the next day the 351st found itself on front pages all over the world, in a heroic role that was made to sound as epic as Horatius at the bridge.

### **Screaming Headlines**

"12 GIs hold off 2000 Yugoslavs": so said one widely read paper. Another carried this account: "Troops of the 88th Inf. Div. carried out their withdrawal from the Morgan Line in Venezia Giulia early yesterday, but only after 10 cool-headed GIs had deployed for battle and held their outpost by firing a burst of machine gun fire to discourage 2,000 Yugoslav soldiers from marching into the riot ripped city of Trieste.--"

It made wonderful news and had dramatic reader appeal when put that way, but the facts were somewhat distorted, if not missing. *The Spearhead*, as the official organ of the 351st Infantry, here publishes what did happen and what did not happen.

### **TRUST Please**

First, of course, there were no 88th Division men within miles of the Free Territory. After all, the men of the 351st want it know that they are no longer the 88th, but TRUST, commencing a glorious history of their own.

### **No Shots Fired**

(unreadable) without a shot being fired by either side. The myth about the burst of machine-gun fire has no basis in fact whatsoever. Nobody but the Yugoslavs know how many of them there were: they said there were 2000 but nobody saw that many. Five enlisted men and one officer originally met them at Outpost 5, but at the conclusion of the incident there was a sizable number of American troops on the scene. Also all mention of the other outposts manned by the 351st, at which similar incidents happened and kept happening for three days, was neglected.

### **Outpost 5**

This, then, is the story of Outpost 5.

Along the "French Line" fixed by the International Boundary Commission as the demarcation line between the Free Territory of Trieste and Yugoslavia, outposts had been set up. Every road between the two territories was posted as a precaution against unforeseen developments, although according to Jugo-Allied parley held Sunday, all arrangements were definitely understood by both sides as to the withdrawal of Allied troops from the Morgan Line to the French Line and the occupation by the Yugoslavs of the ceded territory.

There were no such complications here as on the 88th's Morgan Line when the Slavs forced the play and the Allies had to move out ahead of schedule; since all American troops here were already outside of the French Line. The announcement of the change in J-Hour from 1000 Tuesday morning to 2200 Monday night had no effect on previous plans here. Early in the evening, however, it was learned that the Yugoslav military might attempt an entry into our zone, and all concerned were advised of this possibility at that time.

At Outpost 5, Lieutenant Paul E. Solomon, B Company, was in charge of the detail when the first Yugoslavs appeared at the barrier. With him were five enlisted men: Pfc Charles R. Uphold of Zanesville Ohio, Pfc Joseph H. Kirby of Silver Springs Maryland, Pvt Norman H. Levine of Brooklyn N.Y. and Pvt Melvin R. Celmer of Chicago Illinois, all from the 1st platoon of Company B; and Pfc Edward Janes of Joliet Illinois, the interpreter who was on special duty from M Company 3rd Battalion, for this job.

### **First Demands**

At 0015 hours the first Yugoslavs came up to the barrier and told Lt. Solomon that they wanted to come into the American zone. Where they wanted to go—or what was their reason they declined to say. They were refused and went back down the road.

### **Lt. Ochs**

Lieutenant Ochs relieved Solomon then, but the latter did not retire with the situation as it was. At about 0115 hours the second parley occurred. A Yugoslav captain and his aides drove up in a jeep, followed by two trucks. Then on both sides the road, armed Yugoslav soldiers appeared in file columns. Some of these drifted inconspicuously off the road during the talking but did not escape the notice of the Americans, who sent out two patrols later to insure against infiltration on their flank.

The captain informed Lieutenant Ochs that the Treaty was in effect now, that Trieste was a free city, and that he wanted to enter the territory with his men. Those were his orders and he had to carry them out. Lieutenant Ochs explained to him, through Janes, that his was the American zone of the Free Territory and this it was in the Treaty that the Yugoslavs enter their sector directly from Yugoslavia, which borders their zone, and not by passing through the U.S. or British zones. He also had his orders, he told the captain, and he could not permit the Yugoslavs to pass.

### **Ultimatum**

Balked, the captain sent back a runner and Lieutenant Colonel Djuran Kovacevid, in charge of the Yugoslavs (presumably a battalion) facing Outpost 5, came up to the barrier. He stated again that his orders were to go through and that if necessary he would use force

to carry out his orders. And again Lt Ochs explained the situation to him and that he could not permit any Yugoslav military personnel to pass that point. But, he said he would refer the matter to higher authority. Kovacevic demanded to confer with an officer of equal rank, and when Lt Ochs ascertained the rank, he called back for Lt Colonel Robert Booth, commanding officer of the 1st Battalion. The Slav colonel gave him fifteen minutes to produce Colonel Booth, after which he declared, he would begin moving through. He was becoming extremely nervous and impatient at the delay.

Colonel Booth could not be contacted at first. Lieutenant Ochs, his eye on his watch, kept sending Janes back to the phones, and received the message that Colonel Booth was on his way. However more than enough time had elapsed to enable him to arrive; the Yugoslav colonel was getting more impatient by the minute, and the Americans were beginning to wonder if anything had happened between the 1st Battalion CP and the outpost.

Time had almost run out when Major Urritia, 1st Battalion Exec. Officer arrived, followed shortly by Major Mike Gussie of 351st Inf S-2. The Treaty was reviewed and both sides explained their orders, examining them in the light of the Treaty. Nevertheless, even when faced by the facts, the Yugoslav officer was adamant and insisted that he must go through.

### **Jugoslavs Retire**

Finally Colonel Booth did arrive and began to confer with the Yugoslav officer. Booth's answer was the same as his junior officers': a flat refusal to let the Slavs enter Trieste. The argument continued long past the minute when the Jugoslavs were to have started crossing the line. Evidently they realized that the Americans were not going to change their stand. Colonel Kovacevic had the discretion to retire: the troops with him and the convoy were ordered to return in the direction of Goriano, the town nearest Outpost 5.

### **Reinforcements**

While all the talking was going on, urgent calls had gone back for reinforcements. These started out immediately, having been alerted beforehand. Contrary to reports, they did not arrive until the Jugoslavs had begun to leave. A section of tanks rolled up and began to dig into position to cover the road; a light machinegun section from D Company set up their weapons. Two platoons from B and A Companies had come down the road at high port arms in two columns, one on either side of the road, deploying off the road but staying well in sight to provide visible discouragement toward any attempts at coming through by force.

Lieutenant Lyle Lenhart, 1st Battalion S-2, was present throughout the affair, sending messages back to the forward CP's and he was in touch with Colonel Booth.

### **Interpreter Commended**

For Pfc Janes, the interpreter, Lt Ochs had the highest praise. Janes knows four of the Slav languages and had a grave responsibility that night, but he remained cool and conversed easily with the men in grey. The Lieutenant commends him on his "marvelous conduct" and calls him the "finest type of soldier". Eddie Janes is typical, however, of the

young men who make up the 351st, and all hands were commended for the night's work as every man did his part.

Lieutenant Solomon after three days, was still curious about one thing. "Where did that machinegun burst come in?" he asks.

## **Spearhead, September 24, 1947**

### **G Company Returns; Leaves Pola in Matter of Minutes**

*by Roy Garvin*

Under the provisions of the treaty recently deposited in Paris that Pola be turned over to the Yugoslavs, G Company, part of the allied military forces there, left the former Italian city and returned to Trieste, arriving Tuesday night at 9:30 aboard the HMS Striker, a British LST. R-Day came as a surprise to the allied troops stationed at Pola and when they received the message from AIS stating "forty-five minutes were given them in which to leave," one of the swiftest and best-organized evacuations followed.

G Company, upon being notified, immediately packed up its belongings and equipment in fifteen minutes. The foresight of the Company Commander, Captain L. Blissenbach, made the evacuation possible in such a short time. Some of the equipment had been previously readied for the withdrawal. With only nine minutes left before midnight, the company left the caserma and marched to the dock, arriving there at exactly 12:00. No sooner had the company left the area when the headlights of the Yugoslavs' trucks bringing in the new occupying forces could be seen coming over the hillside. The two outposts, 13A and 15A, located about five miles from the city itself, were left behind and the ten men manning them arrived at the dock a half an hour later. The company's vehicles, two jeeps and a 2 1/2 ton truck were loaded aboard.

Shortly after the Americans boarded, the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, the main portion of the British troops in the Pola Garrison, arrived and came aboard. Finally at 1:30 Tuesday morning, just an hour and 45 minutes after the notice was given, the allied troops pulled away from the new Yugoslav city. (Originally the provisions of the treaty granted a forty-eight hour period of time in which to evacuate all troops and equipment.)

The LST Striker moved across the Gulf of Venice to Mestre, near the city of Venice, where the Camerons, who are very well known and who have worked very closely with the 351st Infantry, especially with the Second Battalion, are returning to Scotland.

At 2:15 in the afternoon of Tuesday, the ship left Mestre and finally arrived in the Free City of Trieste at 9:30 that night.

During its stay in Pola, which has been quite an eventful stay, the American and the Cameron troops worked quite closely together. Each group gave demonstrations with their weapons, and each group fired the others' weapons. For a time after the road to Trieste had been blocked by Yugoslav troops. Finally the US Army tug brought fresh rations.

# **Spearhead, September 24, 1947**

## **351st CO Praises Conduct of All Officers and Men**

### **Reminds Personnel of 351 TRUST Now a Garrison Force**

Hqs, 351st Infantry TRUST, APO 209, U.S. Army, 19 September 1947

TO: All Units, 351st Infantry,  
15th Tank Company  
88th Rcn Troop  
14th Engineer Company, Thru  
CO, 60th Gen Depot,  
23rd Ordnance Company, Thru  
CO, 60th Gen Depot

1. I wish to add my congratulations to those expressed for close attention to duty and to the fine spirit shown by all personnel who served under my Command in the recent operation. I have noted particularly the will and enthusiastic manner in which you have carried out this difficult mission, and I cannot commend you to highly for your performance of duty on this occasion.

2. With the arrival of R Day and the close-out of the 88th Division, we find ourselves faced with another redeployment problem. Approximately 1700 men from the Trust garrison must be replaced by men from the 88th Division before 1 October. This reshuffle will cause a temporary shortage of personnel in our units resulting in more guard and harder work on the part of everyone. It is hoped that you will show the same spirit in overcoming this difficulty that you have demonstrated recently in the field.

3. I also hope you will constantly bear in mind the fact that you are now in the Free Territory of Trieste and that you are no longer part of an occupational force. You are garrison troops in a free country and as such are expected to show the same consideration and courtesy for the local civilians as you would if stationed at home in the United States. Your conduct here, in a foreign land, will be even more watched and criticized, so that you cannot be too careful in your actions.

4. I am proud of the way you have demonstrated your efficiency in accomplishing your most recent mission. It has been a great privilege for me to have you under my command. To those of you who leave the TRUST forces, I wish you the best of good fortune; and to those who remain, I hope you will keep up the good work and that we can serve together again should another important mission arise.

**NUMA A. WATSON**  
Colonel, 351st Infantry  
Commanding

## **Spearhead, September 24, 1947**

### **The First Test: 351 Tradition Holds**

To carry off without a hitch, carefully laid plans that represented months of precise planning and delicate discussions, to do this in broad daylight when there could be no confusion of uniforms and the like; to do it with supposedly unseasoned troops—"mere boys", to do all this was to be the job of the 351st Infantry. The situation was viewed with apprehension by the eyes of a watching world. Venezia-Giulia had come to be the powder-keg of Europe that the least spark of trouble would blow up in the face of the future.

What then must be the volume of praise given to these 351st troops, when it is understood that everything ran totally counter to what was expected. The Yugoslav armies, with reason of their own, forced the show on Monday night. Since then they have put forward every sort of unexpected demand, that has tried the good will and patience of American soldiers from top headquarters down to the guard who faces the grey-uniformed armies across the border. Yet the men with the TRUST patch on their shoulders have stood firm in history's place, neither forcing nor yielding. They have followed the advice of a former great American, by speaking softly and carrying a big stick. They have shown that the boys they were are left behind and in the place of youth stand men: men who have displayed this week, before all the world, the perfect blending of diplomacy and a military mission.

And their work will not go unnoticed. The newsmen from many countries who have observed, have been impressed. Their impression will be reproduced in their writings. And when they write they will tell of a dark Monday night when the thinking and action of American officers preserved a peaceful countryside for Tuesday's dawning instead of a tragic battlefield, of a smoldering Monday night when the coolness and instant obedience of the Trooper who stood ready with his rifle, or crouched behind a machinegun, prevented the eruption that would have brought anew to this tired part of the world the horror of armed strife.

The 351st brushed elbows with glory, last Monday night, and the men won't soon forget, or can the United States Army ever forget the fence-straddling of the 351. Not a single incident occurred; not a single man hurt. Their perfect completion of one of the most difficult assignments in army history. If a symbol were to be chosen, to stand as representative of this week's work, there could be nothing more appropriate than an iron hand-in a velvet glove.

J. E. Walsh

## **Newsweek, September 29, 1947**

### **The Communist Plan for Chaos**

Where the road that leads to Prosecco crosses the new boundary between

Yugoslavia and the Free Territory of Trieste, twelve American soldiers peered through the darkness at the column advancing on them from the Yugoslav side. It was 3:30 a.m. on Sept. 16. The Italian peace treaty had gone into effect at midnight and promptly at that hour Yugoslav troops had begun marching into the 3,000 square miles of Italian territory won by Marshal Tito at the peace conference. They had also hoped to bluff their way into Trieste itself, where Anglo-American military rule continues while the United Nations seeks a governor for the Free Territory.

"I am sorry," said the commander of Post No. 5, First Lt. William V. Ochs, to the Yugoslav lieutenant colonel who approached him, "but my understanding is that you are not to go through."

The Yugoslavs deployed into skirmish positions. Och's detachment stood its ground and called for reinforcements. An infantry battalion came up and spread out among the rocks and scrubby growth. Two American tanks clattered into position beside the road. At dawn a squadron of British fighter-bombers snarled overhead.

The Yugoslavs pulled out with their vehicles and their twelve pieces of horse-drawn artillery. Praising the "small but brave American contingent," British Maj. Gen. T. S. Airey, Allied commander in Trieste, said "the firmness and tact of the American commander...avoided bloodshed and a breach of the treaty."

An unnamed general put it more bluntly: "We could have had a war."

**Head Heat:** Meanwhile the Communist heat was turned on Italy itself. Determined to force their way back into the government of Premier Alcide De Gasperi, if not to overthrow it, Italian Communists first demonstrated their strength by pulling out on strike more than 6000,000 agricultural workers in the Po Valley. Then, as the farm strike petered out, the nation's 900,000 steelworkers downed tools on Sept. 16 for a 48-hour protest against high prices.

Communist leader Palmiro Togliatti and his party of more than 2,000,000 members climaxed their demonstration on Sept. 20. They staged "hunger marches" throughout Italy, rallying thousands in all principal cities to bemoan the cost of living and to demand representation of "workers' parties" in the government. Although widely heralded as a potential breeder of open revolution, the rallies went off quietly.

### **Significance-**

Washington feels that the inspired troubles in Trieste and Italy are part of a general Communist campaign to cause chaos in Western Europe before the American Marshall Plan can take effect. Last week's Italian incidents are likely to be repeated, not only in Italy, but with variations in France and Western Germany as well. And they highlight the question of what, if anything, the United States can do short of a spectacular grant of money by a special session of Congress.

Ambassador James Dunn in Rome and Acting Secretary of State Robert A. Lovett in Washington have been besieged by anxious Italians who want to know what Italy could expect under the Marshall Plan, and what the American attitude would be if the Communists reentered the government. To the second question, Dunn could give only vague promises of

support for De Gasperi. Lovett gave the answer to the first: "We are trying to decide whether we are trying to find \$10 here and there..." No one dared say the \$10 here would stop Tagliatti even if it were found.

In Germany, the communists are preparing for opportunity this winter will present. The resumption of reparations and dismantlings in the Ruhr, scheduled to begin immediately after the London conference of Foreign Ministers in November, will give Ruhr Communists their needed "dialectical situation" a fear of unemployment that will make Ruhr workers receptive to a general strike call. Low rations will intensify the rebellious mood.

If the Anglo-Americans could gradually increase the present meager rations in the Ruhr during the next six months, the Communists might be blocked. However, the best they can hope for is to maintain the present level, and it is likely that they may have to slash it. Then the stage will be set for activation of the Russian plan.

## **Time, October 6, 1947**

### **Out of the Shadows**

Tito relaxed his talons, and the three American G. I.s and their mongrel mascot, which had shared their Yugoslav captivity with them, marched back to freedom. The Yugoslavs made the snatch last week while feeling out how far they could bluff the thin line of U.S. troops into bending back the new Yugoslav-Trieste frontier which they were guarding.

In Trieste, once more in the world of free men, the three released Americans Lieut. William Van Atten, Pfc. Glen A. Meyer and Pfc. Earl G Hendrick Jr., told their story of five days in the Yugoslav shadows (see cut).

The Yugos had quizzed them for hours, harangued them on Russia's power, vainly tried to make them talk about U.S. military strength and U.S. political intentions in Trieste.

To such questions, the Americans gave a routine, unenlightening reply: their name, rank, and serial numbers.

At one point, the Yugoslavs whipped out pictures of Lenin, Stalin and Tito and asked the Americans to identify them. Later they brought their captives a table, chairs and a chess game.

Said Lieut. Van Atten: "The most surprising thing about the whole incident was the extreme belligerency of the Yugoslavs in seizing us and then the contrasting careful way they treated us before our release. Boy! They really handled us with kid gloves during our detention."

Perhaps moderating orders had reached Belgrade from Moscow. For if Vishinsky's U.N. tantrum (Time, Sept. 29) proved anything, it proved that Russia did not

want war now, and was trading vituperation for time. What the seizure of the three Americans at Trieste proved was that Russian aggression had made several frontier situations in Europe so hair-triggered that a hotheaded act on either side could cause shooting which might be very hard to sop again.

### **Developing Tactics**

With one hand, Tito shoved his U.S. captives across the Trieste frontier. With the other, he sweepingly beckoned six American notables "to visit the Yugoslav frontier of Greece, and such other parts of Yugoslavia as they may deem necessary, to see for themselves what the true situation is." The Americans who Sava N. Kosanovich, Yugoslavia's Ambassador to Washington, officially invited without prior warning: former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes; former Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr.; Harold E. Stassen; Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick; John Gunther (*Inside U.S.A.*); Hanson W. Baldwin, N.Y. Times military analyst and frequent target of Moscow ire.

The Communist Marshal also found time for more important business. In Belgrade, before the People's Front Congress, which included delegates from Communist parties all over Europe, he revealed the latest wrinkle in international Communist tactics. It was a revival and stiffening of the Peoples' Front strategy (i.e.. Communist posturing as the great friend of democracy in league with any deluded non-Communist groups. Chief purpose: to get a lion's share in democratic governments, thus saving the chancy wear & tear of violent seizures of power).

Tito called for the unity of "progressive" forces "throughout the world" against the "international reaction headed by American financial magnates [which] is..reviving fascism in various countries, including western Germany."

Clearly Russian strategy now called for external aggression short of war against any soft spot in the non-Communist lines, and aggression from within against any soft spot in the non-Communist head.

## **Intelligence Review, Issue 92**

**20 Nov 47, pp. 25-29.**

### **Feature Section**

#### **The Problem of Trieste**

**Situation There Now Relatively Calm, but Most of the Important Questions Concerning Future of Area Remain Unsettled.**

The Trieste area (For a map of this area, see *Int. Rev. No. 59*, page 18.) has been a continuous source of controversy between the Western Powers and the Soviet Union, and between Italy and Yugoslavia, since the Italian Peace Treaty was drafted. Yugoslav efforts to gain control of the territory reached a climax on ratification day, last 15 September, when Yugoslav troops demanded entry into the Anglo-American Zone. After this attempted coup failed the Yugoslavs seemed to become more cooperative toward the local United States and British authorities. Nevertheless, during the two months since ratification, the provisions of

the Italian Treaty concerning Trieste have remained essentially unfulfilled. The Trieste situation is now outwardly calm, but the basic conflicts have not been resolved, and further trouble can be expected.

### **Situation Before Ratification Day**

The period between 10 February, when the Peace Treaty with Italy was signed, and 15 September, when final ratification occurred, was marked by continued Italo-Slav bitterness occasionally flaring into violence. The constant friction between Anglo-American and Yugoslav forces was reflected in several cases of detention of Allied personnel by the Yugoslavs. These individuals were eventually released unharmed, but the episodes did nothing to improve the atmosphere between the Western Powers and Yugoslavia.

### **Ratification Day; (See Int. Rev. No. 84, page 11.)**

The peace treaty with Italy became effective at midnight last 15-16 September. Yugoslav troops north of Trieste moved rapidly into the territory awarded to Yugoslavia by the treaty. They also attempted to enter the Anglo-American Zone of the Free Territory (See Int. Rev. No. 83, page 6.), but were turned back by a flat refusal of the United States commander. This Yugoslav action has been interpreted as an attempt to seize control of part or all of the Anglo-American Zone by a bloodless coup.

The next day (16 September), riots involving several thousands of persons broke out, and a number of Trieste residents were killed or injured. Local police were unable to bring the situation under control until that evening.

### **Yugoslav Actions After Ratification Day**

Immediately following the incidents of 15-16 September, there were Communist-inspired strikes of very brief duration within the Territory, and abusive attacks on United States Occupation Forces were made in the Yugoslav press. This propaganda included charges that United States forces: (1) mistreated the populace; (2) destroyed property; and (3) looted before withdrawing from that part of Venezia Giulia which the treaty ceded to Yugoslavia. United States military authorities were also accused of seizing administrative and executive power in the Free Territory of Trieste, a "gross violation" of the treaty. In less than a week, however, the name-calling had subsided, and an era of apparent Yugoslav friendliness began.

### **Change in Yugoslav Attitude(See Int. Rev. No. 87, page 19.)**

After the failure of the attempted coup and the dwindling of their propaganda, the Yugoslavs changed their tactics, adopting an attitude of apparent friendliness and conciliation. Border incidents decreased, and Anglo-American personnel detained by the Yugoslavs for alleged border violations were released speedily. Yugoslav authorities made overtures for: (1) cooperation on interzonal problems; (2) fraternization among troops; and (3) settlement of border incidents. Communist-dominated organizations for the first time offered to participate in the governmental bodies.

These proposals were not accepted by United States and British authorities because: (1) several of the proposals were apparently aimed at uniting the zones which, for economic reasons, is presently not feasible; (2) commitments made at this time would tend to limit the

freedom of action of the future Governor; and (3) Communist offers to cooperate are under suspicion, since the Communists are not believed to have abandoned their ultimate goal of obtaining control of the whole Territory.

### **Recent Yugoslav Diplomatic Maneuvers**

Yugoslavia resumed her aggressive tactics on the Trieste question before the United Nations Security Council on 8 November. A note was filed with the Council accusing the United States and Great Britain of "unjustified and hostile action" in Trieste and of at least six "gross violations" of the Italian Treaty. The note proposed the establishment of a United States - British - Yugoslav military government headquarters, to "consider all questions relating to the Free Territory of Trieste as a unity. This proposal ignores various provisions of the treaty relating to the administration of the Free Territory, pending assumption of office by the Governor.

### **Governor Not Yet Selected**

The problems of choosing a Governor for the Free Territory of Trieste has not yet been solved by the U.N. Security Council. For nine months a subcommittee of the Council has been unable to agree on a man for the post, although various names have been proposed. The chief difficulty has been the Soviet Union's refusal to agree to the appointment of any "strong" candidate. The Western Powers, on the other hand, have refused to endorse any man of doubtful ability or one likely to succumb to Soviet pressure. The treaty endows the Governor with wide powers; and, until he is chosen, the Territory is to be administered "by the Allied military commands within their respective Zones." By the terms of the treaty, the continuation of the present bizonal system is mandatory until a Governor is installed. Furthermore, neither the Permanent Statute nor the autonomous currency system of the Free Territory can come into force until the Governor has taken office.

### **Conclusions**

The situation within Trieste is relatively peaceful at present, but most of the important problems concerning the area remain unsettled. The basic tensions which still exist in Trieste are such that local incidents, similar to those which occurred on ratification day, could precipitate war. However, neither the Yugoslavs nor the Soviets, it is believed, are yet ready to provoke such an armed conflict.

Trieste is one of the places in Europe where the interests of East and west clash most violently. The Soviets would like nothing better than an Anglo-American indication of weariness with the Trieste problem. Any intimation that United States - British firmness in Trieste is only temporary would tend to encourage Soviet efforts in Greece, Austria, and other troubled regions, and would place the United States at a disadvantage at the Council of Foreign Ministers. Anglo-American retrenchment might lend impetus to Soviet strategic plans.

## **Saturday Evening Post, March 20, 1948**

### **Trieste: Fuse of World War III?**

*by Ernest O. Hauser*

**Are American troops facing another Bataan in this militant little outpost of democracy? How will they fare with Tito's encircling army if the Yugoslav dictator jumps off? A Post editor reports from one of the world's hottest spots.**

The Free Territory of Trieste, a crescent-shaped slice of Adriatic coast less than twice the land area of New York City, came into being on September 15, 1947. Its 350,000 inhabitants, who never wanted to be independent in the first place, did not celebrate the event with firecrackers. The little state is flanked by the vast forces of Yugoslavia, occupying the high ground to the east, while a mere 10,000 American and British soldiers, encamped in and around the city of Trieste, are guarding the infant against the would-be kidnappers in the hills.

Trieste is dynamite. In this hotly contested Italian port, East and West first faced each other in open discord at the end of World War II. On May 1, 1945, Marshall Tito Highhandedly moved his troops into Trieste, which by previous agreement had been staked out as an Anglo-American occupation zone. No sooner had they arrived, however, than the new Zealanders pushed their way into town, literally walking through the Yugoslav lines. Not a shot was fired, but the air crackled with hostility. Tito refused to budge. For forty-three days his troops maintained a reign of terror-of 8000 Italian citizens who were abducted, few have been heard of since. A peppery Anglo-American ultimatum finally got the intruders out and Allied Military Government set up shop on June 14, 1945. For a while it had looked as if East and West might come to grips over Trieste then and there.

Today, the pressure is by no means off. Although Tito has ratified the Italian Peace Treaty of 1947, under which the Free Territory of Trieste was established, he has never given up the dream of a Yugoslav Trieste. There is little to support his claim to this region-the Slav minority in the city amounts to approximately 15 percent, and in the Free Territory as a whole to no more than 30 per cent. But the marshal has staked his reputation on Trieste. Yugoslav school children are taught combustible slogans to the effect that Trieste belongs by right to their country. And the communists Balkan federation, now taking shape under Belgrade's auspices, is likely to renew the Slav claim to the largest and finest port in the Balkans.

For the time being, the Iron Curtain comes down to earth just east of here. Drive up to Road Block 7, fifteen minutes from Union Square in the heart of Trieste, and you'll get a good glimpse of it. What you see here is an elementary proposition, stripped of nonessentials-a stalemate in the raw. A neat prefabricated hut houses the American infantry platoon on duty, and a red-and-white barrier across the road marks the limit of Western influence, authority and power. Another barrier, a few yards up the road, guarded by an unhappy-looking Yugoslav soldier in gray, is as far as Moscow had got. There's nothing but clear Balkan mountain air between the two barriers, but peer across and you can't help feeling that all you had to do is lift your hand and you'll touch corrugated iron. This is the curtain, all right.

The thing that will strike you first is the difference in the appearance of the soldiers on either side. The American G.I.'s are well looked after, sport the world's finest equipment, are dressed in spick-and-span uniforms and, with their tall frames and ruddy cheeks, fully justify a visiting congresswoman's remark that "they must be picked for

looks." Across the line, the Yugoslavs present a slouchy appearance; with their ill-fitting uniforms and their odd collection of belts and caps, they know it. A few Americans have tried to get souvenir snapshots of their opposite numbers, but found that it is about as easy to photograph one of Tito's soldiers as it is to make Molotov say yes. Bearing their own police-state system in mind, the Yugoslavs fear that every snapshot ends up in a secret and dangerous dossier, and invariably wheel around as soon as the lens is pointed their way.

"Just like prodding an animal in the zoo," one frustrated G.I. said.

Americans like it in Trieste. Their morale is high, and it is said here that Trieste is the best place an American soldier can ask for when he goes overseas. The fact that this is not a bombed-out shell of a city, but a live and kicking seaside community has, no doubt, something to do with it; and, besides, the Americans are not stationed here as an army of occupation, but as temporary garrison, in the midst of a friendly population. There is a good deal of off-duty entertainment-sidewalk cafes, a fine opera, surf bathing in the summertime and good hunting.

The American troops are rotated, giving each company a two-week stretch on guard duty at one of the road blocks every two months. It's the closest approach to actual front-line life, and most G.I.'s here frankly prefer the frontier to the barracks routine in the city. There's the sharp lookout to be kept at isolated outposts, and nightly jeep patrols along deserted trails, and some real cops-and-robbers excitement, such as the crack of an occasional rifle shot breaking the black silence. Nobody has been hit, so far, and my question whether the outfit guarding Road Block 7 had lost any men recently was received with considerable amusement.

"Back home, they seem to think we're fighting battles up here every night," one sergeant laughed. "Actually, its no more dangerous than being a traffic cop on the corner of Lincoln and Main."

Sensational reports of Trieste border incidents, published from time to time in the American press, are read with raised eyebrows by these troopers, and sometimes poked fun at in their own newspaper, the Spearhead.

Nevertheless, accidents can happen. It was at one of these American roadblocks-No. 5-that a column of 2000 Yugoslav soldiers, armed to the teeth and spoiling for action, attempted to break through our lines on the very day the Free Territory came into existence. The officer commanding the Jugs told Lt. Paul E. Solomon, on duty with a few enlisted men at our barrier, that his column intended to come through into Trieste, "taking up positions therein." Lieutenant Solomon said, "No." The Yugoslav commander, who seemed very nervous, began to set time-limit ultimatums, threatening to force his way unless these were met. The Americans didn't budge and the Yugoslav commander's ultimatums began to look pretty silly. About this time American tanks rolled up on our side, and some machine-gun crews began to take positions. The Yugoslav commander finally decided the whole thing was a misunderstanding, and his column went home

No further attempts to violate the border have been made, but the American contingent here, commanded by realistic Maj. Gen. Bryant E. Moore, and symbolically labeled TRUST-Trieste U.S. Troops-is not taking any chances. Their situation here make General Moore and his officers think of Bataan at times, and they are determined to make

sure that Trieste never becomes a Bataan.

TRUST is hardly more than a token force. The ceiling of 5000 men, imposed by the peace treaty, includes drivers, cooks, and even the sailors on a United States navy vessel dropping in for an occasional visit. But TRUST makes up for the lack of numbers by high standards and up-to-date equipment. It's a "hot" outfit, on combat status, and you feel that in the air the minute you arrive. Its hard core consists of the crack 351st Infantry Regiment, most of whose officers and men belonged to the recently deactivated 88th Division and carry on the tradition of that famous fighting unit. For its fancy work TRUST has a tank company, a cannon company and an air-observation unit made up of a half dozen tiny L-5's operating from a makeshift metal strip which is the only airport in the territory.

There is no air cover, but American air bases in Germany and Austria are only an hour's run away. There's no heavy artillery, but some fighting ships of the British and American navies are always in Trieste harbor and their long-range guns can command the roads into the city. It would take some time to concentrate sufficient forces in Trieste if the Yugoslav 4th Army, based in the hills to the east and conservatively estimated at 50,000, should ever decide to jump off and come down. But extremely unlikely. "You can't push ten thousand troops around," one young officer, who seemed to enjoy being stationed one place in the world where "they're still playing cops and robbers," argued.

So far, Tito apparently has felt the same way as the young officer about it. But Americans here are not relaxing. In view of the odds against them, they are by no means asking for an attack of course. But they have not discarded that possibility, because reports from Belgrade that Tito is getting too big for his many uniforms are increasing. Some think he may jump off even without a green light from Moscow. If he does, and gets a bloody nose, leaving the issue in doubt, some observers here think it quite possible that Generalissimo Stalin, eminently a practical man, will disown him, rather than go to war for him now. If that happened, the prestige of communism in Europe would take a nose dive, obviously.

If Tito does blow his top in this fashion, the American forces here believe they will give a good account of themselves. Their morale is generally high because it is supported by military factors more formidable than they appear on the surface. These observations planes flying first-light and last-light patrols around the periphery, the tanks, the well-trained ground forces with their observation posts covering the roads-these add up to a combat team which might give the Yugoslavs some enlightening lessons in modern warfare.

It might be a tiny body, this Free Territory, but place it under the microscope and you'll find that it isn't unicellular. The little state consists of two compartments, or zones. The smaller portion, to the north, including the city of Trieste, is under joint Anglo-American jurisdiction, while the southern sector, encompassing three fifths of the area and one fifth of the population, is run by the Yugoslavs. American soldiers here, avid followers of Al Capp's Li'l Abner, affectionately refer to the two zones as Upper and Lower Slobbovia, and although the local inhabitants may cross the dividing line if they have a permit, few Americans have ever set foot in Lower Slobbovia.

It is the same terrifying pattern repeated wherever the Soviet octopus digests a new victim. In disregard of their obligation as trustees, the Yugoslavs have sovietized their part of the Free Territory to the point where it is almost indistinguishable from their own fear-

ridden country. Communist citizen committees tyrannize every community. People's courts made up of political appointees dispense the new brand of justice. People's co-operatives systematically ruin the small shopkeepers, most of whom happen to be Italian.

"Land reform" has taken the soil away from its anti-Tito owners and given it to the politically reliable Slavs. Dyed-in-the-wool communists are imported from Titoland to complete the job of destruction. For example, in Capodistria, normally inhabited by 10,000 Italians and 2000 Slavs, the occupants have imported 25000 Yugoslavs-administrators, teachers, clerks, Communist Part functionaries, and their families-drastically changing the little town's complexion.

Everywhere in the Yugoslav zone, public loud-speakers and the press hammer away at the sullen masses. Possession of noncommunist newspapers from Trieste is punished with immediate arrest. Divorce, unknown under the existing Italian laws of the territory, is now granted by the communist courts. All these measures are flagrant violations of Marshal Tito's obligation to respect the status quo until the local legislature starts functioning.

In the Anglo- American zone, by contrast, civil liberties and the existing law are meticulously respected. A powerful communist fifth column is taking full advantage of the tolerant attitude displayed by an amazingly patient Military Government. From the beginning, communism here has presented itself with the mask of-to be a communist in Trieste means to be an agent of Slav imperialism. The "enemy," who threatens from the hills to the east, and who has virtually annexed his portion of the territory to the south, is allowed to carry his head high even within the walls of the Anglo-American zone. Such are the mysterious ways of democracy.

The Slav-Italian conflict greatly heightens the political drama enacted here. Trieste, with its busy Carso, its spacious piazzas, its Roman ruins and the friendly rhythm of its daily life, is a thoroughly Italian city. Ever since the Emperor Augustus first settled this region, transforming it into a Roman bulwark against the barbarians to the east, the coastal towns have been inhabited by Italians. The typical Triestino is the clerk who works in an insurance office, a shipping firm or a bank where his father worked before him in the solid old Austrian days. His father was probably a good Italian patriot who in his spare time listened to fierce harangues for a return of Trieste to Italy. No that Italy has lost Trieste once more, after holding it for a brief twenty-seven years. Italian patriotism is again becoming something to be passionate about.

The Slavs arrived in this region later than the Romans. They came in waves, driven west by the great movements of Asiatic tribes, and settled the hillsides, where they tilled the meager soil, rarely competing with the trading and seafaring Italians in the towns below. This sharp division between town and country still persists, though in the last fifty years, with the gradual industrialization of Trieste, not a few Slav farm boys have come into town to work for good wages in the shipyards and along the docks of the busy port.

Hatred runs deep. The Slav, barely emerging from the ranks of the proletariat, resents the Italian with the instinctive dislike of the unkempt hick for the fellow with the clean shirt-and his feelings haven't exactly been assuaged by Fascist suppression of minorities here. The Italian, on the other hand, is proud of his *Italia*-his Latin culture and tradition. The Teatro Verdi, rather than the political club, is the shining center of Trieste

life-there were loud outbursts of indignation the other day when the Slav minority petitioned Military Government occasionally permits Slav demonstrators to march down the Carso and across the Piazza Impero, clear through the Italian heart of the city, rather than confine the antics of the proletariat to the Slovene outskirts. A starchy Italian dowager, stepping out of church and finding her way blocked by a Slav-communist parade, is likely to yell something surprisingly vulgar without visibly shocking the rest of the Italian congregation.

Political ideologies are tied to the chariots of the two old rivals, Roman and Slav. It takes a good deal of rationalizing for an Italian to turn communist in Trieste. If he does, he frankly sides with the militant Slav minority which hopes to see Trieste swallowed by Yugoslavia. In the eyes of his own compatriots, he is a traitor. Nevertheless, many Italian workers here have joined the Communist Party and even more belong to UAIs-Italo-Slovene Anti-Fascist Union-the catch-all Communist front. They reason, rather lamely, that a man can stand for "social justice" and "true democracy" without hanging on to the imperial shirrtails of Marshal Tito.

Though membership in the Communist Party of the Free Territory does not exceed 8000, almost the entire Slav minority would vote communist-or pro-Tito-in an election, giving the party some 25 to 30 per cent of the total vote. It is true that there are some anti-Tito Slavs in Trieste, and their number is being augmented by refugees from Yugoslavia who are brought in via the underground railroad. But the group is, for obvious reasons, rather quiet. Last year it launched a Slovene newspaper called *Democracija*, but its editor, Dr. Andrea Ursic, was kidnapped by Tito's henchmen and abducted to the Yugoslav zone, where he was reportedly hanged. An army of Yugoslav secret agents keeps tabs on the Slav community here. And, while beatings and kidnappings-the favorite means of abduction is an ambulance-have not been frequent, there has been enough rough stuff to put the fear of Tito into fence sitters. If you're a Slav in Trieste, you are a communist or else.

The Communist boss here at the moment is Vittorio Vidali, a formidable man about town and one who knows how the Kremlin wants things done. He is a veteran Soviet agent in the pattern of those who filtered to Moscow after World War I-Vidali was a minor Italian communist-were indoctrinated in Comintern schools, and thereafter were dispatched on various missions of violence throughout the world. He has been described as one of those communist conspirators in Spain who, through internal intrigues, damaged the Loyalist cause, rather than helped it. After that he went to Mexico, and he was named in connection with the Moscow-directed murder of Leon Trotsky. Subsequently he was considered an important cog in the espionage machine of the malodorous Ambassador Oumansky, in Mexico City.

Vidali arrived here from Moscow in April, 1947, and has since carried out a careful purge, eliminating possible pro-Italian troublemakers for every communist cell. The party is financed via Belgrade, and its key functionaries regularly go to the Yugoslav zone or to Yugoslavia proper to receive their orders. Far from being a mere political group, it can be looked on as an underground military organization, well-disciplined and equipped with small-caliber quick-firing weapons dating from partisan days.

But Tito's fighting arm in Trieste is not so much the party itself as the communist-dominated federation of labor, *Sindicati Unici*. This organization, boasting a membership of 40,000 draws its main strength from the docks and shipyards, the steel mill, the oil refinery and the brewery. It is directly affiliated with the trade-unions of Yugoslavia, and has

organized some touch-and-go manifestations here, causing Military Government more sleepless nights than anything else. Thus far, it has not been able to bully its moderate, pro-Italian rival organization, the white-collar Camera del Lavoro, into supporting a general strike.

I talked with Renato Vlach Rizzotti, one of the leaders of Sindaccati Unici, and member of the central committee of the Trieste Communist Party. Rizzotti, an amiable former railroad clerk, recently visited Yugoslavia and is considered an authority on the party line.

“In your opinion, Trieste should belong to Yugoslavia?”, I asked.

“That would have been the ideal solution,” he said, “but it’s too late for that. The treaty is written, and now everybody must try to make the Free Territory a success. We communists have offered our full co-operation, but Britain and the United States are deliberately sabotaging the scheme. They are holding up the appointment of a governor, because when we have a governor their troops will have to leave. Meanwhile they are taking advantage of their garrison duty to turn Trieste into a permanent military base. Every Military Government officer here is an agent of Anglo-American imperialism.”

It is true that, at this writing, Trieste is still without a governor-but it is hardly the fault of Britain and the United States. The UN Security Council, whose job it is to appoint a governor, has been unable to find a man agreeable to both East and West, and there the matter rests-as a local joke has it, the governor’s grandfather has yet to meet the governor’s grandmother. Meanwhile, the territory is governed by the commanders of the three army contingents stationed here, with the Yugoslav commander reporting directly to Marshal Tito, and the Anglo-American commander, Maj. Gen. T.S. Airey, of the British Army, reporting to the Combined Chiefs of Staff in Washington.

So the whole apparatus of the Free State is kept on ice, when the governor comes, his first job will be to merge the two zones of the territory, arrange for free elections and let the troops go home ninety days after his inauguration. This is what the treaty says. Only in an emergency could the governor ask the troops to stay after the lapse of that period, until the last American soldier and the last Tommy were safely across the gangplank. Then all hell would break loose.

Everything Signor Rizzotti had said made plenty of sense. The only way to get rid of the Anglo-American garrison here-short of surgery-is by the appointment of a governor. While the Soviet bloc members of the Security Council are still holding out for a candidate of their liking, the Trieste communists are impatiently waiting for the first governor to arrive, and would probably welcome almost anyone. As one British officer said, “They wouldn’t even mind seeing old Winston Churchill move in, if only he could be persuaded to take the job.”

In preparation for the Day, the communists have tried to gain a toe hold in the local administration of Trieste-to be extended as soon as Anglo-American control ceases. Until last summer, party members had been strictly forbidden by their bosses to accept appointments of citizen’s councils set up to advise Military Government. As a result, the political color of these councils remained strongly pro-Italian and anti-Tito. The communists didn’t like that either. Just before the birth of the Free Territory, they suddenly

reversed their stand and told Military Government they'd be glad to come on in. The red carpet is still in the closet, rolled up tight.

Yugoslavia also has attempted to liquidate Trieste economically. She recently embarked on a policy of cut-throat commercial competition, trying to "push" her own port of Fiume. To attract trade from Austria, Czechoslovakia and Hungary-Trieste's traditional hinterland-Belgrade cut port handling charges in near-by Fiume to a point where Trieste cannot compete. To make it stick, the Czech and Hungarian governments have been made to understand that communist ports are natural outlets for communist goods. Much of that trade is by-passing Trieste, and there is little hope of regaining it as long as Europe is split in two. Combining strictly capitalistic undercutting methods with political shenanigans, communism is giving capitalism a licking. Trieste has always made a comfortable living. The old trading families of Greek, Austrian and even of British descent make up the local aristocracy, sprouting titles bestowed, in good Viennese-operetta fashion, by the Hapsburg dynasty. You'll hear their names mentioned, reverently or otherwise, wherever you turn-Count Tripovich, Baron Economo, Baron Banfield, Prince Windischgratz, Baron Ralli.

Most prominent, however, among Trieste's water-front barons are the five Cosulich brothers, scions of an old Istrian family which operated its first sailing ship in 1854 and its first steamer, out of Trieste, in 1889. Although the Cosulich Line was liquidated in the 30's, the five brothers have not lost their hold on Trieste's commercial life, Antonio, the eldest, is chairman of the Trieste Chamber of Commerce as well as of Assicurazioni Generali, Italy's largest insurance company. Guido is general manager of Lloyd Triestino, Trieste's great shipping line. Augusto and Alberto are running the San Marco shipyards, which built some of Italy's crack liners and battleships. Giuseppe is taking care of the Cosulich shipping agency in Genoa. A rugged breed, the Cosuliches managed to thrive under Austrian as well as Fascist rule, and are now on friendly terms with the Anglo-American rulers here, "If the Emperor of China took over here today, they'd turn up in pigtails and silk pajamas," one American officer said, in explaining the capacity of the five brothers for survival.

Although the Italian business community fears Tito may move in whenever the Anglo-American forces move out, there has been no large-scale flight of capital. "Anyone selling Trieste short would be severely criticized," an Italian merchant told me. Some juicy pieces of Trieste real estate were sold by their Italian owners, who later discovered, to their horror, that the buyers represented Yugoslav interests, but the scope of these transactions scarcely justifies alarm. A few Italian corporations have transferred their official headquarters to Italian soil, but continue to direct most of their operations from their Trieste offices. Among them are the two giant insurance concerns, Assicurazioni Generali and Riuione Adriatica, which have long made Trieste one of Europe's leading insurance centers. Lloyd Triestino, on the other hand, has not even moved its legal seat, although local communists are already clamoring for its "socialization." The company, whose prewar fleet of seventy-four ships has been reduced to a mere fifteen, has resumed world-wide operations and is now negotiating for six Victory ships in the United States.

One of the most cheering things about Trieste is the relationship between Italians and Americans here. There is a good deal of visiting back and forth among Italian and American families, and not a few American soldiers have learned to speak Italian. The Triestini frankly look upon the United States as the guardian of their Italian culture and interests-and the same can be said for the vast majority of the population in Italy proper, who feel that a communist coup, backed by Tito's legions, is unlikely as long as Trieste is

an Anglo-American trust. This may be one reason why Russian propaganda is so hard at work trying to convince the world that Britain and America are cooking up a dark imperialist scheme here, and that they must be ousted before they can turn Trieste into "another Singapore or Shanghai."

Our temporary occupation of Trieste takes on a significance far greater than mere sentry duty. The 10,000 American and British soldiers who have planted their feet in this brand-new state are guarding more than the integrity of Trieste. They are the first line of a militant Western world which has made up its mind to prevent all further expansion of Russia and her satellites. On the safe side of that line, which runs east to Greece and Turkey, and north through Austria and Germany to the Baltic Sea, the free nations of Europe are now beginning to recover under the protective umbrella of the hope offered by the Marshall Plan.

## **New York Journal American, March 28, 1948**

### **Tito Expands Trieste Force**

#### **Marshal Also Adds to Border Guard**

*Trieste, March 27 (AP).-*

Travelers from the Yugoslav zone of Trieste free territory reported tonight that Marshal Tito's government has moved 2,000 or more fresh troops into that area.

They said Tito also has moved 1,500 troops into Verteneglio, a town near the border between the Yugoslav and British-American zones of occupation, where homes and buildings were requisitioned for billets.

The U.S. light cruiser Manchester arrived today shortly after the sailing of the Dayton, which had been here for 10 days.

## **Time, March 29, 1948**

### **ITALY**

#### **40% or Fight**

Last week the U.S. landed with both feet in the Italian election campaign—a contest which will decide the political future of Europe and, perhaps, the issue of war or peace. The most brilliant U.S. move to date concerned Trieste.

#### **A Communist Flight.**

U.S. Intelligence had discovered that Russia intended to come out for the return of

**Trieste to Italy:** the State Department beat the Russians to it. France's Bidault, in Turin to sign a Franco-Italian trade agreement, announced that the U.S., Great Britain and France had decided that the Free Territory of Trieste should be returned to Italian sovereignty. He also promised a drive to help Italy regain some of her war-lost colonies.

Italian reaction was electric. In Trieste, 30,000 cheering Italians paraded for three miles, ended up on the waterfront to salute the U.S. cruiser Dayton (see cut). In the Red stronghold of Milan, then truckloads of Communists demonstrated in the cathedral square; Milanese swarmed out against them with boos and catcalls. The Communists needed police protection to get safely away. It was probably the first Communist retreat Milan had seen in months.

The Communists were in a tight spot. Comrade Tito's government fumed; a formal Yugoslav note denounced the Western proposal as serving only "chauvinist hatred." Next day Yugoslav Foreign Minister Stanoje Simitch announced more calmly that, as far as he was concerned, the Italians could have Trieste-but only in exchange for Italian Gorizia. It was not much of an offer.

### **Is the Roof Leaking?**

Until the U.S. coup, Italy last week did not look like the scene of a historic battle. The Communists briefly flexed their muscles with a 24-hour typographers' strike against the country's newspapers. Otherwise, the campaign was ominously quiet.

One reason for the quiet was the shift of election emphasis from the heavily Communist cities (where minds seem already made up) to the countryside. Out in the hill villages, living in bleak cottages and scratching a bare living from the thin soil of the peninsula, the poverty-stricken paesano was the man of the hour. His vote might tip the scales.

A priest reported the latest Communist tactics. Peripatetic comrades in impressive, official-looking dress visit the peasants to ask if the roof is leaking or whether they need new farm equipment. Jotting down the peasant's eager answers, the Communists say: "It's up to you now to get these things. All you have to do is vote for us."

### **A Real Competitor.**

The people doing the most to counteract this particular Communist campaign are the Catholic Actionists. By last week they were operating "cells" in all of Italy's 300 dioceses and in 18,000 out of 24,000 parishes. They were specifically organized to meet the left-wingers in the day-to-day village fights over the people's allegiance. Communists admitted privately, that Catholic Action was a real competitor.

The Italian crisis will come some time between April 18, when the polling takes place, and early May, when the new government will be formed. Western observers believe that the Communists will poll between 37% and 45% of the votes. A small margin might make a terrible difference.

If the Communists get more than 40%, Premier De Gasperi will virtually be unable to form a government without them. If he takes them in, the Rightist parties may well start

fighting. If he tries to keep the Communists out, they may well launch a civil war.

## **New York World Telegram, March 31, 1948**

### **5000 GIs to Parade in Trieste Army Day**

*by the United Press*

Trieste, March 31.-Maj. Gen. Bryant Moore, commanding the 5000 American troops in Trieste, announced today his men will march in full field equipment through the city April 6, United States Army Day.

He described the parade as "a measure to preserve the morale and confidence of the population."

It would be the first major show of strength by the United States forces in Trieste since the occupation.

Gen. Moore said the parade would include a company of medium tanks, mechanized reconnaissance units and fully armed infantry.

Observation planes will hover over the line of march, the general said.

## **Life, April 5, 1948**

### **Trieste to Italy**

#### **Democracies offer to had it back**

On March 20 in Turin, one of Italy's Red strongholds, French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault dropped a blockbuster on the Italian Communists. Bidault announced that France, Great Britain and the U.S. had agreed that the Free Territory of Trieste should be returned to Italy.

This set off a wild celebration in Trieste and brought agonized cries from Yugoslavia's dictator Tito and from Moscow, where the decision was angrily denounced as action "behind the back of the Soviet Union."

What really hurt was that the proposal might influence Italy's April 18 election, in which the Communists are making a supreme effort. It was intended to. The U.S. had got wind of a Russian plan to restore Trieste before election day, and the democracies had simply beaten the Reds to the punch.

# **Christian Science Monitor, May 17, 1948**

## **Yugoslav Zone of Trieste Communized by Tito Forces**

*by the Associated Press*

The Yugoslav Zone of the free Territory of Trieste appears to have been thoroughly regimented and communized during eight months of occupation by the forces of Marshal Tito.

This tiny sector of the Istrian Peninsula, containing about 250 square miles, is populated by about 60,000 persons. Pro-Italians in sectors of Istria ceded to Yugoslavia by the Italian peace treaty have the option of remaining or moving to Italy.

Most of the rural population of the Yugoslav Zone is Slovene, Serbian, or Croatian. Slovene is the official language, but Italian is optional in the schools.

"However, if one chooses Italian in the schools, he is branded a fascist," one resident said.

Both languages are used for highway signs, shop signs, and other public markings.

### **Residents Talk**

Residents talk freely to a visiting foreigner as long as they are not observed. If the civil police or a Yugoslav soldier comes into view, they cease.

Although it is a highly developed agricultural area, zone residents are rationed much more tightly than their neighbors in the industrial and port area of the Anglo-American Zone.

Some white bread and meat is smuggled into the zone and can be obtained in restaurants if the police are not around.

The police do not disturb the local population any more than necessary.

Border patrols are rigid and there is practically no motorized transport on the rough and bumpy highways. That makes it easy for the swarms of agents and police to spot a stranger.

Residents of the Yugoslav Zone see none of the political strife that goes on in the Anglo-American Zone. Only one political point of view is tolerated.

### **Enemies Are "Fascists"**

The rallying point of the Yugoslav Zone is not "communism" but "anti fascism." The people say they are told that all the enemies of their leaders are "fascists."

The Italian peace treaty provides local law is to be maintained until a civilian

governor is named. Yugoslav occupation forces have disregarded this and established their own system, ignoring civil liberties such as freedom of speech.

Workers are directed into the principal industries: Factories to reclaim salt from the sea, fish preserving, and agriculture. One worker in a salt factory said he received two meals a day—soup, fish or meat and black bread—in addition to his meager food ration. He was paid 500 Yugoslav lire a week. The Yugoslav lire is rated to one Italian lire, which presently is rated officially at 575 to the United States dollar.

Clothing is in short supply and strictly rationed.

### **Low Food Ration**

The basic food ration is 500 grams of black bread and 300 grams of meat a week: one kilogram of fat and one liter and 30 grams of oil a month.

Throughout the zone there is a lack of machinery. It is said that much machinery had been taken away by the Yugoslavs. Ship loading and unloading is by hand. Roads were being repaired by hand.

The once proud liner Rex, lying on sea bottom off Capodistria, has been cut down almost to the water line. The metal was taken to Yugoslavia. Oil was pumped out.

The beautiful sea resort of Portorese has been taken over by the Yugoslav Army. The palace Hotel, familiar to prewar tourists from all over the world, is the rest home for occupation forces.

## **Christian Science Monitor, May 21, 1948**

### **Italy Scores Yugoslavs in Border Rifts**

*by Joseph G. Harrison*

The steady tension in Italy over events in Yugoslav frontier continues unabated.

Hardly a day passes without some item appearing in the Rome newspapers underlining either the unsatisfactory relations between this country and Yugoslavia or the "reign of terror" which Italians believe is going on across the border.

Three bits of such news are catching the eye of the Italian reader today. They are these:

1. A recent note sent by the Italian Government to the Big Four asking their intervention to fix once and for all the border between Italy and Yugoslavia.

### **Complaints of Tension**

The note declared there was continual tension along the frontier due to Yugoslav

violations and said it was up to the United States, Great Britain, France, and Russia under the Italian peace treaty to solve this problem.

Although the overwhelming majority of Italians probably are convinced that the present Italo-Yugoslav frontiers are unfair to them and that the treat awarded indisputably Italian territory to their eastern neighbor, nevertheless, Rome's seems ready to accept this boundary.

The Italian Government, however is becoming increasingly annoyed by the innumerable petty violations and infringements it says have been made by Yugoslav patrols. The incidents culminated a few weeks ago in an exchange of shots in which an Italian soldier was killed.

### **Eager for Peace**

Italy seems eager for peace with Yugoslavia, but it is becoming very weary of being the victim of Yugoslav ill temper along the frontier.

2. Today's papers carry a familiar item. It tells of 17 Yugoslavs who tired of "Tito's paradise" and have fled into the Anglo-American zone of Trieste.

Many Italian newspapers, except the communist and left-wing Socialist, of course, delight in carrying these little notice of flights from Yugoslavia. The number of persons who cross the frontier each month reaches quite a surprising total.

3. News on the continued "persecution" of the Roman Catholic Church and its clergy in Yugoslavia as well as in neighboring Albania.

### **Incident Cited**

The most recent event along that line, to which the Italian press has been dedicating much space, is the arrest of the Bishop of Mostar in southwestern Yugoslavia.

According to Italian calculations, this latest arrest has eliminated all Roman Catholic bishops in western Yugoslavia, since according to the Italians, the bishops of Sarejevo and Banja Luka either have been arrested or have passed on without Yugoslav permission to appoint a successor.

According to the Italian viewpoint, Belgrade's ultimate object is the elimination of Roman Catholicism, being predominantly either orthodox or Moslem.

### **Albania More Ruthless**

It is believed that the anti-Catholic drive in these latter areas will be stronger for the time being than in such Roman Catholic strongholds as Croatia and Slovenia, although it is expected their time will come.

Far swifter and more ruthless, apparently, than the anti-Catholic drive in Yugoslavia is that in Albania, where according to such authoritative sources as the Vatican's semi-official newspaper, Osservatore Romano, Roman Catholicism faces extinction.

## **Stars and Stripes, June 19, 1948**

### **Army Reports Yugos Holding 5 Americans**

*TRIESTE, June 18 (AP)*

U.S. Army public officers said five Americans were taken captive by the Yugoslavs Tuesday while aboard a motorboat of Punt Grossa in Istria.

The Army refused to give further details, but it was unofficially learned from military sources that it was expected the Yugoslavs would soon return the captives.

Civilians coming from Istria—who brought the first report that the Americans had been captured—said four of the five were Engineer Corps soldiers and the fifth a civilian. The travelers said the Yugoslavs alleged the motorboat entered Yugoslav territorial waters.

## **Stars and Stripes, June 23, 1948**

### **Yugos Release Detained GIs**

*TRIESTE, June 22 (AP)*

The Yugoslavs have freed two American soldiers, who were absent without leave since June 9, a U.S. Army statement had disclosed today. The soldiers were Pvt. Saverio C. Tremarki and Pvt. John R. Wright. Their absence had not been revealed.

The Army said it had no further information about the expected release of five other soldiers taken captive last week during a pleasure cruise in a U.S. motorboat along the shore of Istria.

## **Stars and Stripes, June 27, 1948**

### **BULLETINS**

#### **FREE TERRITORY OF TRIESTE**

*JUNE 26 (AP)-*

Five American soldiers arrested by the Yugoslavs while pleasure cruising in a U.S. Army motorboat off Istria June 15 have been released.

## **WASHINGTON**

*June 26 (UP)-*

President Truman today signed a bill authorizing permanent rank of general for two of the Nation's top leaders-Gen. Omar Bradley, Army Chief of Staff, and Gen. Carl Spaatz, retiring Air Force chief of staff.

## **Christian Science Monitor, July 29, 1948**

### **Tito Puts Russia on Spot With Trieste Charge in UN**

#### **Note Alleges Italian 'Grab'**

*by Homer Metz*

The United Nations Security Council has been asked for Yugoslavia to halt an alleged attempt by the United States and Britain to incorporate the Anglo-American sector of Trieste into Italy.

The two western powers, Yugoslavia charges in a note addressed to Dimitri Z. Manuilsky of the Soviet Ukraine, this month's president of the Security Council, have violated the Italian peace treaty as it pertains to Trieste and in so doing have endangered "the maintenance of international peace and security."

Yugoslavia asks the council to nullify these agreements and insure that the Allied authorities 'respect...their international obligations."

Specifically, Yugoslavia charges the western powers with breaching the peace treaty by putting the Trieste monetary system, finance administration, foreign exchange controls, and postal customs under Italian control.

For one thing, it would seem effectively to dispel reports which have followed in the wake of the Tito-Stalin rift to the effect that the Tito regime would back-pedal on its demands for Trieste in order to woo added support from the West.

At the same time, it puts Russia on the spot as regards its relationship with Belgrade.

Moscow has been the outstanding champion of Marshal Tito in his claims on Trieste. If it supports the Yugoslav charges in the Security Council, it will have to endorse, at least partially, a regime which it publicly has disavowed as a renegade from the eastern Communist front.

If it does not support the Yugoslav charges, it runs the risk of widening still further the differences that have risen between the Kremlin and Belgrade.

The general view here is that the Yugoslav government has made a smart move.

On March 20, Britain, the United States, and France suggested that Trieste be given to Italy, and invited Russia to discuss revisions in the Italian peace treaty. They said such a move was necessary because the great powers had been unable to agree on a final settlement of the Trieste problem.

## **Stars and Stripes, August 5, 1948**

### **U.S. Condemn Trieste Setup**

*Lake Success, August 4 (UP)-*

The U.S. declared the international agreement for Trieste unworkable and hinted it may ask for a United Nations investigation into the Yugoslav zone of the free territory.

U.S. delegate Philip Jessup hurled back the Yugoslav charges that the U.S. and Britain were attempting to hand over their Trieste zone to Italy.

He said the Allied military administration made regular reports on its activities and that a new one would be submitted within a week to the Security Council.

He said also that the "Security Council may wish to consider the broader aspects of its responsibility in Trieste including investigation of the Yugoslav zone."

Yugoslavia's Joza Vilfan said that the Western Powers, "shamelessly" giving their zone to Italy in violation of the Italian peace treaty, were trying to sow dissension between Italy and Yugoslavia.

## **Stars and Stripes, August 7, 1948**

### **Letters Reveal Yugos Sought War on Trieste**

*by Kingsbury Smith*

*BELGRADE, Aug. 6 (INS)-*

The Yugoslav-Cominform rift was reported last night to have had roots in Yugoslav indignation at Russia's refusal to risk war in Support of Marshal Tito's claims to Trieste.

This was bared in a Russian booklet, containing three letters from the Soviet Communist Party to the Yugoslav Communist Party, which has fallen into the hands of Western diplomats at the Belgrade Danube conference.

The letters reported were part of an exchange between the two parties and indicated the magnitude of Tito's defiance of the Soviet Union.

Reports concerning the strong nature of Tito's replies to Cominform charges have led Western diplomats to re-evaluate the chance of reconciliation between the two East European nations.

Western diplomats were convinced of the authenticity of the letters as some members of the Soviet embassy have admitted privately that the booklet was being distributed to interested parties in the Eastern bloc.

Although the contents of the Yugoslav letters were not known, much was implied by the Soviet letters contained in the booklet.

One implied the Yugoslavs expected Russia to risk war with the U.S. and Britain in order to get Trieste for Yugoslavia.

A letter signed by politburo member Col Gen Andrei A. Zhdanov declared:

"As is well known, after a series of territorial concessions for the benefit of Yugoslavia which the Soviet Union extracted from the Anglo-Americans, the latter, along with France, rejected the proposal of the USSR that Trieste be handed over to Yugoslavia...

When all other means were exhausted the Soviet Union was left with the only alternative for transferring Trieste to Yugoslavia—to start a war with the Anglo-Americans for Trieste and take it by force.

"The Yugoslavian comrades couldn't fail to realize after such a serious war, the Soviet Union could not enter a new war.

"It was this circumstance which evoked the dissatisfaction of Yugoslavian leaders."

## **This Week, August 8, 1948**

### **SOLDIERS TWO**

*By Joseph Wechsberg*

**They're holding down the "hottest spot on earth" — 10 yards from the Iron Curtain. Sgt. Yeary likes it. Pfc. Chang doesn't. Here's what it's like to be a GI in 1948. . .**

Today, a quarter-million young Americans are getting ready for a hitch in the Army. The new Draft Bill will give them each 21 months to find out what a uniform is like.

Sergeant James I. Yeary, of Clinton, Tenn., and Private Kuuleialoha Chang of Honolulu have a good idea of what's doing in the Army these days. When I saw them, they were stationed at the southern tip of the Iron Curtain between the Free Territory of Trieste and Yugoslavia. But they could be anywhere. . .

"Roadblock 7" is a wooden shack with a red and white barrier and a flagpole flying the

Stars and stripes. About 10 yards farther along the road is another barrier and an inscription ZIVEL TITO (Long Live Tito).

In between is a narrow strip of lovely no-man's land: a brook, flowers and trees.

**"You could practically throw a pair of dice to the guy over there," Sergeant Yeary was saying.**

"Don't do it," Pfc. Chang said. "He'll keep the dice."

The "guy over there" was the Yugoslav soldier guarding his barrier. Two heaps of stones had been piled up next to him, leaving an opening just large enough for one vehicle to pass through.

### **They Arrested the Ball**

Yeary, a slim, wiry fellow, laughed. "You bet he would keep the dice," he said. "A few weeks ago the football team of our Eighty-eighth Mechanized Cavalry played a game on a field near the border. Somebody kicked the ball over the border. The Yugoslavs arrested the ball. After fifteen days of negotiations they said the matter had been referred to Belgrade. The ball hasn't been released yet."

"Who's going to pay for the ball?" Chang asked. He was a slow-spoken Hawaiian with dark, melancholy eyes.

"They'll put it down as good-will expense," said Yeary. Everybody laughed. The Yugoslav guard gave us a hard, long stare and turned his back.

"The Jug is allergic to laughter," said Yeary. "And he hates cameras. Yesterday a photographer came up here to take a few pictures. We bet him two bucks that he wouldn't be able to catch the guy's face."

"We won," said Chang.

The two GI's had been at the border for four days, with three more to go. Their tour of duty is seven days, 24 hours every day. The barrier is guarded by members of the Trieste police, officially called Venezia Giulia Police, under the surveillance to two American GI's. The police don't understand English and the Americans don't talk Italian, but Yeary said they were getting along fine in a silent way.

"They have their instructions and we have our general orders," he said, pointing at a typewritten sheet that was pinned to the front of the shack. It said:

1. The number of this roadblock is 7.
2. I will assume responsibility of this roadblock at all times and will support Venezia Giulia Police in pursuance of their duties.
3. I will halt all traffic, vehicles and pedestrians, both into Free Territory of Trieste and Yugoslavia, and will allow none to pass without proper authority. I am authorize to fire, if necessary, to prevent a deliberate forced passage of my post.

4. I will not allow American and British military personnel or vehicles into Yugoslavia.
5. I will enter all traffic and keep an up-to-date log at this roadblock.

### **Scarcity of Border Traffic**

There were few entries in the log. Not more than 150 people a day pass through the barrier, most of them residents of near-by border villages on business errands.

In spite of the scarcity of border traffic, there are always "incidents," ranging all the way from stray dogs wandering across the frontier and being claimed by their owners, to a couple of American soldiers being shanghaied by the Yugoslavs. As a rule the Americans are interrogated for two or three days and finally released.

One night a British jeep patrol lost its way along the border and ran smack into a Yugoslav platoon. **The British were held for two weeks before they were allowed to rejoin their outfit.**

"Giornale di Trieste," the city's leading conservative newspaper, not long ago commented ironically on the "much improved situation" along the border, telling of the Triestine civilian who had ventured eight feet deep into Yugoslav territory to take a drink of water from a fountain and had been released "after less than twelve hours of imprisonment."

### **Most Important Area**

The Free Territory of Trieste is being occupied by 5,000 British, 5,000 American and 5,000 Yugoslav troops. The British-American zone comprises only one sixth of the Territory's total area, but includes the city and the port of Trieste, shipbuilding yards, refining plants and four fifths of the population, over 300,000 people, many of them enjoying an artificial prosperity owing to the presence of the United States Army.

On the other hand, "Zone B," administered by the Yugoslavs, is a sparsely populated, poorly cultivated rural area where 70,000 people live in utter poverty. The Yugoslavs have carried out an extensive agrarian reform. The big landowner's estates were divided among agricultural laborers.

Every once in a while the Yugoslavs brought up a few tanks and guns and started maneuvering all along the border, perhaps in order to remind everybody, including themselves, that the cold war was still on. Sergeant Yeary remembered one of those war-of-nerves skirmishes that happened not long ago when he'd been on outpost duty.

### **Yeary Isn't Worried**

"Three heavy Yugoslav tanks rolled up and there we were—with only our M-1 rifles and forty rounds of ammunition each," he said. "Made you feel kind of silly. Don't think we were worried though. We have an observation post up in the hills where a Venezia Giulia policeman is on duty with telescope, radio, and telephone. Our High Command figures there would be a lot of all-round activity if the Jugs tried to pull a fast one and cross the

border."

Having spent seven years in the Army, fighting with the Ninth Division in North Africa, Sicily and Normandy, Sergeant Yeary has acquired an unshaken belief that The Army Knows Best.

TRUST, which stands for Trieste United States Troops, is composed of such crack outfits as the 351st Infantry Regiment, the 15th Tank Company, the 88th Mechanized Cavalry. Like most members of this group, Sergeant Yeary and Pfc. Chang derive great satisfaction in being stationed at what has been called "the hottest spot on earth." TRUST was commanded until two months ago by Major General Bryant E. Moore. Major General William M. Hoge now heads the 5,000 Americans.

The American troops in Trieste conduct the occupation in a far more businesslike manner than those in Vienna or Germany. They work harder and play less, possibly because everybody realizes that Tito's tanks are too close for comfort. At night the officers keep to themselves and enlisted men go to the Red Cross Club, a converted hangar on the waterfront, and to the "Stazione Marittima," the big, covered pier which has been turned into a roller-skating stadium.

Yeary invited me to come to a new barrack not far from the roadblock. The wood was fresh and unpainted. Behind the barrack was a padded water tank, a jeep and a trailer.

"They built the barrack when they thought there'd always be a whole platoon at the roadblock," he was saying. "Come right in."

**The big room was empty. One of the two non-com rooms was filled with mattresses and other equipment.** Sergeant Yeary opened the door to the other small room.

"This is home," he said. "Welcome to Tennessee!"

Pfc. Chang shrugged morosely, "It's still the Army," he said.

### **Home in the Army**

There were two cots and a table on which I saw a pack of playing cards, a torn issue of "New Western Magazine," three packages of cigarettes, a chocolate bar, two soda bottles and a letter with two photographs. Through the open window I could see the roadblock and the Yugoslav soldier on the other side of no-man's land.

"My sisters," said Sergeant Yeary, pointing at the photographs. "I was back home after the war. My dad's a plumber."

Pfc Chang stretched out on the cot and stared at the wall where I saw a calendar with a picture of a pretty girl. Some GI with a romantic touch had stuck a little bunch of spring flowers into the girl's blouse. Next to the poster was an R-100/URR radio receiver, and a field telephone.

"I get out of the Army in July, 1949," Pfc. Chang said and yawned. "I'll go home to

Honolulu and work with my father. He's an electrical helper. I got two brothers and three sisters, and I been in the Army long enough."

"Chang doesn't like the Army," said Sergeant Yeary.

"Who does?" Chang said.

"I do. My term ends on August 7, 1949, and I'm going to re-enlist right away."

**The phone rang and Chang took the receiver and listened attentively. Then he nodded gravely and said, "Yeah...and don't forget some hard candy."**

Sergeant Yeary chuckled. "There's Chang for you," he said, "sitting practically just inside the Iron Curtain and all he can think of is hard candy. This phone is our only link with the rear," he went on. "Between six p.m. and seven a.m. we report every hour to unit headquarters. During the day we report only if something happens."

"Nothing ever happens," said Chang and yawned again.

"He's been spoiled since December 7, 1941, when he had a grandstand view of Pearl Harbor," said Sergeant Yeary.

Pfc. Chang tuned in the radio and a moment later the room was filled with Benny Goodman swing. Outside a jeep drove up and a soldier came into the room, carrying an aluminum container with hot hood for the two soldiers. Chang lifted the cover and groaned.

"String beans again," he said. "You guys will go into town for spaghetti tonight and dance and the Red Cross Club, and we have to eat string beans and play rummy."

"Look who's talking'," the soldier said. "I bet you been asleep all morning long while we were out there drilling. The Colonel was mad because it took the guys too long to load the ammunition."

Sergeant Yeary explained to me that the battalion commander, a tough energetic lieutenant colonel, had vowed that the battalion would drill day and night—until the men were able to get to the outpost within 20 minutes, with all equipment. "It would take us longer if we weren't alerted," he said. "One hour, I guess."

### **A Commotion Starts**

"That gives you two guys one full hour to hold up the entire Yugoslav army," the soldier said happily.

There was a knock at the door and a tall Trieste police sergeant came in. He was out of breath and began to make a noisy Italian speech.

"What's *he* so excited about?" asked Chang, without bothering to get up from the cot. Sergeant Yeary looked out the window. Down at the barrier there seemed to be a commotion. Yeary and Chang took their rifles and we all walked down there. I saw a Venezia Giulia Police jeep, with two guards and a civilian sitting between them. He was a

shabbily dressed man who started to shout in Slovene when he saw us. **The Trieste police started to shout in Italian, Chang shouted in English, and there was bedlam.**

The tall police sergeant explained to Sergeant Yeary, in wild gestures with a few broken English words thrown in, that the civilian was a well known Yugoslav agitator who had been caught four times within the last six weeks trying to cross into Trieste. Each time he had been apprehended with 48 hours and turned over to the Yugoslav border guard.

The civilian started to shout again, protesting his innocence. Sergeant Yeary nodded at him amiably. Then he turned toward the Trieste police and a moment later the man had been pulled out of the jeep. The barrier was lifted, the civilian was given an unceremonious shove, and the barrier was closed again behind him. He turned around and shook his fist in anger. Then he shrugged and walked on through no-man's land until he reached the Yugoslav barrier. The Yugoslav guard saluted smartly and the man waded down the road and vanished behind the trees.

### **On the Water Pump**

Sergeant Yeary slapped the tall Trieste policeman on the shoulder and introduced him to me as Sergeant First Class Soppini. "Scoppini's a good man," said Sergeant Yeary. "Used to be on the water pump. He'd turn the hose on to break up riots. When people get soaking wet, they forget to shoot and throw bombs." He shrugged. "Too bad it doesn't work that way everywhere."

The Trieste police jeep drove off and we walked back to the barrack. "Next week that civilian will try to come over again," Sergeant Yeary said. "Well, they'll catch him again."

"It won't be *me*," Pfc. Chang said. "Next week I'm going to dance at the Red Cross Club." He snapped his fingers. "Let's eat before the chow gets cold."

*The End*

## **Time, September 6, 1948**

### **COMMUNISTS**

#### **Tito & the Executioner**

The fight between Yugoslavia's Marshal Tito and the Cominform had settled the Trieste issue: Tito will not get the Italian port, now under international control.

Pro-Cominform Communists in Trieste had split the Communist Party there in half and, with Moscow's blessing, launched a purge of pro-Tito Slavs. Last week Communist and non-Communist Italians in Trieste went on an anti-Slav rampage, removing Slav names from streets, trams, and crossroad signs.

In Trieste the Cominform had publicly pointed a pistol at Tito, and cocked it with a

click the would could hear. The man with the gun was thick-set, rasp-voiced Vittorio Vidali, Cominform boss in Trieste. He had spent a quarter century in the Communist underground. Wherever he went, murder followed.

### **Many Names.**

Vidali was born near Trieste, about 50 years ago. After Mussolini marched on Rome in 1922 Vidali got away to Moscow, for three years of study. In 1926, as Emilio Sormenti, he turned up in the U.S. and in 1927 fled to avoid deportation. Ten years later, in the Spanish civil war, he was Carlos Contreras, commissar of the Fifth Loyalist Regiment. After Spain he was based in Mexico.

During his Mexican years, Vidali-Contreras had an outspoken enemy in the U.S., goateed Carlo Tresca, a fearless tyranny-hater and an exiled Italian anarcho-socialist. Tresca's Italian-language weekly, *Il Martello* (The Hammer), publicly accused Vidali-Contreras of many acts of terrorism, and the following specific crimes: 1) the assassination in Barcelona of Camillo Berneri, Italian anarchist, during the Spanish civil war, 2) the murder in Mexico of Tifia Modotti, Vidali's Communist mistress.

### **The Fight to the End.**

Had he live, Carlo Tresca could have wielded great anti-Communist influence in postwar Italy. But on the night of Jan. 11, 1943, as he stepped from an office building into the wartime brownout of New York streets, a gunman killed him. Two days before, Tresca had told his friends: "Vidali is in town. That means there is a job to be done. I Smell the stink of death." Police sought Vidali-Contreras for questioning, but could not find him.

In January 1947 Vidali-Contreras left Mexico for Russia, and a few weeks later turned up in Trieste. Until the Cominform attack on Tito, he was a loyal Tito man. But last week, to a meeting of Trieste Pro-Cominform communists he announced: "The fight [against Tito] will be continued to the end." Another Trieste Communist official put it more bluntly: "This means that anyone among us, if he has the chance, should remove Tito."

If the wind was from the West, where Vidali was, Tito, like Tresca, might be able to "smell the stink of death."

## **Blue Devil, September 10, 1948**

### **Former TRUST CG Receives Citation**

#### **Award Moore DSM Oak Leaf Cluster**

*WASHINGTON, (AP)-*

The Distinguished Service Medal, Second Oak Leaf Cluster, was awarded to Maj. Gen. Bryant E. Moore today for his performance as commanding general of U.S. troops in Trieste from September, 1947, to June 1948.

The citation commended General Moore for "his skillful organization, his foresight in planning for the entry of these troops into the U.S. zone of the free territory of Trieste, and his tactful and firm manner of handling problems arising from a tense international situation."

He was further commended for exceptionally high standards maintained by U.S. forces in Trieste.

General Moore is a native of Ellsworth, Me. A graduate of West Point in 1917 he is a veteran of both World Wars. His is now chief of the Army's public information division.

## **Christian Science Monitor, September 25, 1948**

### **Stalin's Balkan Dilemma**

#### **Yugoslavian Resistance to Soviet Reins Held Vexatious to Kremlin Planning**

*by Col. R. Ernest Dupuy*

Out of the Balkans has come a most interesting, and, from Soviet Russia's viewpoint, perhaps the most embarrassing military problem of the present era. Tito's defection from the Soviet camp has forced Joseph Stalin to remove his triple-threat man from his team.

Approached from the angle of military geography, the benching of Tito has, for the moment at least, lessened by chances of a Soviet eruption from Yugoslavia into Italy on the west or into Greece and Turkey on the south, and as a result once again the age-old Russian dream of dominating the Mediterranean has suffered a setback.

The strategical gateway into Italy from the east is a cleft in the Julian Alps known as the Pear-Tree Pass. It lies 25 miles by airline northwest of Trieste. Through it runs the highway from Ljubjana and the main railway line from Belgrade. It is the path of conquest from the Danube Valley into Lombardy.

Without the Pear-Tree Pass real military access to Italy from the east is confined to the long end-run into Austria and advance down through the Brenner and its lesser passes. Today, thanks to Allied prodigal generosity, the pass lies in Yugoslavian hands. That a token United States-British garrison occupies a part of the Trieste area is beside the point. A Yugoslavian advance in force could brush it aside by sheer weight alone.

From the pear-Tree Pass the road net runs to Gorizia, Venice Padua and Milan, into the fertile Po Valley. A successful invader would dominate the southern exits of the Brenner and other minor passes from Austria. He would have taken the first long step on the southward road to Rome. Westward through Genoa he would be astride the Mediterranean coastal route to Nice, outflanking southern tip of the main Alpine masses and pointing to the Rhone Valley and the south of France.

Southward from Yugoslavia, the highway of conquest lies down the Vardar Valley into Macedonia toward Salonika, thence to the Attic peninsula and Athens, and finally southwest over the narrow Corinthian isthmus into the Peloponesus. Thus could Greece be overrun if Yugoslavia, as a Soviet satellite, moved militarily. Such action could be either a main effort to absorb Greece or part of a Soviet invasion through Bulgaria into Turkey in Europe. The occupation of Greece would complete Soviet domination in the Balkans and make provision for Red submarine bases in the Ionian and Aegean Seas.

Furthermore, with Yugoslavia on the Russian team, Russian fighter air power based in that country might extend its operations well over the Mediterranean area.

On the other hand, Yugoslavia outside the Politburo fold, interposed as it is between Albania on the west and Bulgaria on the east, presents a problem to the Soviets. Albania alone cannot be counted on successfully to invade Greece; it is too weak. Russian attempts to take Turkey in Europe would, in that case, be confined to a Bulgarian invasion down the Maritza Valley via Edirne on Istanbul, and to the long way around from the Caucasus over the Anatolian Plain.

The basic point of all this hypothesis is that should Soviet Russia desire war, it is essential that it have free access to the Mediterranean for its submarine operations, the one element of the Russian Navy which might challenge western-and that means American-sea power.

For so long as the American Navy dominates the vital Mediterranean area, great difficulties lie in the way of any Soviet invasion of western Europe. Soviet land forces could heave over the thin screen of western forces in Germany, would blot out western air bases on the European mainland north of the Pyrenees. But from the Mediterranean littoral, American and British air power would still be within striking distance of vital Russian heart-land industrial centers; air power maintained and supported thanks to American sea power dominating the ocean lanes.

Look at the map-an equidistant projection, giving true airline or great-circle distances. That tells the story. Do we use the 2,000-nautical-mile yardstick of strategical air power striking distance? From Cairo (assumed merely as a convenient marker on the map) Dnepropetrovsk lies 1,150 miles away. Moscow 1,560 miles, and Leningrad 1,800 miles. The Volga River cities of Gorki, Kazan, Kubyshev, and Saratov; the east-Ural industrial centers of Orsk, Magnitogorsk, Chelianbinsk, and Sverdlovsk, all lie within that 2,000 mile air radius.

Hence it is essential to Soviet Russia that it obtain that sluice-gate between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean-the Bosphorus-Sea of Marmora-Dardanelles passage-by virtue of which it might challenge American sea power with the submarines it is so feverishly building.

It is when one realizes these things that the real military problem presented to the Kremlin by Yugoslavian balking in the Soviet traces looms. One might reason that Russia does not need Tito. It can get along without him, perhaps. But the absence of Yugoslavia from the Soviet ranks of war, or a recalcitrant Yugoslavia which might have to be overcome by military force as a preliminary to future Russian military moves, is indeed vexatious to the Russians.

Probably no one outside the Iron Curtain can make a definite statement of Yugoslavian military means; but a guess is in order. It is quite within the bounds of probability that Tito can muster 200,000 trained and equipped fighting men; that he can put into the field some 10 divisions of infantry, the equivalent of about one armored division, and a sizable amount of supporting artillery.

The arms and equipment of this force must be a conglomeration of materiel. Some of it is American, furnished to the partisans during World War II; some is salvaged German stuff and what remains of original Yugoslavian army equipment. To this may be added what Russia has allotted. This last is an unknown quantity; one might well doubt that the Soviets, engaged in refurbishing their own enormous heterogeneous armament would have much new armament to hand out in quantities. This heterogeneous armament would prove a terrific task in any protracted war without Soviet assistance, perhaps even with it.

That Yugoslavia could put into the air more than one group of fighter planes is a moot question. Here again the equipment available must be approaching obsolescence. Against this must be balanced the fact that the Yugoslavs have proved themselves excellent and daring combat pilots.

The Yugoslavian naval forces—a few light craft—may be written off as an appreciable factor of any real naval operation.

Tito's military organization is definitely along Russian lines. Aside from Russian officers "loaned" to train and indoctrinate, it is a published fact that for the last two years increments of Yugoslavian officers have been passed through the various Russian military schools. It may be assumed that by now sufficient men have received Russian tactical and strategical training to form an excellent nucleus. That this Russian training will continue during the Tito-Cominform fight is doubtful.

All in all, the Yugoslavian forces may be considered as a fairly powerful organization for a short war, and allied to Russia could be counted on to spearhead the old triple-threat plan against the west. Opposed to Russia, Yugoslavia presents adversary which could produce some trouble before being overrun, as it would be, by the soviet Third Army Group, based in Odessa. But worst of all, from the Russian viewpoint, would be such a military break, leading to internecine warfare in the Balkans, the frittering away of Russian military strength, and the weakening of the already taut bonds linking it to the satellite nations.

## **Stars and Stripes, November 4, 1948**

### **Yugos Seize 3 Britons Near Trieste**

*TRIESTE, Nov. 3 (UP)-*

Three British soldiers on a reconnaissance detail along the Anglo-American and Yugoslav boundary of the Trieste Free Territory were seized by Yugoslav guards, reliable sources reported yesterday.

The three soldiers, whose names and units were withheld by British army authorities, were in inspection duty along the border prior to the greatest combined Anglo-American Army field maneuvers in the Free Territory scheduled today.

## **Stars and Stripes, February 23, 1949**

### **UN Shelves Russ Move for Trieste Chief**

*Lake Success, Feb. 22 (UP)-*

The United Nations Security Council yesterday shelved, without even a vote, Russia's proposal for naming a UN governor for Trieste, when it became clear that only two countries, Russia and the Ukraine were for it.

In a meeting marked by acid exchanges between the delegates of Russia and the West, the council adjourned without any action on the Soviet move to appoint Col Hermann Flueckiger, of Switzerland, as administrator of the Adriatic trouble city.

The U.S., Britain and France reiterated their refusal to consider such a move in view of the changes that have taken place in Trieste since the Allies agreed two years ago to make Trieste a free city.

They repeated they now want to return the city to Italy-presumably to protect it from what they called the 'indirect aggression' of Yugoslavia.

## **Troop I & E Bulletin, February, 27, 1949**

### **Know your neighbor Trieste**

#### **Introduction**

#### **Not So Free "Free Territory"**

Five thousand American servicemen are on duty in Trieste, that once hot, now cool spot in the troubled postwar world. An Allied Military Government still governs the area-the United States and Great Britain one zone, Yugoslavia the other. This despite the fact that since 15 September 1947 the port of Trieste and a small crescent of land surrounding it, about 50 square miles, has been a Free Territory, unoccupied, entitled to its own government.

Why? How many servicemen outside TRUST-Trieste United States Troops-know why their fellow servicemen are stationed in Trieste, or why they themselves might one day be stationed there?

## The Peace Treaty

Consider the facts. On 15 September 1947, after two years of wrangling among the Big Four, Yugoslavia and Italy, and after some near-shooting, the Free Territory of Trieste came into being.

The Territory was carved out of the Italian Province of Venezia Giulia by the Italian Peace Treaty, which also sliced Venezia Giulia into two parts, the larger of which went to Yugoslavia. The treaty stated specifically that “the integrity and independence of the Free Territory shall be assured by the Security Council of the United Nations Organization.” The Peace Treaty also specified that:

1. The Free Territory shall be demilitarized and declared neutral.
2. For the Government of the Free Territory there shall be a Governor, a Council of Government, a Popular Assembly elected by the people of the Free Territory, and a Judiciary.
3. The Governor shall be appointed by the Security Council after consultation with the Governments of Yugoslavia and Italy for a term of five years, and may be reappointed. He may not be a citizen of Yugoslavia or of Italy or of the Free Territory. His salary and allowances shall be paid by the United Nations.
4. The Governor shall assume office in the Free Territory at the earliest possible moment after the coming into force of the present Treaty.
5. From the coming into force of the present Treaty (15 September), troops stationed in the Free Territory shall not exceed 5,000 men for the United Kingdom, 5,000 men for the United States of America and 5,000 men for Yugoslavia. These troops shall be placed at the disposal of the Governor for a period of 90 days after his assumption of office in the Free Territory. They will be withdrawn from the Territory within a further period of 45 days unless the Security Council, at the request of the Governor, permits them to remain longer for the sake of keeping law and order.
6. Pending assumption of office by the Governor, the Free Territory shall continue to be administered by the Allied military commands within their respective zones.

## Questions and Answers

This last point answers our first question: why are US troops, while geographic boundaries have been set, still serving in Trieste more than a year after the Peace Treaty became effective? The Free Territory of Trieste exists only on paper. No civil governor has been, nor is likely to be, appointed in the near future. No elections have been held, though steps are being taken to hold elections for communal officer later this year.

Remember, however, US, UK and Yugoslavian troops are not *occupying* Trieste. They are there, strictly to fulfill their respective nations’ obligations under the Italian Peace Treaty.

We have answered one question, but our answer raises many others:

How did all the trouble over Trieste start in the first place”

Why was Trieste made a free territory?

What is Yugoslavia’s claims to the area? Italy’s?

What is its future?

And, since those of us outside TRUST might one day serve in that command, What’s it like to serve in Trieste?

Let’s answer the last question first. We’ll find answers to the other questions later, as we put events in their proper place, trace the historical growth of Trieste briefly, and more closely examine postwar developments.

### **Ideal Spot**

The men in Trieste say that it is the best spot outside the US to be stationed. One very good reason is that, unlike Germany, Trieste is not a shell-battered city of crumbling walls and bad odors. Instead, it is a lively, clean, entertaining seaport—*Triestini* say, the cleanest port city in the world. The weather, as a rule, is ideal during spring, summer and fall, though in winter troops have to contend with the *Bora*, a biting wind peculiar to Trieste which sometimes exceeds 100 miles per hour. Another reason why troops like Trieste is that, not living in an occupied city, the people are more friendly. Also, there is plenty of civilian entertainment—floor shows, movies, operas. Stores and restaurants bulge with attractive merchandise and good food. Store prices are as high as back home, or higher, but a serviceman in Trieste can buy a good Italian meal for the lire equivalent of one dollar. In the more expensive combination night club-restaurants, of course, he can spend half a month’s pay in an evening.

The 351st Infantry, composed largely of men and officers from the deactivated 88th Division, makes up the bulk of the Trust Garrison which is commanded by Major General William M Hoge. Men in the three battalions of the 351st live in three caserme, two about five miles back of Trieste in the hills, one on the outskirts of town. Men in smaller units occupy requisitioned buildings in the city. In addition to the usual Service Centers (two in the city), Special Services runs the Teatro Nazionale, which shows American films, and the TRUST Roll-o-rink. Five bowling alleys will soon be added.

TRUST also runs the plush Cortina Rest Center, high up in the Dolomites, famous for its winter sports season.

Headquarters is probably the ritziest in the US Army. It is located in the Miramare Castle, that “gleaming pearl in an emerald setting” on the outskirts of Trieste built by Maximilian younger brother of Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria. We’ll remember Maximilian as the puppet emperor put on the throne in Mexico by Napoleon III during our Civil War, where he eventually met death before a firing squad. “Fashioned from native white marble, Miramare’s crenelated battlements, aglow in the brilliant sun, create the impression of an icinged, pastry delicacy.” The interior still exhibits the Maximilian touch, though the Duke of Aosta later rebuilt and redecorated several rooms destroyed by fire.

The castle is filled with oil paintings, hand-carved woodwork of intricate design, embossed woodcarvings and other signs of the lavishness of the old Austrian court. Even hard-bitten "old soldiers" who enter Miramare are found staring open-mouthed at the splendor of the castle, like a small child on his first visit to the zoo.

## **Crack Outfit**

TRUST is a crack outfit, a spit-and-polish outfit that undergoes a lot of training. Certain statistics bear out the fact that this is a crack unit. In October 1949, for instance, there are 138 USAFI enrollments. The October vehicle accident rate was 4.606, while during the January-June period it was only 2.7. The VD rate was at a low of 45 per thousand men per year in October, while the 1948 rate to and including October was 80. Church attendance varies from 15 to 20 per cent. All these figures compare favorably or surpass both EUCOM and Army-wide records.

The clinching fact that TRUST Troops like their job is that, in November and December 1948, 143 troopers have re-enlisted or extended their enlistments.

## **1. THE FORTY DAYS**

### **Background**

Now let's set the stage for the events that put Trieste in the headlines during 1945, 1946, and 1947; events which caused US troops to be stationed there to make some headlines themselves.

Trieste is a port city of 275,000 people, situated at the head of the Adriatic Sea. It boasts one of the world's finest natural deep-water harbors. Its location at the highest point where the Adriatic Sea penetrates into Central Europe, makes Trieste the best-the natural-outlet and inlet for Central European trade with Mediterranean countries, the Near and Far East.

Trieste started out as an old Roman town, and later became a free commune. In 1382, after two years of fighting with Venice, it put itself under the protection of Austria, in whose possession it remained until World War I. Both Italy and the new state of Yugoslavia claimed it and the whole area of Venezia Giulia which had been Austrian up to 1918. Trieste finally was awarded to Italy by the Treaty of Rapallo in 1921.

Yugoslavia, however, never gave up its claim to Trieste and Venezia Giulia, or its hope to one day acquire both. Trieste's economic importance cannot be denied, as we shall see later, but Yugoslavia, like Italy, based its claim-first advanced at the Yalta Conference in February 1945-on ethnic (racial) and nationalistic reasons more than economic.

Trieste has always had a predominantly Italian population (80-85 per cent). In the Free Territory as a whole the Slav minority is no more than 30 per cent. The Slavs came into the area later than the Romans, in waves pushed west by the great migrations of Asiatic tribes. They settled on the soil, lived a life they already knew, and seldom attempted to compete with the Italians in the port towns below. This division between Slav and Italian still follows a city-farm dividing line.

As Mussolini insisted upon uniting all Italians outside Italy, so the Yugoslavs, and especially Tito since his rise to power, have demanded the inclusion of all Slavs in Yugoslavia. Italy added fuel to the Yugoslav claims by its action in Venezia Giulia. From 1920 on, Italy attempted to make Italians of the Slav population in Venezia Giulia, and thus aroused the deepest resentment. Then, after Hitler's hordes marched in and kicked out the Royal Yugoslav Government, Italian troops also moved deep into Yugoslavia. Thus, at the war's end Tito could and did add "the tremendous sacrifices and damage suffered by our country, our people" to his claims on Venezia Giulia and Trieste.

Thus the stage was set for the "Forty Days" and subsequent events.

### **Duino Agreement**

As the war in Europe drew to a close, in February 1945 Great Britain's Field Marshal Alexander, Allied Commander in the Mediterranean Theater, met Marshal Tito and got a verbal agreement with the Yugoslav that the troops should stop at the old Yugoslav-Italian border while the Allies would take and occupy the Province of Venezia Giulia, including Trieste. Such occupation, it was agreed, would not influence in any way the future status of the area. Yugoslav claims would then be considered later when the Peace Treaty was to be drawn up. Our policy was that territorial changes would be made only after study and consultation among the nations concerned.

But, at the end of April 1945, when Allied Troops (New Zealanders) ran out of gas in the vicinity of Venice and were held up two days refueling, Tito saw a chance to move into Venezia Giulia and took advantage of it. His troops rapidly pushed into Venezia Giulia, bypassed Trieste where a German garrison still held out, and met the New Zealanders several miles west of Trieste. He allowed the New Zealander patrols to enter Trieste and clean out the German pockets. But he refused to move his troops back to the Yugoslav borders, saying that conquest of the area had given him the right to occupy it. Allied troops and Yugoslav troops walked beside one another in Trieste in an atmosphere of open hostility.

For 43 days, while the allies negotiated with Tito, his troops ruled the city with a heavy hand. Italian governmental institutions were abolished. "Popular Tribunals" replaced the Italian court system. Some 8,000 Italians disappeared, many of whom haven't been heard from since. On the 43rd day an Allied ultimatum led to the Duino Agreement.

This agreement established two zones of occupation in Venezia Giulia along a boundary called the Morgan Line, a few miles east of Trieste. The Allied Zone, or Zone A, thus included Trieste, while the Yugoslav Zone, or Zone B, included approximately two-thirds of Venezia Giulia. The Allies were also given an enclave in the city of Pola in Zone B. American troops later dubbed the Zones Upper and Lower Slobbodia after Al Capp's creation in the comic strip "Li'l Abner."

A few American troops were involved in these early developments in Venezia Giulia. The British XIIIth Corps under Lt Gen Sir John Harding was operating in that sector and made first contact with the Yugoslavs. The first American units in Venezia Giulia were the 91st Division, with the first elements moving into Trieste and north to include Gorizia about 8-10 May 1945, and the 10th Mountain Division, which moved to the line of the Isonzo River on 20 May 1945. The 34th Division relieved the 10th Mountain Division and stayed

until 5 October 1945, when the 88th Division under Maj Gen Bryant E Moore took up positions along the Morgan Line. Gen Harding became Military Governor of the area, with Gen Moore as his Deputy.

Maj Gen T S Airey replaced Gen Harding and today still heads Allied Military Government in the US-UK Zone of the Free Territory of Trieste. Maj Gen W M Hoge, who replaced Gen Moore, is the Deputy Military Governor, and Brig Gen Ridgely Gaither, Deputy Commanding General, TRUST, is Directory General of Civilian Affairs.

## **II. OUTPOST NUMBER FIVE**

### **International Commission**

The "Forty Days" were over, the Zones of Occupation were settled. While the real problem concerning the future of Venezia Giulia went before the Allied Peace Treaty writers, Allied MG went ahead setting up a civil administration in Zone A. The Allies had agreed to use the Yugoslav-instituted system of government if workable, but found it completely unsuitable and established a new system organized along more typically Italian lines. MG made the decisions, while MG-appointed officials carried them out and served in an advisory capacity. The pro-Yugoslav "shadow" government that remains to this day immediately began calling for "free" elections and a voice in the administration of Trieste. But Zone A was to remain occupied-which-until the Peace Treaty was written and then governed according to Treaty.

At the Foreign Ministers' Conference in London in September 1945, meanwhile, it was decided to send an International Commission to Venezia Giulia to settle the dispute. The first consideration was to be ethnic, next economic, finally geographic. The establishment of this Commission was a signal for pro-Yugoslavs and pro-Italians, alike, to launch terrific propaganda campaigns. Nobody in Trieste, it seemed, wanted independence. In the spring of 1946, before the Commission arrived, the Yugoslav 14th Army in Zone B doubled its garrison. Triumphal arches were erected and torchlight processions organized. People from Zone B were brought into Trieste to wave flags and shout "Zivio Tito," campaign for incorporation of Trieste into Yugoslavia, and go through all of the other motions of a patriotic demonstration.

In Trieste, where Italians predominated, thousands of Italian flags appeared. The outlying areas with predominant Slav populations countered with more and bigger Yugoslav flags and arches and painted slogans.

While the Commission was in Trieste there was one demonstration after another, first a pro-Yugoslav, then a pro-Italian, each bigger than the one before. A state of semi-war existed between the two factions.

### **Free Territory**

The Italian element was highly optimistic when the Commission left Trieste. But when the compromise solution calling for a Free Territory of Trieste was announced on 22 June 1946, nobody was happy. Demonstrations began again and soon turned into riots and strikes. The situation looked ugly and the city was put off-limits.

When the pro-Yugoslavs sabotaged a bicycle race around Italy by rolling a large barrel in front of the racers, strewing nails in their path and throwing stones at them, and firing at the police guards, the young pro-Italians really got mad. They stalked about town smashing Slovene shops and Communist clubs. They set ablaze the day's entire production of the Communist newspaper, *Il Lavoratore*.

In return the pro-Yugoslavs organized a general strike. After four days Allied MG declared the strike illegal as having no economic justification. Organizers fled to the Yugoslav Zone to avoid an MG summons, and the strike finally ended on the 12th day with no demands granted.

Throughout this tension and turmoil, the Venezia Giulia police organized and trained by the Allies handled all situations.

Besides establishing Trieste as a Free Territory, the Peace Treaty gave Yugoslavia the bulk of Venezia Giulia along a jagged line running generally a few miles west of the Morgan Line, from the Austrian border to the northwest corner of the Free Territory, where it strikes the Adriatic Sea (see map). Thus, Pola where the Americans had an enclave, was to become Yugoslavian. And from Pola comes on the more interesting sidelight stories to the whole Venezia Giulia dispute. At the time it was announced that Pola would become Yugoslavia the city had about 35,000 residents, mostly Italian. A few months later on R Day (Ratification Day), 15 September 1947, there were only 7,000 residents left in the city. Approximately 28,000 Italian citizens simply packed their belongings, including door knobs and light fixtures, and move to the Free Territory or to Italy, leaving a ghost city behind. This, of course, fitted neatly into the Yugoslav plan for making the new addition completely Slav. Yugoslavia began moving Slavs in, and almost overnight what had been an Italian city became a Slav community.

The loss of the greater part of Venezia Giulia, including the Istrian Peninsula and the port of Fiume, and the establishment of Trieste as a Free Territory cost Italy dearly. Besides losing two ports, Italy also lost one-third of its coal fields, all its bauxite, the greater part of its mercury, considerable timber and one of the most modern fish-canning industries in Europe. The hydro-electric plants of the Upper Isonzo Valley, which supply large areas of Yugoslavia and Venezia Giulia, also changed hands.

## **R Day**

On R Day not only was most of Venezia Giulia to change hands, but also with the Free Territory, Yugoslavs were to take up positions on the dividing line between the two zones. This was a remnant of the old Morgan Line and it gave the US-UK Zone only two-fifths of the area of the Free Territory, including the city of Trieste, but four-fifths of the population. The Yugoslavs would have three-fifths of the area with only one-fifth of the population.

When J Hour signifying R Day was suddenly moved up from 1000 hours 15 September to 2200 hours 14 September, troops of the 351st Infantry Regiment, manning the boundary between the Free Territory and Yugoslavia, expected trouble.

Trouble came all right. It came to tiny Outpost Number 5 where five enlisted men and one officer were on duty.

Outpost Number Five got a lot of publicity during the following days, much of it misinformation, however. One headline said, "12 GIs Hold Off 2,000 Yugoslavs", while another story informed the world that a burst of machine-gun fire had discouraged 2,000 Yugoslav troops from marching into the "riot-ripped city of Trieste."

It made a good story, but not quite true. There were no shots fired, and nobody but the Yugoslavs know how many Yugoslav soldiers were involved-the Yugoslavs themselves said 2,000 but there was no way to check.

What happened was this: At 0015 hours the first Yugoslavs appeared on the road opposite Outpost Number Five and announced they wanted to march a column of 2,000 men through Trieste in order to take up positions on the new border. Lt Paul E Solomon, in command, said no. Lt Ochs relieved Lt Solomon shortly afterwards, but with the situation as it was Lt Solomon stayed at the post. At 1115 hours a second group of Yugoslavs, led by a Captain, came up in a jeep followed by a truck and Yugoslav soldiers in file columns. The Captain demanded entry into the Free Territory because the Peace Treaty was now in effect, and since the Territory was "free" there was no reason his men couldn't go through it. Lt Ochs then carefully explained the Peace Treaty to him, making clear that the road the Yugoslav troops would enter was in the US-UK Zone, and that the Treaty had said specifically that the Yugoslav troops would enter their Zone through Yugoslavia, directly. The Captain sent for a Yugoslav Lt Col who told Lt Ochs that, if necessary, he would use force to go through. Lt Ochs again said no, and asked for time to contact a higher authority. The Yugoslav Colonel gave Lt Ochs 15 minutes to produce the higher authority, Lt Col Robert Booth, Co of the 1st Battalion.

The deadline was almost up when a 1st Bn Major and a Major (S-2) of the regimental staff arrived to take up the argument. A few minutes later Col Booth appeared and gave the same answer his junior officers had given. After some more argument the Yugoslavs decided to withdraw, and that ended the incident.

In the meantime, urgent calls had gone back for reinforcements. These reinforcements-a section of tanks, a heavy machine gun section and two infantry platoons-arrived just prior to the Yugoslav withdrawal.

A small group of men simply doing their jobs had saved the world perhaps a far nastier incident.

### **III. THE STATUS QUO**

#### **Wanted-A Governor**

The Italian Peace Treaty had been signed under the illusion that a civil governor would be appointed quickly. The spirit of cooperation exhibited at the San Francisco Conference had not yet disappeared when the Peace Treaty was drawn up. But by the time it came to appointing a governor, East and West were finding it more and more difficult to reach agreements on many issues.

For the three months the Western Powers suggested candidates for the governorship only to have them turned down by the soviet Union. At the same time, the

**Soviets could propose no candidate acceptable to the Western Powers.**

The job was an important one and a difficult one. It was essential to have the right man. The governor was to have such great powers that unless he were an extremely objective man he could easily tip the political scale in favor of Yugoslavia or Italy, contrary to the provisions of the Treaty.

After three months, at which time the current joke in Trieste was that the governor's grandfather had not yet met the governor's grandmother. Italy and Yugoslavia were asked to try to find a man acceptable to both. Perhaps such a man would then be acceptable to the Soviet Union and the Western Powers, too. But Italy and Yugoslavia found it as impossible to agree as others had.

### **Three Power Proposal**

Then, 20 March 1948, with the vital Italian elections coming up in April, the Western Allies played Trieste as an ace against the hitherto all-powerful Soviet hand.

In notes to the Italian, Soviet and Yugoslav embassies in Washington, the US, UK and France proposed to "place the Free Territory of Trieste once more under Italian sovereignty." The two reasons cited were:

a. "Discussions in the Security Council have already shown that agreement on the selection of a governor is impossible."

b. "Abundant evidence" shows that the Yugoslav zone "has been virtually incorporated into Yugoslavia by procedures which do not respect the desire...to give an independent and democratic status to the territory."

(Remember, 80 to 85 per cent of the city's population was Italian, while no less than 70 per cent of the population of outlying area of the Free Territory also was Italian.) From that moment all efforts to find a governor ceased.

The decision was greeted with enthusiasm by Italians. In Trieste 30,000 cheering Italians paraded for three miles, ended up on the waterfront to salute the US cruiser *Dayton*.

Major General T S Airey, Commander US-UK Zone, Trieste, in his quarterly report, January-March 1948, wrote:

"I believe that a natural and robust economic recovery can only begin when the territory is regrafted on the body of Italy, which alone is likely to restore life to its shipyards and kindred industries. Moreover, a foreign military government, however efficient and sympathetic, cannot be a satisfactory substitute for a national and representative one. I conclude, therefore, that the solution to the problem of Trieste lies in the implementation of the tripartite proposal of 20 March 1948 as soon as this is possible."

The Soviet Union again has been unable to agree with the Western Powers. A return of Trieste to Italy would require revision of the Peace Treaty, and as the Soviet Union is a signer, acquiring Soviet accord is the first step.

Until some agreement is reached-either to return Trieste to Italy or a governor is found-Trieste will remain divided into two zones, each under military government.

The Peace Treaty was specific in saying that the military government in each zone would maintain the status quo-that is, not make any changes in either the governmental or economic or social organization of the Free Territory.

### **The Freedoms**

The US and UK have obeyed the Treaty. though electoral rolls are being prepared for a possible election later this year, the local government appointed by AMG in 1945, with only a few new faces, is still in office. Our MG, however, has been following a policy of turning more and more power over to the appointed officials, and is reducing its activities more to an advisory role. There are no Communists among the appointed officials on our Zone because in 1945 the Communists refused to participate in the administration and, since R Day obliged to respect the status quo, we could not include them even when they asked to be included.

In our Zone there is complete freedom of speech, assembly, religion and press. For example, three of the six papers in the US-UK Zone are Communist newspapers: none of the six are censored.

In the Yugoslav Zone, however, all forms of public life were immediately put under control of the Communist Party. Private property has been taken away from anti-Yugoslav owners and given to "reliable" Slavs; and anti-religious campaign has been begun; freedom of speech, of assembly and of press has been destroyed, and the steady flight of people from the Yugoslav Zone is testimony to the persecution of persons who have not supported the Communist regime. Travel between the two zones for local inhabitants has not been curtailed, for inhabitants of the Yugoslav Zone must come to Trieste to shop. It is as difficult for a British or American citizen to enter the Yugoslav Zone, however, as it is for him to enter the Soviet Zone of Germany. Activities in the Yugoslav Zone brought the Yugoslav Government a strongly-worded British protest, concurred in by the US, which went completely unheeded. The British openly accused the Yugoslavs of making "fundamental changes in the political, economic and social institutions" of their Zone, and of breaking international law.

Within the US-UK Zone, political parties operate with complete freedom, including an 8,000-strong Communist Party. Divisions of opinion over the status of the Free Territory are less on political lines, however, than on nationalistic lines. For instance, all the Italian parties except the Italian Communists are banded together in a Junta dedicated to the return of Trieste to Italy.

The Communists in Trieste have been made to look very silly and disorganized by the Tito-Cominform split, which split the Trieste Communists, too. Both pro-Tito and the pro-Cominform Communists pay lip service to the idea of the Free Territory, but the Italian or pro-Cominform Communists accuse the Slav or pro-Tito Communists of secretly working for the inclusion of Trieste in Yugoslavia, and vice versa.

There is a small group that started out genuinely to support the Free Territory, but

that group has been infiltrated by the Communists and has very little, if any, support.

#### **IV. RICH PORT**

##### **“Good Old Days”**

No discussion of Trieste would be complete without some mention of its port, around which its economic life revolves. Today the port is no longer the humming bee-hive of activity it was before two world wars, and *Triestini*, who always have made a comfortable living, are finding life rough these days.

The “good old days” for Trieste began a little more than 100 years ago when the Congress of Vienna awarded it to Austria-Hungary. Trieste was then a relatively insignificant little port city of 30,000. But the Industrial Revolution was sweeping Europe, and Trieste became *the* port of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which embraced most of Central Europe. It thrived. Austria-Hungary built rail lines that linked Trieste to points all over the world, especially to the Near and Far East after the Suez Canal opened in 1869. Imports from these areas flowed back to Central Europe through Trieste. In less than a hundred years Trieste suddenly mushroomed into one of the world’s busiest ports, a bustling city of a quarter million.

##### **Decline in Trade**

Then came World War I. Trieste went to Italy. The Austro-Hungarian Empire which had been a huge, single economic unit covering half a dozen independent little nations, their economics weakened by artificial boundaries and customs barriers as well as by the war. Some of them gave North Sea ports varying amounts of their import-export trade. On the whole, however, they continued to use Trieste, partly through habit, mainly for its ideal geographical location. But the volume of trade handled by the port dropped off.

In the meantime, Mussolini gave Trieste fat shipbuilding contracts, largely for warships, and the city continued to thrive. Among the warships built here were the Italian battleships *Roma*, *Vittorio Veneto*, *Cavour*, *Imperio* and *Andrea Doria*. The passenger ships *Conte di Savoia*, *Saturnia* and *Vulcania* also were launched here at Trieste.

World War II, however, dealt the port a near death-blow. Germany, which had been a lesser customer, was flat on its back. Czechoslovakia, Trieste’s second best customer, recovered rapidly from World War II, but its trade now followed the inland river route to Holland and Hamburg. Austria, Trieste’s biggest customer before the war, also was in disparate shape and has been slow in recovering. Yugoslavia in its best prewar year had only contributed 13 per cent to Trieste’s total port volume, but now had its own port at Fiume and, despite Allied MG offers, wasn’t doing much business with Trieste.

An interesting sidelight on the port is that in 1946, despite war damage and all the other factors working to Trieste’s disadvantage, more imports arrived by sea than in the year 1938. The answer was heavy UNRRA shipments. But while UNRRA increased the imports of Trieste’s trade, there were few exports from the interior available, and the UNRRA supply ships generally sailed away empty. The total of all commodities in 1946 was only 45,000 tons compared with more than 970,000 tons, 20 times as much in 1938.

So, today, one of the world's best ports suffers more than 20 per cent unemployment as it limps along at about 40 per cent of its prewar volume.

Furthermore, both the double track railroad lines leading from Trieste to Vienna and other trade centers in Central Europe pass through and are controlled by Yugoslavia, which is pushing its own port of Fiume. Traffic in and out of Trieste follows a round-about single track through northern Italy and enters Austria near its east end.

### **Ample Facilities**

Meanwhile, Trieste is still equipped to do a lot of business that doesn't exist. Before the war Trieste's port averaged unloading 10,000 tons daily, but was capable of more. The war reduced its capacity 50 per cent; however, by 1948 it had been restored to 95 per cent of its original capacity.

Present facilities are extensive. The port has 32 transit sheds with 26,000 square yards of space and 141,540 tons capacity. There are 140 electric and hydraulic cranes with lifting capacities ranging up to five tons. There are two floating, self-propelled cranes of 25 and 40 tons capacity, respectively. There are thermo-tanks for citrus fruits and storage facilities for tobacco. And there is a new granary with storage capacity of 30,000 tons, equipped with all the newest machinery, capable of handling 125 tons of grain per hour.

A six-mile-wide channel leading into Trieste has been cleared of mines and within that channel a mile-wide shipping lane has been marked out. Between 1 March 1946 and 1 March 1947 only one ship entering the port was struck by a mine; it was repaired in Trieste and soon sailed again.

Naturally enough, the head offices for several large shipping concerns are located in Trieste. *Il Lloyd Triestino* (no connection with Lloyds of London) is the most important of these. Established in 1836, it had 75 ships before World War II, but at the end of the war had only five left in operation. The number is no up to 15.

### **Shipbuilding**

While much of Trieste's shipbuilding was for war, it cannot be expected to approach its prewar building peak. The shipways of Trieste probably will be reduced from seven to four.

Extensive shipbuilding requires large quantities of steel, and Trieste was able to supply the needs. But the ILVA steel works, the chief producer of steel, has been greatly slowed down by a shortage of coal. Large quantities of coke were produced by ILVA for use in its foundries and the large quantities of gas, tar, ammonium sulfate and raw benzol obtained as by-products and sold have been reduced equally.

There are two important oil refineries in Trieste, some food processing and canning factories, a 1,500 man fishing industry, a vegetable oil refinery, a noodles-macaroni-spaghetti factory and the well-known Dreher Beer Works.

### **Insurance**

Perhaps the most surprising business in Trieste-and one of its most profitable-is the insurance business. Two of the world's largest companies are located here, one of them, Italy's largest. They are *Le Assicurazioni Generali* and *La Riunione Adriatica di Sicurtà*. They operate widely in Europe and South America, employ hundreds of people and pay well in terms of Italian and Trieste wages. An ordinary clerk today gets about 30,000 lire per month or about \$50 in "hard money."

The insurance companies got their start back in the mid-18th century when the Hapsburg Empress, Maria Theresa, brought Greek merchants in to build up the port city. Many of the good old family names in Trieste are still Greek.

## V. THE FUTURE

### ERP

What lies in store for this port that could, once did and would like to do twice its present business? Only time will tell, for the destiny of Trieste is enviably linked with the political and economic fortunes of Central Europe. Central Europe always has been and always will be Trieste's hinterland. So the first requirement for Trieste's future economic well-being is that the Central European countries recover economically. Then there is the question of whether or not these countries are now behind the Iron Curtain and their trade is going East, instead of West. Thus Trieste's future is also closely connected with the East-West struggle. In fact, *Triestini* who never took a great interest in politics as long as things were going well, are rapidly becoming aware of the political facts of this postwar world. Some of them have had their eyes on the Yugoslav-Cominform rift. Trieste's position, as the main Adriatic port for shipments to and from the Eastern and Central European states, appears to have been re-established with the recent news that Albania and Czechoslovakia re using it as a port for trade rather than the Yugoslav Adriatic port of Rijeka (Fiume). The trend, representing another Cominform economic sanction against Yugoslavia, is a healthy one for Trieste.

The port, which because of war damage, was capable of handling in 1945 only 50 per cent of its 1938 daily average, handled 60 per cent in 1946, 90 per cent in 1947, and 95 per cent in 1948.

Most of this was American goods. Contracts concluded last year now bring all CARE and ECA shipments for Austria through the port, as well as American Friends Service Committee and other relief supplies. These shipments won't last forever, of course, but they are helping Trieste over the lean years.

And very important to the Free Territory, it is included in the European Recovery Program (Marshall Plan). The effects of ERP help are just beginning to be felt in Trieste. The Free Territory received \$20 million for the year 1 July 1948 to 30 June 1949. Until late 1948, US assistance to the US-UK Zone had been chiefly in relief supplies. At that time the long-range recovery program went into effect, and the following shipbuilding program calling for construction of various types of ships totaling 94,000 tons was announced.

Beginning March: A third 13,000-ton passenger-cargo vessel for Lloyd Triestino; one 1,000-ton motor trawler.

**Beginning April:** A second 13,000-ton passenger-cargo vessel for Lloyd Triestino, a second 1,000-ton motor trawler.

**Beginning May:** A third 13,000-ton passenger-cargo vessel for Lloyd Triestino; a 25,000-ton passenger liner for the Italian Line.

Contract with Independent Yards for the Spring of 1949 included two 600-ton motor trawlers and two 1,000-ton cargo vessels. The remaining 27,000 tons worth of contracts were to be announced later.

In addition, ERP funds are behind the modernization of the Aquila Oil Refinery and behind the programs for increased production in the fields of agriculture, fishing and canning. Until the Free Territory begins to earn some hard currency, ERP also will provide AMG with basic commodities such as wheat, milk, fats and coal.

This announcement came shortly after an AMG announcement that the economic situation in Trieste at the end of June 1948 was "not good." Once ships on the ways had been launched, the announcement stated, there were no new shipbuilding orders to provide continued employment in Trieste's major industry. Furthermore, United States Relief Shipments had just come to an end.

For Trieste, ERP was a real life saver.

### **Tourists**

There is some talk of making a tourist center out of Trieste, with its picturesque setting, its road Carso, its spacious squares, its Roman ruins. It never has been a sightseeing attraction as Rome or Venice have. But some persons think that perhaps an industrial fair each year with added diverse attractions such as horse racing, a motor speedway and yacht or speedboat contests might do the trick.

Rail and ship connections could handle the tourist traffic, and Gorizia could serve as a terminal for air transportation to Trieste. But Trieste needs a beach, and its hotel facilities would have to be greatly expanded. For the moment, Trieste as a tourist center is just an idea on which one can speculate.

In the meantime, Triestini are exploring every angle, grabbing every opportunity, praying nightly that his topsy-turvy world straightens out soon and gives a willing worker a chance to earn his daily bread. The feeling of being mere pawns on the international chess-board is not soothing to their nerves, but knowledge that American and British servicemen are there to back them up, that American dollars in the form of ERP are there to boost them up, tends to offset the present unpleasant picture. People as a whole are pretty happy to have the Americans there, happier in the knowledge that we will remain there until a just and lasting settlement is found for Trieste.

# Department of State Bulletin, March 6, 1949

## Peace Treaty Not Workable With Regard to Free Territory

*Statement by Ambassador Warren R. Austin  
U.S. Representative in the Security Council*

The Security Council will recall the United Kingdom-French-United States note to the U.S.S.R. and Italy dated March 20, 1948, a copy of which was circulated here as document S-707 dated March 31, 1948. In this note the three Western Powers proposed to the Soviet Union and Italy that they join the Western Powers in an agreement on additional protocol to the Italian peace treaty which would return the Free Territory of Trieste to Italian sovereignty. This proposal was motivated primarily by the fact that the Yugoslav zone had been completely transformed in character and virtually incorporated into the Yugoslav police state so as to make an independent and Democratic status for the territory impossible. In the view of the Western Powers, the return to Italy was and is the only solution to meet the democratic aspiration of the people in the Free Territory of Trieste and to reestablish stability in the area. In as much as the Security Council has assumed responsibility for the independence and territorial integrity of the Free Territory of Trieste, the three Western powers stated that they would submit to the Security Council for approval the arrangements to be jointly agreed upon. The Italian Government accepted the proposal of the Western Powers. This however, is not the case with the Soviet Union.

When the Soviet Union failed to reply to the proposal, the United States on April 9, 1948, delivered a further note to the Soviet Embassy in Washington proposing a preliminary-I stress the word preliminary-meeting to draft the necessary protocol. In a note dated April 13, the Soviet Union replied that it-and I quote: "Considered the proposal to solve the problem concerning the revision of the treaty of peace with Italy in any of its parts, by way of correspondence or arrangement of private conferences, unacceptable as violating the elementary principles of democracy.

In a further note dated April 16, to the Soviet Embassy in Washington the Acting Secretary of State pointed out that the meeting envisaged in the preceding United States note was to be of a preliminary character as a first step of procedure. He stated that the Government of the United States would be glad to consider any suggestion which the Soviet Government might have regarding the procedure for drafting the necessary protocol to the Italian peace treaty.

Since no reply was forthcoming from the Soviet Government the Secretary of State forwarded another note to the Soviet Embassy in Washington on June 1, expressing the hope that the Soviet Government would communicate its view at an early date concerning the procedure to be followed for joint consideration of the matter by the powers concerned. The United States Government is still awaiting reply to this note.

In the meanwhile the two zones of the Free Territory of Trieste are being administered by the respective military commanders under article 1 to annex VII of the peace treaty. Both the United Kingdom-United States and the Yugoslav military commanders have forwarded reports to the Security Council on their administration.

It is generally known that police-state forms of government were extended by Yugoslavia to its zone with all the attributes of a totalitarian regime which make impossible unification with the United Kingdom-United States zone into an independent democratic territory along the lines prescribed by the peace treaty. Under these circumstances the setting up of an "independent" territory would mean creating an area open to aggression through the pattern well tested throughout Eastern Europe and most recently in Czechoslovakia.

For this reason my Government has come to the conclusion that the provision of the peace treaty with regard to the Free Territory of Trieste has become unworkable.

In view of this situation it is our opinion that a discussion in the Security Council of the governorship of the Free Territory would not serve any negotiations with the other powers concerned.

## **United Nations Weekly Bulletin, March 15, 1949**

### **Governorship of Free Territory of Trieste**

#### **Proposal Discussed by Council Not Put to Vote**

More than two years ago—on January 10, 1947—the Security Council accepted important responsibilities in connection with the creation and government of the Free Territory of Trieste. The most important of these was to assure the integrity and independence of the Territory, to protect the basic human rights of the inhabitants, and to maintain public order and security.

The Council's representative in the Government of the Territory was to be a Governor—a citizen of neither Yugoslavia nor Italy nor of the Free Territory itself—appointed for five years by the Council after consulting with Yugoslavia and Italy.

Pending the assumption of office by the Governor, the Military commanders of the Yugoslav and British-United States zones were to continue to administer the territory within their respective zones.

#### **Efforts To Appoint Governor**

The Council's efforts to choose a Governor started with private meetings on June 20 and July 10, 1947, which resulted in the setting up of a sub-committee (Australia, Colombia, and Poland) to collect additional information about the candidates. Then, nine days after September 15, on which date the Free Territory of Trieste came into being as a result of the implementation of the peace treaty with Italy, the Council examined the report of the sub-committee and also considered a new candidate proposed by China. The meeting resulted in a request to the permanent members to consult informally.

Taking up the matter once again at a private meeting on December 18, the Council asked Italy and Yugoslavia to consult for reaching agreement on a candidate not later than January 5, 1948. The replies of these two Governments were discussed at another private

meeting on January 23. The U.S.S.R. representative suggested that the Council members should express opinions on the new candidates mentioned in the replies, but some permanent members said that they were not in a position to do so. The Council therefore asked the permanent members to consider the matter further.

But Big Five failure to reach agreement was reflected at the next meeting on March 9, when the council agreed after some discussion to postpone further consideration until the matter was brought up again by any member. Such a request came from Yakov A. Malik, the U.S.S.R. representative, on February 8, 1949, and the Council therefore reopened discussion at the meeting on February 17 and 21.

### **Candidate Proposed by U.S.S.R.**

Any further delay in making the appointment, said Mr. Malik, would be intolerable. He recalled that the Council of foreign Ministers had agreed on December 12, 1946, to take all measures for the appointment as rapidly as possible. Since then the United Kingdom and the United States had, under varied pretexts and in disregard of their obligations, avoided consideration of the matter. Then on March 20, 1948, the United Kingdom and the United States, with the participation of France, had proposed the transfer of the Free Territory to Italy, a move which Mr. Malik charges was a maneuver to influence the Italian elections and retain the Free Territory for another indeterminate period as a United States base. Economic, financial, and political measures by the Anglo-American military authorities in their zone, as also the attitude of these powers on the Governorship, violated, Mr. Malik declared, the peace treaty with Italy and the decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

He cited in particular the "subordination" of the Anglo-American zone to Italy in respect to finances, and the inclusion of the zone in the Marshall Plan, by which, knowledge or consent of the people. He charged the United States and the United Kingdom with designs to hinder the setting up of democratic organs of government in the Territory.

Mr. Malik then formally proposed that the Security Council should appoint Colonel Hermann Fluckiger (former Swiss Minister in Moscow) as Governor. On September 2, 1947, he recalled, the United Kingdom submitted Colonel Fluckiger's name to the Council's sub-committee, which eight days later reported that it had no objection to him.

### **Position of Three Western Powers**

Sir Terrence Shone, of the United Kingdom, denied Mr. Malik's contention that the United Kingdom delegation had been responsible for any delay. He quoted at length a statement by Sir Alexander Cadogan in the Council on August 16, 1948, to show that the long period of delay was caused by Soviet obstruction, and that during this delay the situation in Trieste suffered serious deterioration because of the action of Yugoslavian authorities in the Yugoslav zone.

That zone virtually became incorporated into Yugoslavia, he said, with the result that the three Governments realized that the settlement prescribed in the peace treaty had been rendered unworkable-the task of a Governor had become impossible. That was why they had intimated informally to the U.S.S.R. on March 20, 1948, that they had reached the conclusion that the only real solution lay in restoration of the Free Territory to Italy. The

U.S.S.R. had not "to this day" seen fit to give any direct or serious reply. The United Kingdom was not prepared in the circumstances to consider the appointment of a Governor.

Warren R. Austin of the United States, considered that it was unnecessary to argue as to who caused the obstacles to the appointment. The fact remained that during a lengthy period it was impossible to arrive at unanimity in regard to the choice of a candidate. Then, because the complete transformation and virtual incorporation of the Yugoslav zone into the Yugoslav "police state" made an independent and democratic status for the Territory impossible, the Western Powers considered that the return of the Territory was the only solution. This alone would meet the democratic aspirations of the people, reestablish stability in the area, preserve its independence and territorial integrity, and protect the basic human rights of the inhabitants.

A discussion of the Governorship in the Security Council would not serve any constructive purpose pending settlement of the question of the return of the Territory to Italian sovereignty through diplomatic negotiations with the other powers concerned.

Francois de Rose, of France, also stated that the policy of his government in regard to the question had not changed.

Supporting the U.S.S.R. proposal on February 21, Vassili A. Tarassenko, of the Ukrainian S.S.R., charged the United States and the United Kingdom with signing international agreements and obligations and the, in the Security Council and other organs of the United Nations, voting against implementation.

Mr. Malik contended that the Council was the sole guarantor of the integrity and independence of the Territory. No one should violate decisions of the Paris Peace Conference which were approved by the 21 states represented. Attempts by the three governments to circumvent the Council and to violate those decisions were illegal and could not be successful, he said.

He argued that implementation of the provisions relating to Trieste would unify the two zones in a democratic structure. The U.S.S.R. insisted on strict implementation of the whole of the treaty-both establishment of the Free Territory and appointment of a Governor.

### **Proposal Not Put to Vote**

Announcing that Norway would vote against the Soviet proposal, Finn Moe considered that the situation called for a new examination of the whole question of the future of the Free Territory. This, however, was not for the Council to decide. Furthermore, the carrying out of the functions of the Council in the matter depended on prior settlement of that question. Therefore the Soviet proposal was not a practical one in the present situation.

The debate was then closed with this statement by the President, Dr. T. T. Tsaing, of China:

"It appears to me that it would serve no useful purpose to prolong this discussion further or to put the draft resolution to a vote. I have no intention of calling the Security Council during the remainder of February to reconsider this question. I hope that there will

be no objection to what I have said from the members of the Security Council.”

**[The following information appeared within a box within this article]**

**Excerpts from Permanent Statute for Free Territory of Trieste**

**ARTICLE 17**

1. The Governor, as the representative of the Security Council, shall be responsible for supervising the observance of the present Statute, including protection of the basic human rights of the inhabitants and for ensuring that public order and security are maintained by the Government of the Free Territory in accordance with the present Statute, the Constitution, and laws of the Free Territory.

2. The Governor shall present to the Security Council annual reports concerning the operation of the Statute and the performance of his duties.

**ARTICLE 22**

1. In order that he may carry out his responsibilities to the Security Council under the present Statute, the Governor may, in cases which in his opinion permit of no delay, threatening the independence or integrity of the Free Territory, public order, or respect of human rights, directly order and require the execution of appropriate measure subject to an immediate report thereon being made by him to the Security Council. In such circumstance the Governor may himself assume, if he deems it necessary, control of the security services.

2. The Popular Assembly may petition to Security Council concerning any exercise by the Governor of his powers under paragraph 1 of this article.

## **Stars and Stripes, July 13, 1949**

### **UK Trieste Soldier Killed By Yugo Border Patrol**

*TRIESTE, July 11 (AP)-*

A British soldier was killed by a Yugoslav patrol Sunday along the border of the Trieste Free Territory and Yugoslavia, British headquarters announced today.

A communiqué said the shooting occurred near Gropada. The name of the soldier was withheld pending notification of kin.