

U. S. WEATHER BUREAU
TUCSON AND VICINITY: Clear today
and tonight with light breeze in temperature.
Temperature
Yesterday: High 80, Low 50
Today: High 80, Low 50

VOL. 106

NO. 107

Printed at second-class station.
Post Office, Tucson, Arizona

TUCSON, ARIZONA, THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 17, 1947

EIGHTEEN PAGES

PRICE FIVE CENTS

The Arizona Daily Star

An Independent Newspaper
Printing the News
Impartially

EXPLOSIONS SHAKEN TEXAS CITY FIRE CITY; WILDFIRES RAGE

Sudden Death, Destruction Sweep Texas City Area

450 to 1200 Believed Dead;
Thousands Injured; Flames
Gas Imperil Rescue Squads

MARSHALL AND STALIN CONFER ON STALEMATES

Secret Parley Believed
Without Result: Coal
Demand Still Bar

MOSCOW, April 16.—(AP)—The Kremlin conference of U. S. Secretary of State Marshall and Prime Minister Stalin was understood today to have solved no deadlocks, and the foreign ministers council slated a double meeting on Austria tomorrow in an apparent drive to end the conference. Although Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov told the council today that the Russians desired to complete and sign the Austrian treaty at this Moscow meeting, the two ministers tangled sharply and inconclusively when he demanded reparations from German coal.

In a swiftly moving session today the ministers considered 15 of the Austrian treaty's 19 clauses, agreeing on a dozen of them and even settling one clause, but in disputes their deputies had been unable to pass.

But Molotov's reparations demand for 12 1/2 per cent of all German coal mines, with another 12 1/2 per cent to be paid in kind, was a reminder that he was not yielding on the indispensable Soviet demand for heavy reparations.

Stalin, too, adamant.

It was understood that Stalin adopted a similar attitude last night when he and Marshall talked for an hour and 30 minutes in their closely guarded conference, and gave no indication of yielding any position on Germany thus far set forth by Molotov in the Soviet ministers' meeting.

Dually responsible sources said no compromise of any kind was made last night, either by Marshall or Stalin, and no compromise suggestions were advanced.

The belief grew, however, that Stalin was content to let the German question go to an atomic commission without a major settlement, meanwhile awaiting the political effort to see if the Russians would benefit from the situation.

Two days about the Marshall-Stalin conference have known today because of the tight silence ordered by Secretary Marshall in the American delegation.

It was officially announced that Marshall made the request to see Stalin late last week through U. S. Ambassador Walter Bedell Smith to the Soviet foreign ministry, and that nothing further was given out unless Marshall announced himself. He was understood to have departed his report of the talk to President Truman.

Although the conference was the subject of most of the gossip in the British and French delegations, the Soviet press printed only a brief, friendly announcement of the meeting.

There were no photographs published of the meeting, something unusual in itself.

House Defeats Three Attempts to Revise Labor Bill Provisions

WASHINGTON, April 16.—(AP)—The House today backtracked three provisions of its general labor bill for striking strikes and union activity.

A provision to knock out the bill on industry-wide bargaining. The vote was 363 to 271.

An amendment to outlaw the union shop. This was on a voice vote. The measure already carried in the Senate.

A provision to limit the union shop to those industries in which only union members can be hired but must join the union.

An amendment to ease the position against the union contributions to health and welfare funds which a union could levy.

This was done 338 to 177 on a vote. The measure already carried in the Senate.

Rep. Hoffman (D-Mich.) said he would introduce a bill to limit the union shop to those industries in which only union members can be hired but must join the union.

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