

KOREA - "OPERATION COME-BACK"

In Korea - "Operation Come-Back" begins. Away from the barbed wire compounds where they have lived for many months, 22 and a half thousand Chinese and North Korean troops take the winding road to freedom. It is their own wish that they should not return to their homelands, stoutly refusing to live under Communist rule again.

General Hull, the United Nations Commander, watches them go by. Since the truce these men have been in the custody of Indian guards, who had to carry out a difficult task. The prison camps are set ablaze as the men leave - their job is done. Before the compound gates were opened, the Indians, formally handed the prisoners over to the United Nations Command. As mediators between the reds and the U.N., the Indians deserve the highest praise, though their action in releasing the P.O.W's has drawn vehement protests from the Communist Command, who say it is illegal.

Meanwhile Seoul, the capital of Korea, has a warm and colourful welcome for Chinese ex-prisoners who pass through the city during their journey to Inchen from whence they will sail for Formosa.

The system of allowing prisoners to choose whichever country they wish resulted in only 21 Americans and one British Marine electing not to return home.

At Inchen, more than 14,000 Chinese march to the ferry. Others are making the journey to Formosa by air. American landing-craft wait to ship the men on the last stage of their journey. Referring to the ex P.O.W's determination not to return home. Korea's President Rhee said that this was the "most resounding ideological defeat of Communism in its history"

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