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CHINESE PRESS ON AFTER FLEEING FOE

Advance 18 Miles Toward the
Border of Kwangsi—Allies
Gain in Burma Drives

CHUNGKING, China, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Chinese counter-offensive in Kweichow Province has recaptured the railway town of Shangssu in an eighteen-mile advance from Tuhshan, thus almost completing the task of hurling the Japanese back into Kwangsi Province, the Chinese High Command disclosed today.

The pursuit southward is continuing, the Chinese said, and the new War Minister, Gen. Chen Cheng, declared "the crisis in Kweichow is passing, but we must be prepared for a resumption of the enemy offensive."

Shangssu is eighty-two miles southeast of Kweiyang, Kweichow's capital, and less than five miles from the Kwangsi border. Previously the Chinese had hurled another Japanese column back to the Kwangsi border farther east.

The Japanese invasion was backed by six divisions and one brigade along the Kwangsi-Kweichow border, but only 9,000 of the enemy actually entered Kweichow, it was stated.

General Chen said he intended to strengthen the more efficient divisions of the Chinese Army in hope of an eventual general counter-offensive.

He disclosed that Gen. Tang Enpo no longer was the Chinese commander in Kweichow, but did not identify his successor.

Chinese troops gained today in their offensive down the Burma Road toward the border town of Wanting despite stiffening Japanese resistance on the Yunnan Province front, the High Command announced.

The Chinese occupied a height northwest of Manpeng, which is about twelve miles from Wanting. Other troops, in a flanking movement, have reached a point ten and a half miles east of Wanting.

Allies Press on in Burma

NEW DELHI, India, Dec. 9 (AP)—British forces driving south in Burma along the north-south railway have reached the Naba station, 160 miles north of Mandalay in a seven-mile advance from captured Pinwe, it was announced today. No Japanese have been encountered, Allied headquarters said.

In the Bhamo sector in northeast Burma, American-trained Chinese engaged in a minor action, while British East Africans on the Chindwin front continued a southerly thrust and made contact with the enemy toward Hwegyin.

China Plans New Armies

Ta Kung Pao, Chungking newspaper, said yesterday that Gen. Chen Cheng, Chinese War Minister, planned to train thirty Chinese divisions with modern weapons next year with the aid of the Allies.

Excerpts of the Ta Kung Pa

article were paraphrased by the Chungking radio in an English-language broadcast beamed to the United States and recorded by the Federal Communications Commission.

The article said that the selection of the divisions would depend upon "whether they are willing to fight and able to fight, irrespective of who are their commanders," since both the Chinese and American authorities "hold the view" that the arming of Chinese troops who are unwilling and unable to fight would be "tantamount to aiding the enemy."

General Chen has also decided to "better the living conditions" of Chinese troops, the article reported, adding that "concrete measures regarding the food allowance, shoe allowance and vegetables have already been adopted."

As for the troops now fighting

to drive the Japanese out of Kweichow, General Chen has "obtained permission from the highest authorities that there will be no budgetary restrictions," the article said. It added that the new Minister believed that soldiers could "observe discipline and fight courageously only when they have enough to live on."