

# Truman Backed Censorship Move Fails

## Snyder Plan Frowned On

By William H. Mylander.  
(Of The Tribune's Washington Bureau.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Government publicity men have balked over an attempt to reimpose wartime censorship of government news at its sources.

The plan was outlined to government agencies in a letter from Reconversion Director John W. Snyder, which read in part: "The importance of avoiding conflicting statements on policy matters so that the public will have a clear understanding of the government's course during this transition has been discussed both at a cabinet meeting and at a meeting of agency heads."

"THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME to take the necessary steps to provide some central point of clearance. Accordingly, I am forming an inter-agency information committee under the chairmanship of Anthony Hyde."

Opposition, however, developed at a meeting of 20 to 25 public relations officials with Hyde at the White House, when he proposed that all speeches, press releases and statements before congressional committees be "cleared" through his office.

During the war, the office of war information was the censor of information released by departments and agencies. It checked one department's speeches and press releases with other agencies, and if there was a disagreement over the facts, the material was deleted.

Objection was raised to Hyde's proposal by Edward Lewis of the veterans administration, Robert W. Horton of the maritime commission, Bruce Catton of the commerce department, and John



SNYDER.

### THEIR HOPES DASHED



Four of 19 girls who are suing to recover money paid to get modeling and entertainment jobs are (from left): Pauline Solome, Marie Taty, Edhel Hansen, and Adah Brown, all of Chicago. Their suit against Talent Scouts and Broadcast Productions, Inc. and Citizens Loan Corp. charges they were promised that after they paid for a "course," they would be "recommended" as having special talents and should become models or entertainers.

Ryckman of the interior department.

Horton and Catton had learned first hand how distasteful the OWI censorship was to most government officials and to the press.

The four dissenters told Hyde policy questions should be cleared at higher levels than public relations offices; that it was impossible to determine in advance answers to questions that might be asked of government officials by congressional committees; that it was impossible for one agency to check all facts and all figures with every other agency in the same field without delay and confusion.

They also made the point that differences of opinion and of findings among various government agencies were useful and healthy during peacetime.

The upshot was that a subcom-

mittee consisting of Horton, Herbert Little of the OPA, and Jack Durham of the reconversion office was appointed to work out machinery for public relations officers to exchange facts and figures among themselves, rather than clear policy statements.

Censorship at the source, of course, is still exercised by various agencies and departments themselves, particularly the war, navy and state departments.

The office of joint security control, an adjunct of the joint chiefs of staff, still holds the

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### 'Big E'--A National Shrine

WASHINGTON, D. C. (AP)—The heroic aircraft carrier Enterprise, too old to fight any more, will become a national shrine, the navy disclosed Thursday.

President Truman has approved a proposal from Navy Secretary Forrestal to preserve the "Big E" and the "Gallop-in" Ghost of the Ohio Coast.

At present, the Enterprise is in Boston where she will be equipped and sent to Europe to pick up her first load of returning war veterans. Presumably as soon as she completes her trans-Atlantic taxi service she will become a national shrine.

Forrestal's letter reads in part: "Time has accomplished what the enemy failed to do; the Enterprise must be taken out of service because modern planes cannot be flown from her flight deck."

"This ship was the heart of the fleet when the war was going badly for us. After the Hornet was lost in the battle of the Santa Cruz islands, the Enterprise was our only carrier in the Pacific."

"Her squadrons shot down nearly a thousand of the enemy's planes and sank 74 of his ships at Guadalcanal."

"I believe the Enterprise should be retained permanently as a visible symbol of American valor and tenacity in war, and of our will to fight all enemies who assault us, and I request your approval of this proposal."

reins on military or naval information regarded as involving national security. Such information can't be released to the public, nor can officers discuss it with outsiders, unless the joint security council grants specific permission.

Gag. Contractors who manufactured war supplies also are still effectively gagged on certain subjects by rigid secrecy clauses in their contracts.

In some instances, it is said, American army and navy officers who would like to disclose certain devices are prevented from doing so by British objections.

Similarly, even so important a personage as Secretary of State Byrnes has admitted his inability so far to arrange for disclosure of the terms of the Italian armistice. Although he has told reporters he is working toward that end.

With discontinuance of voluntary censorship and Byron Price's office of censorship, reporters

### Returns to Army; 'Better Than Union'

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH (AP)—Myron F. Oliver, discharged Oct. 12 after five and a half years' service, 16 months of it in the Pacific, re-enlisted in the army Wednesday as a master sergeant.

He said he had been offered a promotion at the sheet metal shop where he worked but was informed he would have to pay a \$30 initiation fee to an A.F.L. union first. "I objected to earning the job and then paying for it," Oliver said. "I talked it over with my wife and decided I would rather go back to the army."

Clothes JIM P

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