

Pearl Harbor Raid Plotters May Face Trial for Murder

Tokyo, Dec. 8 (Saturday) (AP).—On his fourth anniversary of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, Gen. MacArthur's chief prosecutor for the impending war criminal trials indicated strongly today that some of the plotters of that attack may be tried in Hawaii for "murder."

(It was Dec. 8, 1941, Tokyo date, when Pearl Harbor was attacked.)

Joseph B. Keenan, special prosecutor who has arrived in Tokyo with his staff, in discussing such a possibility, said:

"It is not the men who dropped the bombs but the men who set in motion the plans, who committed the more heinous offence."

He said, however, definitely that Hideko Tojo, the No. 1 man on the criminal list and who was premier at the time of the attack, would not be tried in Hawaii.

The war crimes trials of top Japanese, including Tojo and his cabinet, are scheduled to start in January, Mr. Keenan disclosed yesterday.

Mr. Keenan said that Allied

countries have been invited to nominate members of the court which will be appointed by Gen. MacArthur, and to participate in the prosecution. None yet has named such personnel.

Mr. Keenan said previous delays in starting the trials were to respect the rights of other countries and to show that the United States was not taking a high-handed attitude.

Speaking at a 30-minute press conference after a lengthy session with Gen. MacArthur, Mr. Keenan said the Japanese would be tried in groups, as in Germany, with "the accused presumed innocent until proved guilty."

In announcing the tentative January starting date, with Tojo and his war-making Cabinet near or at the head of the roster, the prosecutor said accusations would go back to 1937, when Japan started war in China.

"What about the Emperor?" a correspondent asked.

"No comment on that," Mr. Keenan replied.

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