

SUB U N L.P.G. Wed. May 27 - '53.

A congressional ~~is~~ committee voted, this evening, to cut off American financial support from the U N - if Communist China is admitted to the U N. The committee, dealing with appropriations, tacked an amendment onto a money measure - as an expression of congressional indignation with suggestions, especially abroad, that an armistice in Korea might be followed by an expulsion of the Chinese Nationalists from the U N. Their place to be taken - by the Communists who now control China. Which would mean, of course, a seat ~~is~~ as a permanent member of the security council. China being entitled to that.

## KOREA-TRUCE

We have new reports about the truce proposal handed to the Reds. It's still an official secret, but now we hear that the critical point is -- the question of troops that would guard prisoners-of-war who don't want to go home.

They, would be placed in the custody of a commission of five countries, India, Sweden, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and Poland - with India playing the leading part. <sup>It</sup> Taking charge of prisoners would mean sending soldiers to guard them. The Reds wanted these to be provided equally by the nations on the commission, which would include, of course, Czechs, and Poles, Communists. The South Korean government doesn't want any Reds let in at all -- and the prisoners, themselves, might well be intimidated by having Communist guards over them.

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two hundred armed foreign soldiers, five thousand from India, fifty each from Sweden, Switzerland, Poland and Czechoslovakia. One hundred Communists out of fifty-two hundred at the prison camps. That's the gist of the report.

But we hear - that South Korea still refuses to let in any Communists at all. Syngman Rhee and his ministers are angry about the compromise, and word is that they won't accept it. But what can they do? Well, one rumor from Korea is that they might pull the South Korean Army from the warfront. Or, they might defy an armistice, under the compromise, by launching an attack against the Reds. However, the belief among American officials out there is that South Korean President Syngman Rhee is not likely to resort to desperate measures.

( In Washington, there's quick reaction to the statement issued by Senator Taft of ~~Ohio~~ Ohio last night. He suggested that, if the present negotiations

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fail, we might as well, in the Senator's words, "abandon any idea of working with the U N in the East and conserve to ourselves a free hand,"

That notion was assailed today by Senator Fulbright of Arkansas who, like Senator Taft himself, is a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Says Fulbright: "We've got to do the best we can to keep the U N countries working together."

The White House has made no comment on the Taft Statement.)

A Japanese court handed down a decision today -- which promises to stir up a bitter fight. A political conflict inside Japan -- and a quarrel with Great Britain. The court decision -- on the subject of Iranian oil.

A Japanese shipping company brought in twelve thousand tons of gasoline -- brought from those Iranian oilfields, which were nationalized. Seized from the British controlled company, Anglo-Iranian. Britain claims that all such oil belongs to the company, and says that any of it shipped -- is stolen. So the Anglo-Iranian Company went to court in Japan -- claiming ownership of the cargo of oil.

Today the court ruled -- that the nationalization act in Iran is legal, and that the company has lost all rights to Iranian oil. So the British petition is denied. Which leaves Japanese business firms in a position to import quantities of Iranian oil -- and oil is badly needed in Japan.

This puts the Japanese government in a

The British could make reprisals, by restricting Japanese trade.

It all adds up to new trouble for the Tokyo government -- all because of affairs in Iran, which is a long way from Japan.

## INDO-CHINA

In Indo-China, the French high command has evacuated part of their "Maginot Line." That's the name given to a series of powerful fortifications defending the city of Hanoi in the great rice growing Delta of the Red River. Harking back to that original Maginot Line in France, which failed so miserably in the Second World War.

Thirty miles to the south of Hanoi, a string of eight forts has been evacuated, the steel and concrete blown up. But, -- not because of any attack. The French high command explains -- that an outlying sector of the Indo-Chinese Maginot Line has been abandoned, so as to tighten the defense, shorten the line. This -- in the face of Red preparations for a huge offensive. The Communists are massing for a drive to seize the new rice crop of the Delta.



## FRANCE

In Paris, Paul Reynaud made an appeal tonight, asking the National Assembly to vote for him as Premier. The remarkable part of it is -- the way he made his appeal. He called for an overhauling of the French Constitution, with drastic changes.

Reynaud, the seventy-four year old veteran, who was Premier at the time of the fall of France in World War Two -- gave a blazing description of political instability. The rise and fall of Cabinets in dizzy succession. He described France as the "sick man of Europe," recalling the phrase once applied to the old Turkish Empire, in its decline under the Sultans.

Whereupon Reynaud prescribed a remedy for the "sick man". Change the French Parliamentary system -- try to get something of the stability of Parliamentary government in Great Britain.

One feature that he proposed was this: If a Ministry in Paris is overthrown by a majority vote in the National Assembly -- there would have to be a national election within a month. He figures that the

legislators would not be so ready to overthrow a government -- if, by doing so, they'd have to appear before the voters and try to get elected all over again. ~~at great expense~~

As it stands, they can go blithely along, voting Premiers out of office, and keep their jobs just the same. But, if they had to go into a new national election every time, they'd think twice - and a Premier would be able to run the government for a longer period.

( It isn't clear how far Paul Reynaud will get with his drastic program of Constitutional reform. He's working hard to get a majority in the National Assembly, and the decision is about to be made. The news of the vote may come in at any time. )

Here's the latest from Paris - the vote.

Renaud fails to win a majority in the national assembly.

## FOREIGN AID

The Administration has cut the figure for foreign aid, trimming the amount the President originally asked for. Congress was told of this today -- an economy move made by the White House.

The Administration, to begin with, called for five-billion, eight-hundred-and-twenty-eight million -- that much to speed the rearmament of our Allies, the free nations. The cut now made comes to three-hundred-and-fifty-four million, and the White House still hopes for another reduction <sup>— another</sup> of fifty million.

Senator Wylie of Wisconsin, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, says the economies will not reduce the effectiveness of the foreign aid program. (He explains that, in some cases, costs have been lowered. For example, tank production has been increased, cutting the price per tank. <sup>For example</sup> ~~In some cases,~~ M-26 tanks are being sent to our Allies abroad instead of M-27s, which are more expensive. In other instances, it has been found possible to cut the costs of packing, handling and shipping military equipment. All in the interest of -- economy.)

## ESPIONAGE

Congress is angered by the case of the First Secretary of the Red Romanian Embassy, in Washington, who tried to "blackmail" a naturalized American into doing a spy job for the Communists. The State Department has ordered the diplomat, Zambeti -- expelled, after the story told by V. C. Georgescu and his wife. How Zambeti promised them that they would be united with their two young sons in Romania, if Georgescu would enlist in Red espionage.

Today, Congressman Kersten of Wisconsin said - it proves that all Red Embassies here are spy centers, and should be closed. ( There are demands that the whole diplomatic staff of Red Romania be expelled. The State Department indicates no further action, after tossing out the First Secretary -- and it's hard to see what U. S. diplomacy can do for the two sons of the Romanian couple, after their refusal to turn traitor to their adopted country. )

## AGRICULTURE

The Senate has just okayed President Eisenhower's reorganization plan for the Department of Agriculture. The Senate refused to reject it - in spite of Democratic arguments that it would give Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Benson, a "blank check" to change farm ~~policy~~ policies.

That's that, as far as the Senate is concerned, and the reorganization plan goes to the House of Representatives. Where, we hear, there's little chance of defeating it.

AUTO

A late dispatch from Detroit states that the Chrysler Corporation has agreed to a revision of its contract with the union. It's a long-term contract, but the auto workers organization asked that it be reopened - with a view to higher wages. Chrysler agreed, following the example of General Motors and Ford.

BERNHARD

If you are going to Europe this summer, and if you have in mind visiting Holland, by all means keep the land of tulips and ~~with~~ wind mills on your schedule. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands tells me that the spring floods which did so much damage in picturesque Holland <sup>did almost no harm at all</sup> ~~harm almost nothing~~ in the areas where travellers go. Prince Bernhard told me to tell you that you will receive a royal welcome in that fabulous land of dykes and picturesque cities such as Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Harlem and The Hague.



I was talking to a friend today, and we got around familiar to that <sup>^</sup>topic of conversation - next Tuesday's pageant of royalty in London. You'd think there might not be anything new to say about it, but he remarked: "Here's a question, something for a quiz. What was the most famous and important coronation in all history? What crowning of a king or queen had the greatest effect on human events?"

Well, that sounds like a timely topic, and has had me thinking. Something to make us <sup>recall</sup> ~~think back to~~ our high school and college books. Could be something, in fact, that a ~~former~~ sophomore or a junior could answer best. As for me, I'm looking into a few books - to answer that question. Which was the most famous and important of all coronations?

## CORONATION

At Houston, Texas, Mrs. Louis Cochran decided - to attend the Coronation in London. That was tendays ago, and her friends ridiculed the idea. Saying - at that late date, she'd never find a place to stay in London. London too crowded. She should have made a hotel reservation weeks before.

But Mrs. Cochran is not one to be discouraged. She thought she'd inquire, and her idea was - go to headquarters. She sent a cable - to Queen Elizabeth, Buckingham Palace. Her cable read: "Arriving London Sunday May Thirty-First. Urgently need accommodations. Please advise."

You'd suppose <sup>so</sup> she didn't get an answer - but wait! A dispatch from Houston, today, <sup>tells</sup> ~~she~~ how a messenger boy arrived at the Cochran home, with a cablegram. Reading: "Her Majesty sends you greetings. Have arranged accommodations for you at Kensington Palace." ~~But - no, that's not a royal palace.~~ That's a London hotel. The cablegram was signed by Sir Allen Lascelles, Her Majesty's private secretary at Buckingham Palace.