

L.T. - P&G Wednesday, April 18, 1951.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

It seems as if everything connected with the MacArthur epic is marked with a touch of the dramatic. It would have taken a most ingenious craftsman of the stage to provide the coincidence today - as (the dismissed Supreme Commander had his stupendous triumph in San Francisco.) For this was a San Francisco anniversary.

Just forty-five years ago, this day, April Eighteenth, occurred the San Francisco earthquake and fire. Which might seem a dark sort of coincidence, nothing inspiring. But on that day of cataclysm, just forty-five years ago, young Lieutenant Douglas MacArthur was in San Francisco - and helped fight the great fire. Among many thousands of others, the twenty-six year

old Lieutenant battled the blaze. Such were the memories for him today - at age seventy-one. Talk about flaming recollections of youth! - there's one!

(There's no describing the San Francisco ovation today.) We can perhaps express it best by telling - how things went wrong.

The procession was to last an hour -- six automobiles, MacArthur in one, his wife and thirteen year old son in another. But the timing was thrown off by the crush of the crowds, the wild cheering enthusiasm.

Long lines of police were on the job, but they couldn't hold back the people - as thousands pressed forward for a better look at MacArthur-of-Bataan-and-Tokyo. Many broke through, darting to the automobile to shake his hand. In the triumphant confusion, the automobiles were slowed down to a crawl, and the time of the procession was doubled, two hours instead of one.

At City Hall, the General made a short address to a crowd of twenty-five thousand people, who roared with

such enthusiasm that the "Star Spangled Banner," played by the Municipal Band, was virtually drowned out. MacArthur spoke emotional words of home-coming, and concluded with a headline for the news across the nation. He disclaimed all politics! Which is the most important because of an epidemic spread of a "MacArthur-for-President" boom.

The General said with tense emphasis: "I have no political aspirations whatever. I hope my name will never been used in a political way. I do not intend to run for any political office. The only politics I have," he concluded, "is contained in the simple phrase known to us all - 'God Bless America.'"

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So now it's - Washington next. We hear that, at the national capital, MacArthur will not see President Truman, who dismissed him from his high office last week. When he lands tonight at the Washington airport, the reception committee will be headed by Secretary of Defense George Marshall, MacArthur's

wartime superior in Washington. Today, in a wire to the White House, Democratic Senator O'Connor of Maryland urged the President to participate personally in the Washington welcome. But there is no indication that he will do so. The President has stated that he will be glad to see MacArthur, if the General asks for a meeting. But there has been no such request.

However all that may be, Washington is prepared to match San Francisco in greeting the General. A turn-out of a million is expected. Tomorrow night, I hope to give you a first hand report on it. I'll be in Washington, and have been lucky enough to get a ticket of admission for the MacArthur address before the joint session of Congress. A ticket mighty hard to get. But C.B.S. managed it - arranging for me to have a place in the radio news section.

After Washington, New York, for another ovation; then Chicago. Possibly Milwaukee. And a hundred other cities would like the same privilege.

Well, history has never known anything like

this. Famous, in the records of the past, were those Ancient Roman triumphs, which set standards for ovations. Now - it's a series of Roman triumphs for Douglas MacArthur.

ACHESON

The Administration cannonade has begun in advance -- in reply to the MacArthur speech tomorrow. Tonight, in Washington Secretary of State Dean Acheson argued against what is regarded as the MacArthur thesis-- Asia first. He said it would be what he called a "fatal error" to divorce this country's policies in Asia from the state of affairs in Europe -- because Communism was a global problem, a round-the-world threat.

The Secretary of State addressed the Women's National Press Club, and went on to say that the MacArthur proposals for extending the ^(Korean)~~war~~ war would, in the Secretary's words -- "gravely imperil world peace." ~~(This in reply to the MacArthur contention that we should bomb the Red base in Manchuria, and strike at various vital points on the Chinese mainland. That, said the Secretary, might bring on a Third World War.)~~

(All this is in line with what General Bradley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff had to say yesterday. His address drew protests from the

Republicans, who said the Administration protagonists ought to keep quiet until MacArthur has had his own say. Which same criticism will, no doubt, be applied also to the Acheson pronouncement tonight -- opening fire in advance against the contentions that MacArthur is expected to set forth tomorrow.)

(To draw the issues of controversy more clearly than ever, Senator Taft of Ohio spoke out tonight. He declared that we ought to adopt MacArthur's suggestions, and use Chinese Nationalist troops against Red China. Speaking to the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Republican Senate leader said: "It seems obvious that we ought to use the assistance of all our friends, such as the Chinese Nationalists.")

LETTERS

Here's an oddity to add to the epic of MacArthur.

At Port Washington, New York, Charles Hoins has long had a habit of writing to the White House. Whenever he disagrees with the President, he sends him a letter - telling him wherein he was wrong. But, during several years of this, he never got a reply from the White House.

Then
~~So now~~ along came the dismissal of MacArthur, and Charlie Hoins disagreed with that violently. So much so, that he didn't write one letter to the President - he sent fifty-two. He composed a suitable epistle of criticism, saying what he thought about the firing of MacArthur - and, together with his family, made fifty-two copies.. And, mailed them all to the ^{(President.} ~~White House,~~

(Well, this MacArthur business has stirred things up a lot - even at the White House, apparently.) Charlie ~~is~~ never got an answer before - but, today, he revealed that, thus far, he has received fifty replies, to the fifty-two copies ^(of his letter.) Still waiting for the other two. He won't say what

the presidential answer is - but I'll bet he got copies
in response to his copies.

There is one big event that President Truman will attend; - next year. He will go to the Democratic National Convention, for the choosing of a candidate for President. This he stated today to a delegation from Pennsylvania, which is in Washington - trying to get the Democratic National Convention for Philadelphia. (~~They're offering to put up a quarter of a million dollars, and will make the same proposal to the Republicans - two-hundred-and-fifty-thousand-for each convention, trying to bring them both to Philadelphia.~~)

~~The delegation called at the White House, and later revealed what the President had said: "He will be glad to attend the convention in Philadelphia, or wherever it is held."~~
~~says former Senator Francis J. Myers, speaking for the delegation.~~

But does Harry Truman expect to attend at his own nomination? That's the presidential sixty-four dollar question; - and it isn't answered. Today he said ~~he'd be~~ ^{he'd be} there - but he didn't say he'd be nominated.

KOREA

War news from Korea - but not much war. All along the line, the U.N. forces advanced today, but found little opposition - as they pushed farther and farther north of the Thirty-Eighth Parallel, deeper and deeper into North Korea.

P U.S. tanks went rampaging into territory supposedly held by the enemy, and shot up a few parties of Reds - the only resistance they met. The Communists have pulled back all along the battlefield - which was a front without much battle today. →

ADD_KOREA

The latest -- Allied forces have captured the Hwachon Reservoir, a dominating strongpoint that had been held by powerful forces of Reds. The town of Hwachon was also seized -- abandoned by the enemy.

KOREA - PEACE

(The State Department discounts the new message from the North Korean Reds to the United Nations - making a suggestion for peace.) Actually, it doesn't look like a peace move at all - says Press Officer Michael McDermott of our State Department. He calls it - "a gory document, full of the usual wild accusations, baseless ^vfillifications, and perversions^s of fact." In other words - Red propoganda with some sort of peace angle tied at the end. →

~~(The proposal is that we accept recommendations made by a Red gathering in Berlin last November. So, the State Department response is this: "It certainly does not look, to us, even remotely like a peace feeler," ^{So}says a spokesman.)~~

FOLLOW KOREA PEACE

Word from the United Nations is that the U.N. will take no action on the message sent by the Korean Reds.

VANDENBERG

In the middle of all the controversy on international politics, comes the death of one of the principal figures, who occupied a dominant position some little while ago. Senator Vandenberg of Michigan who, after the Second World War, became the top-ranking Republican leader in a non-partisan Foreign Policy -- throwing all his great prestige into the cause of the United Nations and the collaboration of democratic peoples against Red aggression. Of late, he dropped out of public affairs, because of a lingering deadly illness -- to which he succumbed tonight. He died in his home in Grand Rapids at the age of sixty-seven.

ADD VANDENBERG

The latest from Washington indicates that the death of Senator Vandenberg will not interfere with General MacArthur's address before Congress tomorrow.

SUBMARINE

The news about the lost British submarine is given by the Royal Navy in grim words - that hope "has much diminished." Tapped-up messages were reported - from the sunken submarine, Affray. These ^{narrowed} ~~messages~~ the search, but the undersea craft has not been located - where it lies on the bottom, somewhere to the southwest of the Isle of Wight.



ADD SUBMARINE

The Admiralty stated tonight that the submarine has enough air and emergency oxygen to keep the crew alive until tomorrow evening -- that is, assuming that the interior of the undersea craft is not damaged. That space of time is being used to press a search by hundreds of ships.

STONE OF SCONE

In London, a proposal concerning the Stone of Scone has been received from the Church of Scotland. ^A~~The~~ Church Committee suggests that ~~the~~ the historic slab of rock be placed in the custody of Scotland's official ecclesiastical body - with the understanding that it would be brought to London whenever needed for a British coronation. (~~The Scottish Church describes the famous theft from Westminster Abbey as - "a sign, even if lawless, of the strong and widespread desire of the people of Scotland for a greater measure of control in their own affairs."~~)

ACCORDIAN PLAYER

At Hollywood, the ^{bobby sox}~~beat boxer~~ idol of accordian players has given himself up to the F.B.I. - and was arraigned on a charge of draft evasion. Last Friday, Dick Contino disappeared from an army post, Fort Ord, as he was about to be inducted into service. He surrendered today - in the company of his mother, his lawyer, his doctor, and a priest. They say he has been - sick. His mother declares that he has been at a rest home - she with him all the time. There are reports that letters were presented from a psychiatrist, and Contino's lawyer told newsmen that the young accordian player left Fort Ord because he couldn't stand to be in an "enclosure." He quotes Contino as saying: "Everything was behind a fence up there, and it just made me feel sick all over."

Some kind of mental quirk^{is}~~x~~ alleged in the case of the former butcher boy, who has been pumping out musical notes to the tune of four thousand dollars a week.

ALCOHOL

A trial at Cleveland brings a strange twister of the human psyche - one of those incomprehensible puzzles that you find so often in that paradox called the human race. Federal Judge Charles McNamee imposed a prison sentence of eighteen months on Edward Andy, forty-eight years old. The charge - selling alcohol to Skid Row drifters. A mean sort of offense, peddling hooch, worse and cheaper than the noxious liquor along Skid Row.

Yet the testimony brought out that the defendant is a temperance lecturer - a member of Alcoholics Anonymous for nine years, who has made three hundred and fifty speeches, in fourteen states, fighting against the curse of drink. He was good at it, too, the testimony showing that he helped to reclaim seven hundred alcoholics, winning them over to sobriety. That achievement, according to the news dispatch, would seem to be genuine - yet he is convicted of selling illegal alcohol to derelicts along Skid Row.

WIFE

Here's news from the world of matrimony - which realm of wedded bliss is an unflinching source of strange oddities and curious twisters. At Riverside, California, today, the judge granted an annulment to Helen Arlington, author of a book called "Paw Prints on My Heart." Which sounds as remarkable as those "footprints in the sands of time." The "paw prints" being - those of a dog. In other words, the lady writes sentimental stories about canines.

She calls herself "the Dear Dog Lady", and called her husband - "Mr. Dear Dog Lady." Not so dignified, maybe, for the master of the house - but that wasn't the reason for the break-up of the marriage. It was no case of - "love me, love my dog."

The news dispatch states: "She charged that her husband did not sincerely embrace her Buddhist faith." And, says she: "I just couldn't live with a Christian."

So there was Buddhism combined with the - "Paw Prints on My Heart." And so ended the marriage of the Dear Dog Lady and Mr. Dear Dog Lady.

DOLLS

At Munich, over in Germany today, a couple of police officers were astonished - Mama, Mama! ~~They were~~ Customs men inspecting the cargo on a barge in the River Danube, and what they heard was - Mama, Mama! They were moving around cases of merchandise, and happened to turn over a huge carton, and that was when there was a whole chorus of that baby's cry, like a legion of infants calling for their mothers.

Inside the carton they found - dolls, "mama dolls", which ^{are} ~~had been~~ manufactured expertly by German toy-makers.

These were being smuggled, to evade payment of duty. Hence the surprise on that barge in the Danube ^{at that cry of} - Mama, Mama! Nelson!

ATLANTIC PACT

Extra

The Italian Government has proposed that the nations of the West, bound by the North Atlantic Treaty, should offer a non-aggression pact to Soviet Russia and her Red satellites. This was advanced by Italian Foreign Minister Count Sforza - in a note to the United States Government earlier this month. The proposal has just been made public, with the Foreign Minister at Rome stating that an offer of a non-aggression pact would give Moscow a demonstration that the North Atlantic Treaty and the building of West European defense forces, is not meant as a threat of aggression. The State Department stated today that this Italian suggestion is - "under study."