

Night Show
March 8th 1948

MACARTHUR. Good Evening, Everybody!
Have you heard the Mac Arthur news?

How in ~~XXXX~~ Tokyo today ^{the} General Douglas MacArthur ~~ended months of~~ ^{broke his long} political silence ^{with} ~~MacArthur asking~~ ^{That he} a sudden and dramatic announcement. ~~He~~ ^{He} will run for

President of the United States if "called by the American people". Those are his words - MacArthur

to run if called. ^{One of the most colorful and successful generals in all history throws his hat in the ring! How is that} ~~On~~ ^{On} learning that petitions had been filed

at Madison, Wisconsin to present his name in the April sixth primary MacArthur ~~thus~~ delivered

^{Wisconsin} ~~as follows:~~ ^{as follows:} -
himself "I am deeply grateful for this spontaneous ~~xxxxxxx~~ display of confidence... While it seems unnecessary for me to repeat I do not actively seek or covet any office.... I say, and say with due humility that I would be recreant to all my concepts of good citizenships were I to shrink, because of hazards and responsibilities involved, from accepting any public duty to which I might be called by the American people." ^R Which means the fabulous

for sensational news? And just imagine what the other candidates are saying about now!

MacArthur hat - scrambled eggs and all, ~~which is~~ the

G.I term for the General's gold lace on the vizor of his

special service cap ~~is~~ ^{is} in the ring for ~~Presidential~~ ^{the highest post} honors. ~~in the world~~ ^{President of the United States} ~~has~~ ^{has} ~~no word yet~~ however as to which corner ~~no statement~~.

from the General on his party affiliations; but it is generally conceded that MacArthur is a Republican.

The news ~~is~~ ^{tonight was} ~~naturally~~ greeted with whoops of joy

~~from~~ those who ~~have~~ ^{long} been ~~waiting~~ ^{waiting} for ~~the~~ General to run for Presidential ~~honors~~ ^{For instance}.

^{Congressman} ~~now~~ A.L. Miller, Republican, Nebraska, ^{tonight} hailed MacArthur's

statement as "the green light" - a signal for his friends

to really get to work. ^{Congressman} Miller, ~~is~~ one of the original

MacArthur boosters, ~~he~~ says he is getting in touch with

the General in Tokyo immediately regarding his immediate plans.

~~Meanwhile~~ ^{And word from the South that} the rebellious Southern Democrats are

gleeful at the news, with "Democrats for MacArthur"

Clubs already opening their doors, in Washington, and

elsewhere. Sen. Hohn H. Overton, Democrat of Louisiana, ^{tonight was} hailing MacArthur as "A great general, and a ~~xxxx~~ very great administrator." ^R Sen. John L. McClelland, Dem. of Arkansas, ^{qualifies his} ~~says he has~~ great admiration for the general. ^{by saying: -} "It's one thing to be a great general ~~xxxx~~ ^{Then he adds: -} ~~And something else to be president.~~ ~~xxxx~~ have to know more about what he thinks."

At the Washington headquarters of the MacArthur for President movement, situated next door to the Republican National Committee, Warren E. Wright, former Illinois State Treasurer, says he will run a nationwide poll three weeks before the G.O. P. National Convention - that opens in Philadelphia, June ~~Twenty~~ ^{Twenty-One} - this nationwide poll to demonstrate the General's political strength. ^{National Committeeman} Wright wants to test his theory that much of MacArthur's following will come from the war vets.

Actually, the pictureque general's first political test will be in the Wisconsin Republican Primary, April ~~Six~~ Six. He is entered in that three way contest -

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the other names being ~~those~~ of Governor Dewey of New York,
^{And HAROLD}
~~State, and Harold~~ Stassen. Then on April Thirteen there
is Nebraska's seven-way free for all, with Taft, Warren,
Senator Vandenburg and House Speaker ~~Joseph W.~~ Martin Jr.,
also on the list.

Word from Japan is that MacArthur's nomination as
Presidential Candidate will ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ tend to strengthen
Uncle Sam's anti-communist position in the Far East.
Men close to MacArthur point to his urging military
aid for China in opposition to President Truman's
views, as an indication that the General will
accept the Republican Party nomination on a platform
centered about a world program to stop aggressive
Russian) ~~Russian~~ expansion.

No comment as yet from any of the other potential
candidates, nor from the headquarters of the political
parties. ~~But~~, this is a day to remember - President Truman
and ~~Douglas~~ MacArthur both making formal announcements

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they are willing to run for President this year. Which
means they may
~~run. ~~in~~ They might~~ even oppose each other in
November.-- maybe.

TRUMAN

*(Some have thought that perhaps
Tonight we have a definite answer to the many*

~~speculations that President Truman might take himself out of the~~

~~race for election as President of the United States. ~~Manufacturing~~~~
But not at all.)

He definitely will be a candidate. He ~~did not~~ ^{didn't} say so himself,

but Senator McGrath, Chairman of the National Democratic

Committee, made the announcement for him after a ^{long} conference

with Mr. Truman at the White House, ~~which lasted for an hour and~~

~~a-half.~~ ^{Sen.} The President authorized McGrath to say that if the

Democratic National Convention nominates him, he will accept

and he will run.

Moreover, he has not changed his position in the

slightest degree on that civil rights program, which has so

infuriated the South.

FOREIGN AID

There was a sensation in the Senate today; during the debate on the Marshall Plan. It was provided by Senator Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee, former President of the Upper Chamber of Congress, who at first was violently opposed to the European Recovery program. The Communist putch in Czechoslovakia and Stalin's gesture to take over Finland, ~~made~~ caused Senator McKellar to change his mind.

The Senator from Tennessee says he is now convinced that Soviet Russia is preparing for war on the United States. He sees no other reason for the Soviets to take over one European nation after another, except to build up their strength against us.

Therefore, Senator McKellar announced that not only will he vote for the Marshall Plan now, but also he proposes that it be backed up by all our military strength. Put our country in fighting shape, says McKellar, with one distinct purpose, that if Russia takes over or attempts to take over one more nation, that the U.S.A. take the lead in defending that nation and all ^(free nations) the other

He went on to say that our government should notify Soviet Russia that if she tries to take over any more European territory, we shall be at the service of these nations and will help them maintain their individuality and their independence. Ringing words, those, and they met with no audible dissent on the floor of the Senate.

made his statement
Sen. McKellar ~~used them~~ in the course of a debate on a ~~fresh~~ amendment to the E.R.P. bill, an amendment offered by Republican Senator Knowland of California, *an* ~~that~~ amendment *to* ~~will~~ *put* place an embargo on all exports from this country to Russia and the Soviet satellite nations *-- that is all* of products needed to fill the requirements of the European recovery program. Senator Vandenberg, President of the Senate, expressed his approval of the amendment, and it was adopted with little ado.

Simultaneously, the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House heard more witnesses back up *recent* the ~~statements~~ of ~~Lieutenant~~ General ~~Albert~~ Wedemeyer and ~~previously~~ General Douglas MacArthur, *who expressed the* ~~their~~ belief that helping the Chiang Kai-shek government of China economically *will* ~~would~~ be useless unless it

is backed by military forces. ~~Clarence E. Gause, former~~
United States Ambassador to China, today announced that
he agrees a hundred percent with Wedemeyer and MacArthur.
And Lowell Rooks, Director General of U N R R A, added
that without military backing, mere economic help to
China would be ~~fruitless~~ futile.

Tomorrow or the next day, another distinguished
witness will be the legendary General Claire Chennault,
who arrived at Washington today on invitation from the
House Committee. I talked to the General shortly after
his arrival and asked him among other things, how about
his beautiful Chinese bride? The man who once led the
Flying Tigers replied that they were both very tired ~~in~~
after their long flight from Shanghai, where the General
is now director of an airline.

~~He indicated strongly that he concurred with
General MacArthur and Wedemeyer about military aid to
China. But he said ^{he} preferred not to speak at length
about this because he is in the throes of preparing ~~at~~
a statement for the House Committee, which has first
call on his opinions.~~

~~I was particularly anxious to know about one phase of that proposal.~~ ^{Some} ~~Several people~~ have been wondering whether our furnishing military help to the Chaing Kai-shek government would not create a situation such as ~~that which~~ prevailed during the civil war in Spain, ~~would it not mean~~ ^{-- that is} an out-and-out conflict between American and Russian forces on Chinese territory?

General Chennault's answer to that question was emphatically, No. The proposal to ~~I~~ furnish military help to Chiang Kai-shek ^{he said should} ~~would~~ not entail the sending of American combat troops. ^{That} The Chinese will do the fighting. All we have to do is to make it possible for the nationalist forces to fight the Communists. To the people of China in general, Communism is repugnant, ^{he added,} ~~said the General.~~ They have no use for Communism because Communism breaks up the family, and the family is the base of all traditional Chinese life. ^{And} That is ² ~~one~~ point.

I then asked him whether this would not leave it open to the Russians to send troops to help the Communists. Again General Chennault said No. In the first place, Soviet Russia

is not prepared, is not able ~~to~~ at present, to conduct a shooting war. In the second place, Moscow would first want to get all of Asia under its control, that is all of Asia north of the Himalayas, before ^{trying} ~~they tried~~ such a risky measure as actual military operations by Russian forces on Asiatic territory.

Senator Taft, in a press conference at Columbus, Ohio, declared ^{today} that the foreign aid bill which the Senate ^{has had} ~~was~~ debating today in his absence, is nothing like the original measure, the measure ~~as~~ submitted by the State Department. The Senate ^{has} ~~has~~ already thrown the State Department plan out of the window, ^{he} ~~said the Senator,~~ ^{and had} ~~and~~ substituted one of its own. For one thing, the measure as amended provides for help for a period of only two years instead of four, and changed Marshall's proposal to spend seventeen billions to a program providing for five and a third billions. Furthermore, it would not be administered by the State Department as ^{Gen.} ~~Marshall~~ wanted. ~~The money could be wasted if it were improperly administered.~~

FRANCE

Premier Schuman of France won another fight in the National Assembly -- won it handily. The argument was over the government measure designed to extract loans from business men -- and, from farmers, too. That is, it compels the people -- manufacturers, merchants, and farmers, to invest a portion of their excess profits in ^{- bonds to run 10 years.} the government bonds. And [^] that amount they are called upon to invest ranges from twenty to seventy percent. ^{of their profits!}

Premier Schuman ~~has~~ figured ⁵/_^ this ~~out~~ as one way to curb inflation. He argues that it's not a heavy tax measure, since all affected by it will get their money back -- if the Communists are kept out of power.

~~These government bonds, by the way, are to run for ten years.~~

The Schuman Cabinet won by a margin of sixty votes, much larger than the margins when they were voting on amendments. In fact, one amendment was defeated by only three votes.

~~The French Reds tried to stave off the passing of the bill by calling a demonstration of three hundred~~

FINLAND

Official word from Finland tonight -- all as predicted. The Finns yielding to Moscow with as much grace and dignity as possible. President Paasikivi and his Cabinet have taken more than a week to draw up a formal reply. Today the following communique was released in Helsinki: "The President of the Republic, today, in State Council, decided to reply in the affirmative to the Soviet government's proposal of entering into ~~neg~~ negotiations toward the conclusion of a friendship and assistance agreement and to propose ~~that~~ that said negotiations take place in Moscow."

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These Moscow negotiations will be conducted, on the Finnish side, by a delegation of six or seven members, including one General. President Paasikivi, we hear, prefers to have the conference in Moscow, because if it were held in Helsinki, he fears the Finnish Communists would stage demonstrations that would embarrass the Finnish delegates.

The Finns, we are again reminded today, hope to

get a treaty like the one between Russia and France, a
treaty of friendship -- not a military alliance.

PALESTINE

The story came from Jerusalem just a few minutes ago, partially confirming the report that the three Jewish military organizations have decided to cooperate. Haganah, hitherto the moderate element, has signed an agreement that within two days it will combine its resources and coordinate its activities with those of Irgun Zvai Leumi. Tonight's story does not mention the Stern Gang ~~in~~ which, according to previous dispatches, was also in the deal. ~~The~~ Irgun does ^{not} waive its extreme political views, ~~that~~ ~~for~~ all Palestine should be an independent Jewish state, no partition. It just becomes a military unit acting in cooperation and under the leadership of Haganah.

One part of the story reports that this agreement was reached as a result of the agitation of a group of mothers of the Haganah men. They believe that a disciplined, unified command would avoid a great deal of useless bloodshed.

David Ben Gurion, future Prime Minister of the Jewish state, paid an official visit today to the British High

Commissioner, General Sir Alan Cunningham; Cunningham's request. It is reported the conversation was a friendly one and may mean a change for the better in relations between the British and the Jews.

VIENNA

First Class Private Grunden of Portland, Oregon, with two other G.I.'s and three Austrian girls, was walking along the paved parkway in the middle of Vienna's famous Ring Strasse. But, they were in the international section, and as they passed the Grand Hotel occupied by Russian officers, where there have been many incidents, a Soviet soldier rushed up and shouted something at them.

The G.I.'s didn't know what all the shouting was about. But one of the Austrian girls ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ volunteered the word that the Russian was telling the Americans to get off the pavement, into the gutter, where they belonged.

The Russian pushed the Oregonian, who pushed back. The Russian called for help, and the sentry outside the hotel rushed up, knocked the G.I. from Portland, Oregon, down with the butt of his gun, and then shot him in the back as he lay there. Then he kept on firing -- shooting at the two other soldiers and two of the girls, who ~~XXXX~~ escaped.

The girl with the lad from the Northwest ran for help and brought an international patrol to the scene. At that moment, Ernest Reed, a reporter on Stars and Stripes, also came running up.

A moment later the international patrol came along; and a few moments after that a detachment of forty Russians came up and surrounded the international patrol, which they outnumbered. The Russians seized the girl, carried her away, and are reported to be holding her incommunicado.

The bullet which the Soviet sentry fired into Jack Grunden of Portland, Oregon, as he lay stunned on the ground, passed through his back and into his arm, severing several nerves.

Colonel Bernard Hurless, our Provost Marshal at Vienna, says the incident obviously was one of deliberate provocation by the Russians.

SHOOTINGS

Uncle Sam's State Department ^{is} much concerned over the killing of two American women in French Indo-China. Both worked at the American Consulate in Saigon, the capital.

Just before sunset yesterday, a detachment of French troops on its way to the airport, along a lonely road three miles from Saigon, came upon the bodies of the ^{two} American women -- riddled by bullets.

It all seems mysterious. What were they doing at that isolated place? The spot, says the ~~dispatch~~ dispatch, is outside the Security Zone established around Saigon -- a zone to help make life safe from the guerrillas of Viet -Nam, the Indo-Chinese rebels, who have been fighting the French, sporadically, ever since the end of the World War.

The **dispatch** also says it is not known whether the American women were killed by highwaymen or by guerrillas. The jeep, in which they may have intended driving toward the airport, was burned by the murderers before they fled. Although presumably they were

driving to the airport, they were off the route to that place.

The State Department has asked the French to make an immediate investigation.

SUPREME COURT

(It is not lawful to teach religion in the public schools of the United States, even though the parents of the pupils consent. ^{This from no} ~~Who says that?~~ ^{No} less an authority than the Supreme Court of the United States.) ^{So} ~~It is unlawful~~, say eight of the nine Justices, ^{who tell us it is unlawful} because it is contrary to the First amendment to the Constitution. ^{the} ~~That~~ ^{that} amendment reads: ~~in part:~~

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

That amendment, says Justice Hugo Black who wrote the decision, "has erected a wall between church and state, which must be kept high and impregnable."

Among the eight Justices concurring in this decision is Mr. Justice Murphy, a Roman Catholic. The sole dissenter, ^{is} Mr. Justice Stanley F. Reed. ^{He} The case came up because a citizen of Champaign, Illinois, objected to the religious instruction imparted in the public schools of that town.

VALERA

Eamon de Valera, who has just stepped down as the first President of Eire, alighted from a plane at LaGuardia Airport this morning; and after an active forenoon, ^{he} had lunch with Mayor O'Dwyer at ~~Gracie Mansion~~ - another Irishman.

Although he has nothing against the vorough of Churches, where so many of Irish extraction reside, for the sake of accuracy, Dev, as the Irish call him, asks us to say that he was not born in ~~Brooklyn~~ Brooklyn. He was born in Manhattan.

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And now Nelson - who was born! That much I know.