

C.J.-P. & A. Tues. Sept. 12 - 1950

It will take a special act of Congress to permit General Marshall to become Secretary of Defense. According to the unification law, no military man, who has been in service within ten years, is permitted to occupy the post. The purpose of this provision was to assure ~~xxxxxx~~ civilian leadership. So now President Truman ~~is~~ will ask Congress to cancel that part of the law - and allow General Marshall to assume the top direction of American armed forces.

This congressional angle is the latest tonight following the resignation of Louis Johnson as the Secretary of Defense. He retires with a general defense of the policies that have had him under fire since the beginning of the Korean war. He insists that the money-saving economies he put into effect were merely to eliminate waste and duplication in the armed forces, did not weaken them materially - as his opponents have charged. He notes that, when he took the post, President Truman told him he would make more enemies than friends, and he admits that he sure did.

The Johnson letter of resignation included a strong recommendation to the President, urging that General Marshall be named as his successor - and on this the President acted promptly. He communicated with Marshall, and the General said - yes. It has always been his attitude that, as a soldier, he felt obliged to serve in any capacity to which he was summoned.

General Marshall, ^{is} of course, laden with honors won as Chief of Staff during the Second World War -- when he had the supreme command of the military forces ^{for} ~~the~~ the conflicts in Europe and the Pacific. Later, he served as Secretary of State. He is nearly seventy, and recently was in ill health, having undergone a serious operation, the removal of a kidney. But the General has recovered so well he was able to take the ^(position) ~~position~~ of head of the Red Cross, and newspaper men ^{who} accompanied him on recent journeys tell of his vigor and energy.

The word from Congress tonight indicates that legislation will be passed promptly to permit General Marshall to become Secretary of Defense -- although there are some who display a certain reluctance, holding to the principle of civilian control. One suggestion is that the provision in the law might be suspended for a year.

There has, of course, been Republican criticism of the China policy on which General Marshall acted when he was Secretary of State -- a policy that is blamed for the Red sweep in China. But the high personal respect in which Marshall is held would make it seem certain that he now becomes our next Secretary of Defense.

LEAD

One of the strangest of charges was made today before the Security Council of the U. N. - a Red Korean accusation hurled at the United States. The general theme of the complaint was to be expected - the bombing of North Korea. The Reds have been saying for some time that American B-29's have been bombing civilians, and they've been calling it - "atrocious bombing". But the charges received by the U. N. today declare that the bombers have been destroying Communist Korean industry, factories, war plants. Well, what else would you expect bombers to do?

This remarkable indictment is made in the following words: "Already," says the Communist Korean message, "all heavy industrial undertakings, and most of the medium and light industrial undertakings of Korea, have been completely destroyed, as a result of the barbarous bombing by the American Air Force." Barbarously bombing war plants, - strange!

To most Americans this will sound less like a protest than like good news - and the wonder is, why

LEAD.....2

the Reds give out this information. We've been hearing claims made by the American Air Force over there, but even the most optimistic statements have not given half the picture that the Reds themselves present today. One supposition is that they are willing to disclose this enormous damage to their factories and plants - for the effect it will have on the peoples of Asia. They, perhaps, may not think of enemy industry as a proper military target.

The Communist complaint also charges attacks against non-military targets, indiscriminate bombing. But the striking part is the admission, or rather the claim, that the bombing has destroyed -- all the heavy industry and most of the medium and light industry.

There doesn't seem to be much dispute about it, because a late dispatch from Tokyo tells of the blasting of a North Korean munitions factory and arsenal near the enemy capital. A statement from American Air Force headquarters reads: "As bombs began to hit the square shaped factory buildings, gigantic explosions

LEAD.....3

rocked the American planes, more than ten thousand feet
in the air, and smoke rose to twelve thousand feet."

KOREA FOLLOW LEAD

From the battlefronts of Korea, the news is good all along the perimeter. The fifty mile northern front reports enemy withdrawals everywhere -- the U. N. troops advancing.

At the extreme east, the corner at Pohang, Americans and Free Koreans are driving to close a trap around two thousand hostile troops. In front of Taegu, the heavy Communist cannonade still continues, but the American First Cavalry drove through and captured an important hill.

The same sort of thing is duplicated in a dozen dispatches from the warfront, and today our commander in Korea, Lieutenant General Walker, stated: "The worst is over. The enemy still have the initiative and is capable of hitting us anywhere on our hundred and twenty mile perimeter. But I am sure we can stop him." Confidence that we can stop the enemy! - That is taken to mean the worst is over!

FOLLOW KOREA

The latest from Korea tells of the capture of twelve prisoners -- which doesn't sound like much. A prisoner of war, captured earlier, stated that the Red command had ordered the nine battalions of the First North Korean Division to provide twelve men each, as infiltration parties to reach Taegu airport, sneak in, seize the flying field by surprise and hold it. So, sure enough a party of twelve Red infiltrators was spotted and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ rounded up. It is suspected that they may have been ~~one~~ one of the detachments ordered to get to the airport.

ISRAEL

Cairo has a report of a treaty between the State of Israel and Hashemite - Jordan. According to this, both countries have agreed to recognize the boundaries of each other, and to unite for common defense, if either is attacked.

There have been indications for some time that Israel and Hashemite-Jordan were in Agreement - with Mohammedan King Abdullah taking over the Arab parts of Palestine. So now Egypt reports - a treaty.

COMMUNISTS

The senators passed the Communist control bill, in open defiance of President Truman. The vote was overwhelming - more than the two-thirds necessary to
The vote -- 70 to 7.
override a Presidential veto. The House of Representatives, which has passed a Communist control bill of its own, is expected to go along with the version passed this afternoon by the Senate.

The terms of the bill are drastic. All Communist Party members would be required to register with the Department of Justice. All Red propaganda material would have to be labeled as such. Communists forbidden to obtain Federal jobs and passports. Second string foreign diplomats - liable to be deported for subversive activities. Also -- war-time concentration camps for Communists.

~~(There was a last minute amendment today, sponsored by Democratic Senator Ellender of Louisiana, which would provide penalties of imprisonment and fines for picketing a Federal court or the home of a Federal judge - obviously aimed at the Red habits of picketing. This amendment was adopted unanimously.)~~

RUSSIAN SUBMARINE

At Portland, Maine, two fishing captains report what they believe to have been a Soviet submarine.

And, if it wasn't that, what was it?

Captain Arthur Jordan tells how, off the Coast of Maine, he lowered his nets and was pulling them along, with heavy steel cables, when - suddenly, the nets were hauled in the opposite direction, and the boat was dragged stern first, until the steel cables broke.

Captain Jordan was just getting over that, when he picked up a distress call from a fishing boat commanded by his brother Thomas - who was having the same experience. The second boat was in trouble - the stern being pulled under water, when the cables gave way, and snapped.

Well, they sure caught a ~~big~~ big fish in those nets, dragging one boat along stern first, and almost ~~xxx~~ pulling the other under water for a dive. Must have been the mightiest of whales, Moby Dick himself. But the two captains report not by the

RUSSIAN SUBMARINE.....2

blubber of a whale. They declare it must have been a submarine.- But there was no American undersea craft in that area, or Canadian either. So, the logic boils down to - Soviet submarine.

INTERPLANETARY

Here's good news for those of you who have been thinking about making a trip to the moon - whenever they get those rocket space ships going for interplanetary travel. You may have been bothered by the question - how would you refuel your space ship out there in sideral space? Where would you find a gas station, where you could stop and say, "Fill 'er up with high-test." But that bothersome question may now be answered.

From San Antonio, Texas, we have a report of a conference held at a school run by the U. S. Air Force, where they deal with problems of the outer atmosphere and space beyond. There they heard the latest from Dr. J. Kaplan, professor of physics at the University of California, in Los Angeles. Dr. Kaplan is a number one authority of a newly discovered phenomenon out in space - a belt of tremendous chemical activity, about seventy miles above the surface of the earth. In that area, they've discovered a new type of substance, hydroxyl molecules - filled with energy, more power than

INTERPLANETARY.....2

the highest grade of gasoline. Dr. Kaplan calls it the - "chemosphere".

He says those hydroxyl molecules could be used as fuel for engines - the power plants of space ships. ~~These could take in supplies of~~ inter-planetary chemicals to drive rocket engines.

So there you have the possibility that, on a trip to the moon, you might be able to refuel at a sort of gas station out in space. Pilots on their way to the moon might slow down and say - "Fill 'er up with chemosphere."

SHAW

George Bernard Shaw may be ninety-four years old, but he sure talks young - like a boy. The doctors at the hospital say that they found the famous Irish playwright and philosopher in fine shape tonight - after being operated on for a bad fracture of the thigh. In his hospital bed, the veteran has been talking mighty young - complaining to his nurse, Elizabeth Gallagher, who declares: "Mr. Shaw says we give him too many baths." Which sounds more like a small boy than a patriarch of ninety-four.

SUBSTITUTE TREE

New Jersey tonight has the solution of a perplexity which had the police dizzy for a while. Earlier in the day, a dispatch from Morristown read: "Police searched nearby woods today for a prisoner tied to a tree. The prisoner," the story went on, "was handcuffed to a tree, and escaped yesterday, when he took the tree with him. Today he was wandering through the New Jersey woods, perhaps using the tree as a disguise." That sounded wonderful, indeed.

The dispatch stated that Walbridge Vanderhoof, arrested for burglary, told the cops he had hidden the loot in the woods, and offered to show them where. They took him into the woods, and went searching, according to directions he gave. Doing this, they handcuffed Walbridge Vanderhoof to a tree - and, while they were out searching for the loot, the prisoner uprooted the tree, and walked off. The indications were that Walbridge Vanderhoof, still shackled to the tree, was walking around with roots, trunk, branches, leaves and all. Maybe using it for a

disguise - making like a tree.

However, later investigation shows that it's not quite that miraculous - although still remarkable. The prisoner did not uproot the tree and walk off with it. At Morristown Sheriff Arnold Ladd explains: "He shinnied up the tree, and slid his arms over the top of it." In that way, he got free, though still

handcuffed. ~~Quite an exploit~~ Climbing up a tree and

then ^{it,} _{over} _^ to get away! *That's quite an exploit,*

Nelson.