

17-11. Wed. Dec. 16-'53

The news wires, for the past several hours have been full of the name of - Beria. The Soviet newspapers have come out with a full list of charges against the one time Minister of the Interior, Head of the Secret Police - who was a member of the ruling triumvirate in the Kremlin following the death of Stalin. The Soviet radio - broadcasting a long list of charges to the world. And amazing charges they are.

The Malenkov regime declares that Beria was a spy and a traitor - all during the Soviet Regime, in which he rose to the very top. The indictment claims that, as far back as nineteen-nineteen, before the Bolsheviki Revolution - Beria was a secret agent for an Anti-Bolshevik Party in his native state of Georgia - in the Caucasuses. That - while the Bolsheviks were fighting for power, he was a spy for the Menshivics, the Russian Moderate Socialists. Nevertheless, he rose high in the Soviet state, until Stalin made him the Chief of the dread secret police. Beria, all the while

- a traitor. The indictment goes on to say that his treason reached a climax after the death of Stalin - // when he became the Number Two man in the Kremlin. Member of the triumverate - Malenkov - Beria and Moletov.

Then, Says the accusation, he <sup>(tried)</sup> ~~tried~~ to seize power by putting his own secret police at the top of the Soviet regime. They say he tried to sabotage Soviet agriculture. <sup>and</sup> disrupt the government, trying to grasp the dictatorship that Stalin had wielded.

So now Beria will go to trial together with half a dozen of what are called "his gang." These include important members of the Soviet heirarchy such as, for example, the former Minister of State Security. The rest - one time big shots involved in the overthrow of Beria.

The Kremlin statement declares that Beria and his accomplices have confessed - have confessed everything. Same old story - those confessions made

famous in Stalin's purge trials of his enemies. They will be brought to trial before the Soviet Supreme Court - the date - not mentioned. But apparently, soon. Promising a sensational trial. With Beria and his henchmen sent on to their doom just as Stalin used to do with his enemies.

EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower backs up Secretary of State Dulles -- that Dulles statement made in Paris the other day. The Secretary - declaring that, if that West European army is not ratified soon, the United States may reconsider its entire foreign policy.

Might stop economic aid and pull U.S. troops out of Europe. The warning applied, principally, to France, which has yet to ratify the Nato army. The French are said to be irritated by the blunt statement.

At his news conference, today, President Eisenhower pointed out that - it's actually a matter of U.S. law. According to statutes enacted by Congress, fifty per cent of American foreign aid must be given out through the European defense community. So, if this community is not established - what can the United States do? That, thinks the President, is the logic of the situation.

Today's new conference was on C.B.S. tonight - a recording of the President and the reporters.

## KOREA - PRISONERS

In Korea, U.S. officers are trying to identify - American prisoners-of-war who would be willing to accept repatriation, ~~But~~ - are intimidated by pro-Communists among the twenty-two.

A South Korean prisoner who escaped from the compound where the captives are being held, says that several Americans want to go home - but they don't dare.

"They're afraid," says the South Korean, "that they will be killed if they try. The other Americans have daggers - and if anyone wants to come back, they will kill him," says the South Korean.

As things now stand, the only solution would be - to interview the twenty-two. But the pro-Communists among the Americans are blocking that.

F.B.I.

A Senate Committee states that the F.B.I. gave officials of the Truman administration dozens of reports - linking ten federal officials with alleged Communist espionage. The F.B.I., time and again - giving derogatory information on these individuals. All ten - named in the recent hullabaloo over Harry Dexter White.

None of the ten still works for the government. But one, William Henry Taylor, still is employed by the International Monetary Fund. Our government has twice asked the Fund to discharge him.

Today's information, given out by the Senate Internal Security Committee, adds to the masses of data pertaining to the charge - that officials were retained in the government, or even promoted, after the F.B.I. had reported charges of Communism against them.

ESPIONAGE

At a McCarthy hearing in Washington, today, a witness refused to answer questions pertaining to espionage.

Refused - on advice from Professor Einstein. However, the matter was a bit complicated.

Albert Shadowitz, who handled secret government work for ten years - refused to reply, when asked about espionage. This - on advice of Einstein. But he also told Senator McCarthy that he had never violated security regulations, and had no personal knowledge of espionage of any sort. That also- on the advice of Einstein.

Sounds like a contradiction, but the professor, himself, may have been a bit confused.

At Princeton, the creator of the theory of relativity was queried about the witness in Washington.

Through a spokesman he replied as follows:

"Professor Einstein did see Mr. Shadowitz last week. He did advise him, personally, not to cooperate with this or any other investigating committee. He did advise him

to invoke the Fifth Amendment, and refuse to answer questions on politics, reading, thinking and personal associations."

Then the statement continues as follows:

"But Professor Einstein also advised him to give a declaration, on his own, and from his own free will - as to whether he has, or has not, done something detrimental to the country or incompatible with his status as an employee."

That might seem to contradict the first part of the advice, which said - don't cooperate. Well, it's all so much quantum mathematics to me.

In any case, the witness did what the Professor said. He refused to answer McCarthy's questions about espionage. Then - went on to deny any knowledge of espionage.

D.A.V.

Today, New York State investigators learned how President Eisenhower's name was used - without his permission, by an organization raising funds. The Disabled American Veterans, Incorporated, has raised over twenty-one million dollars in three years - by means of collections, contests, appeals through the mail, and so on.

To help its campaign, the D.A.V. used a statement from Pres. Eisenhower. But today's testimony showed that the Eisenhower statement was given in Nineteen Forty-Five -- and was not intended for use in fund raising. Moreover, Presidential Press Secretary, Jim Hagerty, sent the D.A.V. a letter - in which he ordered it to stop using the President's name.

The organization also mentioned other leaders in Washington - including former President Truman, General Bradley, and General MacArthur. General Bradley was one of those who asked that his name no longer be used.

The witnesses today stated that seventy-nine

per cent of the money collected - went back into the fund raising. The remainder used for veterans' welfare. But the Chairman of the Board of the Foundation, Miles Draper, admitted that no direct aid at all went to veterans. He said his organization campaigns for the employment of veterans. And distributes calendars urging that men and women from the armed forces be given jobs.

Draper added that the D.A.V. accounts are audited annually. And that the accounts have been sent to Congress each year. He asserted, "No orthodox methods could have interested so many hundreds of thousands of Americans in the cause of America's disabled."

But out of the twenty-one million collected - none of it used for actual aid to those who have been in the armed forces.

YEAGER

Here's news that sounds like something we had six years ago. Major Charles Yeager - the fastest man in the world.

Back in Nineteen Forty-Seven, Chuck Yeager was the first pilot to fly faster than sound. After which - various other airmen exceeded his record. But now Chuck Yeager has done it again - has broken the latest record. Flying - at about sixteen-hundred-and-fifty-miles an hour, two-and-a-half times the speed of sound.

It happened last Saturday over Edwards Air Force Base, California - and today's word is unofficial. We hear that Chuck Yeager's new record may be announced, formally, by President Eisenhower tomorrow night. Fiftieth Anniversary - of the Wright brothers first flight at Kitty Hawk.

## QUEEN

Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, is getting a royal reception -- royal in the way of the Fiji Islands, South Sea style. At Suva, the capital of what used to be Cannibal Islands -- all is now a pageant. Varying -- from starchy British officialdom to the tribes from coral atolls.

The ocean liner SS GOTHIC putting into harbor -- and aboard come Chiefs of the Fijis. The Queen and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh receiving them. One Chief, on his knees, presenting to Her Majesty -- the most valued emblem in those islands -- the tooth of a sperm whale.

The Queen is in for an ordeal. She will have to drink -- kava. A native beverage which Americans and Europeans who have tasted it call - "terrible stuff." But today's dispatch says it would be a serious affront to the Fijian tribes if Her Majesty should refuse -- to drink kava. Lowell, Jr. and his wife went through this Whale Tooth - Kava ceremony and then did a broadcast about it from an island in the Fijis.

You may recall it last winter.

The Queen, during her stay of two days, will also have an official orator. A sort of spokesman for a Chief -- making the formal declarations for a potentate. As the Queen sits in state, the tribal orator will squat on the ground in front of her, do the talking for her -- the way talking should be done.

If Her Majesty says in English -- "I'm happy to be here."

Well, the orator will turn that into long flowery, booming eloquence of the South Sea, which really can be flowery.

## INDIANS

News from the wilds of British Columbia tells of palefaces attending a "potlach" of a certain remote tribe of Indians along the desolate northern shore. The first time those Indians ever admitted outsiders.

The palefaces beheld strange aboriginal sights-- and listened to the tribal medicine man, an eighty-three year old veteran of sorcery and magic, who is described as the last of the "power dancers." Tribal wizards who gained mysterious "power" through dancing. Power - to paralyze people with a brush of his hand. Power -- to raise the dead.

The aged medicine man told the paleface visitors that, in his youth, he spent ten years as a hermit in a cave under a waterfall, living on berries and roots, going through weird gyrations -- chanting magical charms. Gaining -- "snarhum" - the power.

Then he returned to his village, full of "snarhum", -- and able to cure the sick, conjure the spirits with spells and incantations. From him the

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paleface visitors learned a lot about Indian sorcery; the "power," the "Snarhum." I don't know how Harry Marble here is at Snarhum - but he certainly is an expert on power!