


PACT

C.Y. - P. & G.

Fri Jan. 27 '50

The armament program, under the North Atlantic Security Pact went into effect today -- with the signing of an agreement in Washington. The United States, with eight partners in the treaty, enacted the final formalities -- whereby western democracies of Europe get a billion dollars worth of American weapons and munitions for defense against possible Soviet aggression. President Truman immediately sent an order to Secretary of State Acheson -- telling him to get things moving on this end. Arms for freedom.



ADD PACT

From Paris -- that the Communist parties of Europe are mobilizing to blockade shipments of American arms. They plan to excite agitation and strikes to prevent the landing of cargoes under the North Atlantic Pact.

HYDROGEN BOMB

Here's a Washington report that the government has plans ^lalready for making the hydrogen bomb. -- ^{this} though ~~it~~ is founded on little more than a cryptic remark made by Senator MacMahon, chairman of the Atomic Energy Committee of Congress.

That committee had a secret meeting, attended by chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission David Lilienthal -- who later hurried over to the White House to talk to President Truman. Answering the newsmen's questions, Lilienthal denied stories that he opposes the making of an ~~H~~ H-bomb, until we have more negotiations with Soviet Russia.

In the picture appears Bernard Baruch, the elder statesman whose name was attached to the original American proposal to outlaw the atomic bomb -- the proposal rejected by Soviet Russia all along. [Bernard Baruch today gave some strong advice -- urging this country to go right ahead and make what is being called -- the hell bomb.

ADD ATOMIC

In his news conference this afternoon

President Truman stated that he is ^{now} making the

decision on the hydrogen bomb.

CHINA

A series of dispatches from out in China today can be put together, so as to suggest a pattern of events to come. British Hongkong has word from Red Canton that the Chinese Communist command has decided to strike at Formosa and Hainan simultaneously -- invasions of these two large islands to be launched at the same time. The Reds are saying that a million troops will be deployed for the assault on Formosa, the Nationalist headquarters, while up to two hundred thousand will be assigned to take Hainan. We are told that the date for the two-fold blow has not been set.

But here's a dispatch, from Hainan itself, which suggests a date. Military intelligence of the Nationalist garrison predicts that the attack will come in mid-February. This is based largely on the factor of -- weather. (Right now conditions favor the Air Force of the Nationalists, which has been blasting invasion preparations. The skies are clear, sunshiny days and sparkling nights -- when spotting targets from the air is at its best.)

But, in a week or so there will be a shift of prevailing winds, as happens every year, and murky weather will drift over the south China coast, with low-hanging clouds and fog-- stuff to cover fleets of boats on the water. So mid-February is named as the probably time for the two-fold invasion.

So much for the coast;-- ~~and~~ our pattern of dispatches continues with indications of Communist plans on the mainland. At Nationalist headquarters, military spokesman General Ten-Wan-Yi stated today that the Reds are concentrating in southwest China -- for their strategy is against southern Asia. Against India, for example. The most immediate step to be -- an invasion of Tibet. That would be in the logic -- based on geography.

A vivid illustration of this is the Communist occupation of the City of Khotan. Which won't mean much to us unless we are mighty good at our geography,
~~or, etc~~

TIBET

~~From the other side of the world the news~~
~~that Chinese Communists have occupied the City of Khotan~~
~~which won't mean much to us, unless we're mighty good at~~
~~our geography~~ or unless we've been reading the romance
of history in Central Asia.

Khotan, in Sinkiang, is a key point on an
ancient trade route - situated in an oasis on the edge of
one of the most ferocious of deserts, the Takla Makan.
At the foot of stupendous mountains, the Karakorum Range,
Western Himalayas. The trade route is the vast caravan
trail from China into India.

In other words, the Reds have seized a place
only seventy-five miles from the border of the Indian
province of Kashmir - where there's chronic civil war
between Hindus and Mohammedans. The meaning of all of
which is only too clear to the Government of India, whose
prime minister, Pandit Nehru, is a Kashmiri, a native of
the legended vale of Kashmir - where the Chinese
Communists are now making their first contact with India.

The section of Kashmir along the border of

→ China is a ^{region} ~~country~~ called Ladakh - which is, actually, Tibetan, ^{— often called Little Tibet,} Politically tied to Kashmir, but in race and religion, a part of Tibet. In fact, the Chinese Reds tonight are only a few miles from the frontier of Tibet proper, the realm of the Dalai Lama. The last time an invader struck onto that western part of the roof-of-the-world, via the ancient trade route, was in Twelve-Nineteen more than seven hundred years ago - and the invader was Genghis Khan, the exterminating Mongol conqueror. Genghis Kahn marched from Khotan into Kashmir, and then turned into Tibet along the Indus River. Which may provide an historic parallel of ominous portent at the court of the Dalai Lama in Lhasa.

The Communist capture of Khotan has vivid signs for anyone who has been to Tibet. We, ourselves, have recently returned from that endangered roof-of-the-world, where we heard much of the peril. The Reds on the border of both Tibet and India - that's the meaning of what might seem to be a lesson ⁱⁿ romantic, far-distant geography.

COAL

In the coal negotiations, John L. Lewis is going to meet the mine operators at two P.M. on Wednesday. He had previously set the appointment for Ten A.M. But at that hour Lewis is due to make a court appearance and answer a charge of illegal bargaining. I suppose the mine operators figured he couldn't be in two places at one time. So they suggested the conference be held later in the day -- at which time it will be known what the judge had to say. Today John L. Lewis agreed to that later hour -- two P.M.

PRISONS

Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York announces what he calls -- "A startling success". This results from an experiment in state prisons, and the experimenters are -- alcoholics anonymous.

Three years ago that organization for curing alcoholism established units at three prisons, including Sing Sing -- and outside members of the society cooperated. Convicts were enlisted as members of Alcoholics Anonymous -- thereby attacking one of the most frequent sources of crime, the ex-convict addicted to drunkenness.

So now we have a report on the result of what Governor Dewey calls -- "One of the most interesting penalogical experiments in a long time." At one prison, a hundred convicts released were members of Alcoholics Anonymous.

"Only five of them", says Governor Dewey, "have returned to drink since they left -- none have returned to crime." Similar results appear at other prisons, and two ex-convicts have enlisted as organizers for Alcoholics Anonymous.

COUNTERFEITING

The Secret Service announces the smashing of one of the biggest counterfeit~~ing~~ rings on record -- all because the phony moneymakers were both dumb and too clever. They sold a big bundle of fraudulent cash to Secret Service Agents -- and also swindled them.

The detectives posed as crooks in the business of passing bad money, and a deal was made for them to purchase three hundred thousand dollars worth. Terms - twenty cents on the dollar. So they handed over sixty thousand good dollars -- for three hundred thousand bad.

When all was over the Secret Service men found they had been gypped, short-changed -- the mobsters had given them a bundle of two hundred thousand in counterfeit, instead of three hundred thousand, as promised. But, at the same time arrests, were made -- four counterfeiters in New York and one in Los Angeles. So the Secret Service men had the better of the deal, after all.

COPLON

A late dispatch from the Judy Coplon trial -- with two F B I agents denying they ever saw any sign of spooning or a lovers quarrel. In New York, the defense is trying to show that the ~~x~~ connection between the former employee of the Department of Justice and the Russian Engineer Gubitchev was all romance -- not espionage. But the two F B I men who trailed the couple could not be made to ~~x~~ admit that they saw signs of romance.

NEWS PRINT

Newspaper history ~~44~~ was made at Holyoke, Massachusetts, today. Which city is no journalistic metropolis; and, the Holyoke Transcript is not the biggest paper in the country. But the Transcript ~~today~~ began what may be a new era of -- news print. Holyoke readers today were scanning pages made of the waste of sugar[^]cane -- instead of the usual wood pulp.

Several manufacturing concerns, including the company at Holyoke, have devised a secret process for making paper out of what is left over from sugar cane, worthless waste. They say it may revolutionize the production of newspapers -- especially in places where the usual material, wood pulp, is scarce.

To show that it works, they enlisted the Holyoke Transcript -- which came out today, printed on sugar cane.

TRIAL

The headline murder case down in Texas results in a life sentence for Sandra Petersen, the eighteen-year-old girl from Massachusetts, convicted of a hitch-hike murder. With a girl companion she hitched a ride, and then shot and robbed the motorist, a Texas real estate man. The trial headlines featured the girl killed[^] as being -- "tough". And today the judge at Brady, Texas, imposed a sentence of life imprisonment.

EXPLOSION

At Baton Rouge, Louisiana, they had an explosion today which blew the windows out of the State Capital. A barge in the Mississippi was loaded with some kind of chemicals apparently, and blew up. Two men aboard were injured, no lives lost. But the blast occurred so near the state capital that windows were shattered and state employees ~~in~~ poured out in a panic.

BABCOCK

We hear of a strange circumstances connected with the return to this country of the body of Colonel William T. Babcock, Deputy American Commissioner to Berlin, who died on the job over in Europe. The Washington Star says that the Colonel's remains were accompanied by one Mrs. Babcock, and were awaited at the airport by another Mrs. Babcock. There would appear to be some confusion of ladies - but on this point the Army refuses to make any comment. A spokesman says it would be up to the courts to decide - who is the legal widow.

SUBSTITUTE AGA-KHAN

There were big police doings today at the old French city of Aix-En-Provence. The whole town on the Mediterranean was cordoned off -- as the gendarmes conducted a manhunt for a suspect who is believed to have in his possession one-half of the treasure stolen from the Aga Khan.

This follows weird goings-on, when somebody left the other half, three-hundred-and-fifty thousand dollars worth of jewels, in front of police headquarters at Marseilles. There was a telephone call, telling the gendarmes to look on the door-step of their own buildings. They looked - and found a package of loose diamonds, emeralds and sapphires, prised out of gold and platinum settings. Could some deal have been fixed up somewhere for the return of stolen treasure?

PLANE

A great search is being conducted in the Yukon Territory tonight, a fleet of planes winging across the northland of Canada. They are hunting for a United States Army C-54, which is missing, with forty-^{two}~~four~~ persons aboard, including a woman and a child.

The big transport was flying from Alaska, bound for Montana. The fear is that it crashed -- and the search for the survivors is the more pressing because of the bitter Arctic cold.

PILOT

Tonight a letter is made public about the Bolivian pilot, [—]Eric Rios Bridoux, who caused the worst U.S. air tragedy -- when ~~xxx~~ at the Washington airport he flew a fighter plane into a crowded passenger transport. The letter, disclosed by Senator Johnson of Colorado, Chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, is from a group in Argentina, who say that they are Bolivian aviators. They charge that Eric Rios Bridoux has a bad reputation in South American aviation, because of flying crashes he ~~xxx~~ has had hitherto. They state instances of accidents he had [—]because of carelessness and violations of flying rules -- so they say. To which they add that he got his job as Director of Civil Aeronautics in Bolivia as the result of -- politics.

FASHIONS

From London -- a style note about a new fashion, which certain^y should be an addition to cocktail parties. It is a cocktail dress, so designed you can't tell if the lady is coming, or going, arriving, or leaving.

They do it, not with mirrors, but with bustles. In London today the Parisian fashion house of Worth put on display a cocktail dress with a bustle at the back, where it should be -- and also a bustle in front. Reporters declared it was hard to tell which was the back and which was the front of the model.

Yes, it should go well at cocktail parties -- in that haze. ~~edgier~~. You won't know which end of the lovely lady you are seeing -- south or north. You won't know whether to walk up and shake her hand, or, tap her on the shoulder, ^{now} would you, Nelson?

1/4