

MOSCOW

L.T.-KAISER. FRIDAY, OCT. 29, 1954

The State Department announces - Mrs. Karl E. Sommerlatte has been called home from Soviet Russia. Her husband, Second Secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow - transferred to Washington.

Which ends that incident of two American Embassy wives, on a picture-taking trip - and getting in trouble with the Soviet secret police. Mrs. Sommerlatte - accused of slapping the face of a Russian.

Our Embassy denies this, and says the two ladies were mistreated by the Reds. But the State Department explains that, under diplomatic useage - they can only call Mrs. Sommerlatte home. Moscow having declared her - "persona non grata."

Britain, meanwhile, has an incident in Moscow. But this is being - hushed up. The word is that two British Embassy employees in Moscow got into a fight with Russian secret police, and "knocked out" several of them.

In this case, however, both sides are trying to keep the matter quiet. The British Foreign Office - refusing to confirm or deny it. Moscow - saying nothing. Which is interpreted as another sign that the Soviets take a milder course with British diplomats - than with Americans.

FIELD

Word from Hermann Field, the U.S. architect - set free in Communist Poland after five years in a Red prison. Field - still in Warsaw.

The case of the members of the Field family, who disappeared behind the Iron Curtain, has been mysterious all along. So now there seemed to be some doubt about what Hermann Field intended to do - after being turned loose.

Today, his wife, in London, said she had received a telephone call from him. Hermann Field - in a Warsaw sanitarium, recovering from his long ordeal. Telling his wife - he will join her in London, as soon as he feels capable of making the journey. Which won't be for some days.

GERMANY - AIRMAN

At Frankfurt, Germany, a verdict of acquittal for Airman Jack Jennings, a nephew of the late Senator Olin Johnson of South Carolina. Airman Jennings accused of attacking a young Yugoslav woman, now wife of another U.S. airman.

Brought before a court-martial, his defense was -- no attack. There being - no resistance.

Today, an Air Force court martial found the defendant - not guilty. Whereupon, Jennings was taken back to the guard-house -- to finish a jail sentence he got for brawling with an officer. Striking - an officer.

Chancellor Adenauer is cutting short his American visit - because of the death of the Speaker of the West German Lower House of Parliament. Hermann Ehlers, a prominent leader of Adenauer's own Christian-Democrat Party.

~~His~~ ^(Hies) unexpected passing, together with brewing political troubles - is calling the Chancellor home.

Meanwhile, Adenauer made a hit at the Washington Press Club, where he spoke today. Getting off - a bit of shrewd humor that made the Washington correspondents applaud.

After completing his address, the West German Chancellor was asked a question. An odd query - to put to the visiting chief of a foreign government.

"Do you think," a reporter asked, "that Ike was right, last night, when he asked for a Republican Congress?"

Whereupon the Chancellor came back with a neat retort: "Gentlemen," he demanded, "did anyone of you expect the President to say he wanted a Democratic Congress?"

"Hear, hear!" or rather, "Hoch, hoch!"

EISENHOWER

Detroit Republicans ~~are~~^{were} optimistic about the visit of President Eisenhower to the auto capital - and, in one respect, their optimism sure came true. A mass meeting scheduled at Cadillac Square - for a presidential speech. The day broke - with abominable weather. Cold, drizzling rain. It looked as if it might be impossible to hold the mass meeting, but Republican headquarters predicted: "The sun will be shining when he arrives."

The Weather Bureau kept saying - showers. . . t, a few minutes before the President's plane landed at the Detroit airport, the sky cleared - and the sun was shining for the Eisenhower rally.

The luck, however, was not so good at other places - as the President made a whirlwind trip of four cities. At Cleveland and Louisville, he had to speak indoors - because of rain and sleet. Then - on to Wilmington, Delaware, in difficult flying weather.

Add EISENHOWER

The President said - the reports that the voters are apathetic are only "rumors." As evidence - he pointed to the big crowds that gathered to meet him today.

At Wilmington, ~~the President~~^{he} might have launched a sort of chain-letter movement. Chain telephone calls, that is. Talking to several thousand listeners at the Wilmington airport, he asked them to make ten telephone calls each. 'Phoning other voters - urging them to cast their ballots. Also - asking each one to 'phone ten others with a similar appeal.

The President seemed confident of a Republican victory on Tuesday.

INDIANA

The Indiana State Police are investigating Communist
propaganda *that is said to be in favor of* ~~boosting~~ Democratic candidates. ~~This~~ *by order*
of Republican Governor George Craig *ordering the investigation*

The Reds have been putting out literature favoring
the Democrats in the election. The Democrats, themselves,
asked the F.B.I. and the postal authorities to investigate
the source of the propaganda. They don't enjoy the Red
support - *they also* ~~now~~ denounce the action of the Governor.
Saying - the State Police investigation of Communist backing
for Democrats - is "politics."

ELECTION - SHERIFF

There's one Western county - with a two-gun man running for sheriff. Although - "two-gun" may be an under-statement. In Southern California, down on the border, Hank ^{Adams}~~Evans~~ is running for sheriff of San Diego County. So who is Hank?

Ten years ago, he was in the headlines as the "one man army of Tulagi." Performing - ~~prestigious~~ prodigies of gunfire in the island campaigns of the South Pacific. After the war - an F.B.I. agent, who captured more bank robbers in the New Jersey area than any other G-man. Arrests - at the point of a gun.

Hank ^{Adams}~~Evans~~ has won more than seven hundred medals for rifle and pistol shooting - a Dead-Eye-Dick, if there ever was one.

Quite a candidate for sheriff, down on the Mexican border - with its traditions of two-gun men.

DIXON-YATES

The Atomic Energy Commission discloses that only two of its members voted in the approval of the Dixon-Yates power contract. Which contract is, of course, the center of a political fight.

The Atomic Energy Commission has five members - but there was one vacancy at the time the Dixon-Yates vote was taken. Chairman Louis Strauss and Commissioner Joseph Campbell voted - okay. Another member - Thomas E. Murray, abstained. While Commissioner W. F. Libby, "withdrew" because he felt he was not "sufficiently acquainted" with the question.

This draws an immediate blast from Senator Kefauver of Tennessee. Who argues - that two members did not constitute a "statutory majority" on the Commission. So therefore, legally, the Atomic Energy Commission has not given its approval to the ~~Dixon-Yates-Dixon~~ contract.

McCARTHY

Senator Joseph McCarthy, today, set November Fifteenth for the questioning of Senator Watkins of Utah - Chairman of the Censure Committee. McCarthy adds - there won't be any use of questioning Watkins, unless the Senator produces information in the Peress case.

When the Committee recommended that McCarthy be "censured" by the Senate, one point was - General Zwicker. McCarthy - found culpable for the abusive way he treated the General. The Committee report finding - that Zwicker was not responsible for the honorable discharge of the Army dentist, Major Peress, who refused to answer questions pertaining to Communism.

To this McCarthy retorted - if the Censure Committee knew Zwicker was not responsible, it must have known who was at fault. McCarthy saying - he wanted to question Watkins about it.

Watkins replied he was willing to testify before the McCarthy Sub-Committee. So now the date - November

Fifteenth, a week after the Senate begins debate on a motion to censure McCarthy.

Meanwhile, Senator McCarthy predicts - the Senate will vote to censure him. He says that most Senators have already made up their minds, and a debate will not change them. McCarthy expecting - to be censured.

POWELL

Former Federal Housing Commissioner, Clyde Powell -
convicted for contempt of court. Sentence - a year in prison.
Imposed - by a federal judge in Washington, today.

Powell - accused of ~~serious~~ corruption in housing
deals, half a dozen years ago. Before a Congressional
Committee, he refused to answer questions. Then - repeated
the refusal, when questioned before a federal grand jury.
Today, Judge Dickenson Letts declared the former Federal
Housing official had been "willful and contumacious."
Hence the verdict of "guilty" - which will be appealed to the
higher courts.

PUERTO RICANS

Another round-up of Puerto Rican fanatics. Nine members of the Independence Party - arrested in Chicago and New York today. The F.B.I. busy - after a federal grand jury returned indictments, charging the nine leaders with seditious conspiracy.

PHILADELPHIA

Flags were flying at half mast in Philadelphia, today - following a chemical explosion that took the lives of ^{nine} ~~eight~~ firemen.

It happened at a plant, which had been warned on two occasions - after failing to take out a license for the storage of chemicals. So says the Chief of the Philadelphia Division of Licenses.

Chemical fumes were noticed in the neighborhood. Twenty-four firemen and policemen - trying to find the source. They were searching the plant, when a four thousand gallon tank, full of an explosive stuff - blew up. Victims - killed by the blast or by the chemical fumes. (Eight firemen - including a deputy chief and two battalion chiefs.)

PRISON

From the Missouri State Prison - the secret of that convict riot some weeks ago - in September. What caused it? At the time, the word was - discontent with prison food. But now, we learn, the complaint about food was an after-thought. The real reason - murder.

We hear the prison authorities at Jefferson City have confessions from seven ringleaders. Who say - the plan was to kill two other prisoners. And they did succeed in killing - one.

The two convicts marked for murder were Walter Lee Donnell - whom other prisoners accused of being an "informer." Saying - he squealed on his convict companions. The other - James Creighton. Called - a "power" among prisoners. Creighton - involved in convict feuding. Resented - for his "power."

Both were convicted murderers. Both were in Death Row cells awaiting execution. Yet the convict plot was to kill them.

So, The plotters organized a mutiny -- as a cover-up. Releasing - a number of the prisoners from their cells. Who in turn, released others. Twenty-six hundred in all - turned loose. The result - mob hysteria in the prison. Crowds of convicts running amock, for no particular reason. Driven wild - by the excitement.

Meanwhile, using the turmoil as camouflage, the conspirators made their way to the death cells. Breaking into the one occupied by Donnell, the alleged "informer." They killed him. But Creighton, the "power" - foiled their attempts to break down his death cell door. He survived.

All the while, the prison riot was raging. The cry about the prison food - raised, as an after-thought. Part of the cover-up for -- murder.

In a sleepy village on the coast of France, a local fisherman announces the engagement of his stepdaughter, to Marlon Brando, the American movie star. Like a Cinderella story - happening in an Old World village.

But it's not quite that. Marlon Brando and Josiane Berenger - having met and become engaged in New York. Where Josiane was an assistant in a doctor's office.

She decided to go home for a vacation. Her home being - that French fishing town. Brando said - he'd follow. Which he did. Their engagement - ~~was~~ announced today by an old French fisherman.

QUEEN

The New York visit of Queen Mother Elizabeth has been quiet and cordial - as becomes a royal lady, long noted for her gracious dignity. She goes around in the metropolitan crowds, friendly, smiling - untroubled by the attention she attracts; At the theatre, in the shopping district - or making formal visits to prominent places.

A report on the news wire, today, says - the women in the crowds take especial note of the royal clothes. Elizabeth Toomey of the United Press - giving fashion comment on the Queen Mother *as follows:* -

"Her daytime dresses and hats have a matronly air," *Then* ~~writes~~ *adds:* Elizabeth Toomey *^* "So far the Queen Mother has ~~appeared~~ appeared in some shade of grey, each day. She prefers V necklines, side-draped skirts, and three-quarter sleeves. She prefers hats to match the shade of her dress."

All of which, according to the fashion expert, adds up to - "a matronly air." But there's an exception. Elizabeth Toomey *goes on to say:* *writes:* *^* "The gayest debutante could

admire her youthful shoes. She wears frivolous pumps, with spike heels." The royal shoes - positively girlish.

So that, ladies, is the fashion report on Queen Mother Elizabeth. Matronly dignity - except for ^{her} ~~her~~ gay ~~slippers~~ ^{footwear}.

BABIES.

In London, a mix-up in a hospital - the wrong babies given to the wrong mothers. A kind of blunder - that has happened more than once. But, in London - a surprise ending. When each of two mothers was informed that she had the wrong baby, each - insisted on keeping that the wrong baby! Each says the wrong one is right for her.

Here are some of the details:- The Forest Gate Hospital says - two infant boys, born about the same time, were placed in the wrong cribs. Each mother - accepting the child as her own.

The mistake - discovered some time later, with definite proof of the error. The two mothers disconcerted - each having been rearing the wrong child.

There was an exchange of babies. But, when the two infants were handed to their correct mothers -

each set up a howl. They wouldn't be quiet, until they were transferred - back to the wrong mothers.

Whereupon, the two ladies made up their own minds. "This is my baby, and nobody will take him away!" said Mrs. Vera Bowers.

Mrs. Sheila Read said: "We will keep our babies, right or wrong!"

So that was the state of affairs today. The husbands - trying to persuade their wives to make an exchange. But, in spite of all arguments ~~_____~~ Mrs. Bowers and Mrs. Read insist on keeping the wrong babies.

There is sure to be a sequel to this strange item, one of these days. I wonder how soon? As I turn to Ses B - and
S-L-U-MAN.