

L.T.-DELCO. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1954

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Soviet Russia, today, made the strongest move, thus far - against the Paris Accords for the Re-Armament of Western Germany. Seeking - to block French ratification of the Pact.

At the Moscow Foreign Office, Foreign Minister Molotov handed a communication to the French Ambassador. The gist of it - a threat that Russia will terminate the Franco-Soviet Friendship Treaty of Nineteen Forty-four.

The text of the note goes on - paragraph after paragraph. Reiterating endlessly - the Soviet arguments against the creation of a West European Army. Especially - the creation of German military forces. Denounced - as directed against Soviet Russia.

The note refers back to the Friendship Treaty, signed -

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when France and Russia were wartime Allies. And insists that the Friendship Treaty is incompatible with French ratification of those Accords for the Re-Armament of West Germany.

The sum and substance of it all - contained in one paragraph, as follows:

"Under such circumstances the Soviet Government considers it its duty to state - the act of ratification of the Paris Agreements will nullify the Franco-Soviet Treaty, and annul this treaty. The whole responsibility for this will fall on the French government." So says that key paragraph.

## FOLLOW SOVIET.

In Paris, the Conference of the Big Three met for a session - soon after the news of the Russian threat arrived. Premier Mendes-France immediately told American Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden - he'll go right ahead, pressing for a ratification of the Paris Accords - even though - the Soviets cancel the Franco-Soviet Treaty. He'll push the ratification before the National Assembly - next week.

Secretary Dulles gave assurance that U.S. troops will remain in Europe - if the Pact is ratified. He said - the U.S. will give a public pledge.

## GERMANY

In Germany -- a hands-down victory for the pact providing for West German rearmament. ~~It~~ After two days of debate, the Bundestag voted in favor -- by a huge margin. <sup>H</sup> The final decision was preceded by the defeat of a Socialist motion -- ~~xxxxxxx~~ to delay the ratification of the Paris accords. This was rejected by ~~Two-hundred-and-thirty-six~~ to ~~One-hundred-and-Fifty~~ - Three.

Today's action in the German Parliament seems decisive -- though the Paris agreements will have to go through further Parliamentary proceedings.

The significant thing is -- that today's voting included the okay for the Saar Valley settlement, as well as for West German rearmament.

CARDINAL.

Reports from Red Hungary - that Cardinal Mindszenty has been released by the Reds. So says the Austrian "Catholic News Service" which gets underground word from Communist Hungary.

Cardinal Mindszenty, convicted of treason in one of those Red trials - was given a life sentence. Of which he has served six years. Recently, reports have been that the Communists were, in some degree, relenting. The Cardinal - permitted to visit his aged mother, once a month.

Today's report is that he was given his freedom a week ago. Sent back - to the Seat of his Archdiocese. A town - not far from Budapest. One informant in Hungary declaring that he saw Cardinal Mindszenty there several days ago.

## POPE

The Vatican doctors, at last, have found the cause of the illness of Pope Pius the Twelfth. They made the discovery today, and here's the medical story.

In the Spring, the vatican physicians made a diagnosis, and said - gastritis, an inflammation of the stomach. Which diagnosis turns out to be correct. But what caused the gastritis? That was the mystery. Which could only be solved by an X-ray examination.

But that would mean His Holiness would have to ~~na~~ down a solution of barium, a white metallic substance. The Pontiff - too ill from the gastritis to retain the barium solution in his stomach. So, the physicians were - in a dilemma.

Today, however, the Pope was in a condition - to undergo the X-ray examination. Which was made and revealed the secret. A complication of the diaphragm. Near the top of the stomach. Also causing - a the hiccoughs, which afflicted the

Pontiff.

So now they know the ailment - but what about a cure? One method - surgery. But the belief is that the seventy-eight year old Pontiff is too weak for an operation. But there's also the possibility of - manual treatment, to reduce this. At any rate, the diagnosis is - encouraging. The fear having been - cancer. Nevertheless, the Pope's condition is complicated - by the weight of years.

## STRIKE.

French seaports, today - were in a state of confusion. Traffic - in a snarl. Passengers from ships - delayed. The movement of baggage and cargoes almost at a stand-still.

All - because of a strike. But - nobody quitting work. It's the other way 'round. The strikers - doing too much work.

French Customs Officers have been vainly demanding a pay raise. So today they staged what they call a "zeal" strike. Full of zeal - busy as bees. Enforcing every rule in the book. Surplus regulations. Useless, obsolete. Usually ignored.

~~So~~ At French harbors, today - they examined every piece of luggage and freight with slow deliberation. Doing everything - the book says.

At Hendaye, on the Spanish border, the Customs men inspected a fifty-car freight train. Applying the



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rule book to every car. Taking - twenty-four hours.

The train - containing nothing but oranges from Spain.

## DEFENSE.

The Administration <sup>is</sup> considering a large cut -  
of our military manpower. Reduce the strength of the  
Armed Forces to two million eight hundred thousand men.  
If Right now, in the Army, Navy, and Air Force - we have  
three million two hundred and fifty-seven thousand. So  
there'd be a reduction of ~~something~~ about three  
hundred and fifty thousand men. If The reason - the  
Administration is convinced that the danger of immediate  
war has now sub-sided. Enabling - a cut of military  
expenses. The U.S. Treasury is faced with a deficit of  
three billion dollars, in the next fiscal year. The  
Armed Services - one area where large economies could be  
made.

## AIR FORCE.

The Air Force calls for the creation of a giant Air Cargo Fleet. They want - aerial freighters as up-to-date as our new bomber and fighter squadrons.

The Air Force Chief of Staff, General ~~Hathan~~ Twining says - our six hundred mile-an-hour jets are tied to a supply system, dangerously slow. Made up of "out-dated" transport planes.

## CARRIER.

The super aircraft carrier launched on Saturday - is to have a big re-modeling job. The bridge ~~and~~ of the super structure, five stories tall, <sup>to</sup> will be ripped out and moved over to starboard <sup>some</sup> ~~to~~ twenty-two feet. Which will make room to handle bigger and faster ~~jet~~ jet planes, and give the <sup>skipper</sup> ~~super structure~~ more visibility for maneuvering. The cost of the remodeling job - <sup>a</sup> ~~one~~ million dollars.

When the super-carrier "FORRESTAL" was launched at Newport News, on Saturday, nothing was said about this. But workmen there let the news out, and the Navy now confirms it.

SOVIET PROTEST.

Late this afternoon, the State Department received a note from Soviet Russia. Which came - as a surprise. <sup>a</sup> ~~The~~ protest - about something said by U.S. Brigadier General John D. Stevenson, Commander of the Forty-Eighth Air Division in Britain. The State Department people saying - it was the first they knew about the remarks made by General Stevenson.

The Defense Department, however, they did know. ~~Was~~ <sup>A</sup> aware - that, over in England, the General declared that the U.S. Air Force was ready to launch almost instantaneous atomic attacks. From - British bases. General Stevenson - making <sup>the</sup> remarks in a "pep" talk to men under his command. *Moscow-annoyed.*

THIEF.

At Nashville, Tennessee - a thief was might  
hit - by - conscience. <sup>He</sup> Burglarized a home - making off  
with a lot of packages. Then, later, he read about it  
in the newspapers.

He read how Diane Marie Campbell, nine years  
old, had saved her nickles and dimes - until she had  
accumulated sixty-eight dollars. Which Diane thereupon  
invested - in Christmas gifts for her teachers and  
schoolmates. She's in the fourth grade. But a wicked  
thief broke into the house and stole those Christmas  
presents which Diane had intended to pass around at  
school. Diane - in tears. A sad Christmas for <sup>poor</sup> ~~little~~  
Diane.

Which was enough to wring the conscience of a  
most hardened thief. So, pretty soon, the police got a  
telephone call, <sup>T</sup> telling them - to go to a certain  
telephone booth. <sup>Which</sup> ~~where~~ they did <sup>(- there they)</sup> and found little  
Diane's Christmas presents.

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Today, Police Sargeant Patterson said - he felt "better than Santa Claus" when he handed the gifts back to Diane.

So I suppose, tonight, there's a thief, who feels "better than Santa Claus" hearing - about this. A Christmas story so touching it's enough to make you smile.

## SPEEDING.

In Trenton, New Jersey State Highway Commissioner Dwight Palmer - is explaining. He has an excuse - for what happened yesterday.

It was, of course, National Safe-Driving Day. The State Highway Commissioner - a Number One figure on such an occasion. He sent a special order to three thousand Highway Department employees: <sup>TO</sup> - <sub>^</sub> Be doubly careful about observing traffic regulations - on Safety Day.

So what happened? Here's the painful news.

Yesterday, Highway Commissioner Palmer - was arrested for speeding. Going fifty miles an hour in a twenty-five mile-an-hour zone. Which happened to be one of those electric-eye speed traps. All - on Safety Day. *P* Embarrassing - but here's the excuse. The Commissioner had to step on the gas to get around ~~the~~ a truck. Which happened, unfortunately, in an electric-eye speed trap.



DOCTOR.

On December twenty-first, next Tuesday - the world will come to an end. Deplorable - just before Christmas. But there'll be a saving grace. Some people will be rescued by flying saucers from Mars.

That's the prediction - which brought about the dismissal of a doctor from the Michigan State College Hospital. Doctor Charles Laughead - propounding that apocalyptic doctrine to students.

College President, Doctor John Hannah says - a delegation of students told him they were "disturbed" by the Doctor's talk about the end of the world and the rescuers from the Planet Mars. Enough to "disturb" anybody.

"We understand," says the college prexy, "that Doctor Laughead is disposing of his possessions, and is getting ready to move to a spot to await rescue."

All - the belief of an odd religious sect.

Hudson's Bay, for example - to flow down into the Great Lakes. To beat the Deluge. Members of the sect - waiting on "mountain tops." For a rendezvous - with the flying saucers from Mars.

Today, Doctor Laughead's daughter, Charlyn, said - the Doctor was not selling his possessions. But he does maintain - there'll be "some surface changes" on this earth, December <sup>a</sup> twenty-first. Such as "earthquakes."

Charlyn adds - that her father is a student of Ancient Mysticism. <sup>But Hugh,</sup> ~~But~~ how could Ancient Mysticism know anything about flying saucers?

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