

KOREA - WAR

L.T.-K. Fri. July 17-'53.


The South Koreans have regained three miles of the eight miles they lost ^{to the recent} ~~in the~~ Red offensive. ^{they} At last reports, ^{they} were still driving on. Cutting their way through, spearheaded by tank-infantry teams that pinch off enemy positions, ^{nut-cracker} style.

If the tank-infantry spearhead is checked, the war planes come swooping down -- and hit the Reds with blasting bombs and flaming Napalm.

(~~Today, one South Korean Division captured a vital hill. At another place, a summit was taken, but the Reds came swarming back. The South Koreans had to retreat, but returned in another assault and recaptured the hill.~~)

The battle features -- wholesale surrender. Masses of Chinese -- giving up. An American officer attached to the ROKS -- reports: "The Chinese are surrendering all over the place." So many -- they're interfering with the advance of American tanks. The crews of the tanks flash messages back, asking: "What shall we do with all these Chinks?" The reply is --

disarm them, and make them march to the rear with their hands up. ^R So, three miles have been regained, of the eight miles that were lost -- when the Chinese Reds came surging forward in their hundred thousand man-offensive. ^R The latest is that the counter-drive is running into heavier fighting, resistance increasing -- as the South Koreans come up to the main Chinese line along the Kumsong River.



IP

~~A late dispatch states that~~ a new type of Soviet-made tank has appeared on the battle front -- a monster. The ponderous Joseph Stalin tank.

Hitherto, the Communist armour has been knocked out as fast as the tanks appeared. American planes hitting them with rockets and with Napalm. So now, it remains to be seen how well these new, much heavier Joseph Stalin tanks will do. U. S. officers think they^are too big for Korea -- too clumsy for the rough, mountain terrain.

ADD KOREA WAR

The latest - a dispatch stating that fierce communist attacks have checked the South Korean push.

Set the record set by Captain Joseph McConnell of Apple Valley, California. Jabara now shot down fifteen MiGs. McConnell -- sixteen.

Today, was Jabara's last chance. He has been ordered home, assigned to the Hancock Air Base at Syracuse, New York. He thought he might get another Mig or two on his last day, but it was no go. Enemy jets were absent from the Korean skies, and Jabara never spotted one.

He's returning from his second tour of duty in Korea, and is unlikely to be sent over there again. So, he won't beat out McConnell as the champ.

Major James Jabara was a disappointed ace today. The flyer from Wichita, Kansas, ^{now} will never ~~not~~ match the record set by Captain Joseph McConnell of Apple Valley, California. Jabara has shot down fifteen Migs. McConnell -- sixteen.

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SUN KOREA TRUCE

The armistice meeting at Pan Mun Jom, supposed to have been held on Saturday, has been postponed until Sunday - that "showdown" session. The Communists asked for the delay. Indicating - they need more time to reply to the allied proposal. Which is UN said to demand an ~~XXXXXX~~ answer - yes or no.

A talk with Syngman Rhee, Rhee's secretary reporting to the public, said that Rhee has given assurances that - he'll not obstruct an armistice. But the South Korean President is UN afraid that the Communists intend to turn a ~~XXXXXX~~ political conference, after a truce, into an endless obstruction of talk.

DULLER

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles declared tonight that the United Nations wants - "an honorable ~~peace~~ peace." But we'll fight on - if the Reds want war.

The Secretary appeared on a radio TV program - along with Assistant Secretary of State, Walter ~~Robertson~~ Robertson, President Eisenhower's envoy in talks with Syngman Rhee. ^{entire} ~~Robinson~~ reporting to the public, said that Rhee has given assurance that - he'll not obstruct an armistice. But the South Korean President is ~~am~~ afraid that the Communist^s intend to turn a ~~peace~~ political conference, after a truce, into an endless obstruction of talk.

RED DEFEAT ISLAND

The Chinese communists incurred a defeat today - on an island on the South China coast. Nationalists guerrillas, in a surprise attack, seized the island of Tungshan. The Reds rallied four battalions against the invaders. But these, today, were driven off - as the Nationalists withdrew. In what was - a hit-and-run raid.

This morning, one hundred American-made transport planes flew over -- and, in a matter of minutes, the sky was full of paratroopers. The landing covered by fighter planes, which bombed and machine-gunned the assembled Reds on the ground. Five thousand soldiers of the sky-coming to earth with scarcely a casualty. Several of the paratroopers fell into a river, but were swimming out.

The air invaders seemed into formation quickly, drove out the assembled Communists and took firm possession of Tungshan.

Their task -- one of capture. The

INDO-CHINA

Indo-China reports -- a stunning aerial blow, a paratroop invasion -- seizing a great military base sixty miles behind enemy lines.

The town of Langson is near the border of China, the gate-way city through which armament and munitions have been ^{coming} going to the Indo-Chinese Reds. ^{at} Langson, war materials were accumulated. Safe ^{there} from aerial bombing -- stored in the great limestone caves.

This morning, one hundred American-made transport planes flew over -- and, in a matter of minutes, the sky was full of parachutes. The landing covered by fighter planes, which bombed and machine-gunned the astonished Reds on the ground. Five thousand soldiers of the sky-coming to earth with scarcely a casualty. Several of the paratroopers fell into a river, but ^{had no trouble} came swimming out.

The air invaders swarmed into formation quickly, drove out the astounded Communists, and took firm possession of Langson.

Their task -- one of destruction. The

strategy -- to cut communications with Red China, and to wipe out Langson as a supply center.

They blew up all bridges leading from China -- then made for the limestone caves, and started blowing up the supplies inside. Within a couple of hours, they reported the destruction of a thousand tons of explosives and a thousand machine guns.

The air invaders have three days for their mission -- and then what? Well, their orders are -- to fight their way back to the French lines near Hanoi, a march of sixty miles. Apparently they won't have too much trouble. The Reds opposing them depend on Langson for food and munitions. Their supply line -- cut. So the army of the air is likely to get back all right -- after the brilliant blow launched from the sky.

At a West Berlin jail, today, they turned loose a bedraggled, sorry-looking musician. Hans Eisler, brother of Gerhart Eisler. The latter, that one time Communist big-shot in the United States, who jumped bail and escaped from this country. Brother Hans was a Hollywood composer -- ordered deported. Last night, he was thrown into the West Berlin jug after ^{what is termed} an unseemly disturbance.

He got into a brawl with a taxi driver -- Hans so drunk he couldn't stand up. So they put him in the cooler, and the jailers declare he raved all night -- angry and sick. In between spells, he talked of Hollywood -- the good times he had there.

The jailers asked him -- if Hollywood was so wonderful, what about the world behind the Iron Curtain?

Hans insisted on sticking to his Red principles. He said that, with the development of Socialism, Soviet Russia will in time, be as wonderful as Hollywood.

This morning, they let him out, ^{and} he took his

hangover back to the Soviet Sector -- where he is not likely to get such an enthusiastic reception.

When he and brother Gerhart arrived in East Germany from the United States, they were greeted as as heroes. Gerhart was made Propaganda Chief of East Germany, But he was fired not so long ago -- in disgrace. Hans was given the job of writing the "National Hymn" for the Soviet Zone. But, in time -- he, too, got into trouble. His music denounced as formalistic -- too modern and complicated, apparently, for the Red bosses. He was also criticized for his drinking habits -- too much schnapps, *and vodka and aqua Viet.* So now, after his latest escapade with the bottle, the comrades are likely to scowl at Hans -- *goes* home from jail.

PRINCESS

Princess Margaret returned to London today -- with no apparent sign of a broken heart. A crowd was at the airport -- curious to see if the Princess displayed any evidence of disappointed romance.

You can hardly wonder at the public interest -- the way British newspapers have been playing up the alleged sentimental affair between Margaret and Captain Peter Townsend, the divorced War hero. One London paper staged a poll on the question -- should the two be allowed to marry? The straw vote said -- yes -- overwhelmingly. But publications of the Church of England frowned on any such match.

Then, to complete the drama -- Captain Townsend, who was Equerry to the Queen at Buckingham Palace, was ordered to the British Embassy in Brussels, to serve as Air Attache. He arrived in Brussels, just as the Princess was due to return home. The Captain in exile to break up the romance -- said the British newspapers.

So how did Princess Margaret look today?

Fragile -- woebegone? Not at all. She was beaming and smiling -- as she returned with her mother, the Dowager Queen. And -- was greeted at the airport by her sister, the Reigning Queen.

She waved, and laughed, and you might have thought the tale of blighted romance was a hoax. The comment in London Court Circles is that Margaret, traveling around in Africa, got over whatever ~~sentimentality~~ ~~sentimentality~~ she might have had for the Captain.

(There's an old song that goes -- "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." But there's another saying -- that "Time cures all ills." The latter would seem to be the case with Princess Margaret -- according to the gossip.

The hope is that the public and the newspapers will now let Margaret alone.)

VETERANS

The new head of the Veterans' Administration is Harvey Higley of Wisconsin - a veteran of World War One and a member of the American Legion. Appointed today by President Eisenhower -- with enthusiastic endorsement from the Legion and other organizations of the veterans.

At the Republican Convention last year, Harvey Higley was a delegate backing Taft for the nomination, but it isn't known if the Ohio Senator recommended him for the present appointment.

Taft, by the way, is in the New York Hospital -- as his convention delegate becomes the head of the Veterans' Administration.

MC CARTHY

Senator McCarthy runs into another uproar -- over an investigator he's hired for his Committee. Carl Barrslag, formerly of the FBI -- now blasted by Dr. Robert L. Johnson, retiring as head of the Overseas Information Service in the State Department. The same old boiling controversy -- about the books. Barrslag declared that the Overseas Library, in his words, "Just don't go in for anti-Soviet literature." Which the retiring information chief denounces as "A flagrantly inaccurate statement."

Well, they sure can get into a lot of uproar -- over books.

The Treasury reports a record-breaking tax year. The total collections for the fiscal year, just ended, came to sixty-nine-billions-and-six-hundred ~~and~~ millions. A boost of four-and-a-half millions over the last fiscal year -- most of the increase occurring in the personal income tax. ^W Yes, old John Q Taxpayer did well by his Uncle Sam.]

^ But, in spite of the record-breaking tax total, we also have a record-breaking deficit. The government in the Red -- more than nine billions. Uncle Sam -- not doing right by that step-child of his, John Q. Taxpayer.

(The biggest share was paid by New York State, as usual, with nearly thirteen billions. Next Illinois, with something under six billions. Michigan and California following, with figures a little smaller than that.)

SHRINERS

The Shriners concluded their New York convention this afternoon - with an election of national officers. The new imperial potentate is Rennie Arnold of Petersburg, Virginia. The Nineteen Fifty-four convention of the Shriners will be ~~held~~ held in Atlantic City. The New York jamboree was -- a rollicking success.

SCOUTS FOLLOW SHRINERS

Meanwhile in California, the boy scouts are beginning their national jamboree, fifty thousand gathered at Newport Beach, next door to the home of Paul Mantz, the Cinerama airman, Flag raising and bands playing - stately ceremony at the encampment, the Boy Scout National jamboree.

WEATHER

It was raining in Texas today at Dallas and Abilene. The drought-stricken area is getting a series ~~of~~ heavy showers. Which, says the weather Bureau, can mean an end to the dry disaster - a return to the normal rains.

TORNADO

New Orleans was hit by a freak tornado today, which blasted through a residential and shopping district -- wrecking houses, destroying a church, knocking over trees and power-line poles. No fatalities, luckily.

Here's a description from Alfonso Carlos, who was a passenger in a bus -- right behind the black funnel -- shaped cloud. "It was", he says, "a great, ugly swollen-looking thing. Going down the highway like a tremendous elephant. Busting up trees and throwing down great power lines. When the power lines hit the wet mud, they would explode with a big purple flash,"

That says the eye-witness, *ie*

So that's what a tornado looks like.

ARMY BANDS

The Army is having -- less music. Fewer trombones blaring, fewer drums drumming, fewer piccolos tootling. So stated by the Office of the Quartermaster General. The reason -- economy, a more efficient use of Army manpower.

The last fiscal year, the Army had six hundred twenty-one bands. Some -- with one hundred fifteen musicians each. Big bands, the kind you love to hear -- tar-a tar-a. Others -- mere drum and bugle outfits. Altogether, thirteen-thousand-eight-ninety-five musicians, playing on two and a half million dollars worth of instruments. Tar-a tara.

This year, the Army is getting along with ^{and} ^{instead of 621, and now} five hundred [^] fifty-eight bands, [^] composed of less than fourteen thousand musicians.

Well, I'm all for economy -- but I sure do love that ~~music~~ ^{Mike} military music. [^] What would an Army be without bands? Tar-a, [^] tar-a!