

L.I. - P. & S. Wednesday, Jan. 11, 1950.

The battle for Hainan has begun - the conflict for that large island off the South China coast. Hainan is, in fact, the southernmost part of China, in the tropics, a rich, lush island, inhabited by descendants of primitive tribes, as well as by the Chinese themselves. A Red invasion has been brewing for some time - and now the battle for Hainan is on.

A dispatch from the island tells of a rising of Communist guerrillas, who have seized a stretch thirty miles along the coast - and are holding the shore line. At the same time - Red invasion activity on the Luichow Peninsula, the mainland just to the north, separated by only a narrow strait.

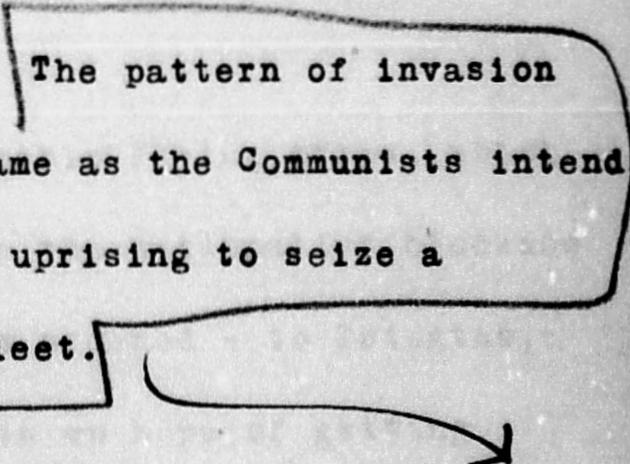
At a port there, a fleet of junks and sampans, a thousand craft in all, was assembled by the Communists, ^{that} ~~and~~ oriental Armada has now set sail. The Reds are silent about where it is going, speaking merely of - "An unknown destination."

But the belief is obvious - that the swarm of junks and sampans is moving across to Hainan - for a

landing along that thirty mile stretch of coast which Red Guerrillas have seized.

It has been expected that Hainan would fall to the Reds, and the most important angle of this news today may point in the direction of that other island,

the Island of Formosa - headquarters of the remnant of the Nationalist Government. The pattern of invasion at Hainan may well be the same as the Communists intend to apply to Formosa - a Red uprising to seize a beachhead for an invasion fleet.



SUBSTITUTE FOLLOW CHINA

In the U.S. Senate tonight there are demands that the military leaders of the ~~PK~~ nation give Congress their views on Formosa. This comes from the Republicans, headed by Senators Vandenberg and Taft. Senator Taft says we can save Formosa from the Reds without getting into a shooting war with the Soviets.

The American steamship Flying Arrow, which was shot up in trying to run the nationalist blockade of R₂d Shanghai, has been ~~PK~~ ordered - to Tsingtao. The Isbrandsen L₁ne has given up hope of getting the vessel into Shanghai, and sends the Flying Arrow to a China port further north. Tsingtao is also in the possession of the Reds - but the ~~XXXXXX~~ nationalists are not trying any blockade there.

JAPANESE BATTLESHIP

A dispatch from Japan writes the closing line of one of the celebrated stories of the war in the Pacific. This item of news has to do with that first great hero story to hit the headlines right after Pearl Harbor - telling how Captain Colin Kelly had bombed and sunk the great Japanese battleship Haruna, and ~~gives~~^{gave} his life in doing so.

But there was always an angle of doubt about that exploit. (The first accounts declared that Colin Kelly had dived his flying fortress into the mighty warship, deliberately sacrificing himself - although dive bombing with a flying fortress was most unlikely, and suicide tactics were equally improbably, with a crew of seven aboard. But, in the excitement of war, the wildest of tales are accepted easily. The facts were that Colin Kelly, off the northern Philippines, bombed the Japanese warship from high altitude, and then the flying fortress was shot down by a Japanese fighter attack - the crew members bailing out safely, but not the pilot. He was lost.

~~The next question was~~) - did that air attack really sink the forty thousand ton Japanese battleship Haruna? The Army Air Force said - yes. The Navy said - no. Naval officers declared that a mere cruiser had been bombed - and explained that Army Air Force bombers wouldn't know the difference between a battleship and a cruiser. The controversy went on all/through the war, and more and more it seemed that the Navy was right.

So now here's the last line of the story. A dispatch from the Port of Kure in Japan states that four Japanese warships are being sold for scrap iron this month, and one of them is - the Haruna. That big battleship has been lying, a derelict, ever since the closing weeks of the war - when it was bombed in the harbor of Kure during the great air assaults on the Japanese home islands. The Haruna, together with two aircraft carriers and a ten thousand ton cruiser, are being auctioned off, with four Japanese steel companies doing the bidding - to buy them in for scrap iron.

EGYPT

In Cairo tonight the party of the WAFD was called upon to ~~gxxxxxxx~~ govern Egypt. This follows the latest election development. The WAFD₁sts won heavily in a battle of the ballots last week, but a number of seats in the Egyptian Parliament were left undecided, and there had to be a run-off election. That was held yesterday and the figures were in tonight -- showing another victory for the WAFD. That party wins two-hundred-and-twenty-six out of three-~~xxxxx~~ hundred-and-nineteen seats.

COAL MINES

John L. Lewis called off the new coal mine strikes today - although the calling off was in the mere form of a "suggestion." The strikes are supposed to be wildcat affairs, not ordered by the union, and the message from John L. Lewis to local union headquarters was just one sentence: "Will you please transmit to our members, who are idle this week, my suggestion that they resume production next Monday."

R2 quick check at the coal fields indicates that the striking miners will heed the "suggestion."

All this - as Republican senators were calling on Congress to tell President Truman that there's a national coal emergency, ~~and~~ demand that he put the Taft-Hartley law into action.

HISS

The New York trial of Alger Hiss has turned into a long verbal duel between the prosecution and a psychiatrist. Dr. Carl Binger of Cornell, a friend of the defendant and his wife, pictures Whittaker Chambers, the accuser, as a pathological liar, with lifelong symptoms of a psychopathic personality. So now the prosecutor is taking the symptoms, one by one, and questioning the doctor about them.

Today came the famous pumpkin papers, documents of the State Department which Whittaker Chambers claims that Alger Hiss gave him to transmit to Communist espionage. The psychiatrist contends that, when Chambers hid the microfilm copies in a pumpkin on his farm, that was a weird symptom.

So today prosecutor Murphy asked - what was weird about that? "Wasn't the pumpkin a pretty good hiding place?"

"Certainly," the psychiatrist admitted.

Then the lawyer pointed out that Benedict Arnold, in committing treason, hid papers in the sole

of his boot. Was that fantastic? ~~or~~ was it fantastic when the mother of Moses hid him in the bullrushes, as the Bible says?

To the reference to the child Moses, the doctor replied lightly: "She could hardly have put him in a safe deposit box."

The questioning got along to things that Whittaker Chambers did as a Communist, with Prosecutor ¹⁰ Murphy pointing out that the dogmas of Communism justify all sorts of misdeeds - considering morality to be merely bourgeoise. So, is that pathological?

To this the psychiatrist responded: "A Christian American who accepts those dogmas without question reveals something about himself that is important. "But", he objected hastily, "don't ask me to say that all Communists are psychopathic personalities."

"That", said Murphy, "was my next question."

And so the Q and A went on in the rarified realm of psychiatric theory, symptoms and analysis - those esoteric ideas kicked around in the slam bang of a court-room cross-examination.

SUBSTITUTE WEATHER

Today's earthquake at Los Angeles was mostly - a rumble, Hollywood says it sounded ~~like~~ like - explosions. Little damage was done, if any -- the main effect being to make a lot of people nervous, and flood the police with telephone inquiries.

Far out in the Pacific a violent storm is ~~being~~ raging -- an American ship in trouble. The freighter "Beaver State" badly beaten by the tempest, has an engine room flooded- unable to navigate. Ships are going to the rescue.

CONVICT

Down in Mississippi, a convict, serving a sentence of one hundred years, made a bid for freedom today by capturing two fugitives wanted for an atrocious murder - the killing of three negro children. During the last couple of days, one of the biggest manhunts has been staged, the authorities relentlessly determined to get the murderers, and the exploit was accomplished today by the convict condemned to a prison term of one whole century.

On December Thirtieth, there was a Mississippi jail-break, three prisoners tunneling their way out. They had been locked up on the complaint of a negro farmer, who charged them with burglary and assault. So now, escaping, they were determined on revenge. They went to the house of the negro farmer and his family - and, in a rage of shooting, wounded the farmer and killed three children.

The manhunt that followed was so determined, that prison convicts, trustees, were permitted to join the search - with prospects of winning their freedom,

CONVICT...2

if they caught the fugitives. So that brought forward C. B. Grammer, convicted of a killing in a night club at Natchez, Mississippi -- and sent ^{up for one} ~~down~~ hundred years.

This convict, Grammer, has cut quite a figure around the prison - claiming, as he does, that he is a former boxing champion. He says that he used to fight under the name of "Hog Jaw" Mullen, and won the light heavyweight title in Nineteen Thirty-Nine - when "Hog Jaw" Mullen defeated "Tiger" Burns at New York's Madison Square Garden. However, an examination of the records of boxing shows no mention of any champ named "Hog Jaw" Mullen. So the pugilistic ~~name~~ ^{game} is dubious - though there is nothing dubious about what C. B. Grammer ^{alias} "Hog Jaw" Mullen, did today.

Volunteering for the manhunt, he set out by himself - with ~~two~~ ^{pistols} and three bloodhounds.

It was down in the Mississippi hills, and on they went, the dogs sniffing the ground. Mile after mile across the rough country - and several times the

bloodhounds lost the scent. But they picked it up again, and today the climax came for the self-styled ex-light-heavyweight champion, "Hog Jaw" Mullen - and his troupe of bloodhounds.

As the dogs trotted along, their noses close to the ground, they suddenly stopped, grew rigid, and started barking the long mournful bay of the bloodhound. They were barking at a small shack straight ahead, and the man-hunter knew he had found the human game he was chasing.

"I let out a yell," he says, "and made a dash for the shack." The bloodhounds were right. Out came the two fugitives. One of them, Leon Turner, named as the actual killer of the negro children, desperado-murderer who would shoot ^{it} out.

The man-hunter immediately opened fire, and felled Turner with two bullets - wounded, but not fatally. The other fugitive, ^{looking in top gun,} ~~under the menace of a~~ [^] ~~stick~~ surrendered meekly.

So C. B. Grammer made his capture - which

CONVICT....4

means more to him than the alleged light heavyweight championship he says he won as "How Jaw" Mullen. He turned his prisoners over to the state police, who immediately gave him the full credit. And tonight the word is that an official recommendation is being sent to the governor of Mississippi for the release of the convict serving a sentence of a hundred years —

C. B. Grammer - or is he the former champ, "Hog Jaw" Mullen?

CHICKENS

At Racine, Wisconsin, farmer Ralph Smith appears to have wrought a miracle with his new elixir for chickens. Not that his hens lay any more eggs - they don't. They lay fewer - although the elixir was intended to increase the production of eggs. But miracles are often surprising.

Farmer Smith explains that he spent five thousand dollars, and no end of time - developing his chicken elixir. He had a lot of theories about what makes a hen lay eggs, and applied these in the preparation of his magic medicine. Then he fed the elixir to the chickens, and the effect was painful to behold. The hens grew listless, acted tired and laid mighty few eggs. But, when Farmer Smith ate what they did lay - hair grew on his head.

He had been bald-headed for many years, but now has curly locks - a surprising result of the chicken elixir, which apparently has an effect on bald

heads. Nelson, ~~has some~~ ^{shall we say some of this} chicken elixir to Bergen, Benny and Crosby? the 3 must get hair? 14