

L.T. - L. Thursday, Feb. 18, 1954. (Aspen)

The agreement at Berlin came with rapid fire action, today. The Foreign Ministers met in a secret session, which lasted only an hour and a quarter - and most of that time was given to a discussion of how the agreement should be announced, formally. Actually, the settlement had already been drawn up - tentatively. So all that was needed, ~~really~~ was -- an all around okay.

The conference of the Foreign Ministers failed on its two major points - Germany and Austria. But it succeeded on the problem of the Far East. Succeeded that is, in bringing about a big-time parley on Korea and Indo China. Which will begin in Geneva, Switzerland, April twenty-sixth.

At first they said - April Fifteenth. But changed this to the twenty-sixth.

The success came about through a series of last minute concessions made by Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov - who accepted the western insistence that Red China should not ~~be~~ be taken in as a full

partner in a Big Five conference. The ~~press~~ protocol is this: The Big Four, Great Britain, France, the United States and Soviet Russia - will invite Red China to the talks at Geneva.

Molotov also conceded the point - that the Geneva parley shall be limited to discussions on Korea and Indo China. There will be two sections. First, the negotiations for a Korean peace treaty - with North and South Korea invited to attend. Second, peace in Indo-China - with Indo-Chinese regimes invited, like Viet-Nam, Laos, and Cambodia, *and the Viet Min rebels,*

This arrangement means, of course, that the Geneva conference with Red China will not be permitted to take up other subjects of wider scope. Molotov had insisted that there should be a sort of global parley, which would have given the Chinese Reds a voice in world affairs. But the Soviet Foreign Minister yielded on that point.

So the Geneva business will be, technically,

a sort of Big Four palaver, with Red China taking a back seat - although proceedings might well take on a "Big Five look. The Communist world is likely to regard it in that way. So may Syngman Rhee in South Korea, and Chiang Kai Shek in Formosa. They may take the view that the western ~~IMX~~ powers, as a practical fact, are letting Red China in - although maybe, by the back door.

However, today's agreement contains a clause - that the Geneva Conference does not imply any United States recognition of the Red government of China.

In all this, the Chinese Reds are still to be heard from. Will they accept the invitation? There would seem to be little doubt about that - after the Soviets made the deal.

The Berlin agreement, represents one large concession on our side - in the matter of Soviet Russia at the parley. The armistice in Korea called for a peace conference to be held, but negotiations

for that went into a deadlock - because the Reds demanded that Russia sit in as a neutral. While we insisted - that Russia should take its place on the side of the Communists. The Soviets - not a neutral. Not - after providing the North Koreans and Chinese Communists with military aid of every sort. But now, in the Geneva business, Russia is a member of the Big Four, calling the conference.

Actually, there was a bit of irony in the whole question of Soviet Russia as a neutral non-belligerent in the Korean war. Can you be a neutral non-belligerent, if you help one side? The answer would seem to be - no. But we Americans might remember back to Nineteen Hundred and Forty- when we were, technically, non-belligerent. Did we, or did we not, help one side in the European war, the allies against the Nazis? What about lend-lease? We sent military aid to the allies - including Stalin, fighting Hitler.

Moreover, we shipped munitions to Chiang Kai Shek's ⁱⁿ china, its war with Japan. Remember the Burma

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Road - and the Flying Tigers? Yet we were, technically, neutral.

So the concession we now have made would seem to be logical enough - dropping our insistence that the Soviets, in Korean peace ^{(negotiations,} ~~negotiations,~~ must register on the Communist's side. My own feeling is ^{that} ~~that~~ President Eisenhower's administration has shown a gift of wise flexibility in foreign policy.

The formal amendment of the Berlin agreement was made by American Secretary of State John Foster Dulles - at the final meeting, this afternoon, of the Berlin Conference.

BERLIN FRANCE

The Berlin agreement represents a special victory for one of the Four Foreign Ministers - Bidault of France. He goes back to Paris with a program for an international parley to settle the war in Indo-China. Which - has been such a headache for France.

Bidault supported the west all down the line - in questions of Germany and Austria and the Atlantic Treaty alliance. This could have caused him plenty of trouble at home - if, by doing so, he had jeopardized the possibility of a settlement in Indo China. But he returns with a Soviet agreement to negotiate for peace out there in southeastern Asia.

In Indo China, meanwhile, the French High Commissioner announces - France will consider any peace proposals made by the Red rebel regime, that is, if these proposals are presented "in a precise and official manner."

Indo-China buzzes with rumors that diplomatic contacts have already been made with the Communists. This the French, out there, deny. Saying - they have

received no Red emissaries. But no such denial is made by those Indo Chinese governments allied with the French. And now the High Commissioner says France will consider peace proposals, if the Communists make these in a formal way.

Meanwhile, there is little from the war front, fighting has died down, and the French say, the military situation looks better.

ATOMIC

In Washington, the report is that the United States and Soviet Russia have reached a further agreement - for atomic talks. These - to be conducted by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and the Soviet Ambassador to Washington, Zarubin. They - to carry on, in discussions of President Eisenhower's "atoms - for-peace" plan.

This is said to have been decided at the Berlin conference - in informal talks, on the side, between Secretary Dulles and Foreign Minister Molotov. Before the conference began, Dulles had conferred with Zarubin on the atomic topic. But these talks were only - procedural. That is, they concerned the manner in which negotiations would be conducted.

Then, At Berlin, Dulles and Molotov went further, agreeing that atomic talks should now consider "substantive" aspects. Meaning, that Secretary Dulles and Ambassador Zarubin, in Washington, will get down to the actual facts of the business. Trying - to reach an understanding on definite points in a

program for warding off the menace of atomic war.

The Eisenhower program - atoms for peace.

CONFESSION

At the court of inquiry, investigating the case of Colonel Frank Schwable - the Marine Corps flier, today, presented a statement. He explained his "confession".

He told of the tortures inflicted on him by the Reds in their efforts to make him confess germ warfare. He says he was confronted with two alternatives. One - death in a filthy prison camp which would profit no one. The other - an obviously phony confession, which might spare his life. And - he could return and give others the benefit of his experience.

Colonial Schwable chose the second course. Today, he declared: "That is the decision I would ~~make~~ make again, under identical circumstances." He says he loaded his "confession" with absurd ~~if~~ falsehoods that could easily be detected as nonsense.

The Army, meanwhile, announces that Corporal Edward Dickinson will be tried by ~~XXXX~~ court martial. Dickinson - who went over to the Reds, then

then changed his mind and came home.

A pre-trial investigation has been going on in Washington, and the Army says the information makes a court martial necessary. Information - that Dickinson squealed on his fellow prisoners, to gain favorable treatment for himself - while bringing punishment on his comrades. He is also accused with - associating and collaborating with the enemy.

Here's news about six other former American prisoners of war, but this is the other way around. They are to be decorated for courage and fortitude - in refusing to break under torture inflicted by the Reds. The Army announces that the Bronze Star will be awarded to four enlisted men. Edward Gaither of Philadelphia, Earnest Haskins of East Beckley, West ~~Virginia~~ Virginia, Charles Loutitt of Monongahela, Pennsylvania and Sergeant Martin Watson of Deep River, Connecticut. And two officers - Lieutenant Robert Howell of Miami, Florida and Lieutenant Paul O'Doud of Berkley, California.

Military honors for American prisoners of war who defied the ordeal in Red prison camps.

ROSENBERGS

A New York court today took the custody of the two Rosenberg children. Judge Jacob Panken stated that the two sons of the executed atomic spies were being - exploited. Taken around from place to place - in ^a business of raising funds. So Judge Panken placed _^ eleven year old Michael Rosenberg and six year old Robert Rosenberg - under the jurisdiction of his court.

REPUBLICANS

The Republican party is having a new flare up - all because of the Bricker amendment. Today G O P Congressman Noah Mason of Illinois resigned ~~fr~~ from the President's committee on inter-governmental relations - because of the dismissal of the committee chairman,

Yesterday, Clarence Manion, former Dean of the Notre Dame law school, ~~stated that he had been asked to resign as chairman by Presidential Assistant Sherman Adams. He said~~ he was fired - ~~XXXX~~ because he supported the Bricker Amendment, the purpose of which is to limit the treaty making powers of the President.

~~Manion is a right wing Republican, and there was a quick rally of G O P conservatives to his side. They denounce the Manion dismissal, and~~
Congressman Mason resignes from the committee in protest.

He describes the former Dean of the ~~XXXX~~ Notre Dame Law School in these words: "One of the Big Men in the country, a man big enough and capable enough to be President of the United States."

MARILYN MONROE

The Marilyn Monroe expedition to Korea ~~is~~ produced an unhappy time, today, for a bunch of G I's. The shapley movie actress made an appearance before sixthousand soldiers of the U.S. Forty Fifth Division. They gave her the wildest demonstration she ever had. Which, however, made it bad for that bunch of G I's I mentioned.

Marilyn's appearance, in a skin-tight purple dress, was in a five minute act. Which was preceeded by some soldier entertainment - a troupe ~~is~~ of G I's in what was to have been a forty-five minute act, the reception they got was tragic. Their jokes fell flat. They ~~was~~ were howled down. The mob of soldiers roared: "Bring on Marilyn, bring on Marilyn."

The G I entertainers tried to continue, but the audience started to throw rocks at them. They ~~is~~ persisted ~~xxxxxx~~ bravely - until the cannonade of stones made it worth their lives to tell another joke.

So they cleared out, and Marilyn appeared in her skin-tight dress, she tried to sing, but couldn't make herself heard - the soldiers cheered her so loudly. They seemed to think the blonde movie star, like little children, should be seen and not heard.

It ended with an enthusiastic rush to the stage. One G I trampled in the stampede, and taken off in an Army ambulance. Marilyn, herself, had to be rescued from her forty-fifth division admirers, and whisked away in an army car.

Seems as if one blond can cause more disturbance than a war.