

SUB KOREA

CJ-P+g Thurs. Sept. 7, 1950.

Surprising news from Korea tonight - the Reds halting a big attack in the most unexpected way. Last midnight they launched what looked like a major drive at the eastern end of the northern front, and the heaviest kind of fighting was expected. Then, today, it began to rain - and the supposition was that the Communists would strike all the harder. That has been their favorite time for savage assaults -- in bad weather, when rains and heavy clouds blind the United Nations Air Force.

Today, the sky was so murky that only a fraction of the fighters and bombers were able to operate, winging at low altitudes ~~xxx~~ under the clouds. Nevertheless the Reds broke off their attack, which had threatened a drive down the valley leading to the supply port of Pusan. Similarly, to the east of that point, United Press correspondent Bennyhoff reports the halt of an enemy offensive - in a downpour of rain. ~~xxxx~~ No explanation is given to account for this curious change of tactics by the Communists.

To the west pressure of the Reds brought about another withdrawal by the U.S. First Cavalry -- its third. So now the Communists are within seven miles of Taegu, and have that key highway center in the range of artillery.

Bad weather puts a hiatus in a great stretch of concentrated air activity, during which United Nations planes knocked out a total of fifty-two enemy tanks in thirty hours. It was round-the-clock -- with night fighters taking over, as the day ended. The night fighters are using tactics of parachute flares, ~~flares, etc. etc.~~

The encouraging factor is - in the sky. Today the United Nations air power was in action in a bigger way than ever, Australian planes as well as American - and even the tiny Free Korean Air Force flew to the attack. The earlier flights reported twelve enemy tanks knocked out - making a total of fifty-two in about thirty hours. It's ^{now} round-the-clock activity - with night fighters taking over, as the day ended in Korea. ~~The night fighters are using tactics of parachute flares, which is~~ ^{and here's} ~~illustrated by~~ what happened to a convoy of one hundred Communist vehicles. They were ^{moving} under ~~the~~ cover of darkness, but that cover didn't work. Over came the American night fighters, and parachute flares were dropped at each end of the convoy. In the light of the parachute beacons, bombs, machine guns and rockets smashed front and rear, blocking the convoy on both sides. At last reports, the night fighters were flying over in waves, smashing the long line of vehicles + lighted by flares.

ADD KOREA

The latest - a dispatch stating that ^{Korea} American troops today captured one hundred and twenty rounds of Russian mortar bombs dated - Nineteen Fifty. This happened when a patrol of G I's ambushed a Red soldier and two South Korean laborers hauling ammunitions down a mountain side. Nineteen Fifty Soviet mortar bombs would, of course, ^{This} support ^S the charge that the Soviets are supplying the Korean Reds right now -- not merely a case of armament and ammunitions turned over to them when the Russians withdrew from Korea.

CHAPMAN

There was a tense emotional scene at a Congressional meeting today - with the bitterest words a member of the Cabinet has ever hurled at a member of Congress. It was a face to face encounter between Secretary of the Interior Oscar Chapman and Republican Senator Schoeppel of Kansas - who, in a Senate speech, accused Chapman of pro-Communism.

The Secretary of the Interior said the Senator had resorted to the Soviet technique of the "Big Lie." This, he cried, "is another instance of the use of the smear technique which has become the stock in trade of little men in high places." And he defied the Senator to repeat the charge of pro-Communism - without the cloak of Congressional immunity. The Secretary climaxed in a choking voice, tears in his eyes.

Senator Schoeppel charged that, in taking an oath of office, Chapman had stricken out the loyalty section. In reply to this, Chapman related that, in Nineteen Forty-Seven, he was sworn in as Under-Secretary of the Interior, and the loyalty section was left out by

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he denied that he had ever been a Soviet agent, or a Communist. Alaskan delegate Bartlett told the committee that he knew nothing about the former connection of Feltus with Red Poland at the time the lobbyist was hired to work for Alaska.

a clerk - because Chapman had already taken similar pledges, several times before.

Today he denied the charges that he had belonged to Communist front organizations - like the American League Against War and Fascism. He admitted that he was once a member of the Council for American-Soviet Friendship, but said he pulled out of that outfit before it was cited as subversive.

He rejected, likewise, the charge that he had played a part in the employment of a lobbyist named Feltus - to work in the cause of statehood for Alaska. Feltus was formerly a lobbyist for Communist Poland.

Chapman said Feltus was engaged by Governor of Alaska Ernest Gruening, and E. L. Bartlett, Alaskan delegate to Congress.

Feltus, himself, testified about his connection with Red Poland. He said he took the job because at that time we were, in his words, "Trying to make friends with Poland." He admitted he may have been wrong in working for the Red Government as long as he did. But

ARMY X-RAY

The Army makes an answer to charges, that, in x-ray examinations of recruits, excessive sums have been paid to civilian doctors. Today Deputy Surgeon General George Armstrong, told a Congressional Committee that the medical fees were cheaper than spending about four million dollars to install x-ray facilities and maintain technicians - at all of the hundred-and-eight induction centers, under the draft.

The reports were that one doctor in Milwaukee made twenty-two thousand ~~and~~ five-hundred dollars in less than a month - x-raying recruits at five dollars apiece. While in Omaha, a physician was making four-hundred-and-fifty dollars a day. The general explained that in Omaha, for example, the number of recruits was so small that the cost of installing x-ray machines and maintaining technicians would have [^]bought the price up to ten dollars per x-ray. But both Milwaukee and Omaha will now have the facilities - that being justified by the increasing number of draftees.

WEINBAUM

At Los Angeles today a jury brought a verdict of guilty against Dr. Sidney Weinbaum, fifty-two year old scientist who was formerly at the California institute of Technology. He was charged with perjury in denying that he was a member of the Communist party - a statement he made in order to remain at work in a secret jet propulsion laboratory. During the trial he ~~he~~ denied that he ever was a Red, but among the witnesses against him were two of his former students, who swore that he tried to recruit them for the Communist Party. Found guilty, Dr. Weinbaum faces a sentence of as much as five years in prison.

MARINES

Today, at the convention of the Marine Corps. League in Washington, the commandant, Clay Nixon, took the platform, and issued a warning - unexpected. No reason, apparently. He told the assembled delegates to conduct themselves - like "marines and Americans." The delegates were a bit mystified, didn't know why any such injunction should be made.

They should have been enlightened - by the bugle. The convention bugler was ordered to strike up - "Hail the Chief." Heralding - the President of the United States. ^{Mr.} Truman arriving at the convention. But, as the bugler tried to start the Presidential salutation - his false teeth slipped. He is Harry Baldwin, a seventy year old veteran of the leathernecks, and his upper plate fell out of place - which made it impossible for him to attempt any such ambitious melody on the bugle as - "Hail the Chief." So the best he could do, with those misbehaving false teeth, was to toodle the Marine Call to attention - which ~~has~~ only four notes.

So the delegates were left still mystified by

the warning - to behave like Marines and gentlemen. They didn't understand, until President Truman himself walked in.

Well, the stern warning was not needed. It is true that ~~the~~ President ~~had~~ aroused the howling indignation of Marines and their league - by his remarks about the leathernecks being Navy police, with a propaganda machine almost equal to Stalin's. But he apologized yesterday by letter, and today he appeared - with a personal apology.

They used to talk about that Roosevelt charm, but there is also plenty of Truman charm, - the President knowing how to fight himself when he has made a mistake.

He was introduced by the commander of the Marine Corps, General Cates, who said: "Marines admire courage - especially personal courage." Well, it did take courage for President Truman to humble himself, as few American Presidents have ever done. ~~Out~~ in his old Missouri neighborhood, they'd call it - eating crow. But Harry Truman made a relatively pleasant dish of it. He grinned,

took the blame on himself, and made a speech of apology.

When I make a mistake," he said, "I try to correct it. I try to make as few as possible." To which he added: "I hope that this organization will support the President in his effort to get peace in the world." He ended by saying: "I hope that, from now on there will never be any misunderstanding between us."

The response of the Marine Corps. League was a thunder of cheers all along the line, cheers that said - apology accepted.

Later, at a White House news conference, it was noted that President Truman looked immensely relieved - as well he might be. His row with the Marines was political dynamite, as was illustrated by events at the New York State Republican Convention, at Saratoga Springs. There, today, Governor Dewey was remonimated, and Lieutenant-Governor Hanley was named to run for the Senate - all by acclaim. It was acclamation with music, and the band played the Marine Corps. hymn - "From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli." That

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stirring march rung out repeatedly - and they say it's to be the Republican anthem for the coming campaign. Which could be amusing strategy - by way of a political song. Everybody knows the tune, it's a good one, and who could object to the band playing the hymn of the Marine Corps?

DEMOCRATS FOLLOW MARINES

The convention of the Democrats returned to form today - after the promise of a political explosion. At Rochester they went ahead and nominated Congressman Walter Lynch for governor and renominated Senator Lehman, all peaceful and quiet, except for the cheers.

Last night the news told ~~it~~ of the sudden surge of a boom for Congressman Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr. - with up-state delegations revolting against the powerful New York City delegations. But, during the night, the political lines were restored - and, after conferences with leaders, F.D.R., Jr., announced his own support of Lynch. His boom had started too late, says today's dispatch from Rochester - and, while the son of the late president touched off a demonstration at the convention today, there was no sign of revolt.

The word was that the up-state politicians were pessimistic about Congressman Lynch, unknown outside of his own district. They wanted a "big name" to oppose Governor Thomas E. Dewey. But the new candidate made a rip-snorting speech of acceptance today, and the note of pessimism gave way to an all-around hurra.

LIGHTNING

Here's a favorite theme of old stories - the freak things that lightning can do. The news is from Brazil, where the Silveira family was having dinner - during an electrical storm.

There was a tremendous thunderbolt, which came flashing into the dining room by way of the radio antenna. The radio set was wrecked, and the lightning leaped across to a cupboard, where it smashed the dishes. Then lashed across the dinner table, where husband and wife were sitting. His coat and her dress were scorched. After which the electrical flame shot out through the kitchen, and set fire to the house next door. Nobody hurt - everybody scared.

JESSE JAMES

Another tale of buried treasure - this one featuring Jesse James. At Hamilton, Illinois, a forty-five year old shoemaker, Glenn Huff, claims that he and his brother Ernest have located the cave in which the famous outlaw of old is said to have buried some two hundred thousand dollars in gold.

The cave is on a farm near Revere, Missouri, and some confirmation is given by Cliff Bell, who owns the farm. He says that back in Nineteen Hundred, two men found a map scratched on a rock, a crude chart indicating places where Jesse James had buried the loot of his robberies - and, from this, the two men were able to locate and dig up a cache of gold on the farm. But they were unable to find the cave, in which most of the treasure was hidden.

So now the Illinois shoemaker and his brother claim to have made the discovery. But they add that the cave is so small, it would take a lot of money to do an excavating job. So I suppose the next thing will be - try to raise funds to dig the ~~cave~~^{gold} buried by Jesse James.

Nelson, ~~are~~^{would} you ^{be} interested in buried gold? ^b

CITIZENSHIP

At San Rafael, California, Judge Edward Butler handed down a verdict - which, no doubt, is to be applauded on the grounds of patriotism. But it might evoke a sigh of regret from some who like frankness - and fishing. Sounds confusing - patriotism, frankness and fishing. But the story goes this way.

John Albright, born in Canada, was applying for citizenship papers. John is eighty-four years old, at which late date he was determined to be an American.

The judge asked: "Just why do you want to become a citizen?"

The answer should have been - stars and stripes forever, hurrah for the U.S.A., something patriotic.

But John has a gift of candor and frankness. He told the judge he liked fishing - and, as an alien, he had to pay twenty-five dollars for a fishing license. As a citizen, it would cost him only two bucks.

His honor frowned, and said - petition denied. Although, some of us might compare John's frankness about fishing with George Washington's candor about the cherry tree. *And now Nelson - speak up with candor!*