

KOREA LT. P. G. Thuro - June 11 - '53,

News from Korea shifts from the truce - to the battlefield. Today, on the east central front, the South Koreans were counter-attacking - trying to plug up three gaps knocked in their ~~xxx~~ main defense line by mass assaults. Eight thousand Reds crashing through, cut down in droves, but marching on in "human sea" tactics.

At one breach in the South Korean line, a battalion or two of Chinese poured through - penetrating far to the rear. Today U N troops were moving to round up the Reds - who seem to be trapped behind the line.

The massive Red offensive, against the South Koreans, spread over to a sector held by the U S third Division. There, on the rim of Chorwon Valley, above Seoul - the G I's were ~~xxxxx~~ driven back by a storm of Red cannon and mortar fire, followed by a "human sea" assault. Today, though, troops of the Third Division counter-attacked, and won back the lost position in twelve hours of bitter fighting.

The advances the Communists were able to make against the South Koreans are not large, but they do affect armistice negotiations. The truce line, agreed on, is based on the position when the document is finally signed. So, those enemy gains might call for a readjustment. However, there seems to be no hitch at Pan Mun Jom, where the negotiators seem confident - as they work on final arrangements for signing. We hear that the official ceremony will be held - probably next week.

All this - in the face of continued opposition by the South Koreans. Today, their minist^{er} of the Interior said: "It would be very difficult to effect an armistice that we do not approve." Which could be true. South Korean obstruction could make things difficult.

On the other hand, President Syngman Rhee called on his people to stop their hostile demonstrations. He said: "A truce, on the present terms, means death to us." But added: "We always ~~xxx~~ remember that the

United States has no less concern in our future than we have." Then he went on with a warning to trouble makers. "An unfriendly ~~is~~ attitude toward U.S. personnel, and violent expression of complaints to our Allies, are subject to stern punishment," said Syngman Rhee.

On the other hand, we hear that officials in his government are stepping up their campaign against an armistice - inciting demonstrations.

The biggest one, thus far, was at the port of Pusan today. One hundred thousand people marching through the streets - and shouting against the truce terms. A huge crowd staging a sort of sit down strike in front of the U S embassy. There was a clash, when a mob interfered with an American bus. Shots were fired, and two ~~is~~ South Koreans injured slightly.

In Seoul - another demonstration by weeping school girls. Dressed in white, they sat down, and cried their eyes out. Three of the weeping girls became hysterical.

Allof which adds up to a confused picture of South Korean opposition - as the truce, apparently, is about to be signed.

FOLLOW KOREA

The latest - India gives what is called a "preliminary favorable reply". That's the way the State Department describes a message from New Delhi - in answer to an invitation to serve on the committee of neutral nations in charge of prisoners of war. Prime Minister Nehru had stated previously that India would serve on such a commission - only if assured that the South Koreans would not make active opposition.

We don't know exactly what the State Department means by "preliminary favorable reply". That will be explained later.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

News leaking out of Red Czechoslovakia pictures a full scale revolt at Pilsen. Which city in Western Czechoslovakia is famous for beer - also for the fact that it was captured from the Nazis, in World War Two, by the armored forces of General George Patton. But Patton's tanks, after their dazzling drive, were ordered to pull back - ^{and make way} ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ for the Soviet Red army. Pilsen must have bitter memories of that, and would be a likely place for violent reaction against a drastic financial order issued by the Red Regime.

The Communists abolished the old money of Czechoslovakia, wiped out all savings, ~~and~~ cancelled all the debts of the state, and declared all government securities worthless. That made hundreds of thousands of people paupers, including workers - and we've been hearing of strikes and riots in violent protest.

At Pilsen, says today's ~~xx~~ dispatch, factory workers attacked the Town Hall, stormed the

place, burned records, trampled pictures of Stalin under foot, reviled the Soviet flag, and hoisted the American flag. A revolt so ~~xxxx~~ serious, the Red militia had to be called out - and there was savage fighting and bloodshed. Communist newspapers in Czechoslovakia call it - a counter-revolutionary putsch."

This happened on June First - the news filtering through the Iron Curtain only now.

Germany

The Communist government of East Germany announces a sudden change of policy towards victims of Red oppression. "All trials, arrests, court sentences" will be reviewed. The Reds declaring - they will correct excessive severity. They'll rectify what they call "errors". Which means, of course, they are modifying their tyranny. Along with this we have reports that Soviet Russia will call for elections in the near future. Elections to include - all Germany. Which would mean, ~~the~~ a unification of that country.

All in line with new diplomatic moves in Germany - part of the Moscow peace offensive.

COLOMBIA

The Republic of Colombia, today, sent a stern order to France - to a bunch of bicycle riders there. "Come home at once" says that angry message from the capital city of Bogota.

It seems that a Colombian team went over to France to compete in an international bicycle race - and bring honor to the Colombian flag. But, when the race began, they weren't there - they had over-slept.

At the starting line in the morning, bicycle riders of other nations were at the starting line, and went pedalling for dear life. But the Colombians were in their hotel - snoring away.

Today's dispatch from Bogota quotes a ^{ment}govern~~er~~ spokesman as saying ^{all this} "war" does Colombia no honor."

So the sleeping bicycle riders are ordered home in disgrace.

QUEEN

In London, today, huge crowds were out - for the trooping of the colors. The Coronation was nine days ago, but the British ^{and American tourists} are unwilling to give up the festive spirit. The Queen was cheered wildly, as she rode through the streets to the parade ground - where the Grenadier Guards went through the traditional military ceremony. Her Majesty wore a brilliant military uniform - three-cornered hat, crimson tunic, and blue skirt. And rode side-saddle -- on a brown horse.

The pageant was in celebration of her "official" birthday. Actually, she was born on April twenty-first, twenty seven years ago. But her birthday has been advanced ^{for celebration purposes} ~~is~~ on into June - for reasons of English weather. April is a rainy month in England, while June ^{usually has far} ~~has a better prospect of~~ bright ^{er} skies.

But it rained in London today, and the trooping of the colors was a damp affair. The Queen, the soldiers, the distinguished guests and the

general public - all got wet.

At the harbor of Portsmouth, the royal birthday was greeted by a salute of twenty-one guns. A monster cannonade from an international fleet of two hundred warships. Assembled at Portsmouth for a ceremony on Monday - when the newly crowned Queen will hold a naval review.

The United States is represented by the heavy cruiser/Baltimore. France, by the Cruiser Montcalm. But the focus of interest is on a warship from Soviet Russia. The cruiser Sverdlov - the first Russian Naval vessel in a British port since Nineteen Thirty-Seven.

Yesterday, the commander of the Sverdlov came ashore and paid a courtesy visit to Admiral Sir John Edelsten and Admiral Sir George Creasy, Her Majesty's commanders at Portsmouth.

The British invited ^{the} Russian officers and sailors for a tour of London, with dances and parties. That was for last night! But not a Russian showed up.

Today, however, came a change. The Captain of the Sverdlov, apparently, took time to think it over. Or, maybe, to communicate with Moscow. Anyway, one hundred and fifty of the Russian crew came ashore today - accepting the invitation to London. They were taken in buses, and rolled off in a jubilant scene - sailors of the Red cruiser laughing and singing.

Which is only a beginning. Others of the crew of the Sverdlov are to be given shore leave, and the plans for entertainment include - a tour of Windsor Castle and the old Cathedral town of Salisbury.

Yes, the Soviets - ^{seem to be} ~~are~~ thawing out.

COMMUNISM

There was an uproar at a Senate hearing today. Same old question - are you a Communist? The witness - a one-time official of the U.S. Wartime Intelligence Agency, the O.S.S./George Wuchinich of Malverne, New York, swore that he was not a Communist when he worked for the O S S;- but he refused to answer whether he was one before, or is one now.

All this occurred in a noisy scene, in which the witness shouted, "I've been a spy for the United States government."

Whereupon, he read a U.S. Army citation, awarding him the Distinguished Service Cross. "For extraordinary heroism in connection with secret military operations in the Balkans," said the citation. Wuchinich told how, in World War Two, he had parachuted into enemy occupied territory, to carry out a mission of espionage.

"I've done more for my country than you", he roared at the committee, "Not one of you gentlemen

offered your life to your country, like I did."

That drew an acid retort from Senator Jenner of Indiana, who said: "There are millions of Americans who risked their lives, and can answer - whether or not they are Communists. Benedict Arnold was in the Army too," snapped the Senator.

~~(The war-time O.S.S. was represented by another witness - Leonard Mins of New York City, who analyzed Russian affairs for the wartime intelligence agency. He refused to answer the sixty-four dollar question - nor would he say whether or not he had ever been in the service of Soviet military intelligence.)~~

EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower made some philosophical remarks today - philosophy being needed by a military man in the political area. He addressed the young Republican convention at Mount Rushmore, South Dakota - the place where a mountain has been sculptured

into figures from American history. *those huge figures blasted out and carved by Gutzon Borglum. Well,* the President said he was going "to get along" with Congress; and ^{he} spoke of the troubles and uproar of political opposition.

"We must be philosophical and patient about all this" he said. "For the sound and the fury is a characteristic element in our two-party system.

We must keep our sense of humor always. For, since time immeorial, man has heard no cry more agonized than that of the deposed bureaucrat or the demoted politician." ^R So now the President, like a philosopher, is going fishing. Izaak Walton recommended that - for wise and patient reflection; and, the trout-streams of the Black Hills of South Dakota are famous.

No other Presidential angler has fished there since the Nineteen Twenties when President Coolidge was out that way. But he wasn't much of a fisherman. The local people fixed it so he could hardly avoid catching a fish.

President Truman was featured as a deep-sea fisherman - with plenty of news pictures showing him trolling in the Gulf Stream. But, actually, fishing bored him stiff.

So we are told by United Press correspondent Merriman Smith, who covered the Truman vacation trips to Key West.

He says that H.S.T. had to go fishing - to pacify the local Chamber of Commerce, please the news photographers, and give his own staff an outing. But he hated the fishing.

like ex-Pres. Hoover,
Ike, however, is a true disciple of the Apostle of angling. Come to think of it, they might have called Izaak Walton - Ike.

And now Nelson, let's hear your philosophy for the week-end,