

CLAY

L.I. - P.M. Tuesday, May 17, 1949.

Washington, today, staged a welcome of a kind usually accorded to a victorious commander returning from war. Well, it was the General coming home from success in the cold war -- General Lucious ~~R~~ Clay of the Berlin blockade and the airlift. He received a hero's ovation.

The way that soldier from the south loves pomp and ostentation is reflected by what he has been saying about his retirement as American Military Governor in Germany - he is going cat-fishing in Georgia. No, not even the more spectacular kinds of angling, snaring the embattled sailfish or tarpon, those mighty game fish. Instead, just a fishline and a worm, the humblest fishing of all, the lazy life of catching the lazy cat-fish.

But the pomp and ostentation were tremendous ~~today~~ - full military honors as General Clay landed at the airport with a distinguished welcoming committee headed by Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson. Then there was a ceremony of decoration at

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the White House, President Truman presenting General Clay with ^{an oak leaf cluster for his} distinguished service medal, for what the President called - "Services of supreme value."

Mrs. Clay too, was granted an award - a big kiss from Vice-President Barkley:

Then a triumphant reception in Congress, both houses giving the General a standing ovation. ~~In the House of Representatives,~~ ^{The General} made a brief address, saying that the victory of the airlift over the Soviet blockade had rallied the German people to the cause of liberty. Which opinion, as the General spoke, was getting powerful confirmation on the news wire. The figures for the election in the Soviet zone of eastern Germany - so heavily disappointing to the Communists.

Well, the General took all the glory like a soldier, and now he'll go cat-fishing like a southerner.

GERMAN VOTE

In Berlin, today, the Communists finally made public the result of the vote in the Soviet Zone last weekend. For two days they held off in giving the figures and no wonder!!

It was a strictly totalitarian election, in the style of the Soviets and the ⁱⁿ puppets - one slate of candidates. Nobody else to vote for. All the technique of a totalitarian election was employed; nearly always a guarantee of an almost unanimous vote. Ninety to a hundred per cent ^{being} a usual majority.

But, without any opposition candidates to vote for, nearly a third of the Germans in the Soviet Zone voted - no. The official figures given out by the Communist authorities show seven million, nine hundred thousand in favor of the candidates backed by the Soviets, and four million against.

The word was that the Reds intended to use this election to strengthen their hand at the forthcoming conference of the Foreign Ministers of

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the Big Four. They expected the usual totalitarian majority in the Soviet Zone - which would have enabled them to claim popular support in the negotiations to decide the question of Germany. But, instead of being strengthened by the weekend election, their hand is weakened - as they go to the Four Power Conference, which follows the lifting of the Berlin Blockade.

SPY

An American military court in Germany heard a spy confession today -- a young German woman telling how she did a job of Soviet espionage, procuring American military secrets. One interesting point of the story is - the origin of the young lady. She is a former member of the Nazi Youth Movement, trained in the Hitler organization for girls. After the war, she was recruited by Red intelligence, and assigned to espionage inside the American military government.

She got a job in a "Document Center," in Munich, and handled papers pertaining to a secret operation with a mysterious name - "The paper clip project." I don't quite know how American officials over there figured out that cryptic name, which had nothing to do with paper clips; dealing, as it did, with something very different - the transfer of German scientists to the United States.

We have heard a good deal about enlistment of German technicians, who devised and developed secret weapons during the war - their identity kept

very much under cover.

But, handling documents in the paper clip project, was ~~what~~ ^{did} former girl member of the Hitler youth organization, and she was able to transmit plenty of information to Red espionage.

Today, confessing, she told the American military court, that she did the spy work because, in her words - "I was afraid they would send me and my relatives to Siberia." Of course, she might have given the American officials confidential word, ~~she~~ ^{to do that.} says she was afraid, "There are," she declares, "Many Russian agents in the American counter-intelligence corps and in the offices of the American Government. I was afraid to trust anyone." That statement today was part of her defense, trying to get off more easily.

URANIUM

The F B I announces tonight that it has completed an investigation of the disappearance of a quantity of uranium. It happened in the Chicago laboratories of the Atomic Energy Commission, and where - in some mysterious fashion or other -- three-quarters-of-a-pound of ~~the~~ uranium two-thirty-five was found to have vanished. ^{TP} Two-thirty-five is the isotope used in the atomic bomb, and its manufacture is one of the key atomic secrets. The story was first disclosed by the New York Daily News, and was at first involved in denial and contradiction. ^{TP} But now the FBI confirms the case of the missing uranium, and says an investigation has been completed. What the investigation discloses is ~~not~~ [†] stated -- kept secret.

ADD URANIUM

The Atomic Energy Commission has just made an announcement giving the amount of missing uranium two thirty as one fourth of an ounce, and saying the Commission does not believe the atomic material has been stolen, just mislaid.

Boys, don't mislay that uranium.

ATOMIC

Assurance is given that efforts will be made to prevent young communists from being educated in Science at the expense of the Government. This following the disclosure that a Communist student at the University of North Carolina is being educated in Atomic Science on a fellowship awarded by the Atomic Energy Commission.

The Commission has a five million dollar a year program for financing students in basic Science - non-secret research. The fellowships are awarded by the National Research Council, a private organization of distinguished Scientists and Educators. The ^{Chairman} ~~SECRET~~ of the Council is Professor Bronk, of Johns-Hopkins University, he, today, appeared before a Congressional Committee, and was asked about the Communist engaged in Atomic Study at Government expense - German born Hans Freistadt.

Dr. Bronk admitted that Freistadt was, in his words, "A poor selection." He told the Committee that he will recommend that the Research Council, in

granting fellowships, ~~and~~ investigate candidates more carefully in the future - and keep Communists out.

But he strongly opposed demands in Congress that all applicants for Government-study-funds be cleared by the F. B. I. **I**n this, Dr. Bronk agreed with previous testimony given by Chairman Lilienthal of the Atomic ~~Energy~~ Commission - both arguing that any such rigid security, as F. B. I. investigation, would impede Scientific progress and lead to the danger of Government intervention in education.

EISLER

In Washington today, the ~~Emmt~~^{court} forfeited

Gerhart Eisler's bail - A twenty thousand dollar bond. The bail had been put up by the civil rights Congress, which has been branded as a Communist front organization. Eisler skipped the bond, sneaked out as a stowaway - now under arrest in England. So the civil rights Congress is out the twenty thousand.

REFUGEES

Boston authorities announce that a rigid search of baggage will be made when a Refugee ship arrives tomorrow from Europe. ~~But~~ What will they be looking for in the trunks and suitcases of those displaced persons coming over here?

The answer is to be found in the disclosure of what happened when another shipload of D. P. 's came into the Port of Boston on Sunday. We are now told that in the belongings of the refugees, the inspectors found more than twenty-five thousand dollars' worth of jewels and other valuables - ~~was~~ declared, no intention of paying any duty. One displaced person, a woman, had hidden on her, precious gems to the value of ten thousand dollars - trying to smuggle them in. In the baggage of others were ~~not~~ sets of silverware, and twelve expensive cameras, listed as "used household goods."

After that surprise, the customs agents are all set to do some searching when the refugee ship arrive^s tomorrow.

CHINA

Shanghai reports local successes against the Communist advance upon the city, and today there was a lull in the rumble of artillery fire. However, the Reds are at the ~~suburbs~~^{suburbs} and Shanghai is digging in for a desperate defense. It remains to be seen whether the Communist Army will try an all-out assault against the teeming metropolis, or sit back and try to starve Shanghai into surrender.

FARM BILL

The White House, today, sent its Farm Program to Congress. Actually, Secretary of Agriculture Brannan presented the plan some weeks ago to a Congressional Sub-Committee, which has been holding hearings. But Congress wanted an official draft of the legislation - and got it from the White House today.

The program, as drawn up in the Department of Agriculture, provides that farmers could sell a variety of products in the open market for whatever they could get. The Government would then pay the farmer the difference between that market price and a higher figure - a legal support price, to be decided upon in that way: The consumer to buy for less; and the farmer to sell for more, the Government paying the difference. A miracle accomplished - I buy cheap and you sell dear!

The opposition in Congress points out that the bill would be footed by the taxpayers, and it might be so costly that they would rebel. The Washington

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word is that there is little chance of this Farm Program being passed, although Secretary Brannan may be granted the authority to try it out, in one detail. He has asked permission to test the system in supporting pork prices, and may be told to go ahead. But otherwise, except for a possible test in the hog market, Congress is likely to continue the present Farm Law - with parity prices as a basis for farm loans.

STRIKE

The Ford Motor Company today offered what it called - a "Square Deal." That is, a plan to have ^a hundred-and-six thousand workers, made idle by the strike, return to their jobs " while negotiations are in progress; ^{i.e. all} ~~all~~ except about five thousand immediately concerned in the dispute over what the Union calls a "speed-up".

The Union immediately turned down this Ford "Square Deal" plan - calling it fantastic.

At South Bend, Indiana, the Bendis ^{Strike} ~~Strike~~ [!] ~~!~~ mass pickets, armed with baseball bats, prevented people from entering the strike-bound plant. There were skirmishes with the police, but no injuries or arrests.

C I O STRIKE

There was a strike today at New Boston, Ohio, when union men walked out in the construction of a building - an ambitious one-hundred-thousand-dollar structure. What kind of building is it? Union headquarters. The United Steel workers of America, C. I. O., are putting up handsome new headquarters, and the strike today was for higher wages. The walkout - staged by the Building Trades Union, A. F. of L.

In this labor dispute, the C. I. O Union Chiefs will sit as employers, and listen to arguments that should be mighty familiar to them - a repetition of their own line of logic.

WALLGREEN

President Turman today gave up his attempt to make his friend and crony, Mon Wallgreen, the Chairman of the National Securities ^{Resource} Board. The White House nomination was pigeon-holed in one of the first defeats the White House has suffered at the hands of the Democratic Eighty-First Congress. So now, at the request of Mon Wallgreen, the President withdraws the nomination.

• TEXAS

The series of cloudbursts that have brought on flood disaster to Forth Worth, Texas, are part of the same misbehavior of the weather that hit Amarillo with a tornado Sunday night. The weatherman explains that the disturbances of the elements, after blowing things down in the Texas Panhandle, moved on East -- and washed things out at ^(Fort)~~Forth~~ Worth.

During the night nearly ten inches of rain fell at the big Texas town. A little to the southeast one community reports a deluge of more than a foot of torrential water from the sky.

Today the Trinity River was in wild flood, smashing four ~~levees~~ levees, and inundating a large section of Fort Worth, a thousand homes under water, four thousand persons homeless, a number of lives lost.

The city's main pumping plant washed out - which caused a shortage of water in the normal supply, although Fort Worth has no lack of ~~in~~ water from the

river and from the sky.

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Tonight a tornado hit the town of Lubbock, Texas, and ~~it~~ ripped things up a bit -- the latest angle of disturbed weather in the Lone Star State.

SUBSTITUTE ROOSEVELT

The Roosevelt victory in New York was so decisive today that it did not take many minutes ~~in~~ of ballot counting tonight to tell the tale. The victory of the son and namesake of the late President Roosevelt ~~is~~ so overwhelming that little more than an hour after the closing of the polls, seven P M New York time -- Shalleck, the Chief Roosevelt opponent, conceded.

The figures ran like this -- Franklin D. Junior, thirty-three thousand, Shalleck twenty thousand; Roosevelt forty-one thousand, his opponent twenty-four thousand -- the majority constantly increasing. There were two other candidates, but they were nowhere. A Republican - a ~~hi~~ bad third. The candidate for the leftwing American Labor Party - trailing still further back, fourth.

So now we have the name of Roosevelt back in the Washington scene, Franklin D. Junior, going to

Congress. The district, the twentieth of New York, is the one ~~that~~ the late Congressman Sol Bloom held for fourteen straight terms. It is on the West side, a ployplot area, reaching from the tough sections of Hell's Kitchen to the fancy apartment houses of Riverside Drive and West End Avenue.

The Roosevelt triumph is the more outstanding ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ because the son of the late President was turned down by Tammany Hall for the regular Democratic nomination. Tammany preferred a political veteran, Judge Benjamin Shalleck. And Franklin D. ~~R~~ Junior had to be content with the endorsement of the ~~xxxx~~ Liberal Party, a minority offshoot of the American Labor Party.

The campaign was noisy and hard fought -- young Roosevelt charging racketeer control of Tammany. The closest kind of race was expected, and tonight even the Roosevelt campaign managers are ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~

astounded by the lopsided victory. So now
Congressman Franklin D. Roosevelt Junior, thirty-five
years old, a long and lanky six footer, who looks a
lot like his father.

And now from Congressman F.D.R.Jr. to
Private Citizen Nelson Case.

ENGLAND

Now is the time to imagine -- and try to picture the faces, and the language, of some six thousand American airmen in England. This exploit of imagination is called forth by a generous offer, right out of the heart, made by a group of British War Veterans.

The place is Burtonwood, the base for the B-29's based on Britain. Just a few days ago we had a story of an Atomic squadron sent over, B-29's organized especially for dropping the Atom Bomb. There are jet fighters, too, at Burtonwood, and hosts of American Airmen. But ^{the} offer made by the group of British war veterans has nothing to do with the more imposing aspects of air power.

It concerns a scandal, making a sensation in England right now. The story is that English bobby soxers are flocking to the Burtonwood Air Base to pick up dates with Americans. We used to have that same sort of problem over here, during wartime - ~~we~~ bobby soxers running around with soldiers and ^{sailors}.

~~surfers.~~

In England, the question- What to do about it? So now - enter that group of British War Veterans. They offer to shield the American airmen from the attentions of the English bobby soxers. Today they made the proposal-that they will act as escorts for the Yank^s and protect them from the wiles and smiles of the English girls. What they call - "The evil machinations" of the teen-agers. They declare they are willing to go on duty at Burtonwood--and chaperon the Americans.

Maybe you think you can imagine the faces and the language, of the Technical Sergeants and the B-29 and Jet Plane flyers, as they hear that. But your imagination falls flat when the final detail is disclosed. The British War Veterans go on to the matter of compensation - for escorting ^{American} airmen. That angle they put in the following words: "Our charges will be in accordance with those of recognized baby sitters". Chaperons - bad enough! But baby sitters for American Airmen - can you imagine? *Nelson?*