

L.T.-DELCO.-----TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1955

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Senate puts its okay on the southeast Asia Treaty organization. The vote - almost unanimous - eighty-two to one. The only Senator voting "no" - Langer of North Dakota.

The Senate Treaty was signed at Manila last year - by Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Pakistan, Thailand, and the United States. It provides for a common resistance to aggression - and also for consultation on the proper methods for meeting the threat of internal revolt. The last point, referring to Communist agitation.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee postpones action on a proposal to endorse the

LEAD

efforts of the United Nations to achieve a cease-fire in the Formosa area. This proposed by Senator Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota, who wanted to put the Senate on record as backing the U N in any Armistice negotiations.

But Senator Knowland of California attacked the Humphrey resolution. Said it would require amendment - to make clear the opposition of the Senate to such things as a U N seat for Red China, or any attempt to force Chiang Kai Shek to surrender the islands of Quemoy and Matsu. Without amendments, Senator Knowland believes the Humphrey resolution might sound like, in his words, "a blanket endorsement of appeasement."

The Senate Foreign Relations committee agreed with him, and put on the shelf - where some Senators predict it will stay.

CHURCHILL

Today, Winston Churchill told the House of Commons that Formosa is an international problem. The British Prime Minister rejecting the Communist propaganda line - that its an "internal problem" of Red China alone.

The Churchill statement has a special importance - because he spoke during a recess of the conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers. The Premiers have postponed their search for a solution to the Formosa crisis - until the U N has done what it can. But at least, no one at the conference has convinced Churchill that Formosa is anything but an international problem.

The Fighting in the Formosa Straits is still going on. A dispatch ~~from Taipei, Formosa,~~ describes Chinese Communist gun boats raiding the island of Yushan, ~~That island is just about~~ thirty miles from the Tachens. The Red vessels darted in shore - and poured artillery shells into the defense points manned by Nationalist troops. ~~The attack set off speculation that~~ Yushan may be the next island marked for invasion.

Committee Chairman Carl Vinson of Georgia predicts that the Administration's bill for four years more of the draft - will pass without any trouble. The bill, to be ready for action by the House on Monday.

MILITARY TRAINING

Defense Secretary Wilson today told the House Armed Services committee that the draft must continue beyond June Thirtieth - which is its expiration date. The Secretary's opinion, read to the Committee by his assistant. Wilson points out that the Armed Services can't get the men they need by voluntary enlistments. And so the draft must be continued, if the Armed Forces are not to fall below the dangerous level.

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The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission denied today that the dispute over the Dixon-Yates Power contract has interfered with the production of atomic weapons. Lewis Strauss, giving his reply to Commissioner Thomas Murray - who has already charged that the controversy was a drain on the time and energy of the commission.

Chairman Strauss told the joint congressional atomic committee that he and his staff have had to put in longer hours because of the Dixon-Yates dispute. But he flatly denied that there was any interference with the operations of the committee. Strauss added, that production of atomic weapons is at, what he terms, "an all-time high."

NIXON

On Sunday, the Vice President, and Mrs. Nixon will leave for Central America. To be gone four weeks - a visit to ten countries.

The President wants him to help repair some damage done among Latin-Americans. The feeling that we are not as interested in a "good neighbor" policy as we were. Too concentrated on the problems of Europe and Asia. Also, anti-American elements have been shouting that we been exploiting Latin America.

The Vice President to study the nations he visits, try and understand the problems facing each. Then report to the President.

WINDFALL PROFITS

The government has lost a test case - which was intended to recover some of the "windfall profits" of the housing program. The case involved certain corporations in New York City. The Internal Revenue Service sued them for three million - claiming that the funds were subject to ordinary income taxes.

Now the federal tax court has handed down the decision that the builders correctly listed their profits as long term capital gains - Not subject to the ordinary income tax.

Senator Byrd of Virginia, says the real trouble is - bad housing laws. "Loose" laws, and "lax" administration should be revised!

LEWIS

John L. Lewis accuses the Tennessee Valley Authority of buying coal mined at starvation wages. The President of the United Mine Workers made the charge at a labor department hearing in Washington. He said ~~that~~ the T.V.A. pays very little for the coal it needs, - *Does it so* ~~so they~~ it can show a better financial record in competition with free enterprise. So he wants the Labor Department to set a minimum price - to prevent T.V.A. from getting coal produced at starvation wages.

Princess Margaret arrived in Trinidad today. The younger sister of the Queen, flying in aboard a strato-cruiser - after a five thousand mile flight from London, touching ~~fo~~ down at Montreal and Jamaica.

An enormous crowd was on hand to meet the plane - Trinidad natives, American tourists, and British residents. The Princess was welcomed officially by the Governor General, Sir Hubert Rance. ~~An honor guard saluted her with their rifles - and a military band played.~~

~~The welcoming ceremony took half an hour. Then Princess Margaret drove with the Governor General to Government House in Port Au Spain where she will stay during her visit.~~ Tomorrow, the round of public appearances

begins with all the color, sunlight and calypso music that ~~are~~ *so much a part of life in* ~~are native to~~ Trinidad.

MARSEILLAISE

The French National Anthem has been stolen from London's famous old "British Museum". That institution owned one of three original copies of the "Marseillaise", ~~the song that~~ ~~became the marching song of France.~~ It was written in Seventeen Ninety-two by a French officer stationed in Strasbourg. ~~and~~ one copy is still called the "Strasbourg copy." ~~and~~ Its the one that disappeared from the British Museum.

London police say that the thief took the manuscript from its shelf -- and replaced it with a later copy.

Somehow, he managed to smuggle it past the guards - the British Museum - losing one of its priceless possessions.

~~So the question in London is - who has the "Marseillaise?"~~

DINOSAURS

The Soviet radio announces a huge scientific discovery - in the Gobi desert. Where paleontologists have unearthed enormous ~~depos~~ deposits of ancient fossils, dating back to the age of reptiles. Moscow says - "whole grave¹yards of dinosaurs, stretching for dozens of miles."

When I saw that report, I put in a query to Roy Chapman Andrews, an old friend of this program - who, more than twenty years ago, made famous finds of dinosaurs in the Gobi desert. Including ^{the first} "dinosaur eggs." *What a sensation they were!*

Roy says - the Russian scientists have been excavating in that same area. "We merely scratched the surface," he explains. "There's no question that there was a great deal more ~~over~~ there." The Russians have ~~copies~~ of the maps ~~they made.~~ *our explorers made.*

The Moscow report adds - that Soviet scientists have brought out the remains of the largest four-legged animal that ever lived. Eighty feet long - weighing as much as

sixty tons. Roy says that's "perfectly credible." And - identifies the monster as the "sauropod." Of which - his expedition found many traces.

But one thing is puzzling - the timing. "Its colder than fifty degrees below zero in the Gobi desert right now," says Roy Chapman Andrews. "The latest any scientists could have been there was last October, almost four months ago. It's peculiar," he adds - "why the Russians held this information back so long."

Well, the Soviets are peculiar in many things - including science.

RUB_AL_KHLAI

Last night I started to tell about the flight we made across the South Arabian desert, one of the least known parts of the world -- never even seen by human eye until the British explorers Bertram Thomas and St. John Philby penetrated parts of it a few years ago. We flew right over the heart of it from South to North. In doing so I was realizing a dream I had had for more than thirty years.

Last night, our broadcast time was up just after I had told about crossing the mountains of South Arabia from the seaport of Mukalla, to the ancient Frankincense Valley of Hadhramaut. After circling the white skyscraper cities of Shibam, Saiun and Tarim, we headed for the unknown, the Empty Quarter. Then for several hours we were looking down on a part of the earth that no one had ever seen.

Page Smith, Captain of our special Pan American Clipper, must be the reincarnation of some explorer of old. When I told him we were above unmapped country, he took us down "right on the deck," as airmen say. And for at least four hundred miles we had an unrivaled look at the heart of the Rub Al Khali, where Explorers Bertram Thomas and St. John Philby and their tough Arab companions plodded across the sands, hungry, and thirsty. We were above the largest unexplored, unmapped section of our planet, except the Antarctic continent.

In crossing from Mukalla on the Arabian Sea to the great oasis of Hofuf and on out to the Pearling Islands of the Persian Gulf, we looked down on some fifteen distinct and different types of desert. After the badlands south of Hadhramaut, we flew over a hard, flat region like our own great American Desert.

~~especially our Mojave.~~ Then came the sand dunes. *and after*
~~from then on~~ *that* we saw ~~them~~ *sand dunes* of more varieties than I ever
 dreamed there could be. The first were short in length,
 giving the desert the appearance of a choppy sea. Only
 vast, silent and motionless. Then for another thirty or
 forty miles the dunes ~~were~~ were longer. Which must mean that
 the prevailing winds, the deeper you get into the Empty
 Quarter, blow with greater constancy. ~~But~~ *P* I was
 particularly fascinated ~~about~~ about a third of the way across,
 when we looked down on one great section of the desert where
 the dunes were not shaped as we think of them at all. *Here* They
 were round islands *of sand -* each a hill, ~~or sand,~~ coming to a peak
 in the center, with the sides fluted, as though designed by
 a cosmic pastry chef. The fluted scooped out sections all
 turning in the same direction at the bottom. Obviously
 caused by circular winds. Never ~~In any~~ *In no* other desert in
 the world ~~had~~ I seen anything like this. And these
 curious peaked dunes all seemed to be about the same size —

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a hundred feet or so in diameter. In height, maybe fifty feet. I'd like to go back, land in a small plane, and inspect these. Maybe next year.

Also right In the heart of the Rub al Khali we crossed over a wide stretch where the sand dunes were high and long, like the great waves ~~that~~ you find in the middle of an ocean. The resemblance between this uncharted, little known desert, and the sea, is so startling, that it's no wonder the Arabian camel is called "the ship of the desert". The shape of these great dunes made it ~~perfectly~~ clear that here the prevailing winds are from North to South, and ~~that here they~~ blow steadily.

Sometimes we were looking out over lakes of salt. But never a sign of ~~any~~ moisture, except for some stretches where we saw a low scrub growth; evidently a form of plant life that provides nourishment for that rare, highly prized ~~type of~~ antelope, the oryx.

Times up again Hugh and I'm not quite through.

Tomorrow night I'll give you ~~just~~ a little more about the

Rub al Khali, and then that ~~will~~ be all for Arabia.

Along the China coast, indications are that the evacuation of the Tachen Islands is under way. Today, the Chinese Nationalists on Formosa imposed a "security blackout" concealing events along the line of the Tachens. But, yesterday, a shipload of refugees arrived at Formosa - escorted by a U.S. destroyer. Other vessels - reported on their way, with personnel and equipment, removed from the Tachen Islands.

The Reds, in that section, were reported to have made air attacks - and have, we hear, a ~~skirmish~~ with the Nationalists, in the sky and on the sea.