

C.T. - P. 9. Friday, Nov. 12, 1948.

In Tokyo, Sir William Webb protests. Today, as presiding judge at the War Crimes Trial, the Australian jurist read the sentences against Japanese war leaders - dooming seven to hang. But now Sir William Webb denounces the verdict of the court, over which <sup>himself</sup> he presided. He protests against the harsh and severe sentences - while immunity is granted to the Japanese Emperor. He says that Hirohito bore the chief responsibility for the conflict in the Pacific, and calls him - "the leader of the crime."

Sir William Webb denies the assumption that the Mikado was a powerless puppet in the hands of the war lords - such as Tojo, condemned to hang. "The authority of the Emperor," he argues, "was proved beyond question, when he ~~ended~~ <sup>ended</sup> the war." He claims that the prosecution presented evidence of Hirohito's part in planning the war - but the prosecution, at the same time, made it clear that the Emperor was not on trial.

Sir William Webb adds that he does not suggest that Hirohito should have been prosecuted. <sup>He</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>that</sup> explains in these words: "His immunity was, no doubt, decided upon in the best interests of all the Allied powers."

The <sup>^</sup>intention of the ~~Australian~~ Australian judge is that, if Hirohito remained immune, such drastic sentences should not have been imposed upon <sup>secondary figures.</sup> ~~the others.~~ He thinks that none of them should have been sentenced to death, because, in the words of the judge - "it might prove ~~unjust~~ revolting to shoot or hang such old men." The doomed war leaders are all of advanced age. Tojo, for example, is sixty-five.

Another dissenting opinion is entered by the judge who represented India on the international tribunal. He maintains that the whole prosecution was ~~based~~ on shaky grounds, morally - because, in his opinion, the victors actually put Japan on trial for what the Tokyo news dispatch calls: "waging war less successfully than <sup>the victors</sup> ~~they~~ did."

The Indian judge implies that the whole meaning of the trial was this;- if you lose, you hang.

The denunciation of Hirohito by the Australian judge raised immediate rumors in Tokyo - that the Mikado might soon resign. Hirohito himself is said to be shocked by the sentences. With his Empress, he listened to radio accounts of the handing down of the verdict today. The reaction of the Japanese people is said to be similar. Those who were willing to talk to Americans today, said they thought the punishments are too severe.

PEACE MISSION

( In Paris, a declaration that the talk about a possible Truman-Stalin meeting is part of a Soviet peace offensive.--  
~~The declaration in Paris calls it~~ "Very dangerous", a Soviet propaganda move against the Marshall Plan and against the unity of the Western powers.)

When the statement was made today, the newsmen were instructed to attribute it to - "very high Western power sources." But, actually, it was made by American Secretary of State George Marshall. He was talking - off the record. So why do we violate the confidence? Why do we quote the Secretary of State, when the newsmen were instructed not to?

The answer is that the Marshall news conference in Paris was most unusual - with a surprise angle. After the interview was given, "off the record", the remarks of the Secretary of State, ~~stated in confidence to the newsmen,~~ *were revised and* were made public by the American delegation to the United Nations, - ~~and they were attributed directly to the Secretary~~

That is the delegation put it all "on the record."

Secretary Marshall denied with the utmost emphasis that there was any idea of a Truman-Stalin meeting, or any kind of peace mission to Moscow. On the contrary, the Secretary stated that this country will continue the air lift, breaking the Soviet blockade, will press the European Recovery Program, and will proceed with the North Atlantic Defense Pact, the military alliance between the Western European powers.

He was asked about the way Soviet propaganda is taking up the idea of the Truman-Stalin meeting. To this Marshall replied that it all represents a Soviet peace offensive, which is the more dangerous because we sincerely want peace. Red propaganda is trying to play on this desire, their real purpose being to weaken the position of the United States and the other Western powers.

As for his own personal position, the Secretary reminded the newsmen that he is on record as saying he would like to retire to private life. But he added that he

has not talked with President Truman in any way about retiring from his post as Secretary of State. He says he will make no further comment on this until he has had a chance to sit down and talk with the President.

## MOSCOW

This next is interesting chiefly because anything that happens at high level in the Soviet government may have world significance. The Chief of Staff of the Soviet Army has been replaced. Radio Moscow announces that Marshall Vassilevsky steps out. The Moscow explanation is ~~the~~ in these words -- "in view of overburdening work". He is succeeded by General Shtemenko, who is almost unknown outside of Soviet circles and had no high command in the war.

FRANCE

In Paris, the <sup>Reds</sup>~~Communists~~ have ordered a twenty-four  
hour general strike tomorrow. They ~~Reds~~ are protesting  
against the arrest of two Communist deputies and the seizure  
of two Leftist newspapers - as a result of Armistice Day  
riots in Paris. So now twenty million workers are told to  
stay off the job for one day - tomorrow.



SUBSTITUTE CHINA

( We hear that American military aid has already gone to China -- in the form of five thousand tons of ammunition. ) That amount already shipped as a first consignment -- other and much larger quantities of armament to be on their way soon.

Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, suggests that the President should call a special session of Congress. Also--that a top American military leader should be sent to confer with Chiang. The Senator proposes General Wedemeyer or General MacArthur -- all with the idea of giving China large American aid.

Meanwhile, the Chinese government claims another big victory over the Communists - in a battle east of Suchow. A Nanking bulletin claims that the Red Army sustained thirty thousand casualties, forty thousand prisoners taken, nine enemy columns routed -- in the vital conflict for central China.

## DISTRESS SIGNAL

Right now in the Pacific, airplanes are searching far and wide over the ocean - looking for a life raft. Today, feeble distress signals were picked up by at least five radio stations, all the way from Seattle to Singapore - and these, according to all calculations, emanate from the survivors of a B-29, missing for five days.

The Superfortress, with eleven Air Force fliers aboard, was lost at sea. The radio signals are identified as having come from a portable transmitter; what the airmen call - a "Gibson Girl" set. Which is exactly the kind of radio transmitter installed in the life rafts of B-29s.

So the supposition is that survivors of the Superfortress are drifting on the sea, signalling for help. Calculations indicate that today's distress calls originated in the Far Pacific, about a hundred and twenty miles west of Saipan.

## FILIPINA

I have a letter here from a most interesting place -- Carville, Louisiana, the leper colony.

The letter is from Mrs. Josefina Guerrero, Philippine heroine of the Second World War.

Last summer I told about her -- how she; the wife of a physician and mother of a small child, was found to have leprosy. Whereupon she left her family, and voluntarily became an outcast. The war was on -- and she dedicated her wandering, wretched existence to the cause of her country -- which was also the

American cause. Scouting Japanese military positions and troop movements, she smuggled word to Filipino insurgents and American Intelligence officers -- saving thousands of American lives.

When victory came, honors were heaped on her, the government in Washington awarding her the Medal of Freedom. But she was still a leper -- and her physician-husband thought she might be cured if she ~~was~~ could go for treatment to the leper colony, with its

medical research, at Carville, Louisiana. But regulations intervened, the U. S. Consul General at Manila stating that he was compelled reluctantly to refuse a passport -- forbidden by the American Immigration Laws.

We had the story on this program -- and then, a little while later, we learned that the Attorney General in Washington had intervened, a special permit issued -- enabling Mrs. ~~Josefina~~ Guerrero to enter the United States for the cure down in Louisiana.

*— from her —*  
~~So~~ Now I have a letter, saying how things are going. Writing from the leper colony, Mrs. Guerrero says: "Carville is a beautiful place. The treatment is systematic and modern. There is a well-run, ~~and~~ efficient hospital for those who must stay in bed. There is an excellent medical staff, and the Sisters are typical Florence Nightingales."

She tells how life has its joys and amenities in the leper colony, and adds: "I hope to grow spiritually in my surroundings, and become a finer and

better person. You see, I feel that there are a great many others far more deserving of the decorations and the hero worship that have been accorded to me. "God," she says, "has lavished so much on me."

She writes that every day she prays for all those who helped her get to Carville. "My prayers," she says, "are not very big. Perhaps of very little value and worth. But God knows they are offered from my heart."

"Remember," she writes, "remember the Parable of the ten lepers in the Gospel? Only one gives thanks to God that he has been made whole and clean again."

Well, that made me look up the story of the ten lepers -- Seventeenth Chapter of the Gospel of St. Luke. And it multiplied the meaning of that familiar line -- which Jesus spoke to the leper who remembered and gave thanks: "And he said unto him -- arise, go thy way, thy faith hath made thee whole."

Strange, how that old line has a new wonder in this latest addition to the story of the leper-heroine of the Philippines.

## SPANISH HOAX

The Postal Authorities in New York give the reason for the arrest of a Mexican born cartoonist and his wife in Hollywood. They are being held in connection with a new version of what the Postal Authorities call -- "the age old Spanish prisoner swindle."

The cartoonist is named Sevilla, said to be successful and prosperous in the advertising business. The Chief Postal Inspector says he believes the artist's part in the hoax was due to -- "sheer stupidity." But, anyway, the mails were being used to promote a skingame based on that venerable -- the Spanish prisoner.

Letters were sent to a whole mailinglist of wealthy businessmen in Central and South America, telling them of an unhappy millionaire unjustly kept in prison in the United States. The melancholy captive was worried about his beautiful daughter, who also had millions. He wanted to find someone who would marry her and take her away -- with her millions. So all that was needed was for some gallant caballero to come to the United States and marry the heiress.

According to the old formula, the caballero would bring along funds for the romantic venture, and he would be swindled out of the funds -- before he ever caught sight of the mythical heiress and her mythical millions. Not to mention -- her equally mythical father, that gay old Spanish prisoner.

And now our gay caballero -- Nelson Case.