

TUNIS

L.T.-P+G. Tri. Mar. 28-52, a.k.

(The Bey of Tunis has bowed to the French - yielding to their demand that he name a Ministry of Moderates.) The Bey, Sidi Mohammed Al-Amin Pasha, had been stubborn about it. (But he was told - if he didn't knuckle under, he'd be deposed.) Tossed off his throne in a hurry - and that was that.

North African Tunisia is a French Protectorate - the Bey and his government running a sort of half-way regime, mostly puppet. A Nationalist agitation for independence has been on for some time - supported by the Bey, who installed a Nationalist Ministry. There were disturbances and riots, suppressed by French troops - and, day before yesterday, the French Resident General took drastic action. Martial law decreed. The Nationalist Premier - arrested, and flown into exile.

Whereupon the President of France took a hand. In Paris, President Auriol addressed a message to the Bey, and sent two officials of the French government to deliver it personally to Sidi Mohammed Al-Amin Pasha. They arrived yesterday, but the Bey refused to see them.

He put them off - delaying.

But the French were not having any procrastination - and today the Bey received the officials from Paris, together with the Resident General. They handed him the message from President Auriol, which stated that the Paris government was backing up, completely, the stern measures taken by the Resident General. The Bey was informed that, if he didn't yield immediately, he would be deposed. So he promptly named a New Premier - a moderate, who will take, what the French consider, a reasonable view.

Their attitude is that they are willing to grant a greater degree of self government in Tunisia, but they say it was impossible to negotiate with a Nationalist Premier, who took a fanatical view. So now, with a moderate in, they'll go into discussions of a program they ~~had~~<sup>have</sup> prepared for greater independence in Tunisia.

The bold policy seems to be working out - thus far. Things reported quiet in Tunisia tonight - under

severe military law. Although - we don't know how long the calm will continue.

This news today comes as a reminder that, while other colonial empires have been falling, the French have not renounced a single one of their own colonies. Great Britain has given up India, <sup>and</sup> Burma - granting independence. Holland - yielding the same in vast Indonesia. (In this twilight of colonialism, France has not conceded an inch of her great colonial empire.

## SYRIA


The United States will make a diplomatic protest -- against the bombing of the U. S. Information Office in Syria. It isn't clear what element was responsible for the outrage -- but fanatical Nationalists are suspected.

At Damascus, a bomb blew up the American Office today, killing an employee -- who was an Arab refugee from Palestine. (A year ago, almost to the day, a bomb explosion damaged the residence of the U. S. Minister to Syria. In Nineteen Fifty, explosives were hurled into the grounds of the U. S. Legation at Damascus. The same -- at Beirut. In these cases, in which there was no loss of life -- Nationalist fanatics were blamed.)

## IRAN

The news from Iran gives a picture of savage scenes -- with a cause grotesque and ridiculous. (Twelve lives lost in ferocious rioting -- Communist youths against the Police. The center of Teheran a battlefield) -- as a mass of surging Reds overpowered Policemen, seized their weapons, and opened fire. Disorder suppressed, only when Police reinforcements arrived, and threw -- tear gas bombs.

(The Reds were demonstrating against alleged use of germ warfare in Korea.) Incited by that absurd propaganda -- that American planes have been dropping insects infected with bacteria, to cause epidemics. Seldom has any more foolish lie been told -- let alone spread around the world. But there it was -- the hoax of American germ warfare, causing murder in Persia.



Follow Iran

(The big lie was the cause of an uproar in the United Nations tonight -- when Soviet delegate Malik had to be silenced -- he was so loud with charges of American germ warfare.)

The Falping radio declares the agreement for secrecy has been violated. Supreme Headquarters of General Ridgway -- divulging information prohibited under the news blackout. The complaint was expressed in a jumbled confusion.

(They make still another accusation -- this one connected with neutrality at Panmunjon. Saying -- that American planes dropped not bombs, but propaganda leaflets, which seems picaresque, if true. But it looks like they are carrying a Red.)

In Tokyo, a top official of the U.N. says -- there's a "slight improvement" in the chance of an Armistice in Korea. During the past two weeks, the prospects have been looking -- a little better.

This however, in the face of new charges made by the Reds today. The Peiping radio declares the agreement for secrecy has been violated. Supreme Headquarters of General Ridgway -- divulging information forbidden under the news blackout. The complaint -- expressed in a gnarled confusion.

(They make still another accusation -- this one connected with Neutrality at Panmunjom. Saying -- that American planes dropped, not bombs, but propaganda leaflets. Which seems picayune, if true. But it looks as if anything might enrage a Red.)

## KOREA - RESCUE

From the war-front - a rescue story that sounds like the champion of them all. Air power - snatching a prisoner right out of the hands of the Communists on the ground.

Marine Corps Pilot Captain William Smart was flying a fighter bomber in attacks on Red communications, when anti-aircraft fire hit his plane - and he had to bail out. As his parachute came drifting down, the Communists were waiting for him. They grabbed him, and forced him to lie flat on the earth - while waiting to be taken off as a Prisoner-of-War.

But companion pilots noted what happened and, with radio communication, they organized the rescue job. Down they swooped, raking the Reds with machine gun fire - the enemy soldiers having to scatter. Then a helicopter came over, with leatherneck fighters flying cover-keeping the Reds away with a hail of bullets.

Piloted by Lieutenant John Calhoun of St. Joseph, Missouri - the <sup>egg heater</sup> flying ~~machine~~ swung over the place, where Captain Smart was lying on the ground. So



low - he jumped up and grabbed a bar, used ordinarily to support litters for the wounded. He hung onto the bar, and up the helicopter went - the Captain climbing aboard.

So that was how a prisoner was literally snatched from enemy captors on the ground.

In Washington, General Alfred Gruenther has completed his testimony before a Congressional Committee -- supporting the Foreign Aid Program of seven billion, nine hundred million. Speaking, of course, in the name of his Chief, General Eisenhower.

Gruenther today stated that General Ike's international command would use tactical atomic bombs, if the Soviets should launch a drive into Western Europe. "There still is quite a bit to be worked out in the tactical use of A-bombs," said he. But the all-over plan would be for Eisenhower's West European Army to compel the Reds to assemble great masses of soldiers -- for a break through. Which heavy concentrations would then be a mark for tactical atomic bombs.

( The Atomic Energy Commission announces a new series of test explosions at Frenchmen's flat, Nevada. Which comes rather soon after those experiments last Fall.) But the Commission explains that things are developing rapidly in the field of atomic weapons. "A

lot of ideas coming fast," said an official today. So -- new tests, earlier than expected.

(All of which coincides with a protest from Nevada -- about the weather; ~~is~~ blaming those atomic blasts for the toughest, coldest and snowiest Winter Nevada has had in sixty years.) The people of Golconda, not so far from Frenchmen's Flat, have sent a petition to the Atomic Energy Commission, demanding -- no more atomic experiments inside Nevada.

To all of which the Atomic Energy Commission replies -- with a laugh. Those Winter snowstorms in the West were caused -- by nature, not neutrons. (They admit that an atomic explosion may have a small, strictly local effect. Known to cause -- a thundershower. But -- no large effect on the weather. After all, the atom bomb, mighty as it is, can't compare with the powers of nature. An official today stating: "It would take about one thousand A-bombs to match the force of just one hurricane.")

## VATICAN

A Congressional Committee votes a possible check for White House plans to send an Ambassador to the Vatican. For which the President asked -- seventy thousand dollars.

The Appropriations Committee of the House okayed a billion dollar bill providing funds for government bureaus. But an Amendment was tacked on -- forbidding the use of any funds to create a new Foreign Diplomatic Post, until the State Department has approved of the first nomination to that post.

The Vatican is not mentioned by name, but the purpose is obvious. The President, for example, might set up an Embassy at the Vatican, and put it under a Charge D'Affaires, before nominating an Ambassador -- who would have to be approved by the Senate. Now -- there would be no funds for any such move.

(The Amendment was introduced by Congressman Preston of Georgia, who pointed out that the bill would provide for a Vatican Embassy -- but only when, and if, the Senate approves of an Ambassador. He said the


## G.I. VOTE

President Truman asks Congress for legislation to enable G.I.'s to vote for President in the November election. As things now stand, some six hundred thousand would be disfranchised -- because of States not providing a way for soldiers to send in absentee ballots. There are three and a half million in uniform -- a million, two hundred thousand too young to vote. The remainder -- mostly from States that have absentee ballots. But six hundred thousand -- disfranchised.

So the President wants Congress to authorize the government to send out Federal ballots -- which would give every G.I. the chance to vote in the November election.

POLITICS

( The Republicans in the State of Maine held their Convention today, ~~AAA~~ naming sixteen delegates to the G.O.P. National Convention. General Eisenhower gets nine. Senator Taft, five. While two delegates are not committed to any candidate.) Maine, with no Primary elections, uses the Convention system for selection of delegates -- nine for Eisenhower, five for Taft, two neutral.



FOLLOW POLITICS

Supporters of General Ike claim the neutrals will support Eisenhower -- the convention result being a decided showing of strength for the General.

In Pittsburgh, the Bureau had a demonstration coal mine in a tunnel they lined up electrical equipment to measure blasting speed. The five thousand mile-an-hour blast was registered when the tunnel was filled with ordinary bituminous coal dust - ignited by a flame of methane gas, the kind ordinarily found in mines.

Under changing conditions, they got other rates. In some explosions, the flame traveling at 100 miles an hour, the slowest recorded. In other, traveling faster about a certain kind of coal, the flame traveled in lines.

## MINE

A new angle of speed has been investigated - the swiftness of a coal mine fire, as it races through a long shaft underground. Scientists of the U. S. Bureau of Mines, rigged up an experiment, and found that the blaze of a mine explosion flashes along at a rate of five thousand miles an hour. Twice the speed of a rifle bullet.

At Pittsburgh, the Bureau has a demonstration coal mine, and in a tunnel they lined up electrical equipment to measure flaming speed. The five thousand mile-an-hour blaze was registered when the tunnel was filled with ordinary bituminous coal dust - ignited by a blaze of methane gas, the kind ordinarily found in mines.

By changing conditions, they got other rates of speed. In some explosions, the flame traveling at only one hundred miles an hour, the slowest recorded.

Interesting facts about a certain kind of speed - knowledge useful for promoting safety in mines.



## ACTRESS

Hollywood actress, Ann Sterling, has changed her story and now declares that the beating she got was administered by a playboy because she resisted his advances. Previously, she gave a weird account of having been abducted by four men, and assailed with brutal violence; but now it's a playboy.

## ARCTIC

In the Far North, nine men are marooned on the Arctic ice pack tonight - with no way of getting out. Stranded seven hundred miles north of Point Barrow, which is the northernmost point of Alaska. This, a few years ago, would have meant a tragic horror - explorers doomed to perish on the frozen waste of the Polar Ocean. But now - not at all.

The Navy is conducting an expedition, reaching toward the North Pole - planes landing on the ice farther and farther North. Parties of scientists - making studies and observations. Today, seven hundred miles north of Point Barrow, a plane was taking off from a field of ice - when the landing gear broke. Plane cracked up - nobody hurt. But there they were, the party of nine, with no way of getting back - nothing that they can do. They have food for four days, means of shelter and gasoline for fuel - to keep warm.

At Point Barrow - preparations under way to take them out, but there's no wild hurry. The rescue plane will take off on Sunday, two days from now. The

castaways on the Polar Ice can get along quite nicely

until then. -- <sup>Nelson, there's</sup> a dramatic sign of how things have changed

in Arctic exploration since the dangerous days of old.

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