

L.T.-P.H. Friday, March 30, 1951.

( At the Paris conference, Soviet Russia threw a bomb-shell today -- Deputy Foreign Minister Gromyko demanding negotiations on the Atlantic Pact and ~~in~~ what he calls -- the creation of American military bases in England, Norway, Iceland and in other countries of Europe and the Near East. )

This follows the concession that Gromyko made the other day -- agreeing that a conference of the Foreign Ministers, which they are trying to arrange, should include other subjects of the cold war, in addition to the <sup>re?</sup> armament of western Germany. The Soviet -- being so much opposed to that.

The Russian concession raised high ~~high~~ hopes that a full dress big Four conference could be held. But now comes the Red bombshell demanding the discussion of the Atlantic Pact and American military bases which makes it look like another deadlock, dragging things on.

There was a new incident in Berlin today -- and a wild one. A strange affair that almost caused a new Berlin blockade.

In the western sector German police heard screams, a woman shrieking. The uproar came from an automobile, which they stopped -- and in the car <sup>they</sup> found a Communist woman-secretary. With her - two Red policemen. She yelled they were kidnapping her. Her name, Johanna Beucher - Secretary to the former Minister of Industry in the Communist government of Eastern Berlin. She said the Reds suspected her of being "politically unreliable." So she was being abducted from the western sector - to be taken for questioning by the Soviet Secret Police.

The western police rescued her, and held in custody one of the two Red cops in the kidnapping - the other got away.

This was followed by action in the Soviet Sector. Red police lowered a barrier across the international highway, and demanded the return of the

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captured Communist policeman - or they wouldn't lift the barrier. So that looked like the Berlin blockade all over again -- unless the western authorities would release the Red cop.

But that question only produced new complications. Because the Communist policeman, while being questioned made a sudden request -- asking that he be granted asylum in the west. Switching politics, he was deserting Communism, and wanted to stay on the western side as a refugee. His request was granted.

That Berlin blockade lasted for an hour. Then, finally, the Reds gave up the whole thing in disgust - and raised the barrier.



## KOREA

(The news from Korea features the air - a giant blow through the sky against supply bridges linking Red Manchuria and Korea.) A fleet of thirty-eight B-29s hurled tons of bombs. The superfortresses had air opposition. A swarm of Red jets rose to oppose them, but the B-29s were escorted by American jets, -- There was a swirling air battle, at altitudes of twenty to thirty thousand feet. One Communist M I G 15 - shot down. Two others -- damaged. The one shot down fell victim to a Canadian flier - Lieutenant Omer Levesque of Montreal. He is an exchange pilot, flying with the Americans -- and in his F-84 Sabre-jet he scored the victory. No American planes were hit.

This burst of air action is a sign that the weather was bright in Korea today - after a spell of heavy rains. It's about time for the rainy season, but today was fair -- and the United States Air Force took full advantage. In addition to the big B-29 raid, our planes were busy all along the battle front, smashing Red convoys on the ground, and in one place



knocking out Red tanks.

On Terra Firma there was little action today -- a couple of small Chinese counter attacks beaten off north of Seoul. On the East Coast South Korean forces have pushed to a point eight and a half miles north of the Thirty-Eighth Parallel - and there are unconfirmed reports of American patrols thrusting north of that line.

The signs continue that the Reds intend to make a stubborn defense along the Parallel. They're bringing down masses of supplies and reinforcements, and one surmise is, that they may be preparing a counter offensive - another all out assault by huge<sup>1</sup><sub>A</sub> hordes of Reds, the human-sea tactics. For this, they would be likely to take advantage of the weather, the approaching rainy season -- when American armor would be impeded by mud. Air power -- checked by clouds, fog and rain.

## CRIME

(The Senate voted a whole ~~xxx~~ series of citations for contempt this afternoon. All as a result of the crime investigation. The list of those accused begins with Frank Costello, sometimes called the Prime Minister of the underworld,) and goes on with other gambling figures like Joe Adonis and Jack "Greasy Thumb" Guzik. Most of them refused to answer questions asked by the Senate Crime Investigating Committee - on constitutional grounds -- self-incrimination. But two of the lesser lights base their refusal on - television. So now there will be a court ~~xx~~ test on a question as new as T V itself. Can a witness be ~~xxx~~ forced to testify before a television audience? The courts will decide.

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A highly interesting question was raised in the Senate this afternoon, which Hickenlooper of Iowa demanded -- would General Eisenhower's international army have atomic bombs? The Senator wants to know whether President Truman has authority to supply A-bombs to the military forces of the Atlantic Pact.

This question was injected, as the Senate continued its "great debate" on assigning American troops to General Ike's Army. Hickenlooper pointed out that the atomic control law forbids the sending of atomic ~~ka~~ materials to foreign nations, but gives the President the authority to have them used by the armed forces of the United States. So, - does the President regard Eisenhower's international command as a foreign nation, <sup>or</sup> does he consider it in the same category with the military forces of the U.S.A.?

Army leaders in Washington have indicated plainly that they expect General Ike to have atomic weapons at his disposal. Which would certainly be in line with the work being done to develop atomic artillery shells.



## CIVIL DEFENSE

American Civil Defense officials have warned Congress that -- if war comes as many as fifteen or twenty American cities may be hit by <sup>(atomic</sup> ~~atomic~~ bombs at the same time. They told a congressional committee that any Soviet air attack would probably come from over the polar regions -- and the ~~the~~ big cities in the northern half of the country would be in the greatest danger. They also warned of the possibility of germ warfare and asked for fourteen million dollars to lay in stocks of drugs like vaccines -- as a precaution.

## ROCKET

In the latest rocket experiment ~~at~~  
Alamogordo, New Mexico, the great missile went zooming  
to an altitude of sixty-one miles, and hurled forth -  
salt. Yes, common table salt, one hundred pounds of it.

Hitherto rockets have taken aloft scientific  
instruments to register the State of Affairs at lofty  
altitudes - but this was one different. So what's the  
idea? Were they just putting some salt on this globe  
of ours. As if it were a radish? No, it was a lot more  
serious than that.

The rocket, called Aerobee, is designed for  
protection against bacteriological warfare, among  
other things. So the idea would seem to be -- discharge  
chemicals that will neutralize deadly germs released  
by an enemy. The salt, seemingly, took the place of  
chemicals of that sort - in the rocket experiment.

## GENERAL CLAY

General Lucius Clay resigns as special assistant to defense mobilizer Charles E. Wilson. The former American military Governor in occupied Germany is returning to the post of Chairman of the Board of <sup>the</sup> Continental Can Corporation.

General Clay has been under attack by labor union leaders, who have been criticizing him for labor policies in the office of Defense Mobilization. They are said to have suspected that the General was promoting a program for drafting labor. Also, they regarded him as typical of big business in the rearmament set-up -- in which category they also placed defense mobilizer Wilson, who came to his federal post from general Electric. He was President of G.E.

It isn't clear, at the moment, what the resignation of General Clay really means - or who his successor is likely to be.



## GENERAL

They have been having various troubles at an Illinois air base, Chanute Field -- and these culminate today in a threat against the small daughter of the Commanding General. The F B I got on the job, when General Byron Gates revealed that he had received a menacing message. At his home the phone rang -- and when he answered, a sinister voice told him "you had better watch the little blonde. She might get run over." The little blonde - that's what the soldiers at the air base call the General's four year old daughter, Marcia.

The flying field Commander says he is sure the call came from a nearby town, Rantoul. Some people there are angry about reforms the General has put into effect, and today he said: "the people of this community have had their way at this base for twenty years."

The soldiers and the townspeople seem to have been getting along fine. We are told that, among other reforms, the General recently prohibited air force men from working nights in Rantoul -- as taxi drivers or bartenders. At the air base during the day, they had been

sleeping - so as to be on the job in town at night.  
Sounds like a brazen way of doubling in brass --  
soldiers tending bar in saloons.

A little while ago General Gates was in the news when he ordered that airmen be charged admissions to see a show given by Comedian Bob Hope. But the General explained that the money went into recreational facilities and other benefits to the soldiers.

He took command of Chanute Field a year ago, and there has been an uproar ever since. With today's news for a climax, a threat against the General's four year old daughter, "the little blonde."

## TIME CLOCK

An industrial revolution at Janesville, Wisconsin, a large industrial concern abolishing -- the time clock. The Parker Pen Company announces, that hereafter, its employees will not have to punch the clock. The purpose -- to improve relations between company and workers.

Which certainly does sound like an industrial revolution -- the time clock being a universal ~~in~~ tradition in American factories. The company says the change is without precedent among the large concerns employing thousands of workers by the hour. At the plant, hereafter, they'll check working hours by what the company calls a "personalized" rather than "mechanized" method. Supervisors will fill in time cards at the end of each shift - the record taken by persons, not machines.

The reasoning behind it all is that factory workers are irked by having to line up at the time clocks. The company says: "There were good, practical reasons, and definite psychological benefits, to be gained by eliminating the clock-punching queue."



Employees will save time, and escape a minor emotional irritant - and what helps them helps us" says the company.

The firm has been in existence for sixty-two years, has long been unionized, and has never been closed by a labor dispute.

## KILLING

Chicago reports a gang murder of grim, sinister drama. The victim, an underworld character named Fred Brissa - who, say the police, "broke almost every law". In his forty-eight years, Brissa ran the gamut of all the crimes of gangland. To x1 climax which -- he became a stool pigeon, and turned in five of his underworld pals.

He was a member of a hijacking gang that stole thousands of dollars worth of loot from Chicago trucks and warehouses. Last August he was picked up, and squealed. He brought about the conviction of his partners in robbery -- giving states evidence against them. They were sentenced to prison for long terms.

So, obviously, Brissa had good reason to be afraid of gangland vengeance -- and he was careful, wary. Whenever he drove home in his car he always took one precaution. Along the side of the entrance to his garage there is a fence, about as high as a man's head -- and he always looked over that fence, to see if there

were prowlers around. So, driving home with his wife today, he did just that -- always careful, always wary. He got out of his car, went to the fence, and stuck his head over for a look. As he did so, there was a shotgun blast -- and off went his head.

Gangland killers waiting patiently, waiting for the squealer to follow his usual habit, waiting for him to show his head over the fence, waiting for the target.



## OSCARS

Today's comment on the Hollywood Oscars features the fact that the awards were almost ~~monopolized~~ monopolized by actors from Broadway, who in the movies took parts they had been playing on the stage. Charles Brackett, President of the ~~Motion~~ Motion Picture Academy says they gave prize winning performances because "they had more time to rehearse." Which he explains by saying, "If an actor here played a part on the stage for a year or so, and then comes out to do the movie, it gives the performance a ~~new~~ kind of authority; and, the Academy voters recognized that authority."

POEM

Here's the latest from the world of poetry -- and burglary. Robbers do peculiar things at the scenes of their crimes, but you can hardly blame a crook at San Francisco who broke into an auto repair shop. He expected to find a heap of money in the cash box. But instead -- only thirty dollars. The kind of heartbreak to cause a poet to break into rhyme. So the burglar wrote a plaintive ballad, which he left behind. It reads:

Please excuse this sloppy job  
It wasn't worth performing  
For thirty measley, foolish bucks,  
I had some bum informing

I thought I'd find a hefty roll,  
I got three tens instead.  
There ain't no justice any more  
I should of stood in bed.

Yes, it's heartbreak, especially the pathos of that final classic outcry -- "I should of stood in bed."

Now back to you, Nelson.