

PRISONERS

Ins., Dec 14 '57 L.T. DeLoe.

The State Department in Washington - rejects any "deal" to trade Chinese students for imprisoned American airmen. A reply -- to a suggestion on a Chinese Red Radio last night. The Communists intimating - they might release the eleven American airmen convicted of alleged espionage. In return - for thirty five students in the United States. Chinese - not allowed to return to Red China. Our government - not wanting the skills they acquired in American colleges to be placed in at the disposal of the Communists.

State Department spokesman, Lincoln White, says: "There is no question of any deal involved here." But he left a suggestion - that something might be done along that line. Saying - the cases of the students "are in the process of screening." So, maybe, we might send them back, though not in any official "deal".

When the Reds took over in China, there were five thousand Chinese students in this country,

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studying ~~in~~ at American colleges. The vast majority
decided - they'd remain here. ~~Only a few said - they~~
wanted to go home to the Communists. Some were
allowed to return. Thirty-five - refused permission.
They're at liberty - ~~in~~ can go where they please.
But only - inside this country.

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT-PRISONERS

The Defense Department in Washington says - they have no knowledge of more than nine hundred prisoners of war, still remaining in the hands of the Reds. General Mark Clark, former U.S. Commander in the Far East, is quoted as indicating - that the Communists are still holding that many captives. But this gets no confirmation from the Defense Department.

NATO

Another big argument shaping up - in the councils of the western Big Three. In case of Soviet aggression, who should make the decision - on the use of atomic weapons? Who should have the authority - to launch atomic war?

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles is flying to Paris for a Big Three meeting. Foremost on the agenda - that atomic question.

The British view is - that the decision belongs to the governments of the fourteen western countries in the North Atlantic treaty organization. France - reported to be siding with Britain on that point. So says the dispatch from Paris tonight.

The United States maintaining -- that the authority to use atomic weapons should be given to the military command of NATO. They to decide quickly - in case of sudden aggression, ^{and} this American view is backed by all the NATO Generals - British and French, as well as American.

LONDON

A new political storm in Britain. This one - stirred up by the British chief delegate to the U.N. Anthony Nutting. Today, the Labor Party raised a clamor of protest - against a statement he made on a New York television program. ~~and~~ Asserting - that Great Britain would help the United States, in defending Formosa. Should - the Chinese Communists attack.

In the House of Commons today, Labor members introduced a resolution - criticizing the Chief Delegate. Laborites demanding ^{to be told:-} was the Nutting statement a "blunder"? Or, was it a correct reflection of the policy of the Churchill government?

Which drew a reply - from a spokesman from the London foreign office. The reply - little more than an evasion. He merely referred back to statements made previously by Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Last week, Eden told the Commons: "A Chinese Communist attack on Formosa would, no doubt,

call for collective action by the U.N. In which we would, of course, be involved as a member," said Eden.

Which was an oblique round-about way of involving Britain in the Formosa question.

GREECE

Anti-American rioting in Athens. Today, five thousand students - on the rampage. Protesting on the subject of Cyprus.

That island ^{held by} of ancient legend is ~~in possession~~ of Great Britain. The people of Cyprus - demanding union with Greece. The governor ^{going} to Athens - demanding the same thing. Bringing the question before the United Nations. Washington - supporting London. The American view being - that this is no time to agitate for a transfer of Cyprus to Greek rule. ^{with the hand, and gold, of Russia in the background!} So that's what's incited the trouble in

Athens today. Huge mobs of students - in an anti-American demonstration. Kept from storming their way to the United States and British Embassies. But - they stoned the headquarters of the American Mission in Athens. Smashing - the windows.

SHIPS

In West Indian waters - a strange repetition. The same sort of thing happening - twice.

The Norwegian tanker "Fensal" - sent a distress message. Engine room explosion - tanker on fire. Coast Guard planes to the rescue. Two hundred and seventy-five miles northwest of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Fire under control. "Fensal" able to proceed - under her own power.

Later - a distress message from the Norwegian vessel "Branconda". Engine room explosion! Two injured. Ship - on fire. Position - three hundred ninety miles northwest of Puerto Rico. Once again, Coast Guard planes to the rescue. Vessel proceeding.

Strange duplication - of engine room explosions. Later - Oslo, Norway. Word of a whole series of similar explosions aboard Norwegian ships in the past few months. Today's news - bringing the count up to right. Sounds like - dirty work on the high seas.

SCIENTISTS

Here's a Christmas story - with a portentous background. In Chicago, five hundred yuletide packages are being prepared. Food - for the needy. Destination -- Japan.

So who's the Santa Claus? The Chicago Chapter of the Federation of Atomic Scientists. Which group -- includes physicists, who worked on the original atomic bombs. The ones - which devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Today, Doctor Arthur Rosenfeld, President of the organization, said: "We want to show, by this simple gesture of goodwill at Christmas - that we think of the Japanese as individuals, not as targets for atomic bombs."

WHITE HOUSE

President Eisenhower had his conference with Democratic leaders in Congress. The President - presenting his legislative plans. So how did things go?

Very well - according to the Democratic leaders. Senator Lyndon Johnson of Texas, calling the conference "very constructive and cordial." Sam Rayburn of Texas, who'll be the speaker of the House - says the President expressed a desire to cooperate with the Democrats and - continue bi-partisan White House meetings, like the one today.

The Democratic view is - that the presidential plans for legislation sound pretty good. But - may need some "improvement" by the new Democratic Congress.

RAY BORST

I am broadcasting tonight from the Albany-Troy area -- on the outskirts of both -- from a dinner attended by local mayors, and members of the press. I wish there were time to introduce a few of them, because in their field they are right at the top. I'll take one just as an illustration. We usually think of Washington, D.C. as the political press center of ~~xxxxx~~ America. And so it is to a large extent. But, sitting here ~~xx~~ in this group is a young man who ~~xxxx~~ came from a small town a few miles away. A town with the rather interesting name of Schoharie. Thirty-five years ago -- is that right - Ray - you made the big jump from Schoharie to Albany. Down where I live at Pawling they say - when a chap gets rather important locally : "well, ~~xxxxxx~~ you're an important person now you ought to move to Poughkeepsie!"

Ray Borst came ^{to} ~~xxxx~~ Albany from Schoharie and ever since has worked as a political reporter here. He is the dean of the Correspondents

Legislative association, oldest organization of its character in America. Although he has stayed here all these years how that man has gotten around! Travelling everywhere with Al Smith, then for more years ~~at~~ and years with F.D.R. and then for more years and years with Thomas E. Dewey -- even to Korea with him. Still in Albany -- Ray Borst is, I believe, the most widely travelled political correspondent in America.

Here is an item about which these gentlemen know far more than I do -- how to interpret it: --

HARRIMAN

Governor elect Averill Harriman, today, named a Secretary of State. The job going to Carmine De Sapio, leader of Tammany Hall. Who - master-minded the Harriman election campaign. The Tammany leader ~~pm~~ played a decisive part in the contest for the nomination - Harriman versus F.D.R.Jr. De Sapio, blocking the drive to nominate Roosevelt. Securing - the place for Harriman. F D R persuaded to accept a lesser place on the ticket - Attorney General. Then, defeated in the election, while Harriman won.

Now the Governor Elect, in passing out the jobs, gives one of the most important to DeSapio, the Tammany Leader.

MAGICIAN

Canada reports -- a challenge to a contest. In - jailbreaking. Defiance hurled - by one of those magicians who specialize in miracles of escape. The old - Houdini trick.

In Toronto, a prodigy was performed by "the amazing Randi" who, in twenty minutes, got out of a jail cell-- after the cops had fastened him with twelve pairs of handcuffs, a set of leg irons, and two lengths of chain. They chained his hands and his neck - to the wall of the cell. But, in twenty minutes - out came "the Amazing Randi".

All of which - is belittled by magician Jim Todd, a rival escape artist. Who points out - that "the amazing Randi" performed his prodigy in a place where nobody could watch him. Todd - declaring, that he'll do the same thing and more, out in public. So he challenges "the amazing Randi" to a competition in front of an audience.

He says he's grandson - of the immortal Houdini. Claims he inherited a book of secrets left

by Houdini. Also - that he ^{has} been in communication
with Houdini's ghost. Receiving - further tips on
ways of escape.

The odd thing would be - if those two
magicians got into a ^{row} fight and were arrested. Where
would the police find a jail cell to hold them?

BRAIN

The human brain - has a defender who declares
- the cerebrum and cerebellum will always be vastly
superior to any electronic brain.

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Doctor John Bowman, of the Mellon Institute
in Pittsburgh, admits - the thinking machine has two
great advantages. Working out mathematics - much
faster than any human mathematician. Also, the
electronic brain does not show "fatigue". Never -
gets tired. Never - needs a night of sleep. Alas,
poor thinking machine- never knowing the joys of
crawling under the blanket and snoring away.

But the human brain is much superior. For
-- two reasons. It can remember a lot more things.
~~Including a number that it would rather forget~~
"Secondly" declares Doctor Bowman, "the human brain
can differentiate between various tastes and various
odors. A feat beyond the capabilities of the machine,"
says he.

Not being able to taste, the mechanical mind
can't tell the difference between corned beef and

cabbage and pate de fois gras. And, with no sense of smell, it wouldn't know the fragrance of a rose from the perfume of a glue factory. But maybe, some scientists will invent an electronic nose. Which, I suppose, would need an electronic handkerchief.

- Hugh -

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