

Friday, March 26, 1948

President Truman has taken action in the matter of aviation equipment and other military material shipped to Soviet Russia. He has given to the State Department the authority to ban the export of airplanes, airplane parts, and a whole list of other merchandise that might have military use. The State Department is empowered to keep such articles from going to the Soviets or their satellites - rigid export control.

To which the immediate ~~xxx~~ retort in Congress is - okay, but not enough. ~~F~~ Congressional critics ~~will~~ promptly demand that other goods be stopped, like machine tools.

This afternoon Congressman Mundt of South Dakota declared:

"It is just as important to stop shipments of machine tools, capable of producing engines, as it is to stop the shipment of the engines themselves."

~~However, a word of caution is interposed by Secretary of Commerce Harriman, who points out that, officially, Russia is regarded as a friendly nation - and, ~~pink~~~~

## DEFENSE

It is announced in Washington tonight that the Army has decided to hold on to some four thousand over-age officers scheduled to be mustered out of service on June Thirtieth. Orders have been sent to all Army posts, the veteran officers to be retained for the time being. "It is going to be particularly difficult from now on for any officer to get out of the service", said an informed Army source just a few minutes ago. "Only those who are incompetent and can prove a real personal hardship will be allowed to go."

## SOVIET SHIP

This theme of shipments to Soviet Russia produced something startling ~~last night~~, in the world of newsreel. Over at Movietone, <sup>during the night</sup> we screened a picture of the loading of a Soviet ship at a dock in Jersey City. Big crates of what was described as machinery, were being swung aboard. All this being what one expected to see.

Then suddenly on the screen flashed something else, something that made us blink our eyes. Right next to the Soviet ship at the dock were <sup>- tanks</sup> military mechanized equipment. The question flashed to mind - were American tanks being shipped to Soviet Russia? It seemed fantastic - but there <sup>they</sup> were, <sup>see</sup> the war machines alongside the Soviet freighter.

I asked, how they got the pictures. The story was this. The Movietone editor, learning that the Soviet ship was loading ~~up~~ at Jersey City, phoned to the railroad pier and asked for permission to make pictures. The answer was - no, a flat refusal/ Whereupon, the Movietone editor called a cameraman and said - get those pictures. So over to

Jersey City went Cameraman Dion de Titta. He arrived at the pier, not ~~know~~ knowing how hard they'd throw him out - and started in by climbing on a freight car outside and getting long range pictures from a distance.

Then he went to the entrance of the pier, where he saw a railroad detective stalking along. When that peril had passed, Dion de Titta sneaked in between lines of huge cases, and used his hand camera from around the corner, taking care not to be observed.

Then it was that he saw the tanks. His eyes gaped, and his camera also gaped - making the pictures. He kept venturing in further, mingling with the stevedores, using his camera whenever he dared. So there on the screen was the Soviet ship being loaded - and those tanks.

Today, I made inquiries, seeking for an explanation of the strange phenomenon. I talked to officials of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, and got the story. The tanks belong to the United States Army, and were to be taken by lighter

from the Jersey City pier to the Army base in Brooklyn.

From which point they'll be shipped abroad, maybe Greece or

Turkey, or some other place designated by the Army. The

reason they were right next door to the Russian freighter was

because <sup>our</sup> Army and Soviet shipping <sup>S</sup> use <sup>the</sup> same pier - sharing

it. Just one of those cases of leasing and sub-leasing.

Which brought about the peculiar spectacle of American tanks

lined up beside the Soviet freighter.

WASHINGTON

Another denunciation of Soviet Russia issued in Washington. The United States declares that Moscow is solely responsible for the continued political and economic division of Germany. This has just come in on the news wire, a blast which also charges that the Soviets are denying basic human rights in eastern Europe, and are ~~conducting~~ conducting a system of terrorism and concentra<sup>tion</sup> camps.

BERLIN

In Berlin, the Soviets have backed down - the Russians agreeing to continue the meetings of the four power Allied Council which governed <sup>S</sup> Hitler's one-time capital.

Last Saturday the Soviets broke it up, when Red Marshal

Sokolovsky walked out on the Council. It looked as if the

*Russians* *about*  
~~Soviets~~ might be ~~led on~~ to carry out their often repeated

threat to oust the representatives of the Western Allies

from the control in Berlin. But our own General Lucius Clay

stood firm, and today Marshal <sup>k</sup> ~~Sokolovsky~~ announced that he

would participate in the Council meeting on March Thirtieth.

Which is hailed as a victory for General Clay.

ITALY

In Rome, the non-Communist government charged today that the Italian Reds are preparing to use force, ~~They are~~ <sup>They are</sup> that alarmed by their loss of popular support recently.

Communist leaders have ordered their followers to take, what the Rome government calls - more determined action with all means, including force if necessary. This applies to the forthcoming election - the Reds represented as ~~determined~~ <sup>intending</sup> to use violence, in swinging the vote, if ~~they had to~~ <sup>need be,</sup>

~~This government statement echoes the declaration earlier in the day by Italy's number two Communist, Luigo Longo, who stated that the Reds are prepared to use force if they are not granted what he called - "the power which the majority would have given us." This would seem to imply that if the Communists roll up a big vote and are not taken into the government. In that case, they threaten insurrection.~~



## CHINA

China gets a severe scolding and a lot of money - at least according to the proceedings of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate. <sup>A</sup> Considering a bill for aid to China, the Committee today issued a bluntly worded report, charging the nationalist regime with what it called - "inefficiency, corruption and bureaucratic maladies."

The report states: "The ineptitude in military leadership and corruption among army commanders, has ~~at~~ contributed largely to the lowered morale of the Chinese government troops."

All of which is quite a scolding, but the Committee went on to recommend that China be given four hundred and sixty-three million dollars - American aid in the war against the Chinese Reds.

## PALESTINE

In Palestine, the Jewish Agency makes a proposal for an international military force to protect Jerusalem against the Arabs, when the British leave. What kind of international military force? Today, a spokesman for the Jewish Agency suggested what he called - "ten thousand Norwegians and Danish troops stationed now in Germany." These could be transferred to Palestine to form an international army, such as has been much debated. These Norwegians and Danes are in the British occupation zone, some ten thousand of them, organized as part of the British forces. (They have their own officers, but are under British command. So they now stand as the troops mentioned in the first official Jewish plan for international military intervention.)

In the Battle of Palestine, the principal event today was - British artillery in action to break what the news dispatch calls, "a siege of Jerusalem." That is, the Arabs establishing a roadblock outside of the Holy City

on the highway to Tel Aviv - which kept Jewish convoys from  
bringing supplies to the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem. For  
several days we've heard of convoy battles, with the Arab  
road-block holding fast. But today it was broken, when the  
British opened fire with cannon, and blasted the Arabs out -  
and the Jewish convoy went through.

This being Good Friday, there is other news from  
Jerusalem than the violence of war. Today, in spite of the  
turmoil, pilgrims flocked to the Holy City, and went in  
procession through the narrow streets - along the Via Dolorosa,  
the way the Saviour went as he carried his Cross to Calvary.

# EISENHOWER

Two sons of the late President Roosevelt come out for Eisenhower.- Franklin <sup>D.</sup> Jr. and Elliott <sup>appear</sup> ~~They turn against~~ the nomination of President Truman on the Democratic ticket; - turn <sup>ing</sup> against the successor of their father, Franklin D. Roosevelt's running mate in Nineteen Forty-Four. (They state the belief that General Eisenhower should be the Democratic candidate this year, and argue that, he will accept the draft, if summoned by the Democratic Convention in Philadelphia.)

Of course, the commander of victory for the ~~West~~ Western Allies has declared himself out, in a most determined way - rejecting all suggestion that he might be a candidate on the Republican ticket. But Franklin <sup>D.</sup> ~~Roosevelt~~, Jr. and <sup>E.</sup> Elliott ~~Roosevelt~~ argue that circumstances have changed since then, the European crisis worse - and contend that Eisenhower would change his mind, if drafted by the Democrats.

This twofold Roosevelt pronouncement was made by Franklin <sup>D.</sup> Jr. at a news conference in his New York law office,

and by Elliott in a letter to a newspaper - the Poughkeepsie

New Yorker, the local paper for the ancestral Roosevelt home

town, Hyde Park. <sup>(All of which</sup> ~~This~~ brings a new climax in the Democratic

revolt - discard Truman and draft Eisenhower. But the

N.Y. Times pundit Arthur Krocks says today that Eisenhower has told friends that he will not permit himself to be used to salvage a political party.)

ADD EISENHOWER

The Roosevelt position is not so unanimous,  
however, because at Phoenix, Arizona, Mrs. Anna Roosevelt  
~~Boetiger~~ <sup>TODAY.</sup> Boetiger ~~has~~ <sup>just</sup> made a statement, declaring  
that, in her own words, "it is inadvisable to nominate a  
military man for president."

## SURPLUS

~~Today brings~~ a climax in the form of a huge figure.

The Treasury Department reports the biggest surplus in the history of the United States - a surplus of seven billion, a hundred and sixty-three million, ninety-five thousand, five hundred and sixty-five dollars and seventeen cents.

Not enough, it should be eighteen cents! <sup>IR</sup> Last year our national finances were in the black to the tune of more than three billion dollars, which now <sup>has</sup> ~~is~~ more than doubled, over seven billion. ~~The Treasury estimates that by the end of the~~

~~fiscal year, June Thirtieth, the surplus will have climbed still higher - seven and a half billions. Which amount is too low, according to some experts - who think that the figure in the black will be still larger.~~

## TORNADO

A tornado hit near St. Louis today, a twister raising havoc in a section just north of the metropolis of Missouri. ~~It~~ This was part of a general advance of storm winds moving northeastward over Missouri and southern Illinois. <sup>R</sup> Last night, tornadoes killed thirteen persons in Oklahoma and Arkansas - continuing the persistent misbehavior of wind and weather this ~~year~~ winter and spring.



## SHIPWRECK

From the northern shores of Nova Scotia - a thriller of the ice. Two sealing ships caught in the channel between Nova Scotia and Newfoundland - trapped in the grinding drive of the ice floes. Both powerfully reinforced vessels, as sealing ships are; but, they were crushed like the proverbial eggshell - as the frozen masses closed in on them, with ~~shattering~~ pressure.

Aboard the two vessels were thirty-seven seal hunters, and they had a desperate adventure - their only hope being to thread their way across the moving, drifting chunks of ice. Yet the word is that all thirty-seven have been saved. They succeeded in getting across the treacherous ice to a lonely island with a lighthouse, where a Canadian ice-breaker picked them up.

# RETAKE

NIGHT SHOW

March 26th 1948

SCOUTS.

In Chico, California, a troop of boy scouts is having an exciting experience - forty-one San Francisco youngsters snow-bound near Butte Meadows. All roads leading to their camp are blocked, so they are cut off from civilization - except by air.

It sounds tough, but the boys are ~~quite~~ comfortable - ~~ixx~~ living in weatherproof cabins. Food and fuel rationed of course, to eke out supplies, no-one knowing how long they will have to stay. Yesterday a camp official put on his skis and ~~hit~~ <sup>ran</sup> the ~~trail~~ down the <sup>(mountain)</sup> ~~mountain~~ slopes to the nearby town of Lomo, where ~~he~~ <sup>he</sup> ~~reported~~ <sup>reported</sup> ~~on~~ <sup>and</sup> of the situation; said ~~ixx~~ the boys were having a swell time, enjoying every minute of it, ~~all they needed was~~ <sup>boys</sup> ~~chow.~~ <sup>is food.</sup> And how to get it to them?

That ~~problem~~ was ~~quickly~~ <sup>quickly</sup> solved. A plane took off, loaded with four-hundred-and-fifty pounds of supplies, meat, vegetables, and canned milk - ~~these~~ <sup>and today these were</sup> dumped by parachute <sup>right at</sup> ~~in the~~

*Just like Explorers*  
~~middle of the snow-bound camp. An added thrill for the young~~  
*Brad Washburn and Maynard Miller*  
~~Sourdoughs, having the time of their lives - adventure in~~  
*do it on their Alaskan mountaineering*  
~~the great out doors, with an airplane at hand to keep the~~  
*expeditions,*  
~~larger well stocked.~~

## EASTER

This being Good Friday, with the bright feast of Easter approaching, it's appropriate to talk about fineries and fashions, Easter hats and the Easter Parade. However, what the news brings is a picture of overalls, gingham dresses and sunbonnets. These are the Easter styles to be featured at Effingham, Illinois.-

*At Effingham*  
~~In that city~~ the Reverend William Gray, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, is confronted with a problem that often besets a ~~pastor~~ <sup>dominie.</sup> He is building a new church, and faces that eternal ~~matter~~ <sup>vacuum</sup> of funds. So he suggested to his parish, ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> instead of spending the usual amount of money on finery, ~~that they attend~~ <sup>they have their</sup> Easter Parade in overalls, gingham and sunbonnets. That would save a lot of money, which they could thereupon donate to the fund for the new church.

Today he said: "There were some objections at first, but the battle was won when I convinced my wife." The Pastor's wife, being the First Lady of the Congregation, was the key to the problem. She wanted a new dress and a new hat, as what wife doesn't -

especially on Easter! But the Reverend William Gray is a person with wondrous gifts of persuasion. He convinced his wife so thoroughly, that she decided to appear in the Easter Parade, not in gingham and a sunbonnet, but in a dress made of feed sacks, the bags in which the chicken feed comes.

Today, the Reverend Mr. Gray said he expects all the five hundred members of his church to appear on Sunday in that quaint version of the Easter Parade, and he *hopes they will* ~~expects them to~~ bring all the money they've saved, and deposit it in the collection plate - about five thousand dollars, he figures. He himself ~~will~~<sup>to</sup> conduct the services and preach the Easter sermon - in overalls.

*his wife listening raptly in feed bags.*  
And now here's Nelson in his Easter finery.