

EDEN LT - K. Thure. May 27 - '54.

There is a British story from Geneva that Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden is optimistic about the chances of an agreement on Indo China before the end of next week. Eden is said to have set a deadline. Either agreement by then, or Britain to pull out of the Geneva talks.

What if it doesn't happen that way? Well, the same sources indicate that Britain will then propose immediate organization of "Nato" of southeast Asia. So either way - next Friday should be the critical day.

British diplomats add that the Geneva Conference has not been a waste of time in any case. Because the ground work for an anti-Communist alliance is being laid there. The politicians of the free world, sounding out one another on just what to do if the conference fails.

CHURCHILL

Another hint that Winston Churchill is about to retire. From - Churchill himself. The Prime Minister at a meeting of women of the Conservative Party spoke of pay increases for M P's, and asked the women to vote for such an increase. Then he added: I probably will not be asking you to do me many things more.

So, it looks as though Anthony Eden may soon take over at No Ten Downing Street.

INDO_CHINA

In the news from Indo China - today's dispatches give more details about the twenty thousand Reds attacking the stronghold of Yen Phu - south of Hanoi. Among the Communist weapons, large recoilless cannon - evidently just brought in from China. The cannon - firing almost point blank at the trenches and bunkers of French Union defenders.

Army sources in Hanoi believe the Viet Minh troops are making an all-out attempt to break through the defense perimeter in the Red River delta. Yan Phu, a strong point at the southern corner of the delta triangle, is described as a "miniature Dien Bien Phu." Another place where it is next to impossible to send reinforcements by land, because of flooded rice paddies. So helicopters and light planes are running a new airlift.

Meanwhile, it's announced that all of the French wounded to be evacuated from Dien Bien Phu - are now in

Hanoi. More than eight hundred, taken out, ^{by air.} ~~in the mercy~~
~~airlift.~~ Now the French are dickering to see if the Reds will
release the less dangerously wounded, and the medical staff.

LANIEL FOLLOW INDO CHINA

From Paris, a report that Premier Laniel has completed emergency measures for Indo China. The new decisions, following a Cabinet meeting and a session of the National Defense Council. A Paris dispatch says that the French Chief of Staff, General Paul ~~SM~~ Ely, asked the Defense Council to rush reinforcements to Indo China. Also, not to abandon Hanoi.

Foreign Minister Bidault also asks for a strengthening of the French forces. He says his position at Geneva will be improved - if he can negotiate from strength. Bidault went back to Geneva - with instructions to press for a cease-fire. Laniel promising that more troops would be sent to Indo China while the Geneva talks are on.

The Paris dispatch indicates that General Navarre may be replaced. His strategy, bitterly criticized in Paris. The report is that he will be replaced either by General Ely, ^{OR} General Cogny, Commander of the northern front of Indo China.

GUATEMALA

Tonight, there are many cases of Browning automatic rifles - ~~standing~~ on the docks at Balboa, in the Canal Zone. The weapons, taken from the freighter WYOMING, not listed as part of the cargo.

Some observers believe they were found for El Salvador. Which that nation denies.

In Guatemala, no comment. There the Foreign Minister has proposed a non-aggression pact with Honduras, saying that all those Communist weapons from Poland - do not constitute a threat to Honduras.

CARRIER

The cause of the tragic explosion aboard the aircraft carrier BENNINGTON yesterday - still a mystery. The final count - ninety-one killed; more than two hundred injured. (~~Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Carney, after an inspection of the carrier, announced that the cause remains unknown. To which the Commander at Quonset Point, Admiral Hoskins, adds: "So far as haven't the slightest notion what caused the accident."~~)

The Board of Inquiry is scheduled to begin public hearings on Saturday. Survivors to tell of their experiences. Among them, Captain Raborn, who was in command of the Bennington.

CHICAGO

Events in Chicago are bringing back memories of the days of Al Capone - when big-time criminals were in their heyday. No one ^{so} notorious as Capone; but nineteen are in jail tonight -- all said to be part of an underworld syndicate - part of a narcotics and gambling ring. Almost as big as in bootleg days of the prohibition era, only more vicious. The ~~last~~ loot involved - estimated at around ten million a year.

Both local and federal authorities are involved in the crack-down - as Chicago attempts to stop its latest crime wave.

ISAREL

In Israel, fifty refugees from Communist tyranny - on a hunger strike. They are all from Romania, and they had just heard that the Romanian government has begun a round-up of Jews.

The Israel ~~gxxx~~ hunger strike is a protest, to attract world attention to what is happening in Rumania.

The hunger strikers are camped in the wedding hall of the great Tel Aviv synagogue. Many already are reported in serious condition.

More than twenty thousand persons filed through the synagogue in the past forty-eight hours just to see them. While outside the synagogue, Red demonstrators are ~~xxxx~~ screaming about what they call "the slander" of their comrades in eastern Europe.

MAU-MAU .

Queen Elizabeth's African bungalow goes up in smoke. The treetop bungalow in Kenya - where she and the Duke of Edinburgh were when informed that her father was dead, and that she was Queen.

Last night flames were seen rising from the tree. Security forces, rushed to the scene, but were too late. The fire set by the Mau Mau. So they believe.

HAILE SELASSIE

The United Nations have succeeded, where the League of Nations failed. Such is the belief of the monarch who is our present guest. Haile Selassie, referring to the Italian invasion of Ethiopia, today noted that when the Reds invaded Korea - the U N stepped in and put a stop to it. So unlike what happened when Mussolini invaded Abyssinia. Then he spoke of sending his own Ethiopian troops to fight in Korea, along with other soldiers under United Nations command.

Haile Selassie is staying in Blair House, following his welcome by the President and Mrs. Eisenhower. Tomorrow, he will address a joint session of Congress.

Senator Knowland still thinks that Congress can finish its work by July Thirty-First. The G.O.P. leader ~~in~~ ~~the Senate~~ saying that members of Congress will be able to go home to campaign in Congressional elections, instead of staying on in ~~Washington~~ Washington. ~~in~~ ~~Washington~~

The Senator from California told a reporter that his prediction was dependent on cooperation by the Democrats. *That* ~~In other words,~~ a bi-partisan approach to legislative problems should enable Congress to get through the work before it by the end of July.

~~And, as we all know,~~ Adjournment is particularly important this year, ~~Because~~ all members of the House, and one-third of the Senate, are up for reelection. ~~They don't want to stay in Washington any longer than they have to.~~ ~~Maybe that fact will speed up a bi-partisan approach.~~

HEARINGS

The most interesting thing in the Washington circus today, was -- an extended personality study. The McCarthy hearing consisting, mostly, of -- the bright young man. Roy Cohn -- as a witness, throughout most of the proceedings today. Well-known, by now -- for his youth and precocious talents. Graduated from the Columbia Law School -- at nineteen. Prominent -- as a Government attorney in headline cases, by the time he was twenty-five. Now, at twenty-seven -- one of the principals in the big uproar. So what kind of an impression did he make, in an all-day appearance?

I thought -- he handed himself well. He was fluent, articulate -- with ready words and a flowing recital, full of detail. You might have suspected that the "bright young man" might have seemed -- a little too smart. Roy Cohn has a reputation for being aggressive, if not arrogant. But, today, he preserved a proper

modesty -- like a junior in the presence of his elders.

He said little that was new. His testimony -- presenting a copious picture of all the charges that Senator McCarthy has made. Communist infiltration of the Army, especially at Fort Monmouth -- and the efforts of Army Secretary Stevens and his counsellor, John Agams -- to get the McCarthy hearings called off. This, with details piling up hour after hour, sounded impressive.

The disputatious question of Private Schine didn't figure much -- not yet. That noisy topic -- held over until tomorrow.

MT. MCKINLEY

Word of another mountaineering tragedy. A dispatch from Anchorage, Alaska. Relayed from the glaciers far up on the highest mountain in North America.

Four students set out to climb Mt. McKinley: Elton Thayer, George Argus, Morton Wood, and Leslie Viereck. The dispatch says they are attempting a new route, to the summit. Whether they got to the top the dispatch doesn't say. At any rate on the way down, at thirteen thousand feet, Elton Thayer slipped - taking the others with him. In the fall, Thayer was killed, Argus crippled. And Viereck injured. The three survivors so badly off they were unable to continue the descent. They camped on the spot for a week while Viereck recovered. Then he and Wood tried to carry Argus. Putting him on a rubber mattress they managed to get down another two thousand feet, and could go no further. There they decided to leave Argus, and go for help. So they left him in a tent, at the edge of

a glacier. They also left behind all the rations they had, and lit a primus stove to keep him warm.

From that point Wood and Viereck stumbled on down the mountain, and managed to get their story out. A rescue helicopter at once took off from Ladd Field at Fairbanks, and made a landing at five thousand feet. Far up on McKinley. Two rescuers, tonight, are trying to reach the point where George Argus was left in that tent - wondering if he is still alive.

I believe this is the only tragedy that has occurred on McKinley since the death of Allen Carpe and Theodore Koven, back in the thirties. They were members of a cosmic ray expedition, and had been landed by light plane high up on the mountain, I think on Muldrow Glacier. Just ~~hx~~ what happened will never be known. Evidently Koven fell in a glacier and was killed. Carpe may have tried to rescue him. At any rate another expedition lead by Erling strom, Al Lindlay, and Grant Pearson, found his body some distance off and brought him to the base of the mountain. At

that time Carpe was regarded as America's ablest young mountaineer.

SNOWMAN

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More about the "abominable snowman?" For several years stories have come from Nepal, about a weird ~~XXXX~~ creature, half-man and half-ape, living in the Himalayas -- even on Mt. Everest. Said to be about five feet tall, covered with grayish brown hair, and walks upright. Climbers refer to it as the "abominable snowman". What's ~~XXXX~~ new, if anything about this mystery?

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Sir John Hunt, leader of the British expedition that conquered Everest - says he saw the tracks of such a creature. And recently another British party set out to search ~~the~~ for the abominable snowman. A dispatch from Katmandu says the party is on its way back. And further word comes from Calcutta, that the explorers found - not a trace. So Mike, shall we head for the Himalayas to see if we can clear it up?