

P.T. - P.V.G. Monday, Jan. 8, 1951.

At Lake Success today, British Delegate Sir Gladwyn
Jebb asked the main Political Committee for more time "before
we entirely despair of a solution that will enable us to leave
live in harmony with the new Peking regime." At the same time,
Jebb warned that the U.N. may soon have to make a final break
with Red China. That it is becoming increasingly unlikely
that Peking is ready to consider an honorable solution." But,
he ^{added,} ~~warned,~~ it is a good principle "to think before you leap,
and, if we leap, ^{said he} we all leap together."

In line with Britain's plea for another try at
negotiation, before "the final break" with Peking, Britain
today supported an Israeli plan for a cease-fire and progressive
withdrawal of foreign troops - both U.N. and Chinese, from
Korea. Soviet Delegate Malik immediately turned down the
Israeli suggestion, on the grounds that "it would enable
United States interventionists to maintain troops in Korea
as long as they deem fit." At Jebb's suggestion, the Committee
then ~~met~~ adjourned until Thursday, to allow the three-man cease-fire

team to draw up its final set of recommendations.

From London today, came word that the United States wants the nations of the West to withdraw diplomatic recognition from Red China. The U.S. request ^(was made) ~~came~~ in the note sent to twenty-nine Western countries on Friday. ~~It was~~ This note that also demanded that Peking be named aggressor in Korea, and proposed an economic blockade of China. The Commonwealth Prime Ministers were meeting in London this afternoon to consider the note. ^{And,} For the first time the circle was complete, with the arrival of the Pakistan Prime Minister, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan. Following the meetings, a spokesman said that the question of withdrawing recognition from Red China was "hypothetical." That, for the present, at any rate, the British government will continue to recognize Peking.

TRUMAN

The quick reactions in Congress to the Presidential message today give a graphic picture of the political line-up on Foreign Affairs. The Democrats -- united. The Republicans -- divided. The Democratic view is expressed by Administration leader Senator MacFarland of Arizona, who says he "completely endorses the Presidential program."

On the Republican side of the fence, Senator Wherry of Nebraska cries -- "shocking disappointment." The Nebraska Senator is a foremost exponent of the Taft-Hoover view, which is against the sending of more American troops to Europe, and he says he will introduce a resolution demanding that the Administration get Congressional consent before more of our soldiers are assigned to trans-Atlantic duty.

Republican Senator Wiley of Wisconsin welcomes the Presidential message with a cheer -- "the greatest speech of Mr. Truman's career," he says. Which

opinion is reflected in the more moderate tones of Republican Senator Knowland of California -- who thinks that, on the basis of the Truman declarations, an agreement can be worked out between the White House and Congress.

The President's message on the State of the Nation presented a gravely spoken picture of the peril in which this country finds itself and the methods the Administration proposes to meet the danger. Most all of this was familiar material, which we have been hearing in public discussion for weeks -- beginning with the President's outright declaration that we are being forced to arm as heavily as we can in the face of the menacing aggressions that are sponsored by Soviet Russia.

The President said: "We are preparing for full wartime mobilization, if that should be necessary. If we build out strength -- and we are building it,"

said he, "the Soviet rulers may face the fact and lay aside their plans to take over the world."

He promised an all-out production drive to enable us to build fifty thousand combat planes per year and that will give us thirty-five thousand tanks a year.



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Word in Washington is that this will be translated into a budget -- which is likely to come to a total of seventy-five billion dollars, the largest yearly budget in peacetime history.

The President forecast what he called -- "a major increase in taxes." In Washington, it is believed that this means tax increases amounting to as much as ten billion dollars a year -- that much added revenue.

Of the most timely topical interest -- was the part of the message that answered the recent Foreign Policy address made by Senator Taft of Ohio. The name of Taft was not mentioned in the presidential message, nor was that of former-President Herbert Hoover -- who first outlined the proposition that this nation might ^{make a partial} ~~retire~~ ^{ment} to the Western Hemisphere. But the President, without naming names, gave an answer. He said: "The defense of Europe is the defense of the whole free world, ourselves included."

"The Soviet Union," said he, "doesn't have to attack the United States to secure domination of the world. It could achieve this end by isolating us and swallowing up all our Allies."

All of which evokes a loud protest from one side of the Republican fence -- and approval from the other.

SERVICES

In Washington today, we heard the first word of expansion plans for the Air Force and Navy. The Air Force is to be increased to "substantially more than eighty-four groups" in the next eighteen months. Thirty-six more groups - than at the start of the Korean War. In the State of the Union message today, the President asked ^{a productive capacity of} ~~for~~ fifty thousand new planes a year - five times the present rate of construction.

The Navy's shipbuilding program calls for eighty-three new ships - including a sixty thousand ton super-aircraft carrier, seven Snorkel and two rocket launching submarines, an armada of mine sweepers. In addition, more than two hundred and fifty other vessels are to be completely reequipped - armed with the latest weapons including jet planes and guided missiles.

DRAFTEES

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Harbor Springs, Michigan, veterans of World War Two have decided to brief draftees on army life. Their first meeting tonight deals with that most famous of all army bugbears - "how to handle tough sergeants."

KOREA

(In Korea tonight, minor rear guard actions are covering the withdrawal of U. N. forces to "better defensive positions.") That's the word from 8th Army Headquarters, where a spokesman today announced the evacuation of Osan and the rail center of Wonju. Osan on the west coast, twenty-five miles south of Seoul, is the town where the first American troops went into action last July.

Dispatches from the front tell of Chinese and North Korean advances on all fronts -- following the U. N. withdrawal. It seems the Chinese are in the area south of Seoul, with the North Koreans concentrating in the center and east.

(Non-stop air attacks by Thunder-Jets and Shooting Stars have been kept up on Red supply routes and troop concentrations. The bombers were out today also - Superforts raining down bombs on Kimpo Airport near Seoul and on the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.)

FRANCE

In Paris today, after weeks of delay, the French

National Assembly gave Premier Pleven three votes of confidence—

and stamped its final approval on the highest rearmament budget

in French history. The two billion dollar program ~~now~~ means

that France ^{now} will be able to carry out its pledge of twenty

divisions and twenty-eight fighter plane squadrons for

General Eisenhower's army. The first two votes of confidence

were on proposals to raise taxes, to pay for the costs of

rearmament. The third was on the bill as a whole.

INDO-CHINA

In Saigon today, the new French supreme commander, General Jean de Lattre de Tassigny, announced that French troops have once again taken the initiative in Indo-China.

"The situation now rests in our hands - despite the enemy's considerable numerical superiority," said the General.

TP The great rebel drive at Christmas time, aimed at the northern capital city of Hanoi, and the vital port of Haiphong, ^{he tells us has} ~~was~~ failed completely.

Tassigny's orders to French troops at the time of the rebel offensive were, "to hold at any cost - don't give up an inch!" And it seems his orders have been carried out to the letter.

REMINGTON

In the New York trial of William Remington, former government official, the chief witness today was Elizabeth Bentley -- ex-Communist, who was once a courier for Soviet espionage. Her testimony included a statement that bears on one curious point in the evidence given previously by Remington's former wife. Mrs. Remington told of meetings in war time between her husband and Elizabeth Bentley; -- Red spy work. She said that on one occasion Remington had given the courier-for-Soviet espionage a secret formula for making explosives out of -- garbage. ~~It~~ Seemed odd. Today Elizabeth Bentley, telling about that meeting, says the formula was a process for using garbage as material for making synthetic rubber. According to this, it was -- rubber, not explosives.

The witness testified that Remington described it as being "super secret" and said: "with the war shortages going on, Russia needs something like this very much".

This was a striking point in a long line of

testimony given at the trial of the former government official -- charged with having committed perjury when he swore he never was a Communist.

EPIDEMICS

In Washington ~~today~~ the Public Health Service pointed ⁵
an accusing finger at "the two most unusual epidemic problems
of Nineteen Fifty" - vampire bats and mongooses. The
blood-sucking vampires and the mongooses, so it seems, have
been spreading rabbies. ~~epidemics~~. The ~~deadly~~ virus ^{is} found
normally in dogs or cats - ~~which~~ ^{and} can only be passed on to
humans by a bite or scratch from one of these animals.

^{bats}
The vampires have been especially active near the
U.S.-Mexican border -- flying to and fro across the frontier.
The vampires, ~~feeding on animals' blood~~, are especially
dreaded carriers, and in this case have brought the ^{rabbits} ~~disease~~
into the United States.

^{-- in India}
The mongooses - ^{the} snakes' most deadly enemy -
Riki Tiki Tavi of Kipling's Jungle Books, ^{spread} their
epidemic in Puerto Rico. Luckily, so the report says,
there were no human cases of ^{this} ~~the~~ ^{malady} ~~disease~~.

WATER

Canton, Illinois, had a dry time today -- after a night watchman at the Water Works fell asleep. It was part of his job to shut off an intake valve whenever the tanks at the municipal pump station were full. But John Essex was mighty tired, as a night watchman sometimes can be;-- so he just dozed off - maybe even as you and I! The result was that, when the pumping station tanks were full, the water kept on pouring in -- flooding the whole place. Motors and pumps inundated by the deluge -- the station put completely out of commission. Not a drop of water to be had by housewives, business establishments and factories.

Canton, however, has a huge reserve water-tank, just for such an emergency. It holds one hundred and fifty thousand gallons, and that should have tied things over to some degree -- until the pumping station got going again. But, when they turned on the reserve tank -- nothing happened. Dry as a bone -- the reserve

tank having already been drained of its hundred-and-fifty thousand gallons; all because of the mix-up at the pumping station. One result: the International Harvester plant, employing thirty-two hundred workers had to shut down; Schools closed; and housewives with no water for cooking; -- citizens thirsty; i.e. for water.

As a desperate measure the town resorted to a Fire Department tank truck, with a thousand gallons of water for emergency fire fighting. Of course that provided a mere trickle for a town. Luckily a fire didn't break out!

At last reports the ~~Shank~~ Fire Department was pumping out the pumping station of the water works -- and using an air compressor, trying to dry out the machinery. A town in desperation -- dry as the Sahara, because a night watchman nodded.

Hey-hey Nelson - wake up -- we need a flow - of word from YOU.