

EISENHOWER L.T. - P. & G., FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1953

In Washington today, there was a cabinet meeting -- without the President. Which was -- a highly unusual proceeding. It emphasizes the drive behind what the Eisenhower staff is calling -- "a peace offensive". Launched -- by that Presidential address yesterday.

At Augusta, Georgia the President was in bed today, recovering from the attack of food poisoning, from which he suffered yesterday. He made that historic speech while running a fever, ill -- in pain. Today's report is: "He still has some abdominal pain, although no fever. The President - recovering okay.

Meanwhile he summoned the members of the cabinet - to hold a meeting in Washington -- in his absence. Purpose to discuss measures to press that "peace offensive". We hear that statements will be issued by cabinet members and by Republican leaders in Congress -- to back up those Eisenhower -

terms for coming to an agreement with the Malenkov regime in the Kremlin and ending the cold war.

The President's address was given to the world by the Voice of America in forty-five languages, broadcast to just about every country on earth, free, Soviet, Satellite. Moreover, copies of the speech were handed in at the offices of seventy odd governments, which is described as a diplomatic ~~xxxxxxx~~ move without precedent.

In Moscow, a copy was taken to the Kremlin -- by U.S. Charge d'Affair Jacob Beam. This might have been the task of U.S. Ambassador Bohlen, who is in Moscow right now. But the new Ambassador has not yet presented his ~~in~~ credentials. So he's not yet on the job, according to diplomatic ~~procedure~~ *protocol*.

He'll present his credentials on Monday.

Propaganda? - Have we the usual anti-American diatribe?

Not at all. Newspapers and radio present a dispatch

from Washington edited by the Russian TASS agency.

EISENHOWER-REACTION

~~Today brings worldwide reaction to that Eisenhower address. The capitals of this earth giving it headline attention -- and first, let's go to Moscow.~~

the Eisenhower address
~~This morning it was on the front pages of~~
Moscow
~~all the newspapers. Surprising -- that prompt.~~

~~Speed -- without precedent. The Presidential declaration, ~~which~~ shortly after noon in Washington, broke in Moscow at nine P.M. Normally, according to the ways of Soviet journalism, ~~that~~ ^{it} would not have made the morning papers at all. At best it would have appeared in the afternoon papers today. But the Kremlin rushed the statement of American foreign policy into print, as fast as possible. The Moscow radio, too, gave it a prompt announcement.~~

~~So what's the tone taken by Soviet Propaganda? Have we the usual anti-American diatribe? Not at all. Newspapers and radio present a dispatch from Washington cabled by the Russian TASS agency,~~

~~which presents those Eisenhower statements in full.~~

~~The comment by TASS is mild. For example, concerning the disarmament proposals, the Soviet news agency says: "The President restricted himself to rather general remarks on the most important questions regarding the curtailment of armament." (Which TASS follows by noting that the President himself said that the terms of disarmament are critical and complex.)~~

But what about these Eisenhower statements blaming the cold war on the hostile policy of Soviet Russia? Here's what Soviet press and radio have to say about that: "The President," says the report they give out, "devoted the major part of his speech to a justification of American foreign policy, blaming the Soviet Union for the existing situation. But," adds the Russian version "he did not give any facts to support ^{this} ~~them~~." Moscow goes on to say that the Eisenhower "formula" "gives all the advantage to the

United States."

Which certainly has a mild sound -- after those usual screaming red harangues about the U.S. imperialism and war mongering. ~~The only thing we can say is that~~ (the Kremlin under the new ^{Malenkov} regime is continuing its tone of conciliation. Seeming to welcome the Eisenhower statement of American policy for ending the cold war.)

London gives hearty British cheers. The chorus of the press is led by the London Times, which today prints an editorial headed: "Opportunity to turn the tide of history". But the most powerful voice of support is that of Prime Minister Churchill. At a Conservative Party rally in Scotland tonight, Churchill called the Eisenhower proposals "massive and magnificent", and ^(pledged) ~~promised~~ what he called "resolute support."

In Paris, there is warm praise. The only exception being the Communist papers. ~~One of these~~

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(One of which says:-
~~expresses its opinion as follows:~~ "The essence of
the speech is to insist that the Soviet Union,
without negotiations, must do as the United States
desires."

In Rome, official opinion is expressed by
Premier DeGasperi who describes the Eisenhower
peace proposals with two adjectives. "Honest and
vigorous", says he.

KOREA TRUCE

In Korea

The Communist negotiators were taken by surprise, it seems, when they received a reply to their proposal for the resumption of the truce talks.

~~They were expecting a favorable answer but thought~~

They thought
~~that~~ General Mark Clark, in Tokyo, would merely suggest a meeting of liaison officers to decide on a date for the preliminaries to begin. The Clark message, however, proposes that the preliminaries, themselves, begin tomorrow, -- ~~a meeting of liaison officers to~~

~~the ground work for a full scale conference~~

We
~~not~~ only accept *the Red* ~~their~~ compromise, ~~proposals~~, but want things to go faster ~~than they anticipated~~.

~~The compromise looks that it is a curious~~

~~bit of expediency for having the communists who~~

~~insisted on the return of all prisoners of war~~

The Communists
~~willing to~~ -- agree that captives, who don't want to go back to the Reds, shall be placed under the control of a neutral country. We accept that, and name Switzerland. They also demand the right to send emissaries to talk to such prisoners --

trying to persuade them to return voluntarily. We accept that also, -- ~~agreeing that their emissaries be allowed to talk to prisoners, while these are under Swiss control.~~

The twister is this: The Communists ~~insist~~ ^{deny} ~~on denying~~ that any prisoners we hold refuse to go home -- although, actually, some forty-five thousand have refused. They say that such captives might have "apprehensions", might be worried about something. So all they need is to have things explained to them. ~~Well, they get the right to make the explanations --~~ which certainly sounds like Oriental face saving.

Today, the Chinese Red radio talked as if an armistice were a foregone conclusion. Saying - that a truce in Korea would not necessarily mean a final peace agreement. But, a truce, in the words of the Red radio -- "will lead to an upsurge in the spirit of ^{conciliation.} ~~compromise.~~" The tone would ~~seem to~~ indicate ~~that~~ they take an armistice for granted.

KOREA PRISONERS

The word at Pan Mun Jom is that there is a fourth convoy of the sick and injured, -- which won't arrive at Px Kaesong until next Tuesday. Three convoys have already rolled in. And it had been supposed that these carried ~~all the allied prisoners,~~ ~~six hundred and five of them,~~ ^{all} who are to be handed over beginning on Monday. But, it seems, there's a fourth string of trucks and ambulances, which will come in a day late. But that won't impede the beginning of the prisoner exchange, ~~on Monday.~~

~~An account of the state of mind of our returning captives is given by~~ A Communist news reporter, Allen Winington, of the London Daily Worker. ~~He presents a picture sympathetic and affecting.~~ ^{of the returning captives.}

He's been among them, and today he said: "They are hilariously happy at being on their way home, and still wondering if it is all a dream". ^{HP} But he said some are sad. "British and American prisoners" the British Communist goes on "wept without selfconsciousness. But the ones who wept were sad

because they were leaving their comrades behind. In those moments" he adds "the prisoners who are staying seem to be in higher spirits than those going home."

R He says that there are only a few stretcher gm cases among the ill and injured. Most can get around, and a large part of them have only minor disabilities.

~~So thates the British Communist.~~

The Red radio, meanwhile, denies that ^{has been} there was any attempt to indoctrinate American prisoners with Communism, claiming ~~that the~~ charges, made in the United States ~~XXM~~ were intended to discount the stories the home coming captives will tell about the good treatment they got in prison camps.

SUB KOREA

The latest from the war front tells of American G I's beating back a Chinese assault on Pork Chop Hill -- while U.S. artillery virtually annihilated a force of seven hundred Reds, coming up to support the attack. Earlier in the day the Communists ^{trying} ~~and tried~~ to storm half a dozen strategic hills, ^{were} ~~-~~ beaten back everywhere.

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KOREA

The war front flared up today, with a series of Communist assaults. The Reds attacking at six places -- trying to storm half a dozen strategic hills. They were beaten off everywhere, and then had to take a pasting from American fighter bombers, which lashed them with rockets and bombs. This was on the central front, where Communists have a series of powerful fortifications, which the Americans are calling -- "the great wall". Named after -- the great wall of China.

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States, after completing his hitch in Korea. Captain Fernandez was in no wild exchange of gun fire today. He didn't do any shooting at all. He got on the tail of a MIG -- which in an attempt to escape, went into a spin. "The pilot baled out, I didn't fire a shot", says the Captain.

offices of the U.S. officials of the Point Four Program -- American economic aid to Iran. They looted the place and burned the furniture. After which rioters hurled volleys of stones at the homes of U.S. officials. Yelling -- "Yankees go home."

Protests were handed in by U.S. Ambassador Loy Henderson, and Premier Mossadegh expressed profound regret for the violence -- which presumably, is Communist inspired.

IRAN

At Teheran, today, a mob attacked the automobile of the U.S. Naval attache, and the driver, a Persian, was stabbed -- knifed in the arm. This occurred as Naval attache Eric Pollard was preparing for a trip to the city of Shiraz -- to investigate anti-American disturbances there. At Shiraz, a mob stormed into the offices of the U.S. officials of the Point Four Program -- American economic aid to Iran. They looted the place and burned the furniture. After which rioters hurled volleys of stones at the homes of U.S. officials. Yelling -- "Yankees go home."

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In Israel, the famous violinist Jascha Heifetz has ~~XXXXX~~ cancelled ~~the~~ concert tour -- after he was attacked by an unknown assailant. At the entrance of the King David Hotel, a man struck him with an iron bar, bruising his right hand. The hand -- with which he wields the bow on his violin. After a scuffle the assailant escaped.

In Israel, Heifetz played a violin sonata by the German composer Richard Strauss -- which violated a ban on German music. ^{Dating} ~~from~~ back to the time when Hitler took power. At the concert, the audience accepted the sonata by Richard Strauss, but the attack followed, in the Israeli part of Jerusalem.

Heifetz, at first, declared he would go on making appearances in Israel. But threats of death followed. Tonight, he played in public with a bruised and swollen right hand -- where he was struck. But that's all. Heifetz is cancelling the rest of his tour in the Jewish State, and is leaving for Rome -- for a concert tour beginning in Italy.

BUREAU OF STANDARDS

The Secretary of Commerce has backed down a bit in the case of Dr. Allen Astin, dismissed as Director of the Bureau of Standards; because of a controversy over a type of automobile battery, tested by the Bureau of Standards. The dismissal of Dr. Astin, produced an uproar; -- and now, Secretary Sinclair Weeks, announces that the Director will stay on the job, until a special study of his bureau is made. This will be completed in the summer or early fall.

SHARKEY

The news wire today gives an obituary that sounds like a history of the old days of prize fighting. The heroic days of John L. Sullivan, Jim Corbett, Bob Fitzsimmons, Jim Jeffries. At San Francisco, Tom Sharkey has died -- at the age of seventy-six. Sailor Tom Sharkey, who was called -- "the uncrowned heavyweight champion." He passes from ^{This earthly} the scene ^{the departure of} shortly after Jim Jeffries -- that legendary heavyweight champ.

Tom Sharkey, born in Ireland, was one of the toughest and roughest -- back in the time when the game was changing from bare knuckles to gloves. He defeated both Jim Corbett and Bob Fitzsimmons -- though not while they were champions. He fought memorable battles with Jim Jeffries -- and narrowly missed winning the title. He ^{swapped punches with} ~~had battles with~~ Peter Maher, Guss Ruhlin, and Kid McCoy. The names of Tom Sharkey and his opponents are like a roll call of the great and the near great in that era when

the legends of prize fighting were being formed.

Tom Sharkey was tough to the end. Working as a night watchman ~~xxx~~ in San Francisco, he went to the hospital with heart attacks ten times in the past several years, but each time went back to his job. Holding his own in bouts with his grim opponent, until the last one.

MOVIES

In Washington today, the plight of the motion picture industry was placed before a congressional committee. Presented -- by the National Association of Real Estate Boards. Which states -- that the closing of motion picture theaters over the country is lowering the value of real estate.

The real estate people present a survey showing that more than five hundred movie houses have closed down, and point out -- that an empty theater is hard to convert for some other business purpose.

Most of the blame is placed on TV. Now Nelson, who we cannot see.