

The Soviet Reaction to President Eisenhower's declaration leaves Washington - rather startled. Diplomatic officials are not surprised that Moscow should be chilly toward the American suggestion - for an atomic agency to divert the atom from war to peace. But it is hard to figure how the Reds can read "war-mongering" into what the President had to say. Calling, as he did, on the United States and Soviet Russia to get together for an atomic version of beating swords into plowshares.

Nevertheless, The official Moscow radio, tonight, called the Eisenhower atomic peace plan -- "a threat to launch an atomic war." Called it "belligerent", a policy of ~~force~~ force.

^{The} Kremlin reverts to its old contention - ~~that~~ atomic weapons must be abolished first. Stock piles of bombs destroyed -- before there can be any program for ending the danger of atomic war.

This Russian ~~had~~ rebuff came as all western Europe was hailing ^{the} ~~that~~ Eisenhower declaration. In Britain, hearty approval in quarters usually critical of American foreign policy. The London evening News, ^{saying that} ~~declaring~~ "Britain fully backs proposals put forth by President Eisenhower - in his historic speech on atomic future."

At the United Nations, ~~the~~ opinion is that the Eisenhower program will be pressed in spite of the negative Russian response. It's worth trying, no matter. That was the view, today, as the General Assembly of the U N concluded its present session.

KOREA PRISONERS

In Korea, the attitude of the pro-Communist prisoners of war has changed - but not for the better. Previously, the South Koreans refusing repatriation - had been quiet. But, today, there was an ~~upward~~ uproar, with prisoners shouting and screaming, staging sit down strikes, trying to attack South Korean "explainers", one ~~tried~~ to hit an officer with a chair,!

Thus far not one of the pro-Communists has changed his mind.

MANPOWER

Secretary of Defense ~~Charles~~ E. Wilson has overruled the Army, the Navy, and the Marine Corps - and ordered a ten per cent cut of manpower in the armed forces. This, in spite of protests from all three services. The Army - leading the chorus of complaint. The Army - to bear the brunt of the manpower cut. The Air Force ~~would~~ not actually ^{to} make a reduction; - ~~but would have to~~ ^{in fact} boost air power, increasing the number of its wings - without adding any more men.

All this would save a billion dollars a year in military pay, not counting other savings. The ten per cent reduction of manpower to be made in the space of a year, beginning July First, Nineteen Fifty-Four. The strength of the armed forces to be cut from three million, five hundred thousand to three million, two hundred thousand.

~~This is the word we have from Washington,~~ ^{Defense} Secretary Wilson is said to have made the decision on Saturday last, after consulting with top officials, ~~in Washington.~~

JUDGE

Over in West Germany, a final deadlock has been reached in the controversial case of Judge Williak Clark - who was ordered home, and refused to go. Judge Clark, head of the American judicial set-up in Western Germany, has long been at odds with our High Commissioner, former Harvard President Conant. The dispute has been in the news for weeks, and now - the climax.

Today, Clark was informed by the State Department that he has been suspended from his post as Chief Justice in Western Germany. Charged with - "insubordination." Whereupon High Commissioner Conant immediately named an official to take his place - Carl Fulghum, appointed Acting Chief Justice.

To which Judge Clark replies that he will "ignore" the suspension order. Declaring - that the appointment of a successor is "illegal." Defiance - all out.

So that completes the deadlock, and it remains to be seen what now will happen - in the battle between the U.S. ~~BRITISH~~ Government and the judge.

WHITE HOUSE

The White House gives its "last word" - in the battle of telegrams and letters with Senator McCarthy. Total - some fifty thousand communications by wire and mail. ^{All - concerning} ~~following~~ McCarthy's demand that we cut off American aid to countries trading with the Reds. The Senator asking people to support his policy by telegrams and letters to the White House.

Fifty thousand in all - and how are they divided?

President Secretary Jim Hagerty says ~~that~~ the telegrams show a majority in favor of the Administration - supporting the Eisenhower-Dulles foreign policy. The letters are the other way round - the majority backing the McCarthy demand that we stop helping countries trading with Communists.

GENERAL ELECTRIC

General Electric announces a new security program. No mention of Senator McCarthy: but, the new program does follow the investigation of the McCarthy Sub-Committee into subversive activities in that great industrial organization. The Senator quoted one witness as saying, "There are no secrets from the Communists of G.E."

R.J. Cordiner, Head of G.E. says, that in the future, they will discharge, immediately, all Communists, spies, or saboteurs and suspend employees who refuse to testify under oath - or who seek immunity under the Fifth Amendment. This to be retro-active and effective immediately - in a hundred and thirty plants.

Although the statement did not mention McCarthy, it did mention the testimony of some G.E. workers before Congressional Committees. Which obviously means, the McCarthy Investigating Sub-Committee primarily.

The Senator from Wisconsin calls the new G.E. program "a fine policy."

McCARTHY

Senator Mc Carthy charges that the Army ignored an F.B.I. report, and kept an alleged Communist on the job - at the Radar Center, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Today, ^{PH} Aaron Coleman ^{one} denied under oath that he ever was a Communist. Another witness testified that Coleman had once been a member of the Young Communist League. Coleman denied this.

Whereupon Senator McCarthy stated that in Nineteen Fifty-One, the F.B.I. gave the Army an unfavorable report on the radar expert. But this was - "ignored", until last autumn, when Coleman was suspended. McCarthy says this Army business parallels the Harry Dexter White case, in which the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury was promoted - after the F.B.I. had sent ^{espionage} evidence against him to the White House.

ESPIONAGE

There was a dramatic disclosure at a trial of Communists in Michigan today. The government produced a "secret witness." And the revelation is - the secret witness attended a Communist meeting only last night. A fifty-six year old Negro, Berry Cody, who has been an under-cover man for the F.B.I. for almost ten years. Cody says he joined the Communist Party in Nineteen Forty-Four - at the suggestion of the F.B.I. Today, he took the stand, and identified all six of the defendants - as Communists.

FLYER

In Paris, an American aviator, held on a charge of gold robbery, admits that he is the same as the pilot who was in the romantic headlines - back in the days of the Spanish Civil War. On Monday, we had the story of how Harold E. Dahl had been arrested - after twenty-eight thousand dollars in gold vanished from a Swiss airliner, which he had flown from Paris to Zurich. Now ~~the news~~ ^{it} he turns out to be "Whitey" Dahl - who, sixteen years ago, was saved from a Spanish firing squad by his beautiful blond wife.

Whitey Dahl was a flyer for the Spanish Republicans - in the war against Franco. He was shot down, and the news told - how he had been court-martialed, and condemned. Whereupon, his wife wrote a letter to Franco, pleading for her husband's life, and enclosing a photograph of herself. She was a singer, Edith Rogers Dahl - so good-looking that her picture, apparently, melted the heart of the Spanish Dictator. Anyway, Whitey Dahl was turned loose.

The aftermath - disillusioning. It was found that

the marriage of the flyer to the beauty who had saved his life, was illegal - one of those Mexican quickies. And, in time, Whitey Dahl married another girl.

Now, ^{this latest} ~~for another~~ episode, ^{he's} ~~he is~~ in a Paris prison - charged with an aerial gold robbery. ~~the identification~~ ~~is correct.~~

EXPLOSION

Near Glenwood, Iowa, tonight, two ammunition trucks collided on U.S. Highway thirty-four. One, blew up straitway -- sending a barrage of exploding shells all over the countryside. At last reports the other ammunition truck was on fire, threatening to explode -- but hadn't yet gone skyward. There is no report on casualties, if any.

TEXAS

Tonight there are a couple of motorists from New York - who, presumably, are leaving Texas. They'd heard about the blood and thunder ways of the cow country - the legend of the old WildWest. So what happened - in San Antonio?

Well, the New York City motorist and his wife stopped at a corner of the Plaza, and were asking for traffic directions. When - it happened!

San Antonio has a plague of starlings, and a squad of seven policemen, armed with shotguns, had been assigned to shoot the birds. The two New Yorkers were talking to Patrolman Tom Reagan, when - bang! The shotgun squad - going into action with thundering blasts.

The New Yorker shifted gears frantically, and said to his wife: "Those crazy Texans! Honey, let's get out of here."

Which they did - in a hurry.

CARDIFF GIANT

Cooperstown, New York, reports - good business for the Cardiff Giant. That remarkable hoax of long ago draws almost as well as the Baseball Hall of Fame, which is also in Cooperstown.

Back in the Eighteen Sixties, at Binghamton, New York, George Hull was a tobacco grower, with a gift for practical jokes. There was a local minister, who liked to preach on the Biblical text - "There Were Giants on the Earth in Those Days." So Hull thought he'd prove it.

He went to Chicago and had a stone-cutter carve a giant out of a huge block of Iowa gypsum. This he transported to a farm near the ^{upper New York} village of Cardiff, and buried the fake giant at a place where some well diggers were going to start work. So the monstrosity, carved in Chicago, was discovered - and what a sensation!

People came flocking. The Cardiff Giant touted - as the Eighth Wonder of the World. Three thousand people paid admission fees in one day alone.

All of which could not escape the notice of Phineas T. Barnum - that greatest of showmen. Barnum tried to buy the Cardiff Giant, but couldn't. ^{What did Barnum do?} ~~So~~ He had another Cardiff Giant chiseled, just as big, just as ugly. And - there were two Cardiff Giants. ^{Each} ~~When~~ - claimed to be the real one. The other - denounced as a fake.

There was a stir in the world of science. Alexander McWhorter was granted a degree at Yale. His thesis - a learned paper to prove that the Cardiff Giant was really an ancient Phoenician god, "Baal" of the Scriptures.

Today, the Cardiff Giant is at Cooperstown, the Farmers' Museum. Nowadays, everybody knows it was a hoax - but people will pay to see a fake and a fraud that famous.

PRAIRIE

They've had an election at Parkers Prairie, Minnesota, and I'm all for - cheering the result. It still remains - Parkers Prairie.

Some of the folks thought the name a bit rustic, rather countryfied. Sounded like a "hick town." So the proposal was to drop the "Prairie", and call the place "Parker Perry - instead of Parkers Prairie..

That was the burning issue - placed before eight hundred inhabitants. The result of the election - five-to-one in favor of "Parkers Prairie."

There was only one good argument for the change. The Town Clerk said he had to write the name twenty or thirty times a day. So, if they left the "Prairie" out, it would cut his work in half.

But he'll have to go on writing "Parkers Prairie." Because, as one voter put it: "You can't deny the fact, we're on the prairie." But Mike, you're not on the prairie; you're on the air.