

[J.P.8] Tues, Sept. 5 1950.

The ~~critical~~ state of affairs in Korea is *critical!*
~~the entire United Nations line is being rolled back~~
indicated by the latest from Tokyo ~~is~~ tonight. It

reads: "Communist troops, in a lightning strike from the northeast, captured the cities of Pohang and Yongchon today, and rolled back the entire United Nations northern front, to new defense lines."

This dispatch states that sixty thousand Red soldiers drove into the northern front for what the dispatch calls - "one of the war's most serious threats to the Allies." It is a crisis, with British troops making their entrance into the battle - as the Reds surge forward.

The enemy threw a new division into their →
~~frenzied assault, etc etc.~~

KOREA

RETAKE

~~Our troops have evacuated Pohang - that's the~~
~~critical news from Korea tonight. The Reds threw in a~~
~~new division in~~ their frenzied assault, driving with
infantry and tanks, and sending infiltration parties
around to cut the highway south of the city. They were
aided by bad weather, heavy clouds and rainstorms,
which impeded air power - and tonight the word is that
they succeeded in doing what their previous wild
assaults have failed to accomplish - United Nations
Forces evacuating Pohang.

The menace of the Red drive there compelled
American troops to withdraw at the other end of the
northern front, the western end at Taegu. Threatened
with out-flanking, the U. S. First Cavalry retired to
new positions only nine miles north of that important
highway center. Meaning - a general withdrawal all
along the northern front.

Today's dramatic war story came from Pohang,
now evacuated. United ^{Press}~~Nations~~ correspondent Robert
Bennyhoff tells how four Red tanks made a bold drive of

their own reaching the northern section of Pohang. American tanks were called, and there was a battle of armor in the outskirts.

The Americans opened fire at close range, scored a direct hit on the leading enemy tank, and blew it up. The other three were about to get away - when, just at that moment, two F-80 jet fighters came streaking in under hanging clouds. They zoomed at the Red armor, and let go with rockets. Two Red tanks hit, knocked out. The fourth rumbled on, trying to escape. The F-80 jets were running low on fuel and had to turn back. But, as they did so, two propeller driven mustangs came out of the clouds, and took over - blasting the remaining enemy tank, and wrecking it. ~~But then Pohang had to be evacuated.~~

A later dispatch from Correspondent Bennyhoff describes the evacuation of Pohang as -- "orderly and voluntary." Our forces withdrew to a river line less than half a mile southwest of the city.

SOVIET PLANE

The news wires have been carrying plenty of copy, following this mornings headline, "Soviet bomber shot down in Korean war." But, actually, there's little more known tonight than was disclosed by the American statement to the U. N. early today - that a plane, bearing the insignia of Soviet Russia, made a hostile pass at United Nations warships, and opened fire on a patrol of United Nations fighter planes, and was shot down *off the Korean West Coast.* The body of a crew member was picked up - a lieutenant in the Soviet Air Force.

In Washington, Tokyo and London, the strictest official silence is being preserved - not a word more. One deduction is made in Tokyo - that the Soviet bomber may have been shot down by the British. ~~This based entirely on the fact that it happened off the west coast of Korea, a the ships and planes operating there are mostly British.~~ Attention is drawn to previous reports that planes with ~~the~~ Soviet markings had been spotted in the war area, but there was nothing to prove they were manned by Russians.

Here's the latest. At the United Nations,
Soviet Delegate Malik has just ^{de}~~an~~nounced the whole
story as a fake. He says the account of the shooting
down of the Soviet bomber is in Malik's words:-

The usual provocation by the war mongerer MacArthur
and the American Department of State. →

SOVIET PLANE

This Communist line is confirmed by the Daily Worker in London tonight, which states in his morning edition that the United States has no "proof" that the bomber shot down was really a Soviet plane.

DRAFT

Here's the future for the draft in November - seventy thousand to be called into service. For this month, the figure is fifty thousand, and it's the same for October. Seventy Thousand in November - and that will make a total of more than a hundred and seventy thousand in November - and that will make a total of more than a hundred and seventy thousand since the beginning of the Korean War.

The new figure will not change the deferrments for married men and veterans. That was indicated by officials in Washington today. The draftees will be drawn largely from the twenty-two year old class - unmarried, not veterans. All will go into the Army. The Navy and Air Force have been getting enough recruits through enlistments and the calling up of the reserves.

STRIKE

The General Electric Strike was ~~xx~~ called off yesterday, delayed. But it's on today - about fifty per cent. Half of the C.I.O. electrical workers ignored the agreement made by their ^union leaders for a truce - because of the needs of the war in Korea. All across the country, workers at G.E. plants were out today, a wildcat strike - and at one place there was violence.

MARINES

The clamor of war is almost drowned out by a new uproar in Washington - President Truman the target for a thundering cannonade of words.

In the Senate today, a letter ^{Pres. Truman} wrote was made public. In this epistle the President stated that the U. S. Marines Corps has a propaganda machine - "almost equal to Stalin's." Those are the Truman words, and the echo is loud!

The letter was written to Congressman Gordon McDonough, who suggested that the commander of the leathernecks, Lieutenant General Clifton Cates, should have a place on the joint chiefs of staff. The White House reply was - no.

The President had in mind, apparently, the big noise a couple of years ago, when the battle for unification was on, and it was charged that the Army wanted to abolish the Marines. Congress and the White House were deluged with denunciations of any notion lessening the leathernecks. Hence the sentence in the Presidential letter, which reads: "They have a

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propaganda machine that is almost equal to Stalin's."

The wrath aroused by this is almost equalled by the rage that greets another statement in the letter.

The President gives his idea of what the Marine Corps really is, putting it in these words: "The Navy's police force - and, as long as I am President, that is what it will remain." The Navy's police force - Navy Cops. "From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli" sung in a minor key.

The President adds that he had no desire to belittle the leathernecks, but states: "When the Marine Corps goes into the Army it works with and for the Army, and that is the way it should be." Which obviously would apply to the situation of the Marines battling in Korea - under the command of General Douglas MacArthur.

Next we note that ^a number of the members of Congress are ex-marines, and some of them Republicans. Imagine their shouts of indignation. One, to make the pandemonium complete - is Senator Joe McCarthy of Wisconsin. He served with a leatherneck air squadron in

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the Pacific, ⁱⁿ World War Two. We all know of the strength of the McCarthy lungs and vocabulary, after all that roar of Red charges the Senator has been making against the State Department. So you can imagine him today, as an ex-Marine.

McCarthy immediately denounced the President as - "fantastically unpatriotic." While Senator Hickenlooper of Iowa said the letter was - "An insult to the Marines and to the American public."

For a final high note, we have the national commandant of the Marine Corps League, Clay Nixon. He wants a public apology from the White House, and demands that President Truman make a pilgrimage of penance to the national convention of the Marine Corps League, which meets tomorrow in Washington. He calls upon the President to appear before the convention, and make the apology in person. I suppose they'd roll in a piano, and have him play - "From the Halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli."

DEMOCRATS

At Rochester, the New York Democrats are gathering for their State convention tomorrow - and ~~tonight~~ tonight the New York City leaders claim enough votes to put across their candidate, Congressman Walter Lynch of the Bronx.

There has been a lot of talk about nominating Congressman Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., to run against Republican Governor Thomas E. Dewey - the idea being to have the son of the late F.D.R. follow his father's footsteps to the governorship in Albany. But tonight's dispatch from Rochester states that the name of Lynch will be put in nomination by Congressman Roosevelt - who may be given a place somewhere on the ticket.

But it looks as if there might be a fight on the floor of the convention, with former postmaster General Jim Farley opposing the candidate put up by the New York City leaders. Today, State Chairman Paul Fitzpatrick, backing Congressman Lynch, said the strategy was to put up an Irish Catholic, so as to check the Communist issue, which the Republicans are pressing

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against the Democrats. To this Jim Farley, himself an Irish Catholic, replies: "I've always opposed electing a man to office because he is a Catholic, Jew Or Protestant. I believe he should be elected for his fitness, regardless of his religious or racial background."

After which Farley denounced the influence exerted by the New York State president of the C.I.O., Louis Hollander, whom he called - "An arrogant labor leader." He accuses Hollander of trying to dictate the Democratic candidate.

YUGOSLAVIA

Those intricate complications of international peril are made the more perplexing by a new factor - a drought. The weather brings new trouble to that country situated so peculiarly on the political map - Yugoslavia. A burning dry spell is ruining the crops in the Red puppet state that rebelled against the Soviets and Stalin, and has ^{an} anti-Russian ^{brand of} Communism.

Yugoslavia reports the worst drought in living memory. In many places there has been no rain for five months, and the crops are only ten per cent of ~~those~~ last year. In the best grain centers, the harvest will be cut by fifty per cent. All of which is a grave threat to the whole economy of the Communist country that is trying to make a go of it - against the Soviets.

The Tito Government has a program of Red industrialization - independent of Moscow. To make it work, they have entered into trade agreements with western countries - to get industrial products, like badly needed machinery. They have agreed to pay with exports - and farm crops are their principal export

ITALY - EARTHQUAKE

Italy reports an earthquake which lasted for eleven hours today - twenty shocks were counted. Houses were destroyed in villages, and two lives were lost when homes collapsed.

The quakes were in the mountains, the Apennines,ⁿ
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between Florence and Rome - the epicenter fifty-three miles north of the eternal city. That's a region of mountain villages, and the famous Italian hill towns. Twenty-one report extensive damage - though nothing much occurred in those two cities of historic buildings, Florence and Rome.

RADIOACTIVE

In Chicago, the American Chemical Society is holding its annual meeting, and today the proceedings should have been attended by - shades of the past, ghosts of the alchemists of old - who, in weird laboratories, tried to materialize fantastic dreams. The spectral alchemists should have been headed by the greatest of them all - named Theophrastus Bombast Von Hohenheim Paracelsus. Quite a mouthful to say in a hurry.

The chemists at Chicago received a report on a recently discovered element, Curium - one of those radioactive substances produced by the atomic scientists. They were told that Curium is so radioactive that, in the dark, it glows with a spectacular brightness. A bit of Curium could be used as a light for a room - it gives out that much brilliance. But it also gives out enough lethal radiation to make it deadly in the household. The scientists have to use careful precautions in handling it.

But Curium has another power still, and that is what would have appealed particularly to the shades of

the alchemists. In their own experiments, they sought strange goals - like the philosophers stone for universal knowledge, the elixir of life for perpetual youth. Also - the universal solvent. That is, some substance that would dissolve any other substance. Which provided one of those paradoxes in which medieval philosophers delighted. If you were to discover the universal solvent, what would you keep it in - since it would dissolve anything, including any container?

Well, here's what the American Chemical Society was told today about Curium. Its radioactivity is so great that it disintegrates anything with which it comes into contact - the radiation being that destructive. Put Curium in a bottle, and the glass disintegrates. The same goes for porcelain, not to mention metals. The best the scientists have found is quartz, and they keep the new element in quartz tubes. These have the advantage of lasting a little longer, but the quartz also disintegrates - within a hundred and twenty-four hours. So they have to keep changing the tubes every five **days**,

the alchemists. In their own experiments, they sought strange goals - like the philosophers stone for universal knowledge, the elixir of life for perpetual youth. Also - the universal solvent. That is, some substance that would dissolve any other substance. Which provided one of those paradoxes in which medieval philosophers delighted. If you were to discover the universal solvent, what would you keep it in - since it would dissolve anything, including any container?

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before they go to pieces.

All of which is mighty near the universal solvent, which worried the alchemists of old. - If they had succeeded in finding it, what would they ~~keep~~ ^{have kept} it in? For an answer we'd have to page the shade of ~~Boy, Page~~ Theophrastus Bombast Von Hohenheim Paracelsus.

In the meantime let's hear from
1/4 Nelson Case.
