

Sept. 19 - 1950. Tues.

The latest tonight states that U.S. Marines have stormed across the Han River -- ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ for the seizure of the capital city of Seoul. The crossing was made in what the despatch calls -- "hundreds of assault boats and amphibious tractors". It happened at dawn -- just a few hours ago in Korea. The ^{drive} ~~crossing~~ appears to have been made by the Leathernecks who captured Kimpo Airfield -- which is on the opposite bank of the Han River from Seoul. The crossing put Marines eight miles from the city proper and the predictions from the battlefield are that they will be in the heart of the ^(Korean) capital by nightfall.

Even more important than this, may be a drive down the highway from Inchon, the port of Seoul, which was taken in the first amphibious ^{one} landings. Forces of the United Nations are striking down the highway skirting Seoul and leading to the key point of Suwon, in the

direction of the southern front. That advance is being made by the U.S. Seventh Division, the soldiers of which are now American and Free Korean, about half and half. At last reports, the Seventh Division was ^{well} on its way to Suwon. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

In the South

^ the perimeter, seems to be breaking up - definitely.

Today the American First Cavalry captured Waegwan, which was the base of the savage Red offenses a couple of weeks ago.

This follows the crossing of the Naktong River, which, as it now appears, was made against ^{stiff} ~~force~~ resistance. ^P The Reds

blasted the crossing with everything they had, mortars and machine guns, and sank thirty-two of the fifty assault boats in the first crossing. On the opposite shore of the Naktong,

the G.I's of the First Cavalry were pinned down by a hail of machine gun fire, but their comrades kept coming, and the

enemy line ^{along} of the river was broken. The latest today pictures

the Naktong front shattered in three places along a thirty mile

front, - ~~and the drive for Waegwan was on, - that city taken today~~ ^{captured,}

~~The American push in this area is now the road north~~

~~to Saek.~~ Our troops, having broke^m out of the perimeter, are
now driving after ^{the} columns of Reds, ~~which are hurrying North~~
~~in the neighborhood of Seoul.~~ ^{towards} ~~for a battle~~ The picture is one of the
mass of the Reds caught between the Seventh Division pushing
south from the capital city, and the First Cavalry, thrusting
north from the perimeter. Between the hammer and the anvil -
as MacArthur said.

To complete the picture of break-up along the
perimeter, the Free Koreans today were driving to the north
of Pohang - having captured that city, scene of such bitter
fighting. Air observers report a general flight of the Reds
all along the line - going north.

WORD - KOREA

Here's the name of a river in Korea, though it's not on any map. Today in Washington, a new Dutch Ambassador, Dr. J. Herman van Roijen, presented his credentials to President Truman. He was escorted by John Simmons, the new Chief of Protocol in the State Department. Well, you know what a Chief of Protocol is - striped trousers plus.

In the White House lobby, the Ambassador spied a copy of the Washington Daily News, with a banner headline. In big black type, it said - "Reds on the Lam." The Ambassador gazed with a puzzled air. He knows English, right out of the book, and asked, "What does that mean - on the lam?"

The Chief of Protocol replied with austere dignity: "It is, I believe, the name of a river in Korea."

Maybe he didn't know slang, or ~~he~~ wouldn't admit knowing it. But, at any rate, that's the new river in Korea, the Lam!

SECOND SUBSTITUTE U.N.

The latest from the General Assembly of the United Nations, which went into session today, is the election of a new president. He is the Iranian Ambassador to the United States -- *an able presiding officer* -- Nasrollah Entezam. This followed an ^(outbreak of) ~~an~~ melodrama, as the United Nations Assembly gathered -- the ~~first~~ very first thing. The session started with the question of credentials -- what delegations ought to be seated -- and that immediately brought up the question of Red China. India proposed that the Communist regime be given a place in the United Nations -- with an ousting of the Nationalists. This was backed, of course, by Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky, and he ^{proposed} ~~made~~ two resolutions: -- One -- to oust the Nationalists. Secondly -- to seat the Chinese Communists. The ^{debate} ~~debate~~ was violent, ^(Vishinsky versus Secretary of State Acheson) ~~an~~. Then came the vote; -- ~~the count just in~~. Sixteen in favor of seating Red China -- thirty-three against. Ten delegations abstaining.

This is a decision for the moment - the Assembly later adopting a Canadian proposal to delay the whole Chinese issue. It will be taken up again later on. 13

INDO-CHINA

In Indo-China tonight, the curtain is rising on what ~~the struggle between the Communist and the French~~ seems to be a new phase in the world crisis.

~~Indo-China~~ From Hong Kong comes a report that Moscow-trained guerrilla leader Ho Chi Minh is ready to launch a full scale offensive against the French in Indo-China. Ho is reported to have set up his headquarters at Nanning, in South China, a hundred and fifteen miles north of the Indo-China border.

Reports from Saigon, capital of Indo-China, confirm that this general Communist offensive against the French is already under way. Driving south from the Chinese border, large guerrilla forces ~~have struck~~ ^{illegally} at three French frontier posts.

Four battalions of Red troops, numbering five thousand, have overrun and captured the frontier base of Dungkhe. In bloody hand-to-hand fighting, two hundred foreign legionnaires held out from early Saturday until last night, against ~~over-numbering~~ ^{heavy} odds, but were finally overrun. French authorities fear that the garrison of the clay walled fort

may have been wiped out to the last man, despite parachute reinforcements and extensive air cover.

(There's no news today of the besieged frontier post at Laokay, a hundred and seventeen miles west of Dungke, yesterday reported surrounded by a large enemy force. Last night, however, the Reds struck again, this time at Pakha, nineteen miles from Laokay, but were ~~xxxx~~ beaten off by the French garrison, who are expecting another attack at any moment.)

~~Indications are that~~ ^{and} The Viet Minh troops, ~~xxxxxx~~ now launching the fiercest campaign that the French have yet had to counter in their five year war against the Communists.

~~Since the~~ ^{THE} ~~ARMY~~ ^{SUMMER} ~~MONTHS~~ ^{THIS} ~~RED~~ ^{ARMY} ~~has~~ ^{been} armed and trained across the border in South China.

In the three attacks, the guerrillas were using new equipment obtained from the Chinese Communists for the first time - anti-aircraft guns, heavy mortars, and special type cannon.

(In Hanoi, the French commander, General Carpentier, has ordered paratroop reinforcements rushed to the ~~xxxx~~)

threatened border area, and yesterday a thousand French troops were air-lifted to the north from Saigon. Further reinforcements are standing by to follow ^{on} ~~them~~ at short notice.

The latest report ~~received~~ tells of road bridges blown up by the Reds along the frontier ~~road~~ with China, in the area where thousands of Indo-Chinese guerrillas are massing, ready for the general offensive.)

KURDS

In the Near East, the Soviet radio today offered support - to the Kurds. The propaganda broadcast called on the Kurdish tribes to revolt, and said they'd have - Soviet aid.

The Kurds are in the ancient lands east of Asia Minor, living in Turkey, Persia ~~and~~ and Iraq, and ever since the Second World War, the Soviets have been promoting trouble among them. All-part of Russian designs on Turkey and Iran. Recently we've been hearing of new uprisings among the Kurdish tribes. So now - a Red broadcast promise of open support.

~~To all this I can add a bit to illustrate -~~
~~right out of my own house.~~ It happens that Lowell,
Junior, has been on jobs in Turkey and Persia, ~~and~~
he traveled ⁱⁿ extensively in the country of the Kurds;
~~He tells us of swarthy, fierce looking mountain~~
~~tribes, dwelling in mud villages or in black tents -~~
~~like the Arabs, Nomads - who guide their flocks of~~
~~sheep among the rugged uplands.~~ *in the*
region
~~rather~~

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~~That's the~~ ^{Ararat} ~~legended realm~~ of Mount Ararat, ^{where} ~~in~~ which the Bible says Noah's Ark landed, and Lowell, Junior, had an idea of climbing Ararat. Whereupon he discovered an angle that has a picturesque bearing on today's news. ~~He was told~~ that across the Russian frontier, not far away, Kurdish bands gathered, encouraged by the Reds - and raided across the border, attacking Turkish villages. Then - escaping back into Soviet territory. But sometimes they ~~couldn't~~ couldn't get back, were cut off by military patrols - and then they'd make for Ararat, and take refuge on the wild rugged slopes of the Biblical mountain. Dangerous territory, a sort of No Man's Land.

Nevertheless, Lowell, Junior, ^{the} did make a climb ~~of about ten thousand feet~~ - to the ~~edge~~ of the ~~great~~ glacier ^{that covers} the summit of Ararat. But the Turkish authorities insisted that he be accompanied by an escort of soldiers, armed ~~with~~ with rifles and tommyguns - military protection against

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against Kurdish raiders not able to get back to Soviet safety.

BRITAIN

Britain's Labor Government won a dramatic vote of confidence in the House of Commons tonight. The voting, three hundred and six to three hundred ^{Majority 2 Six} ~~the~~ issue, the nationalization of ~~the~~ Britain's huge steel industry. In the stormy debate leading up to the vote, Conservative Leader Winston Churchill had said, such action at this time, "would be condemned all over the free and friendly world, as both reckless and unworthy." Obviously, the Labor Party did not agree with Mr. Churchill. Result - on January First, Nineteen Fifty-One, Britain's steel industry comes under public ownership.

MARSHALL

At a Senate hearing today, Tydings of Maryland apologized formally to General George C. Marshall, named by President Truman as the new Secretary of Defense. The Senator apologized - because, as Committee Chairman, he was required to ask questions handed him by Republican Senator Jenner of Indiana. General Marshall, himself, clearly regarded part of the interrogation as insulting.

Tydings, for Jenner, asked - would the wartime Chief of Staff, as Secretary of Defense, be "dominated" by Secretary of State Dean Acheson?

"I will not answer that question," the General snapped.

Another query concerned the controversial report on China submitted two years ago by General Wedemeyer, after having gone on a mission to China. Did Marshall "join in suppressing" the Wedemeyer report?

The General's answer was: "I did not join in suppressing that report. I personally suppressed it." He said he did it because he considered the document - "most unwise."

(Then - Where was Marshall the night before Pearl Harbor? That had to do with the question of why the disaster happened.)

Marshall replied that he was "morally certain" that he was at home, but had been too honest to state the fact positively when he testified at the Pearl Harbor investigation after the war.)

The climax of the question and answer was this:

"Who are you protecting by refusing to write your memoirs?"

The wartime Chief of Staff gave a quiet reply. He said: "A great many people."

After all of which the Committee took a vote, and okayed the nomination of General George Marshall to be Secretary of Defense. The count was nine to two - Republican Senators Knowland of California and Cain of Washington voting "No."

SOCIALIZED MEDICINE

Britain has given us a series of oddities about socialized medicine, and here's the latest - maybe the most remarkable of all, in a land where all medical service is free.

Today, the magazine "Medical Press" declares that London has become, what it calls, "the Mecca of unmarried mothers." Many of them - from abroad. They come to Britain from various countries, have the services of the doctor free of charge, and then go back home - leaving the babies, maybe as a fee. The medical publication cites the case of one unmarried mother from a European country, who came to London recently for the third time - on the same errand, a firm believer in the institution of Socialism, if not in the institution of marriage.

RENO

Tonight another legend ends in disillusion, this time in Reno, that capital of divorce. It's an old story - how, in Reno, the gay divorcee, having won her freedom, flings her wedding ring into the river. You see the picture - the ex-wife, celebrating her new found liberty, goes to the bridge across the Truckee River. She takes from her finger the band of gold or platinum, set with diamonds perhaps, and flips it over the rail and down into the water.

Such is the legend, and the logic would seem to be that, at the bottom of the stream, there should ~~be~~ be a collection of wedding rings. So now there has been a dredging job, in the hope of finding a treasure of gold, platinum and diamonds. They dredged out forty tons from the bottom of the Truckee River - and what did they find? The disillusion comes in the news today - one wedding ring, that's all. And from this the stone had been removed - the gay divorcee having been prudent

enough to take out the diamond, before she tossed the ring.

But they did find dozens ~~of~~ and scores of dice - Reno being also the gambling capital. So, instead of the divorcee and her wedding ring, we have the mournful disgusted gambler who has lost his shirt - hurling a pair of dice into the river.

And now Nelson - there yours -
roll 'em!