

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

The Truman-MacArthur Wake Island Conference was the big news today. The gist of the administration version conference would seem to be - that MacArthur expected Chinese intervention in Korea. But - at a different time. He did not think Red China would stage a push against the Americans and their U N allies, but anticipated an attack after American forces were withdrawn from Korea.

(The document released tonight, gives the formal White House answer to speculation about what really transpired between the President and the Supreme Commander at that mid-Pacific conference last October. The dialogue is quoted as follows:-

MACARTHUR

The much awaited disclosure has just come on the news wire -- the Administration account of the meeting between President Truman and General Douglas MacArthur on Wake Island. There has been ~~no end of~~ speculation about what really transpired between the President and the Supreme Commander at that mid-Pacific conference last October. Now we have it - at least, the White House version. This relates that MacArthur told Truman there was little chance that Red China would intervene in Korea.

The dialogue is given as follows:

The President asked: "What are the chances for Chinese or Soviet interference?"

"Very little." MacArthur is said to have replied, "Had they interfered in the first or second months it would have been decisive. We are no longer fearful of ~~■~~ their intervention."

MacArthur is said to have told the President that the Chinese had three hundred thousand men in Manchuria, and probably not more than one-hundred-and-

xx twenty-five thousand distributed along the border, the Yalu River. To which he added that only fifty to sixty thousand could be got across the Yalu.

All this was said a few weeks before Red China did intervene - in such force that MacArthur's army had to make a hasty retreat.

The General told the President that he hoped the American Eighth Army could be withdrawn from Korea by Christmas. But he said a strong South Korean army should be left behind to meet a possible Chinese thrust -- in the future. "A threat that cannot be laughed off," said MacArthur.

~~We are told that the account of the conversation was based on longhand notes taken by a woman secretary. ~~Other~~ Other notes were taken by officials at the conference.~~

MacArthur COMMENT


The latest tonight is MacArthur comment on the Wake Island documents made public today. In New York the General says they have in his words: "Just about as much military bearing on the problem of Korea today as would a report on the military operations of Bunker Hill." In addition to which the General's aide, General Courtney Whitney says the Supreme Commander did not know that notes were being made, as he talked with the President on Wake Island. Whitney declares that Presidential Secretary Charlie Ross told MacArthur that -- "no record would be made of the proceedings."

SUB MACARTHUR HEARING

The Senate was in an uproar tonight, with a blaze of wrathful oratory - aroused by the disclosure today that members of Congress would be kept out of the MacArthur hearing, scheduled for tomorrow. Only members of the Senate foreign relations and armed services committees - allowed to attend. Which is contrary to custom - the usual practice to permit any member of Congress to sit in at secret hearings, and even question the witnesses.

This aroused a storm on the floor of the Senate, with Republicans demanding open hearings. They won a preliminary ~~gt~~ victory this afternoon, when they put through a demand that the Senate consider the question of instructing the committee what to do. The Democrats objected, but the resolution was passed -- forty-three to one.

Whereupon the Democrats resorted to stalling tactics, with quorum calls and other parliamentary devices - trying to delay action. That was when the oratory blazed - the Republicans charging a filibuster.

Then efforts were started for a compromise, whereby all members of Congress would be admitted to the hearings -- though not the public or newsmen. 

ADD SUB MACARTHUR HEARING

The filibuster tactics of the Democrats succeeded finally, the latest being - a Senate vote to adjourn. After nine-and-one-half hours of bitter wrangling, they called it off. Which amounted to a Democratic victory - forty-two to forty. The Senate will go into session again at noon tomorrow, ~~And~~ may take action on the Republican demand for open hearings -- but that will be after the time scheduled for General MacArthur to begin his testimony, ten a.m.

Here's later news:-The two committees will convene fifteen minutes earlier tomorrow morning - to see if they want to change the procedure, secret or not so secret. ~~So announced by Chairman of the Senate Russell of Georgia tonight~~ Prospects are that members of Congress will be admitted, but not the public or the newsmen.

MACARTHUR - SPEECHES

General MacArthur will make a speaking tour of the nation. That is revealed by his top aide, General Courtney Whitney. He says the General has been bombarded with invitations to speak, and will accept as many as he can. He will start out on a tour as soon as the Congressional hearings end, and will probably begin the speech-making with an address to a joint session of the Texas legislature.

General Whitney says MacArthur has no vindictive feelings over his dismissal, and does not feel ~~in~~ he will be "taking his case to the public." He simply believes that a lot of people want to hear his views on Far Eastern policy.

KOREA

The news from Korea pictures two phases - in sharp contrast. One, along the war⁻front - where there was almost ~~no~~ no action at all today. The Reds, having pulled back from their great assault on Seoul, were not in evidence anywhere. U.S. patrols went atabbing into a ~~new~~ broad area of no man's land, and found ~~just~~ only a few small parties of the enemy. One ~~of~~ armored patrol^s rolled on for eleven miles - meeting hardly anything worth shooting at.

All the way from Seoul through the mountains of Central Korea, allied ~~new~~ soldiers were taking it easy today, loafing and lounging around. Officers remarked that the G I's were getting a good rest - putting them into first class shape.

The front line picture of idle inaction is much in contrast to phase number two. That's behind the enemy lines, where the busiest kind of activity is reported. Air scouts tell^{of} a swarming of Red soldiers and supplies, huge convoys moving down from the north - an ominous build-up of Communist power. This was under

violent air attack all day, columns of trucks shot up, destruction far and wide. But still the Red swarm kept coming, and it's only too obvious - the Chinese Reds are massing for a renewal of their spring offensive. Their first assault was beaten badly, but they are getting ready for a second and bigger blow. That's the general opinion of the American command.

PALESTINE

In Palestine, fighting broke out today between Israel and Syria. (The government at Tel Aviv informs the United Nations that Syrian troops invaded the territory of Israel and calls this a grave act of aggression. A military communique, issued by the Israeli government, declares that the battle raged all day, north of Lake Tiberias.)

Just above that lake, famous in the Bible story, is a demilitarized area - arranged by international agreement. This has been under dispute between Israel and Syria, and the Tel Aviv dispatch states that Syrian troops entered the demilitarized area, crossed it, and pushed into the territory of Israel. Israeli soldiers resisted, and bitter fighting went on all day - the battle continuing this evening.

A spokesman for the Army of Israel states: "We view the Syrian action as the most serious on record, and are awaiting a drastic answer from the Security Council of the United Nations."

On the Syrian side the incident is belittled.

At Damascus, a military spokesman states that the clash

was between Israeli soldiers and Syrian civilians. The

Syrians ~~claim~~ ^{Israeli} the soldiers tried to seize ^{their} cattle,

~~whereupon~~ ^{whereupon} ~~shooting~~ ^{shooting} started, and four Israeli

~~were~~ ^{and} killed, several wounded. Damascus describes the

affair as a one-hour gunfight *over cattle.*

IRAN

(Today the Shah of Iran signed a bill, nationalizing Iranian oil - and immediately ordered the Premier to take over the Anglo-Iranian oilfields, operated by the British.)

Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi did this in the face of new British protests - against the violation of an oil treaty made sixty years ago. The United States joined Great Britain in making representations. U.S. Ambassador Henry ~~G~~^W Brady and British Ambassador Sir Francis Shepherd, called on the Premier, and argued against the seizure - which might make it possible for Soviet Russia to obtain supplies ^{from} those Anglo-Iranian oilfields. (We hear that the British Ambassador also had a talk with the Shah, and Mohammed Reza Pahlevi told him that he could not intervene in the oil situation.)

MARINES

A Congressional committee has voted - double the Marines. Also - let the Leathernecks have more to say with the joint Chiefs of Staff.

Today the armed services committee of the Senate okayed a bill to fix the top strength of the U.S. Marine Corps at four hundred thousand men, President Truman has asked funds to give the Marines one-hundred-and-ninety-two thousand. Right now, the Leathernecks have two combat divisions. The bill would give them - four. Same thing for Air power. They have two air wings - and would be given four.

In the committee, there was a move to make the Marine Corps commandant a member of the joint Chiefs of staff. The Leathernecks want that - but, after long wrangling, there was a compromise. So the bill, okayed by the committee today would require the Joint Chiefs of staff to consult the Marine Corps Commandant on all matters pertaining to the Corps.

The new boost for the leathernecks is sponsored by Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois, a Marine

Corps combat veteran of the Second World War. There is likely to be a fight on the floor of the Senate - with some administration legislators opposing.

WHALING

In far northern Canada, on the shore of the Polar sea, there's an ^{eskimo} ~~eskim~~ who today was granted a privilege held by no other man on earth. Agmalik, an Arctic Nimrod, has been given permission to hunt - the Greenland whale and the Atlantic right whale. For this Agmalik had to get by an international treaty.

The Greenland whale and the Atlantic Right Whale were hunted so rapaciously by the whalers of old - they were almost exterminated. So year^s ago, an international convention was signed - forbidding the killing of the two species of giant cetacean. Which settled matters - until the appearance of Agmalik, the hunter of the north.

He dwells in a igloo, on the shore of Baffinland, thirty miles from the Arctic Circle - and ~~the~~ eskimo in ~~these~~ those parts are hard pressed for food. The usual supplies of seal are scarce - though there are whales disporting themselves in the frigid ocean. But these are the forbidden species -- and Agmalik could only wonder. His own family was short of food. So why

shouldn't he hunt the whale, as his ancestors did in times gone by?

Agmalik went to the nearest northern settlement - a. Pang-Nir-Tung. There he put in a request to Canadian officials - that he, Agmalik, be given permission to hunt the whale.

The appeal was sent along south to the Canadian government at Ottawa - together with word that Agmalik is one of the few eskimo left who have the skill and the courage to go whale hunting with primitive weapons of old. That's all they have up there, ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~along~~ the igloos of Baffinland.

But there was that international concention. Canadian officials got out the historic document, and studied it. They found one clause - that the eskimo were permitted to hunt the Greenland whale and the Atlantic Right whale, but only if the whales were used for local consumption.

Which led to the granting of permission - on condition that whales killed by Agmalik must be

consumed by his own family and the neighboring eskimo. The permit had to go through two departments of the government at Ottawa, but today it started on its way to Pang-Nir-Tung - carried by a Canadian mountie.

TP So that is how Agmalik the ^{happens to be} Eskimo ~~is~~ unique in the ^{of ours - -} world - the only human being permitted to hunt the Greenland whale and the Atlantic Right Whale.

Which means - there'll be feasting under the Aurora Borealis, whale oil for the lamps, ^{and} whale meat for banquets of the Eskimo. And that [^]Nelson, will mean joy under the Northern Lights.