

SUB LEAD [J-P.G. Wed. Oct 11th 1950,

The new Soviet proposal is a curiosity. This afternoon at the General Assembly of the U N., Moscow delegate Vishinsky called for the creation of a United Nations police force. Which is exactly what the United States is demanding. But the American suggestion, backed by the western powers, was violently assailed by Vishinsky yesterday -- assailed with unmeasured abuse. So what's the catch?

Well, the Soviet notion is to tie the U.N. police force idea to a big power ~~and~~ conference, a parley of the Big Five. Presumably he intends this to include Communist China - a scheme to edge in the Chinese Reds. The American proposal is for the General Assembly of the world organization to have command of the military force to stop aggression - not just the Big Powers. Everybody ~~is~~ recalls how, in the past, Moscow has obstructed these many conferences. So it's not ~~is~~ surprising that, at the U N. the Vishinsky twister is being received with considerable skepticism.

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The G.I.'s were fourteen miles north of the Thirty-Eighth Parallel today - slow going through a difficult rugged valley, with heavy Red resistance in places. Their immediate goal is the Town of Kumchon, which is on the road to the Communist capital of Pyongyang. At last reports, they were within four miles of Kumchon. But, possibly, they may not be able to capture that place at all.

There's British opposition - as if the Reds were not enough. Today, the British Middlesex Regiment was driving north of the Thirty-Eighth Parallel, backed up by Australians. So Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Mann, commander of the First Middlesex Battalion, told his British tommies: "Our objective is to capture Kumchon, and to capture it before the Americans." So there's the rivalry, the race. The First Cavalry may not capture Kumchon - not if the British have their way.

On the other side of the peninsula, the east, the free Koreans are driving beyond the Town of Wonsan, but the town is of little importance. The key point

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is the flying field, which American Air officers inspected - immediately after its capture. Their report today is that the airbase is in good shape - ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ installations not greatly damaged. Apparently, the Reds had to get out so fast, they didn't have time to wreck the base with high explosive. American fighter-bombers will start flying out of Wonsan tomorrow or the next day. That point, far to the north, is only twenty minutes in flying time from Pyongyang. Mighty short-distance air support for the drive to the Red capital - which has seventy five miles to go.

Today First Cavalry Commander General Gay expressed high optimism, saying: "If I can read the military signs right, it is just a matter of time until these cookies are beaten." In Washington, however, caution is sounded. At the Pentagon today, newsmen were warned: "The Korean War is far from over, and there is much fighting ahead."

But here's the latest. At the U.N. tonight, the top official for Korea stated: "There is no great

remaining capacity for resistance in Northern Korea."

This comes from Colonel Alfred Katzin of South Africa, who went to the scene of the war as a personal representative of the U. N. Secretary General, Trygve Lie. He has just returned, and ^{re}makes his report. He says the Reds do not seem able to put up much of a battle, unless they receive - "unforeseen assistance." Meaning, of course - Red China or Soviet Russia. He doesn't believe that they are even capable of any large amount of guerrilla warfare. Interesting contradictions - and I wonder what General MacArthur will report at the conference for which President Truman started out today.

TRUMAN

This is a big night for President Truman, as he stops off at St. Louis, on his way to that point - "somewhere west of Hawaii." His sister, Miss Mary Jane Truman, is being installed as the grand worthy matron of the Order of the Eastern Star. That's the women's branch of the Masons. The President, himself, is a thirty-third degree member of the legended brotherhood, a Shriner and a former Grand Master of the Masonic Lodge of Missouri. So he'll be there proudly, when sister Mary Jane is elevated to a similar high position.

They say that Miss Truman wins the honor on her own merits - not because she is the Presidential sister. She is quiet and unassuming, but a bundle of energy - active in large affairs. Tomorrow, the President will resume his airplane trip, on his way to - "somewhere west of Hawaii."

That secret destination is getting to be like a refrain in the news, and an imp of the imagination brings back that other refrain - "somewhere east of Suez," you know -- "where the best is like the worst,

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and there ain't no ten commandments, and a man can raise a thirst." Shades of Kipling and the Road to Mandalay.

But in the Presidential case, it is not east - it is west. Not Suez - but Hawaii. And there may be more than ten commandments by the time the Truman-MacArthur conference is over. But who will give the commandments to whom?

INDONESIA

Word from Eastern Indonesia tells of a cataclysm of nature. News has come through of an earthquake in the Spice Islands, and now we hear that the shock was followed by a giant tidal wave. Enormous damage done, but only a few lives are believed to have been lost - although two villages were swept away when the ocean, disturbed by the earthquake, swept over the land.

This violence of nature occurred in the midst of a war between men. The Island of Amboina is the seat of a rebel government - in revolt against the new Republic of Indonesia. A military campaign is on, and today's dispatch states that a battle was raging when the earthquake hit - the ground shaking and rocking under the feet of the hostile forces.

Reminds one of the old story related by Herodotus, who tells how, those long centuries ago, an earthquake hit a battle, and superstitious terror sent both armies running away.

O'DWYER

Stately ceremony in Washington - when, today, former Mayor O'Dwyer of New York took the oath of office as Ambassador to Mexico. He was inducted by Secretary of State Acheson, who told him he was joining - "a great team", supporting President Truman and his policies.

Those were noble words, but the dialogue became still more exalted - when Mrs. O'Dwyer stepped forward. She's the former fashion model Sloan Simpson, and she understands the grand gesture. She cried: "Mr. Ambassador, may I congratulate you!" then kissed him.

But the magnificence ended right there - with reporters butting in. They sounded a sour note by asking his excellency the new ambassador about that gambling investigation. Much of the scandal of crooked cops goes back to the time when O'Dwyer was his honor the mayor of New York. So now - does he intend to appear before the Grand Jury, which is investigating the cesspool. Ambassador O'Dwyer waved that all aside. His excellency is not his honor any longer.

ELECTION

Well, it's about time to talk politics - the election being less than a month away. Far and wide, the question is -- who's going to win? The magazine Newsweek put that question to fifty top ranking political writers in Washington, and here's the answer they give:

The Republicans will score gains, but not enough to win control of either the Senate or the House. The consensus of opinion is that the G.O.P. will gain four seats in the Senate, and thirty-one in the House. (None of the fifty political writers believe the Democrats can enlarge their present majority in the Senate, and only one expects them to increase their number of Congressmen. Moderate Republican gains - that's the forecast of the journalistic soothsayers in Washington.)

T.V.

The Federal Communications Commission today authorized the Commercial Broadcasting of color television, as developed by the Columbia Broadcasting System, starting November 20th. The F.C.C. officially approved the C.B.S. system of color televising, and President Frank Stanton of D.E.S. says the network is confident color receivers and converters will be on the market within a few months. ^{that} "The public will now enjoy color television in the home." Columbia hopes, within two months, to inaugurate a color broadcast schedule that will reach the rate of twenty hours a week.

MRS. FORD

At Detroit, the will of Mrs. Henry Ford was made public today. The widow of the legended motor magnate leaves ^{only} nine million dollars. Of this, five million goes to her nine great grandchildren. Four million is devoted to "educational purposes," bequeathed to the Edison Institute founded by the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford, the late Edsel Ford.

In the estate ^{also} are sixty-three thousand, two hundred and sixty shares of stock in the Ford Motor Company which stock has an estimated value of one hundred and thirty-five dollars per share. Actually, there is no formal figure -- because Ford stock is not on the market, never bought or sold, all belonging to the family.

~~During her life Mrs. Henry Ford, had power and influence far beyond the official figure given for her estate.~~ Henry Ford left his widow in formal control of his billion dollar automobile enterprise, naming her as executrix of his estate. But she was hardly heard of. She followed a lifelong practice of staying

quietly in the background.

She was the daughter of a Michigan farmer, and married the son of a neighboring farmer, a young fellow who was an enthusiast for mechanics. His father wanted him to settle down as a farmer, and gave him land to cultivate. But the young wife believed that her husband was a mechanical genius. He was obsessed with the idea of using an engine to propel a buggy, and she urged him to devote himself to that.

The rest is history, how Henry Ford produced the old tin lizzy, the flivver. During his fabulous rise, his wife participated throughout as "the silent partner."

Then, after her husband's death, she retired to seclusion, and turned over the control of the Ford Motor Company to her grandson, Henry Ford the Second. She was great in power and influence that she did not choose to exert. She always said that money was a responsibility, to use for the good of all, and not for any personal purpose.

HURRICANE

A tremendous hurricane -- in Mexico. The big blow hit the port of Vera Cruz and, the country to the south, ripping the coastline with winds up to ~~one~~^a hundred and ten miles an hour. Numbers of ships were sunk along the shore, hundreds of houses were destroyed.

Tonight the hurricane was roaring inland, whipping through a region of heavy woods - and scheduled to blow itself out in the mountains of the interior.

ROSSELLINI

The Rossellini-Bergman romance turns into a Rossellini-Johnson lawsuit. Such is the lively news from Rome, where Senator Johnson of Colorado has been paying a visit.

Several months ago, in Washington, the Senator had hard words to say about Italian movie director Roberto Rossellino, whose romance with Swedish Hollywood actress Ingrid Bergman was making flagrant headlines. So now, in Rome, Johnson of Colorado repeated his opinion, and called Rossellini - a ~~scoundrel~~ scoundrel.

But the remark was, in its way, a masterpiece of tact. In Washington, addressing the Senate, Johnson called the movie director a Nazi collaborator and a cocaine fiend. In Rome, he expressed himself in the following memorable words: "Rossellini," said he, "is not an Italian. He is a scoundrel."

Well, the logic is something to ponder on. The implication seems to be that an Italian cannot be a scoundrel - but you just read a history of the Italian

renaissance. Anyway, Rossellini can prove he is an Italian, and therefore cannot be a scoundrel. However, the Senator, being in Rome was trying to be polite to the Romans.

That was followed by a battle of ^{to} cocktail parties. Last night, the Senator was entertained at one, while Rossellini ran another in competition, a few blocks away. Scores of newsmen and film people, who were invited to the Johnson party, took their stand in the controversy, by going to the Rossellini party - and the movie director won a cocktail majority.)

The lawsuit followed today, but Senator Johnson has already left the eternal city, and it's hard to figure how they'll get him in a court at Rome - without international proceedings. Of course, Rossellini might take his case on to Denver, ^{or to Aspen -} ~~but his lawsuit might wind up on top of Pike's Peak.~~ ^{or Cripple Creek.}

Roberto Rossellini vs. Senator Johnson, a fight to the finish in the old opera house at Cripple Creek - that would be something, Nelson.