

L.T.-K TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1954

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Will the free world set up a "nato" for southeast Asia? So it seems - judging from the joint statement by Messrs. Dulles and Eden. The statement read in the Commons today by the British Foreign Secretary.

The statement notes that Red aggression in Indo China is endangering the whole area of southeast Asia and the Western Pacific; and adds that both Britain and America have vital interests in those areas. The Secretary of State and the British Minister of Foreign Affairs declare their readiness to consult with other nations on the matter of collective defense.

American officials in London say that around ten nations might join a "nato" of the South Pacific. And that France and her allies in Indo China would have to

join the alliance before it could become effective in the Indo Chinese war.

Just what would be regarded as a sufficient reason for collective action? The answer is obvious - intervention by Red China. If Mao Tse-Tung sent his troops into the Indo Chinese war - that would be enough for a "nato" alliance to go into action in the interest of common security.

INDO CHINA

A dispatch from Hanoi describes French bombers using one ton block busters for the first time. The planes dropping the titanic explosives on Communist built up positions around Dien Bien Phu. French planes are fanning out over North Indo China -- to smash the supply routes leading down from the Chinese border. They dumped two thousand block-busters on one route which runs from Yunnan province, in China to the Red area of Viet Nam.

Returning pilots say that the roads are all jammed up with convoys of Molotov trucks. Also coolie and mule trains - all carrying supplies to the Red siege army around Dien Bien Phu. Hurrying to get there before the rainy season begins.

French planes are still dropping loads of stuff at Dien Bien Phu - Ammunition, food and medical supplies - for Colonel De Castries' garrison. The Colonel already

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has received paratroop reinforcements. These he's posting along his outer lines - to meet the first shock of the next Red attack. French army officials in Hanoi estimate that De Castries now has the same number of combat troops he had at the beginning of the siege - around eleven thousand men.

The Colonel's major problem is still his wounded. They have not been evacuated. The Reds - ignoring appeals to let Red Cross planes come in. So no casualties have been evacuated from Dien Bien Phu in two weeks.

And so they wait for the big Red attack - ~~which~~ which is expected at any moment.

AUSTRALIA

A Communist spy ring ~~is~~ operating in Australia.

So ^{says} ~~stated today by~~ Prime Minister Menzies. The Prime Minister, ^{the Canberra} telling parliament that ~~the~~ Red espionage was uncovered after a secretary from the Russian embassy asked for political asylum.

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The secretary - Vladimir Petrov, ~~he~~ was immediately placed under heavy guard in a secret hideout. Prime Minister Menzies describing Petrov as formerly ~~by the~~ chief Australian agent of the Soviet secret ~~at~~ police. The Prime Minister reveals that Petrov brought with him documents that implicated Australian citizens as well as Russians/

^{Mr. Menzies} ~~The Prime Minister~~ ^{his} ~~the~~ parliament to appoint a royal commission to investigate the spy ring. A royal commission, being the equivalent of a congressional

investigating committee in this country. ~~In other words,~~

The commission ^{to have authority} ~~would have power~~ to compel witnesses to testify. ^{Prime Min.} Menzies stated his point in these words: "In the few days which have elapsed since Petrov came to our

security people - enough material has been examined to show that there are matters affecting Australia's security which call for judicial investigation."

So, ^{he} ~~the Prime Minister~~ asks for a royal commission.

The Australian parliament, expected to make ^a ~~its~~ decision ^{on this,} tomorrow.

atomic cannon are scheduled among the weapons of West Germany's twelve divisions. ^{to be added to} ~~the number of divisions~~ to make the European Army. But the defense chief insisted that such cannon are already stationed in Germany, with the American troops, so, he hopes that the Germans will get them later on.

^{He remarked also} ~~stated~~ that about a hundred and forty

thousand men have already volunteered for the new army. But even with such manpower, West Germans will have to be equipped by America. Apparently there won't be any difficulty about generals. ⁵⁰⁰ ~~the new army to reach the force of the highest possible efficiency~~ there are more than 500,000 men living in West Germany now --

GERMAN ARMY

West Germany hopes that a future German Army will be trained to handle atomic weapons - including our new atomic cannon. The West German defense chief, Theodor Blank, ~~made~~ ^{made} this point in an exclusive interview with the United Press. Blank declared that he has not been informed whether atomic cannon are scheduled among the weapons ^{for} of West Germany's twelve divisions ~~the number planned~~ ^{to be added to} ~~to join~~ ^{West German} the European Army. But the defense chief remarked that such cannon are already ~~stationed~~ in Germany, with ~~the~~ American troops, so, he hopes ~~that~~ the Germans will get them later on.

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thousand men have already volunteered for the new army.

But even with enough manpower, West Germans will have to be equipped by America. Apparently there won't be any

difficulty about generals. ~~The new army to need some forty~~ ^{for} ~~of the highest ranking officers~~ ^{And} there are more than fourteen hundred of them living in West Germany now --

veterans of the old German Army. Blank says that choice will be made from among these on the basis of reliability and security - candidates to be screened by a committee composed of civilians and military men.

The ~~Wst~~ West German defense chief made one point emphatically. - He says there's no ^{possibility} ~~danger~~ that East Germany will be able to raise an army to equal ^{to what West Germany can} ~~that of the West~~ raise.

OPPENHEIMER

Here's the latest on the sensational Oppenheimer story: President Eisenhower personally ordered atomic secrets to be kept from Dr. Robert Oppenheimer. So we learn today from the Atomic Energy Commission.

The Oppenheimer case was reopened by Admiral Lewis Strauss when he became Chairman of the Commission last July. Admiral Strauss requested the commission to take secret documents away from the famous atomic scientist, who had them at the Institute for Advance Studies, at Princeton - of which he is one of the heads. After that, what the A E C terms "substantial derogatory information" was studied by The Commission and by the Justice Department. Then, it was thought the President gave the order that all secret data be kept out of the hands of Dr. Oppenheimer, for the present; until his case has been examined. But the President said explicitly and emphatically that the Oppenheimer case ~~is~~ must not be pre-judged. ~~is~~ And, scientists and others from coast to coast are rushing to the defense of the man

who has played such an important role in our atomic research program.

After the President's order, Dr. Oppenheimer was suspended as adviser to the A E C, was refused access to top secret information, and was granted the right to a hearing.

A special board has been set up to conduct the investigation from here on. At the head of the board - Gordon Gray, former Army Secretary, and now President of North Carolina University. It will start secret hearings on Monday, and we hear that a final decision may be expected in about two weeks.

MCCARTHY

Senator McCarthy's top assistants will give Senate investigators a written statement about their part in the dispute between the Wisconsin Senator and the Army. Counsel Roy Cohn and staff director Francis Carr, conferred with sub-committee members today, and agreed to make a written report. They also promised to try and get a similar statement from Senator McCarthy, who is in Arizona, visiting Columnist Westbrook Pegler.

Army Secretary Stevens agreed on Monday to give the Army's version of the dispute. So the sub-committee will have written statements from both sides.

U S Senate investigators learned nothing new when they held their recent secret meeting in Canada with Igor Gouzenko. In the Canadian House of Commons, Minister of Justice Stuart Garson, today introduced the transcript of the Gouzenko testimony. And it shows that Gouzenko made no revelations to Senators McCarran and Jenner. At one point McCarran asked Gouzenko if there was anything he would tell Jenner alone. The former Soviet code clerk replied, "No, I think that covers everything." Senator McCarran then asked Gouzenko if he had any reason to hold back information.

The Reply: "Not at all."

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So ended the Senate investigation that had hoped to turn up important new evidence. But Gouzenko already had told everything he knew.

ATOMIC PLANT

The first full scale atomic power plant! -- ~~To~~ be constructed on the Ohio River, about twenty-five miles from Pittsburgh. ~~The plant will~~ ^{To} be constructed by the Duquesne ^{& Power} Light Company. - ~~and is expected~~ ^T to produce enough electricity for a city of four hundred thousand population.

The company chairman, Philip Gleger, ~~says~~ ~~in~~ ~~Pittsburgh~~ ~~that~~ the plant will be built ~~in~~ according to a conventional pattern - except that it will not have the usual boiler. Instead, ^{there will be} an atomic reactor, [—] using uranium for fuel. The chairman added that Westinghouse has been working on the atomic reactor for some time, ~~already~~.

^{is} The new power plant, ^{will be a major} ~~the most important~~ attempt to use atomic power for peacetime purposes.

SUB HOUSING

The chairman of the Senate Banking Committee orders a "full investigation" of the Federal Housing Administration.

Senator Capehart, acting after the disclosure of misconduct within the F H A. Yesterday we heard about President Eisenhower forcing the resignation of Guy Hollyday -- who had been Commissioner of the F H A.

This, following an F B I report that his organization had been "swindled" out of around seventy-five million dollars.

Chairman Capehart adds that his banking committee is suspending action on President Eisenhower's billion dollar housing bill. The committee, holding it up until the scandals in the F H A have been investigated.

We also hear that the Joint Congressional Committee on Non-Essential expenditures will carry out its own investigation. So announced by Chairman Byrd of Virginia.

Meanwhile, the F B I and special agents are ~~gon~~ going ahead with ~~thar~~ their investigation of the F H A files - which were seized by order of President Eisenhower. And the head of the housing and home finance agency, Albert Cole, declares that the Justice Department has already begun prosecution in some cases. Federal Attorneys, just about ready to begin action on many more.

Cole has appointed William McKenna, a former congressional investigator, to direct the government investigation of the whole F H A scandal.

into the last half of the tenth -- still a tie. Up to the bat came Mickey Vernon - facing Yankee ace, Allie Reynolds. With one run on Vernon hit Reynolds' first pitch -- sent it sailing, sailing, high over the score board. and that broke up the game.

Mickey was mobbed by his team mates as he trotted

EISENHOWER

Today, first baseman Mickey Vernon, of the Washington Senators had a double thrill. He won a ball game for his team, with a hit in the tenth inning. A tremendous homer that beat the Yankees five to two. And secondly, he got to shake the hand of the President of the United States.

President Eisenhower was at Griffith Stadium to throw out the first ball. And then he stayed on through an exciting game. The Yanks down three to one in the ninth when they tried up the ball game. The game going into the last half of the tenth -- still a tie. Up to the bat came Mickey Vernon - facing Yankee ace, Allie Reynolds. With one man on Vernon hit Reynolds' first pitch -- sent it sailing, sailing, high over the score board. And that broke up the game.

Mickey was mobbed by his team mates as he trotted home.

Whereupon the President walked out of his box, leaned over the railing and shook the Vernon hand - a hearty shake. Making it quite a day for the player who beat the Yankees.

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FISH

Can a fish - a sturgeon live to be more than a hundred and fifty years old? The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests says - yes. The Department, claiming that a fisherman actually caught a fish that old.

Harold Johnson of Kenora, Ontario, was fishing in the Lake of the Woods, near the Minnesota-Canadian border. He pulled in what you might even call a whale of a sturgeon - eighty-one inches long. Eight and two thirds feet long - weighing two hundred and fifteen pounds.

Fisherman Johnson, knowing he had caught quite a sturgeon, took it to the provincial biologist for examination. He put the finn under a microscope, to try to determine the age. And the decision? That it was a hundred and fifty two years old. The scientists who first came to that conclusion admit that it seemed impossible, fantastic. So they consulted with other experts. And their tests came out the same,

As one scientist put it, "this fish was swimming in the lake at least ten years before the war of Eighteen Twelve."

Mike, How's that for a true whopper?

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The Kremlin's idea being to have the Mao Tse-tung regime regarded as one of the presiding nations at that conference. America, Britain and France presented identical notes to the Kremlin. The notes declaring that Red China is one of the invited as countries - not a sponsoring power. In other words, Geneva will not be the scene of a "Big Five" conference. It will be the "Big Four" - with Red China invited to attend.