


COLLAZO [7] ~~Wed~~. Mar. 7 - '51.

(In Washington late this afternoon, the jury found Collazo guilty of murder in the first degree. - ~~and~~ that means the death penalty.) The nine women and three men took only one hour and forty-two minutes to reach the verdict - dooming the thirty-seven year old Puerto Rican - who, with his partner Torresola, fought a gun battle with presidential guards outside ~~the~~ Blair House.

(Collazo's defense was that they didn't intend to assassinate the President,) but only wanted to make a demonstration for Puerto Rican independence. But the prosecution brought forward plenty of evidence to show that Collazo himself admitted, right after the shooting that the plan was to kill the President of the United States.

(He is condemned for the ~~murder~~ murder of White House Guard Leslie Coffelt, who was killed

in the shooting affray. Actually, the fatal shot was fired by Torresola. But, under the law, Collazo was equally responsible.) The jury verdict of guilty makes the death penalty mandatory under the laws of the District of Columbia.



IRAN

(The assassination of the Premier of Iran was the doing of grim fanaticism, religious and

political.) The killer - a member of a sect called Fidaiyan Islam, meaning - devotees of Islam. The

fanaticism is reflected in a statement made by (the assassin, Abdullah Movased Rastegar, a carpenter

who is a "reader of the Koran" in the "Mosque of the Shah" at Teheran.) A layman, that is, who reads to

the people from the sacred book. Today he said:

"I, Abdullah, am a slave of Allah and a devotee of Islam. I am a destroyer of the enemies of Islam and Iran."

(The Premier, Ali Razmara, was going to the Mosque, traversing the courtyard, when the reader of the Koran approached him and fired three pistol shots, killing him instantly.)

The fanatical group has been demanding that

the government at Teheran take over the vast Iranian oil resources, which are leased to the British - Anglo Persian oil. (The Premier, whose policy it was to keep an even balance between Soviet Russia and western powers, was opposed to the seizure of the oil properties. He was warned against going to the Mosque - he might be assassinated. But he ignored the warning, and fell a victim to the enmity of the religious-political faction.)

The Shah, Reza Pahlevi, immediately appointed a new Premier, and summoned the military and civilian authorities throughout Iran to be on guard against disorders that might result from the Assassination.

KOREA

(The battle for Seoul is on.) ⁵⁰~~news~~ indicated by the latest news from Korea. (Strong American forces went storming across the Han River today, and drove into the hills, in a move that would outflank the Korean capital.)

All along the line from the valley of the Han to the snowy mountains of East Korea, the U N forces pushed forward today - in an offensive set going by General MacArthur personally, ^{on another of his} ~~one~~ flying visit to the battlefield. There were gains up to three miles, as six U S Divisions and their allies went surging forward.

~~In~~ only one sector was the story otherwise - (in the East, ~~where~~ an enemy attack threw back ^{the} South Koreans for three miles. This Red onslaught appeared to be the beginning of the big offensive for which the Chinese and North Koreans have

obviously been preparing.) But American officers express the belief that the U N drive today may have upset the plans of the Communists; ~~and~~ may have forestalled the push the Reds intended to make.

FOLLOW KOREA

The latest news tells of the capture of --
MacArthur
Dragon Door. That is a towering summit which dominates
a large sector of the west central front. G I's
of the U S Twenty-Fourth Division beat their way up
the slopes in an advance through heavy fog, as the
day was ending. The conquest of Dragon Door became
known when the following radio message was received from
the battalion commander. "It is so dark up here we
can't see a thing. But there is no ^{other} mountain above us,
so we must be on top."

The second day of the new offensive was
now rolling on, with gains of as much as four miles
on a seventy-mile front.

MACARTHUR

Today there were quick requests for comment on ^{(MacArthur} the statement ~~by General Douglas MacArthur~~ that the Korean war will settle into a stalemate, unless he receives large reinforcements and is permitted to strike by air at the Red bases in Manchuria, Chinese territory.)

At the State Department, acting Secretary James E. Webb, was cautious. He would only say that the United States is conferring with ^{other} Allied powers on the Korean war situation - reviewing it all the time.

(At the U N, [—] Lake Success, [—] the American delegation stated that the U N Committee on sanctions has the legal authority to discuss the question of authorizing MacArthur to hit the Chinese Communists in their home territory. The belief at Lake Success is that U N action against China proper is out of the question in the immediate future.)

CONFERENCE

At today's meeting of the Deputy Foreign Ministers in Paris - Gromyko, speaking for the Soviets charged the United States and Great Britain with violating the Italian peace treaty. They did so, according to Gromyko, by turning the disputed city of Trieste into a military and naval base.

(The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister said that Moscow would agree to discuss a peace treaty with Austria - and put that on the list of topics for a conference of the Foreign Ministers, if one is held. But ~~they'd~~ ~~do that~~ only if the Soviet charges on the subject of the Italian Peace Treaty and Trieste were also placed on the agenda.)

U S TROOPS

Two Senate Committees, on Foreign Relations and armed services, have voted an okay for President Truman's plan to send four more U.S. Divisions to Europe - troops for General Eisenhower's West European army. This is a victory for the Administration in the "great debate" touched off by former President Herbert Hoover. Tomorrow, the ^{Joint} committee is expected to okay a formal resolution supporting the President in sending about a ^(hundred) ~~hundred~~ thousand soldiers to General Ike - and then the whole thing will go ~~kk~~ to the floor of the Senate.

The Senate has voted to impose a ceiling of four million on the manpower of the armed forces. This was a compromise, after the Republicans tried for a figure of three and a half million - limiting the Army, Navy and Air Force to that total. The military Chiefs intervened, Secretary of Defense Marshall and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, ~~w~~arning - against any restriction at all, ~~s~~aying - that a ceiling on manpower would give Soviet Russia precise information about our future military strength. All this brought about a lively debate -- and, as a sort of compromise the figure was raised -- four million - as the ceiling for manpower.

In New York the Maritime College gets a new President. That's a school, at Fort Schuyler for training ~~merchant marine officers~~. The post is of vital importance for American strength on the ocean and goes to one of our foremost naval officers - Admiral Calvin Durgin, who has been Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Air. Admiral Durgin had a distinguished record in World War Two, ^{— winding up} ~~was~~ in command of a light carrier force operating against Iwo Jima, and then Okinawa.

Officers who will go to sea for Uncle Sam.

~~I knew him out there in those days when his carriers were blasting the embittered Japanese opposition on Okinawa - and when his flattops were under attack by the Kami-Kazes. Several were hit by the suicide pilots. Later on, Admiral Durgin told me that the ~~Kami-Kazes~~ Kami-Kazes could have wrecked the invasion of Okinawa - if they had used common sense. The suicide~~

AIRCRAFT

The Federation of American Scientists issues a report on the prospects for an atomic airplane. General Electric and Consolidated Vultee have been commissioned to design an atomic engine and the plane itself. But, it looks as if it would be a long time before aircraft actually fly by atomic power - with almost incredible range and speed.

Most of the difficulty, says the Federation of American scientists, is because an atomic engine will require such heavy covering as a shield against radiation - to keep radio activity from harming the crew of the plane. But another trouble is - a shortage of scientists. (There are not enough technicians trained in nuclear physics to do all the atomic jobs that are under way. The Federation blames a shortsighted policy in world war Two, when students of science were drafted into the army - when they should

have been kept at their studies.)

Cleveland, Ohio, reports a series of tests that may lead to airplanes flying twelve to fifteen miles above the earth, at twice the speed of sound, The National Advisory Committee for aeronautics has a research laboratory, where they~~are~~ are experimenting on a turbo-jet engine, that would operate at altitudes of as much as eighty thousand feet, where there is virtual^{ly} no oxygen, and the temperatures are ~~as low~~ ^{around} a hundred degrees below zero. The laboratory has a chamber of intense cold, with enough refrigeration to manufacture thirty million pounds of ice every twenty-four hours. And a wind tunnel with speeds up to fifteen hundred miles an hour - to test models of the plane.

(They~~are~~ are not sure about the human factor in all this, whether a pilot could take it at twice

the speed of sound, fifteen miles above the earth.

But, actually, they are thinking in terms of

pilotless planes, directed ~~automatically~~ automatically

- super super military aircraft that would be like

guided missiles.

BARBARA

News from Mexico pictures Barbara Hutton, the dime store heiress, as determined to go to the ends of the earth, if necessary, to divorce Prince Igor Troubetzkoy. The thirty-eight year old Queen of five and ten entered suit in Mexico, and it looked as if her marriage would be severed. But her princely husband entered a formal objection, and that held things up. Today the word is that the divorce action may be thrown out by the Mexican court.

Meanwhile, in Paris, Prince Igor is denying that he demanded three million dollars for a divorce. "I don't want any money" he cries. "I just want my wife back. I can't imagine life without her."

Barbara Hutton's lawyers, on the other hand, intimate that the multi-millionairess is willing to pay a half a million, but not a penny more. Sounds a little like a bargain counter, though not exactly in the five and ten cent store.

MISTINGUETTE

Do you hear that shrill sound of wrath ~~you may hear~~ echoing from the direction of Canada? - That's the voice of Mistinguette. The Queen of Parisian music halls is in Montreal, for appearances in a new cabaret, and today she was asked about - her age. That is one of the famous questions.

Mistinguette is a tradition. One report places her age at seventy-eight. Another says -- eighty-two. When she was asked today, she cried: "I'm a hundred and twelve." Confidentially, she told the newspaper reporter that, really, she's only sixty-one -- born in Eighteen Eighty-Eight. "But" she gesticulated angrily, "please write I'm a hundred-and-twelve."

She was asked - was there any truth in the report that she was an entertainer at the Paris Exposition of Nineteen Hundred? "Main non" mais non"

she exploded, "I didn't even go to the Exposition.
My parents thought I was too young."

Well, it all recalls a music hall skit
in Paris a few years ago. The scene - Hades, the
lower regions. A newcomer from the earth enters, a
man from Paris. Whereupon he is greeted by the shades
of Caesar, Marc Anthony, ^{and} Brutus. Who ask ~~him~~ eagerly:
"How is our old friend, Mistinguette? Is she well?
We haven't seen her for so long." That skit is said
to have made Mistinguette very angry, *my dear Nelson.*