

L.T. - SUNOCO. - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 1946
(Given by Mr. Charles Hodges.)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Down in Washington, the House of Representatives defied the Truman administration on price control.

The House rebellion slipped off three months from the year that the administration leaders wanted for the extension of the Price Control and Stabilization Acts. If the House plan goes through, we will be out on our economic own March Thirty-First, Nineteen Forty-Seven. The rebellious Congressmen also opened what may be an Pandora's box of trouble. During the coming nine months, according to the House proposals, the O.P.A. will have to guarantee trade and industry - QUOTE a reasonable profit on their sales UNQUOTE.

Administration leaders found their warnings of a runaway inflation unheeded. The votes against the administration come from a Republican farm bloc-Democratic coalition.

They tacked amendment after amendment onto the legislation. The runaway opposition wants to abolish the two billion farm price subsidy program at the end of this year. Administration spokesmen retort that this means the cost of living will go up by eight per cent - and that's a lot when you apply it to the basic necessities of life.

The revolt came while the House was meeting as a committee of the whole. The administration is planning a last ditch stand when the final vote is to be taken. They intend to have a roll call on each and every amendment. This may be done tonight.

Washington observers don't believe that the administration is going to salvage much by these tactics. The best chance now seems to be in the Senate, where political observers believe that the President's program is more likely to be supported. If these views are correct, Senate opposition may reject the House bill. This would force a conference and lay the basis for a compromise.

FOOD

★ The President went on record today for a Spartan ~~the~~ national diet two days a week.

President Truman feels that the American people can use their own self-control in this way, to help solve the world food crisis. He's going on the air tomorrow night at seven thirty P.M. Eastern Time, to ask us to tighten our belts. He's going to share the microphone in an international broadcast which will also bring in the voice of former President Herbert Hoover. White House spokesmen emphasized President Truman's deep feeling on the Subject.

At his news conference, the President was asked about the nation going on a diet similar to what the average European gets once a week. He came out for two days, ^{He} and remarked that we waste enough food in the United States every twenty-four hours to satisfy starving peoples overseas. The President also took exception to the criticism of the former Director General of Relief Operations, Herbert H. Lehman. He said that he thought Mr. Lehman was mistaken if he said that the government

had not done all that was possible to meet the food emergency round the globe.

✓ The President and Mrs. Truman, it was revealed, are practicing what they preach. This may be a pretty good program for the rest of us to follow. Here it is:

One. Make every Monday a wheatless day, as the White House does.

Two. Serve wheat products on other days only at breakfast.

Three. Use Corn bread, bran muffins, and other grain substitutes for wheat bread at other meals.

The President also supports Secretary of Agr Agriculture Anderson's plan for smaller loaves, together with the twenty-five per cent flour reduction. This means that bakers are only going to make loaves that are nine-tenths our customary size, but this doesn't mean we have to have the bakeries equipped with new pans that are smaller. The bakers are just going to drop a little less dough into them.

FAR EAST

What kind of a Far East will President Truman see when he makes his planned trip to the Orient this summer?

Washington heard today that the President hopes to stop off in Japan and China, but that plans for his Pacific tour are still in the formative stage. He emphasized that he wished to be in the Philippines for the observance of the Commonwealth Independence Day. This will fall on our own July Fourth, and mark a completion of the plans for freeing our island wards.

President Truman's emissary, General Marshall, today is in north China. He has arrived in the old Chinese capital, located just below the Great Wall that meanders across the northwest of China, and separates war-torn Manchuria from the rest of the Chinese provinces. Chungchun now seems lost to the Reds. They have stormed into this Chinese city and the only railway station is now in the hands of Communist forces.

The Reds already have made good their hold upon neighboring airfields, so that the Nationalist

troops cannot get any aid from the air. The railroad seizure is important, for this reason:- The Chinese Communists now can pour troops in from the Soviet zone of north Manchuria by railroad.

In the midst of this fight between the two Chinese factions, An American military observer and his aide are isolated in the Yamato Hotel. Reynolds Packard, the United Press staff correspondent, reports that himself and four other American correspondents are ducking bullets which are hitting the Mayor's home, in which they are lodged.

Chunghun is the old division point between Russian and Japanese interests after the Russo-Japanese War in Nineteen Four. I first saw it when I was sent north on a mission at the close of the First World War. It was then a few sidings, where the standard gage Japanese railway lines from the south met the extra wide broad gage of the Russians. There were only a few houses and scrawny trees. But the wealth of the great Manchurian

plain was piled up on the sidings. The soya bean was beginning to come into its own as the great agricultural resource of Manchuria.

When I next saw Chungchun, it was called by the Japanese Hsinking. Instead of a railroad divisional point, it had become the center of Japanese activities in north Asia. Miles of boulevards were laid out, so that the place looked like a Hollywood realtor's version of a new real estate development. Buildings were being erected for a new capital of the Japanese Empire, because the Japanese militarists told me that they were constructing this city to become the continental headquarters of Emperor Hirohito as the ruler of Asia.

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SOVIET CHARGE

All is not tranquil in Tokyo today. The American military government of General MacArthur and the Soviet members of the Far Eastern Supervisory Commission to oversee peace-making, came into sharp disagreement.

MacArthur's spokesman, General Whitney, took the Russian delegate to task for his charge that the democratization of Japan was endangered and that MacArthur tolerated undesirable persons in the Japanese government. General Whitney said that he didn't come to testify as a witness, subject to examination; that he came to explain the operations of the MacArthur supervisory machine. He pointed out that the Russians seem to be fishing without having asked MacArthur's headquarters for information, and presented an encouraging picture of our activities. The Russian move to get seven days' notice of all MacArthur's orders and directives, was not acceptable to our supreme commander. MacArthur only promised to try and give the newly formed council two days' notice. The British Commonwealth delegate also associated himself with the Soviet representative

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in wanting more time. General Derevyanko said that he needed the extra days to communicate with Moscow.

The officer -- the seating of the delegates has also been shifted.

The new president, according to the Council practice of rotating the office on the seventh of each month, is an Egyptian. He comes in his career, a baby doctor, a banker and a foreign minister. Dr. Affili has a strenuous time ahead of him.

The seating breaks up the Big Three at the far right of the Council's President. Russia has moved over to the extreme left, leaving the Americans and the British together. We now have the symbolic alignment of voting -- the Soviet delegate now sits beside his Polish colleague.

SECURITY COUNCIL

Here in New York today, we have a new Security Council set-up. Not only is there a new presiding officer -- the seating of the delegates has also been shifted.

The new president, according to the Council practice of rotating the office on the seventeenth of each month, is an Egyptian. He combines in his career, a baby doctor, a banker and a foreign minister. Dr. Affifi has a strenuous time ahead of him.

The seating breaks up the Big Three at the far right of the Council President. Russia now moves over to the extreme left, leaving the Americans and the British together. We now have the symbolic alignment of voting -- the Soviet delegate now sits beside his Polish colleague!

POLAND

Poland did the expected this afternoon [★] at the United Nations Security Council meeting. We heard Franco Spain indicted as a Fascist menace in the postwar world. The chubby Polish delegate, Oscar Lange, marshaled a mass of data. He quoted extensively from the State Department disclosures of Nazi support for Franco. He traced the German equipment sent to Franco, the Nazi technicians exported from Hitler's Reich to operate the war-making material. He showed the Nazi penetration of Spanish companies, with German directors, by utilizing the report of the United States Treasury Department. He built up to the scientific work ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ required for the newly developed Spanish arms industries.

He painstakingly mobilized the facts available to show Spanish interest in the atomic bomb. He referred to the uranium mines in operation under special governmental regulations; the effort to buy equipment for this uranium exploitation here in the United States; and stressed the presence of German scientists as some

indication of the sinister effort in this direction.

The Polish spokesman made a picture of world-wide Nazi underground activity stretching from Spain to China, though he paid a minimizing tribute to the efforts of the United States to round up these fomenters of future trouble.

Lange took nearly an hour to trace the case against Franco Spain. He asked his colleagues in the Security Council to act favorably, claiming that the United Nations trouble shooting body had full power under the Charter because fascism imposed the Franco regime on the Spanish people; because international friction already has developed between Franco Spain and Republican France; because international friction already has developed between Franco Spain and Republic France; because Franco Spain is a refugg for Nazi plotters of the next war. He concluded with a resolution calling on the Council to express its opposition to the Franco regime as a manace to world peace. Lange's proposal ended onnal

significant note -- a forecast of Franco's disappearance shortly and the welcoming of the Spanish nation into the United Nations.

What's behind this attack?

Some observers here at the United Nations regard the Polish denunciation as the work of a diplomatic satellite of Moscow, with Lange a convenient mouthpiece to vocalize the Soviet hatred of the Franco regime. The Polish move, in this light, becomes part of the Soviet attack upon the defenders of the status quo -- especially upon the British reluctance to upset Franco by outside pressure.

Others find themselves sympathetic to the Polish effort. They accept Lange's carefully stated reason for launching the attack on Franco. Lange said he was the elected delegate of all the United Nations through Poland's selection by the Assembly to sit on the Security Council. He therefore assumed a mandate from all the nations. But he was careful to point out how the Poles felt that there had been a chain of aggression

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from Spain to Poland by the fascist powers -- that the Franco regime was the last survivor of fascism and had to go.

... but he put a condition to the offer -- that the talks would only begin when the Soviet troops have been withdrawn from Iranian soil.

Labour's foreign minister told the Commons he did not think that the Soviet deal in the north conflicted with the British oil supply in the south. Observing that security and peace and not oil motivated the British opposition to Soviet actions, David said that the terms of the new agreement were still being worked out but the talks should take place while the Red Army remained in Iran. He didn't want negotiations under duress and he wanted the carrying out of the Treaty of 1942.

IRAN

Here's a footnote to the Iranian question.

Foreign Minister Bevin said today in London that the British were ready to begin new oil negotiations with the Iranians. But he put a condition to the proffer -- that the talks would only begin when the Soviet troops have been withdrawn from Iranian soil.

Labor's foreign minister told the Commons he did not think that the Soviet deal in the north conflicted with the British oil supply in the south. Observing that security and peace and not oil motivated the British opposition to Soviet tactics, Bevin added that the terms of the new agreement were still being studied, but no talks should take place while the Red Army remained in Iran. He didn't want negotiations under duress and he awaited the carrying out of the Treaty of 1942.

SOVIET ATTACK

Now here's the inside story as to the way in which the decision on Iran was sidetracked yesterday. My informant is a man whose position in the United Nations Security Council cannot be smeared; he repeated an "I saw" story of how the Soviets used the Secretary General twenty-four hours ago to stop discussion on Iran.

At the end of Monday's heated interchangers, the Soviet spokesman on the Security Council talked with Secretary General Lie. Gromyko also had the Assistant Secretary General, a Soviet subject, join in the discussion. Sobolov represents the Russian vested interests at the top of the Secretariat, just as other high United States officials had been put into key posts through the pressure of each of the Big Five.

I have every reason to believe that the bombshell dropped at yesterday's council meeting was inspired by the Soviets. This marks the beginning of a Soviet counter-offensive in the Security Council. The necessity of referring Secretary General Lie' communication that

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Council acted incorrectly and illegally to the Committee of Experts was a roadblock. It stopped the certain defeat of the Soviets in a Council showdown. The allegation of the Secretary General that the Council was acting illegally was not asked for; it was, according to my information, a gratuitous move inspired by the Soviet delegation.

We now see the utility to Soviet Russia of the compromise choice of the Secretary General. We also see something else, Lie's Russian assistant is the United Nation official who coordinates Security Council affairs for the Secretariat.

And now, for my friend Lowell, So Long
Until Tomorrow.