

27. - P. 8. Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1948.

~~The news wire has just brought~~ The report of the  
~~was~~ issued ~~today~~ <sup>afternoon</sup>.  
presidential Air Policy Commission. That board of five  
civilians, named by President Truman, has been making a study  
of national defense in this atomic era. The verdict is that  
we can have an air force capable of warding off atomic attack -  
have it in five years, by January First, Nineteen Fifty-Three.  
Which is <sup>a</sup> sufficient margin in the opinion of the Air Policy  
Commission. The study, just completed, indicates that it will  
be five years before any other nation will be able to deliver  
an atomic attack on us - will have the atomic weapons and the air  
power to hurl them.

So the report names January First, Nineteen Fifty-Three  
as what it calls the - "target date." That is, the date by  
which an atomic assault against us may be possible - the date  
at the same time by which we, ourselves, can have the air  
power to beat off an atomic enemy. Five short years!

The Commission report is headed, "Survival in the  
Air Age", and recommends what we should do. The emphasis is on

scientific research - research in atomic propulsion, guided missiles, supersonic flight. The world, we are told, is now not only in an armament race, but in an international competition of research. The goal set for the five year period is the construction of eight-thousand, one-hundred combat planes of types most advanced - these to be able to wage war in the air on an intensive scale, effective enough to <sup>hold the sky while</sup> ~~enable~~ American aircraft production <sup>gets under way --</sup> ~~to get~~ planes rolling off the assembly lines.

Our present budget for national defense provides ~~ten~~ billion<sup>s</sup> ~~dollars~~ for the Air Force next year. The Commission recommends that this be <sup>considerably</sup> increased, ~~by another billion and a half~~ ~~with subsequent increases up to thirteen billion, two hundred million in Nineteen Forty-Nine.~~ The Commission states that it makes these financial proposals with what it calls - "the utmost reluctance." But it adds, "self preservation comes ahead of economy."

## GERMANY

(The Americans in Berlin gave a blunt answer to Soviet suggestions that the Western Allies ~~would~~ get out of the German capital.) The spokesman for the Americans was Major General Hays, our Deputy Commander-in-Chief over there, who issued a statement that was published today on page one of the German newspapers in the British and American areas.

(General Hays told the Germans - also the Soviets - that we intend to stay in Berlin until a German peace treaty is made, and everybody gets out.) This - in accordance with the Yalta Agreement. So far <sup>from</sup> ~~as~~ considering any suggestion that the Americans and British pack up and leave Berlin in the near future, General Hays declared that we would consider not even any suggestion, of altering the present occupation arrangement, in any way.



## MARSHALL PLAN

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today that exports of food under the Marshall Plan would have no great effect on our own domestic prices and supplies. But, at the same time, he warned that we may have to impose meat rationing this coming Spring. Not because of ~~our~~ exports to Europe, he argued, but because of our own domestic rate of consumption. We are simply consuming so much that we'll need rationing, he contended, <sup>and he</sup> declared that, under the Marshall Plan, no meats would be shipped to Europe and a smaller amount of foods in general than we <sup>we</sup> had <sup>^</sup> been sending heretofore. In other words, the Marshall Plan materials would be more for reconstruction than for food relief.

On the other hand, Secretary Anderson presented a picture of American agriculture - vastly expanded. He said that American farmers are now producing a third more food and other crops than before the war. "They've revolutionized farm production," said he, "and the revolution is here to stay." From this premise, he argued that we'll ~~and~~ need export markets



for all this increase in the products of the farm. We will have to sell a lot and we will need customers. So, if the nations of western Europe, as prospective customers, should collapse - it would be bad news for the American farmer. They need those European markets. The gist of it was - the Secretary of Agriculture urging the Marshall Plan as a way to ward off a depression for the <sup>(farmers)</sup> ~~farmer~~ of this nation.

~~There is a lot of logic in it all, so much logic in fact, that the syllogisms appeared at times to get in each other's way. But that's the way logical complications often seem to be - I guess I'm just not a logician.~~

## SPECULATORS

(Presidential physician General Graham admits that he made incorrect statements about the speculation uproar.) Today, he told the Senate Committee that several things he said were not exactly true, but that the inaccuracies were technical, errors of ignorance - because of his own lack of knowledge of the business of trading in commodities. <sup>THE</sup> (For one thing, the General did not - "lose his socks", as he said he had. (He explained today that he had made a profit out of his speculations in commodities - a profit of more than six thousand dollars.

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Nor was he correct when he stated that he got out of commodity speculating, and stayed out, right after President Truman issued his White House blast, blaming high prices on gamblers in foods.) General Graham did sell his grain holdings, but went on to speculate in cotton and cottonseed oil. But he didn't think that cotton and cottonseed oil came under the heading of commodities - so the untruth of what he said lay in his misunderstanding of the meaning of the term "commodities".

Moreover, he declared today that he had given his brokers the authority to invest in commodity futures - although he had previously stated that the brokers had put him into that kind of speculation without his knowing it.

(The General drew rounds of laughter, as he gave illustrations to show how little he knew about finance and trading, picturing himself as - just a babe in the woods.) Maybe some of <sup>(you)</sup> ~~the~~ folks ~~may~~ remember that old song. As I recall, it began: "Don't you remember, a long time ago," and ended: "Poor babes in the woods, they both now are gone."

Which is <sup>(the)</sup> ~~a~~ sad picture we are given of the presidential physician in the jungle of financial speculation, - although the babes in the woods never made a profit of six thousand dollars.



## AIRLINER

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At Minneapolis today, an airliner took off with forty-two persons aboard. Then, in the air, the pilot found that the nose wheel of the landing gear was jammed - that front single wheel. He immediately radioed that he was returning to the Minneapolis airfield, and there preparations were made for a crash - ambulances and fire fighting equipment mobilized.

The pilot, Captain Harold Kittleson, flew his crowded airliner around the field, circling ~~it~~ for three hours - as *he and his crew* ~~he~~ tried to do something about that jammed front wheel. But nothing could be done, so he had to try a landing. He came in with the tail pushed far down, so that the weight was on the rear wheels, when these touched the runway. With tail down and nose up, the ponderous airliner whizzed along the landing strip. Then, when speed was reduced, Captain Kittleson brought the nose down, ~~on the jammed wheel in front~~, for a skillful, safe landing -- *not a belly landing -- a sort of nose-landing.*

Which is in contrast to the story from Washington, D.C., where an airliner hit a tree just across the Potomac.

The plane was in a blinding rainstorm, when it cracked into a towering pine tree, flipped over on its back, and crashed in the rain soaked underbrush. Nine passengers and crew aboard - and ~~only~~ four survived.

## PRISONERS 1.

At Sandy Point, Texas this afternoon, eleven prisoners made a daring escape for the Darrington State Prison Farm. The men got clean away in two automobiles which they stole in the neighborhood of the prison. One of these cars with three of the convicts aboard was seen speeding towards Houston on Route 288. The men are known to be armed, ~~among their~~ *with weapons* ~~weapons a high powered rifle, possibly~~ stolen from the prison armory.

Three hours after the break one of the missing cars was found abandoned in Houston. Beyond that, no news, no clues, ~~the police still searching for the~~ ~~eleven armed convicts who escaped from the Darrington~~ ~~Prison Farm.~~



## GOLD RUSH 1/

That treasure hunt for twenty dollar gold pieces is still continuing at Monterey, California -

~~and was~~<sup>a</sup> scramble for the treasure buried by Will <sup>back</sup> Martin in nineteen-hundred. <sup>TP</sup> Some twenty thousand

dollars worth of coins have been discovered, <sup>so far</sup> and hopes <sup>still runs</sup> ~~are running high~~ <sup>The gold seekers expect</sup> ~~of even greater finds.~~ <sup>to find more.</sup>

~~But there is an ugly side to this~~  
<sup>But, in this</sup> modern gold rush, swindlers and hi-jackers <sup>are reported to be</sup> moving in, to rob the prospectors of their finds. Many of the diggers are 'teen agers, who are <sup>said to be</sup> having a whale of a time digging in the dirt, especially when it pays off so

handsomely. One youngster Mike Maiorana raked up

a jar containing thirty-seven coins, - <sup>worth about</sup> ~~reported to be~~ twenty-eight thousand dollars ~~worth~~ on the collectors market. But when Mike started to take his find

home he was set upon by a crowd of roughs who

claimed that they had found the gold. Mike fell on

the ground clutching his ~~xxxxxxx~~ treasure, and the

hi-jackers fell on him, ~~like a pack of wolves~~, trying to tear the precious jar from his hands. Jackie held on. To the rescue came a bulldozer operator ~~with a~~ <sup>who</sup> ~~making for fair play~~, <sup>he</sup> charged the gang <sup>^</sup> with the big blade of his bulldozer lowered for action. The hi-jackers fled, and young Mike was escorted safely off the diggings by his rescuer.

Some of the youngsters didn't fare so well. Two who dug up a jar containing twenty-five gold coins, each worth <sup>at least</sup> ~~about~~ seventy dollars, <sup>so they say,</sup> meekly handed them over to a tall man who said he was a detective, with orders that everyone was to "turn in" their finds.

When the Monterey police heard these stories they put the gold rush under police supervision. "Finder's keepers!" <sup>That's</sup> ~~to~~ the law, says the ~~Sheriff's officers~~, and ~~they're going to see it's kept by protecting the rights of all, even if they have to use a little force~~

## CHAPLIN

The latest motion picture out by Charlie Chaplin has had rocky going, which became still rockier today. ~~Today~~ ~~was~~ In France, a lawsuit against the movie, Monsieur Verdoux, was filed by Monsieur Verdoux. There is such a person; and, he claims that Charlie Chaplin, by ~~using~~ his name, has caused him great embarrassment. Not surprising, since the Chaplin character goes in for the sport of murdering a series of wives.

The real Verdoux points out that, not only is his name used, but certain features of his life are the same as in the case of the Charlie Chaplin wife-killer. The character in the movie is a stock broker and has a small son; and so has the real Verdoux. He says his son is much embarrassed -- kidded by schoolmates.

The Chaplin character is actually modeled on the notorious wife murderer, Landru, which causes some confusions to arise. In his suit for damages, the real Verdoux states that when he meets with friends, they greet him with that exquisite French politeness and say: "Good morning, Landru, how are your wives today?"



## BUDDHISM

The Westernization of Japan produces new marvels - the way democracy works in the land of Fujiyama. This time it's the Buddhist temples that have been hit by modern progress.

A recent law for the redistribution of land had deprived many of the shrines of land <sup>ed</sup> ~~and~~ properties from which they had derived their income. So the Buddhist monks <sup>have</sup> ~~had~~ to resort to new measures to make ends meet. In some temples they <sup>are</sup> ~~are~~ showing motion pictures, Buddhism in the movie business. *Hopalong Cassidy under the sacred Lotus flower.* There is a proposal, moreover, that some of the shrines, not in active use, be turned into dance halls - Buddhist monks running night-clubs.

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The <sup>labor</sup> ~~new~~ union movement is likewise affecting the ancient religion founded by that prince of India, the Light of Asia. In one of the most austere monastic orders in Japan, the Buddhist nuns are under vows of perpetual silence - much like the Trappist Monks of Christendom. Recently, however, they have come out with a demand that they be given more voice in the control of the monasteries - the silent nuns of

Buddhism want to have their <sup>silent</sup> say. Things are even more

Westernized and modern at the Zenko Temple in Nagoya. There, the Buddhist monks went on strike for an eight-hour day.

Well, I suppose those innumerable Asiatic statues of Buddha sitting cross-legged are still smiling with that air of eternal tranquility - though they must be tempted to frown now and then at the new wonders from the West.-- or maybe laugh out loud.

## CANDIDATE

All the talk about the various candidates for the Republican nomination would seem to be academic, now that Carl C. Countryman has entered the political competition. His very name should insure his election. Imagine an inaugural address by President Countryman, which would begin - "My fellow Countryman."

Moreover, Candidate Countryman has color. - He admitted that today, when, in Boston, he announced himself for the Republican nomination. He went over the various personalities being named, and counted them out - Dewey, Eisenhower, Stassen, and even Taft. Candidate Countryman is all for the statesman from Ohio, except for one thing -- *he says* Taft lacks color. To which Candidate Countryman added: "What the Republicans need to win this year is Bob Taft in technicolor - and that's me." *R* There was a lot of truth in that, because Candidate Countryman, appearing before the newsmen, wore what the Boston dispatch calls - a cobalt blue shirt and cabbage green suspenders. Cobalt and cabbage ~~green~~ - campaigning on that platform, how



could you beat a candidate running on a cobalt and cabbage ticket!

He would be strong in every section of the country - because Candidate Countryman is a lecturer who has just finished a tour delivering an address called - "The Modern Hercules - How to be one." ~~He~~ Certainly ~~is~~ no weakling - not Hercules.

So this program, right now, takes a stand in the presidential race. This program comes out for Countryman - as he stands <sup>(there)</sup> in his cobalt blue shirt, <sup>snapping</sup> ~~and snaps~~ his cabbage green suspenders.

And now Nelson, in his bright red suspenders.

## SOMALILAND

A savage outbreak is reported in Somaliland, fifty-three killed ~~and~~ <sup>in</sup> riots between native Somalis and the Italian population in that Italian colony. Somaliland is East African territory taken from Italy ~~by~~ during the war, which is still to be disposed of - and a commission of the United Nations is out there studying the matter. That brought about the trouble.

A Somali youth league staged a demonstration to impress the Commission with the claims of the East African natives. The Italian inhabitants, and Somalis of Italian sympathies, broke up the parade, and that led to a battle in the <sup>Mogadeeshio</sup> city of Mogadiscio, a battle of bullets and also arrows, reminding us that this is East Africa, where the bow and arrow is still a weapon. Gangs of hoodlums joined in, ~~the~~ disturbance, robbing and looting - until British troops were able to put down the disturbance.

## GREECE

There is disagreement in Greece - differences of opinion between the Athens government and the American Aid Mission, which is over there supervising the disposition of money allotted by this country to help Greece. Today Dwight Griswold, chief of the mission, told of disputes about economic and military policies. He said he was dissatisfied with the way the Greek Government was tackling its economic problems - such as attempts to control inflation. He said that most uncooperative of all was the Athens Minister of War, General Stratos, who bluntly refused to cut down the number of government employees, <sup>S</sup> and advised by the Americans.

Also, General Stratos failed to keep the American military advisers assigned to Greece, informed of his war plans in the battle against the Communists, and spent American funds to establish new army units, against the advice of the United States officers.

Today, Dwight Griswold stated that last night, in conference with the top members of the Greek Cabinet, he got



what he calls - "a pretty good agreement". <sup>But</sup> ~~and~~ he says he may  
return to Washington in a few days to put the whole problem  
before our own government.