

KOREA P.M. - P.H. Tues. Dec. 12-1950.

In Northeast Korea tonight the greatest military evacuation in ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~history~~ ^{of all our wars is said to} ~~may have begun~~ ^{under way.} ~~But~~

Tenth Corps Headquarters today clamped a security blackout on all news ^{concerning} of the sixty thousand men ~~now~~ ^{safely} ~~in the~~ ^{at that} assembled Hungnam beachhead. ^{TP} To the northeast

east of Seoul the 8th Army behind its new defence line faces a re-organized North Korean Army ^{said to be} ^{TP} massed in force along the sixty-five mile front. ^{TP} While the

North Koreans today launched a series of softening-up blows along the new front, a massive Chinese Communist column is reported on the move in Central Korea, ~~Red~~

^{forces} headed south to launch a massive attack on the new line.

L.I. P.G. Tuesday, December 12, 1950.

~~We have all heard those strange and~~

~~Rather~~ mystifying tales ~~that~~ have been coming from Korea lately; ^{airmen telling} ~~Pilots bringing back word~~ of camel supply trains moving up behind the enemy lines; ^{also} vast forces of cavalry on tiny Mongolian ponies; and ^{Red troops in} ~~only yesterday~~ of new uniforms. ^{There has been} ~~Which all gave rise to~~ much speculation. What could this new force be, in its black and grey drab, with its camels and ponies?

^{Today from} ~~Now from~~ General MacArthur's headquarters in Tokyo ^{comes} the answer:-- Mongol cavalry from the vast Steppes of Central Asia, ^{from} the wilds of the Gobi desert. Nomad herdsmen, like ^(those) ~~these~~ followers of Jenghiz Khan and Kubla Khan, whose hordes in thirty years swept ^{right} across Asia and Europe, from the Yellow Sea to the very gates of Vienna. A wild and primitive people, whose lives, like those of the Arabs, are spent almost entirely in the saddle. Trained to ride before they can walk. ^{Men} ~~Men~~ who would think ^{little} ~~nothing~~ of riding ~~more than~~ a hundred miles in ^a ~~one~~ day.

One famous tale, told around the camp fire, is of Kubla Khan's messenger, dispatched to Peking, who ^{(rode those}

fifteen hundred miles in eight days. Changing ponies on the way, and covering almost two hundred miles a day! Each of

Jenghis Khan's cavalymen carried all his own equipment on

horse - each man - on his own if necessary,
his ~~pony~~ *was quite self contained.* ~~In this way, the Mongols~~
So it was that the Mongols
were able to keep their forces completely mobile and flexible.

So
~~But~~ Like the Arabs, camels were used by Jenghis Khan - bringing up the rear with fresh supplies.

In this age of high speed airplanes,
So Now, ~~some~~ hundred years later, we learn of Mongol

cavalry forces in action again - supplied by camel trains from Central Asia. As General MacArthur said today, this new enemy, lightly armed, "has extraordinary endurance - can operate on the barest of food and water - ~~(is)~~ extremely mobile and capable of traversing the roughest terrain." This is the new enemy our forces face tonight - ~~warlike~~ descendants of the ~~great~~ Jenghis Khan.

U.N.

At the U.N. today Sir Benegal Rau formally proposed that a U.N. Commission arrange a Korean cease-fire. ~~Putting~~ ^{This is} The plan drawn up by thirteen Asian and Arab countries, ^{which} ~~he~~ also calls for seven-power talks on all Far Eastern problems. The Commission ^{to} ~~would~~ be headed by ^{Iran's} Nazrollah Entizam with two other countries of his choice, as members.

U.S. ^{Warren} delegate Austin at once gave his support to the cease-fire proposal. But ^{he} insisted that the cease-fire must be successful before any Far East talks ^{are} ~~could~~ be considered. Britain's delegate, on the other hand, supported both proposals for a cease-fire and for Far East talks as soon as possible. For Russia's views and those of her satellites we ^{must} ~~will have to~~ wait until tomorrow morning. As soon as ^{Warren} Austin finished speaking Soviet delegate Malik asked for an adjournment ^{so} ~~with~~ the Soviets could talk it over before making any statement.

~~The U.N. also decided today to set up a seven-nation commission to study the question of which government -- Peking or Chiang Kai Shek -- should have the~~

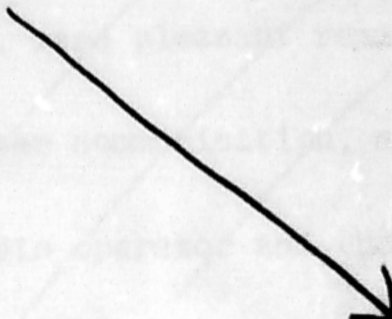
NEW DELHI

In New Delhi yesterday an Indian newspaper carried a startling report. Chinese forces ^{now} on the northeast corner of India's frontier with Tibet. Which gave rise to speculation as to how Chinese forces could have crossed Tibet, where they were reported ~~having~~ halted two hundred miles from Lhasa. Today in New Delhi the Indian government confirmed this startling report. Chinese forces ^{now} ~~were~~ on the borders of Assam, gateway to India from the northeast. ^{This is} ~~as a matter of fact, been there since the Chinese invasion of Tibet in 1918. Thirty two years.~~ a little known region — one of the least known on earth.

TIBET

Here's another brief chapter in the story I told last week, about Bob Ford, the British radio operator, who was taken prisoner in ^{remote central Asia} ~~Tibet~~ by the Chinese Reds. I related a fantastic accusation the Communists were making against him - the poisoned cup of tea. Charging him with murder, by poison, of a Tibetan lama on a mission for the Reds. Now they say Bob Ford was doing a spy job at Chamdo, where he was captured. They claim he was gathering - "military intelligence." ~~So here's what I know about that, what I learned when we were at Lhasa.~~

Bob Ford was sent to Chamdo, a ~~Tibetan~~ town on ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{uttermoost} border of China, to report by radio on the movements of the Chinese Reds - who were threatening an invasion. He was ~~in~~ ~~Tibet~~, reporting to the government of Tibet. Just how you can figure



that as espionage - I don't know. - in your own country.

The official news agency of the Chinese Communists

~~admits further charge,~~ says that Bob Ford has confessed ^{to} ~~the~~

various charges, including the following: "He said," declares

the Red news agency, "that he also had close contact with

^{the} Lowell Thomas, ^{Li, Su & Tan} a U.S. spy who visited Tibet." ^{Which is} ~~the~~

^{the wildest of nonsense.} We chatted ~~with him by short wave - as ham~~
~~constantly talks to each other around~~
~~the world.~~

~~To all of which I can only repeat what I said before.~~

~~that, when we were in Lhasa, Lowell, Junior, and I got to~~

~~know Reggie Fox, the Britisher ~~operator~~ doing a radio job for~~

~~the Tibetan government. Reggie was in communication with~~

~~Bob Ford. ^{So} Lowell, Junior, and I, several times, joined~~

~~Reggie in talking to Bob by radio. ~~which~~ Which consisted of~~

~~nothing more than friendly chatting, mere pleasant remarks.~~

~~That was all there was to the sinister communication, according~~

~~to the Reds, between the British radio operator and those~~

~~American spies - myself and ~~my~~ son.~~

To complete the nonsense, the Red news agency declares that Bob Ford admits maintaining radio contact with friends in the United States, Great Britain and Japan. Well, he did communicate with friends in those countries. Radio ham friends - mostly. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Both Reggie Fox and Bob Ford used to while away the ^{long lonesome} ~~time by~~

^{was} getting in touch with amateur radio operators, ~~wherever they~~

^{here} ~~and~~ largely in the United States, ^{and in Ceylon, Malaya, Africa,} For example, the first ^{Australia - and in Russia too.}

word ~~was~~ able to send ^{from} ~~Lhasa, for a message home, was~~ ^{to} Moscow has made lying when Reggie Fox was able to get through to a radio ham, a

and charges of this sort a fine art. tavern keeper in Boston. All this can be verified by a number.

But in far off Central Asia young of amateur radio operators in the United States - among whom Bob Ford's life probably isn't getting in touch with Tibet was quite an exploit.

worth a Chinese coin with a hole in it.

SINGAPORE RIOTS

The Race rioting in Singapore, which died down last night, flared up again this morning. At last word, fifteen ~~people~~ were dead, one hundred and sixty-four injured -- most of them Europeans. The Moslem crowds which surged thru the streets left in their wake wrecked and looted stores -- dozens of cars burned out on the streets.

But the Jungle Girl, Bertha Hertogh, whose case touched off the two-day orgy of violence, is safely away from it all. She was flown secretly from the city today while rioting was at its height. ^{she} Will go to Holland to await the decision of the Courts on the appeal made by her Malayan husband.

Tonight four battalions of British, Gurka and Malayan troops are on duty in the streets. ~~Word~~ ^{Singapore} is ~~that~~ with an all-night curfew in force, ~~the city~~ ^{the jungle girl} is gradually returning to normal. With ~~Bertha Hertogh~~ ^{thought} on her way to Holland, it is ~~unlikely~~ ^{trouble} that Red agitators will ~~be~~ ^{not} able to stir up further ~~disorders~~ ^{trouble} tomorrow.

MOUNT EVEREST

From New Delhi, a dispatch predicting a Soviet attempt on Mount Everest - a supreme effort by the Reds to conquer the world's highest mountain. This comes from the American expedition ~~that~~ we heard about yesterday - which took a try at the southern side of Everest, got up to more than eighteen thousand feet, and found the ascent to the summit - impossible. That is, ^{via} ~~on~~ the southern side, which is in Nepal.

Which leaves the northern side, in Tibet, as the only possibility - though four British expeditions have tried ~~it~~ that way, and failed. ~~But~~ ^{How} a Soviet expedition is expected to try it, ~~again~~, ^{this} from Tibet. - based, obviously, on the assumption that the Reds will gain control of the country on the roof-of-the-world. Soviet mountaineers ^{to} ~~will~~ make an all-out attempt to gain the summit of Mount Everest.

P This is stated by Oscar Houston of New York, leader of the American party, who explains that a conquest of the highest pinnacle on this globe would magnify Soviet prestige in Asia - especially ^{because} ~~after~~ the previous failures ~~that~~ were scored by

British and Americans.

To this I can add ^{Dr. Chas.} what ~~Osca~~ Houston told me, before
he and his ^{father,} ~~son,~~ Dr. ~~Charles~~ Houston, set out to investigate the

He said the southern face of Everest. word was that Soviet mountaineers had
vowed to fight their way to the top of the tallest peak, and
there plant the Red flag and a big picture of Stalin - on the
summit of Mount Everest.

TRUMAN - DECORATIONS

Today in Washington, President Truman decorated the White House police and Secret Service agents who protected him - when two Puerto Rican ^{were about to get into} gunmen ~~tried to kill him at~~ Blair House, ^{assassinate him - on} November First. One of the awards was made posthumously to Leslie Coffelt, who died of wounds in the gun-battle. The President, making the presentations, was affected so deeply, he could hardly speak. His voice was choking as he concluded the citations, by saying: "I thank you, gentlemen, who did your duty so well."

LETTER

You'll hardly believe this next, when I say it - President Truman has written another letter. This time, to make matters more astonishing, it is in relation to - religion, churches, prayer.

The correspondence was made public tonight by Congressman Edward Hebert of Louisiana, a member of the President's own Democratic Party. On December Fifth, just a week ago, the Congressman sent a letter to the President, suggesting - a day of prayer. ~~He said:~~ "I suggest," he wrote, "that you, as President of the United States, call upon the churches of America, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish, to set aside a Sunday between now and Christmas to appeal to Almighty God for guidance and wisdom, in what I believe to be the Gethsemane of our existence."

To this the President replied in a letter consisting of two paragraphs. The first was in a vein suitable to the appeal. ~~The President~~ ^{He} called ~~the~~ attention ~~of the Louisiana~~ ~~Congressman~~ to the Thanksgiving Day proclamation issued by

the White House - a proclamation with a summons to prayer.

The President thought that answered the suggestion made by the Congressman.

But then came the second paragraph, as follows:

"I'm extremely sorry," said the Truman ~~letter~~^{epistle}, "that the sentiments expressed in your letter were not thought of before November Seventh, when the campaign in your state, Utah, North Carolina, Illinois and Indiana, was carried on in a manner that was as low as I've ever seen - and I've been in this game since Nineteen Six. Sincerely yours, Harry S. Truman."

~~That is a startling sound.~~ What's the connection between the appeal for prayer and the political blast about the election campaign? (In the states mentioned, Republicans won victories in some of them. In North Carolina, the candidate backed by the Administration was defeated in the Democratic primary. As for Louisiana, & the Congressman's home state, all went well for the Administration - though Louisiana is included in the blast, ~~against the campaign~~. In these political battles,

as in others, the opponents of the Administration attacked the Truman foreign policy and made charges of Communists in government. But, still, why the political blast in reply to a letter suggesting a day of prayer?)

To this the Louisiana Congressman replied: "My dear Mr. President, I am stunned by the contents of your letter." To which he added that it was, in his words - "regrettable that you saw fit to gratuitously inject political distemper in your reply."

All of which can only make us wonder about the writing of letters - the Truman list ~~not~~ having already included the ^(Marines) ~~Mackay~~ and a music critic. And now - religion, churches, and prayer.

PILOTS

Here's the depths of humiliation -- in a dispatch from London. A big air liner took off with as distinguished a passenger list as you can imagine, in an airline sense. Aboard were thirty-four senior pilots, top-ranking ^{experts} ~~men~~ of aerial navigation. They were on their way to ~~Switzerland~~ Switzerland to practice landings on a new airport. So off they went, with an ace pilot at the controls. They flew and flew, winging over Europe for long hours, and then went back to London. They couldn't find ^(the) ~~the~~ airport at Zurich. With all thirty-four senior pilots aboard, ^{Nelson,} they simply got lost!