

L.T.-P.&G. TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1953

CHIEFS-OF-STAFF

Admiral Radford is the new Chairman of the Joint Chiefs-of-Staff. That's the major appointment in President Eisenhower's complete shake-up of our top military commanders. The other appointments:-General Ridgway, the new Army Chief-of-Staff. Admiral Robert Carney, Chief of Naval Operation. And, as announced last week, General Nathan Twining, Air Force Chief-of-Staff.

Each branch of the armed forces has a new commander to succeed Ridgway in Europe? General Alfred Gruenther to be the new head of Nato. General Gruenther is of course familiar with that job - having been Deputy Chief to both Eisenhower and Ridgway, the two Americans who proceeded him as head of the North Atlantic Treaty forces. The White House announces that Nato has already approved General Gruenther's appointment.

As for Admiral Arthur Radford he now becomes our top military figure. He is an Admiral who came up as a Naval aviator. Recently he has been commanding our forces in the Pacific. In World War Two, he had an aircraft carrier.

Not so long ago - in Nineteen Forty-Nine, he led the so-called "Admiral's Revolt" against the B-36 bombers of the Air Force. The old story - the old air versus - sea argument. He felt that we were relying too much on those bombers and too little on our ships. Now succeeding General Omar Bradley, he'll be the first Navy man to head the joint chiefs. When he retires no doubt an Air Force general will serve as head of the Joint Chiefs. The formula seems to be for the services to take in turn. It has already been announced that General Bradley expects to retire. So it seems that all of the joint chiefs who served under the Truman Administration, will go fishing - or go somewhere in retirement. President Eisenhower, as expected, will have a complete new team to work with at the Pentagon.

KOREA-TRUCE

Tonight we hear of U.N. plan to break the Korean truce deadlock. That General Mark Clark has it with him on his present trip to Korea. The supreme commander in the Far East flying to Seoul, to turn the plan over to the U.N. truce delegates. All we are told about it is that the plan insists upon the voluntary repatriation of prisoners-of-war. Gen. Clark says its a comprehensive plan to bring together all the main points that must be settled before there can be an armistice. This plan to be offered to the Reds during the Panmunjom discussions - either tonight or tomorrow.

This plan we hear has been okayed by Washington, and is so important, that our commander in Tokyo, has taken it to Korea in person, instead of dispatching it through the usual channels.

KOREA--WAR

Meanwhile Tokyo reports the heaviest fighting in Korea since the resumption of the truce talks. The Reds throwing five simultaneous attacks at the South Koreans. Savage hand-to-hand fighting for ten hours. In a number of places, the ROK forces were compelled to retreat. But we are told they regrouped, counter-attacked, and regained all the ground they had lost. Observers estimated around one hundred and seventy-five Chinese casualties in the fighting.

The battles were fought in foul weather. Raining in torrents, flooding trenches, and turning the battle zone into a sea of mud. Air activity almost nil. Nearly all planes grounded.

MANCHURIAN BOMBING

Did American planes bomb Manchuria? The Reds say yes. An Air Force spokesman says, nonsense.

Last night we heard how the Chinese had charged our pilots with bombing beyond the Yalu - in Manchuria. In fact Chinese Foreign Minister Chow En-Lai said over the Peiping Radio that in this way the Americans are trying to wreck the truce talks at Panmunjom. He called the alleged attacks "grave, provocative actions," and added that more than two hundred Chinese were killed and wounded in the attack.

But a spokesman for the U.N. Air Force flatly denies the charges, and describes the Chow En-Lai statement as a lie - "pure fantasy."

INDO-CHINA

In Indo-China, the ~~Reds~~^{re} appears to be ^a ~~changing~~^{e in} their strategy. A dispatch from Hanoi reveals that the rebels have withdrawn about half of their invasion forces from Laos. The enemy now massing troops northwest of Hanoi. And French military men say that the Reds may launch a new campaign.

The Reds have an opportunity, because the French have had to weaken their defense perimeter to bring ~~reinforcements~~ reinforcements into Laos. So that could have been part of the enemy plan. That is, they may have ~~launched~~ feinted a major attack in Laos, in order to draw the defenders away from other vulnerable points. And they may be about to strike at those points.

But the Reds have not abandoned Laos. They are still dug in near Luang Prabang. With other units of their armies free to strike elsewhere.

One favorable report - the Reds have suffered some twelve hundred casualties in French bombing and strafing attacks. And hundreds more have been attacked by ~~typhoid~~ typhoid fever in the jungle.

ATTLEE

Former Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, criticizes Washington foreign policy. Nor does the leader of his majesty's loyal opposition in the House of Commons, pull his punches.

Attlee was addressing the Commons. All this came up in a debate on foreign affairs, following Winston Churchill's call for a top level conference by leaders of the major powers, which Attlee favors. And he follows that up by accusing us of faltering in our world leadership. One reason for this Attlee statement - the position of Senator McCarthy in Washington. Launching an attack on McCarthy, the British Labor statesman says McCarthy seems to have as much power over here as President Eisenhower.

Then he went beyond personalities and stated that the American Constitution was mad for an isolationist nation; and not suitable for a nation called on to lead the world. He says all decisions made in Washington are suspect.

Clement
/Attlee also noted that all is not well in the

Soviet Union. He pointed out that now no single man is all-powerful in the Kremlin. Not even Malenkov. And he called for closer British relations with Russian leaders.

All of which looks like he's taking a line between America and Russia; criticizing both; and directing his main charges against us.

MAU MAU

From East Africa - from Nairobi comes a dispatch saying that the Mau Mau terrorists are hopped up by narcotics. Dope to put them in a state of frenzy.

As in most Eastern lands the drug they use is made from hemp, and is called "nhang." When the Mau Mau take on enough "nhang" they are ready to attack the police, the army, or any thing that comes along. This we hear accounts for the reports of recent battles which sound much like the "human sea" raids of the Chinese in Korea. The Mau Mau charging in waves, with utter disregard for their own casualties. In one such battle, the British patrol killed forty terrorists in a mere twenty minute battle. According to the leader of the patrol, "even when Bren gunfire was being poured into the, at fifteen yard range, they didn't waver. They came straight on."

The Mau Mau are coming more and more out into the open; where it used to be necessary to hunt them secretly, by night. So the British hope that the murder ring keeps on using "nhang", the dope that makes the Mau Mau reckless.

TORNADO

Another tornado in Texas, near Tyler. This one broke in two when it hit a hill. With more twisters expected the Lone Star state and in Louisiana and Arkansas.

The tornadoes that hit Waco and San Angelo are reported as the worst in recent years. The Mayor of Waco estimates the damage in his city at more than ten million dollars. Fifty killed; and two hundred and fifty injured.

In San Angelo, two hundred homes destroyed. In Waco, buildings damaged over an area of some thirty-six blocks. The authorities are fearful that many buildings still standing, may collapse without warning.

EVEREST

On Friday, the latest Everest Expedition will make its supreme attempt to scale the world's highest mountain.

This time it will be still another British expedition.

A dispatch from Calcutta says the climbers will start up the unconquered mountain at around seven A.M., on Friday.

This expedition as you would expect, has all the latest equipment, including even an army mortar to blast ice blocking the way to the lofty summit.

A long series of expeditions in the past have tried and failed. In the words of one mountaineer, on an earlier attempt: "No expedition, can hope to achieve the summit unless it is aided by three major strokes of good fortune, all combined:- freedom from high wind near the top, (and that seems hopeless) no deep snow on the slopes around the twenty-six thousand foot level, and the right man high up on the mountain at the right time." Then he added: "such combined good fortune has graced

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none of the previous expeditions."

So the present British team is hoping for something that has eluded all mountaineers on Everest in the past - good luck to go with good planning and good leadership. Beginning on Friday, we'll learn just how lucky the expedition is.

Add TORNADO

According to the Red Cross, the tornados^e that hit Waco and San Angelo were among the most severe ever recorded. Statistics have been kept since 1881. And only fourteen twisters worse than these are known. The worst of all, the one that struck through Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana in March of 1925. That one caused close to eight hundred fatalities, ~~and~~ ^{with more than 3000} injured, ~~more than three thousand persons.~~ ^{with} Property damage was estimated at twenty-five million. ~~dollars~~

DUEL

Judge John Speight of Dothan, Alabama, serving with our occupation forces in Germany, has for two days been presiding at a trial. The charge being against an American, Blondell Groseclose, who is accused of challenging an opponent to a duel with pistols.

Groseclose had challenged Captain Charles Tarpley. He did it because, as he put it:- "that is the accepted form for a gentleman to settle a matter of love and honor in Europe." Yes, there was a lady in the case.

The challenge was made at an Army club. Groseclose took ~~two~~ pistols into the club in a paper bag and faced Captain Tarpley. Here's how Groseclose describes what happened: "I opened the bag, showed him the guns, and said; 'If you are an honorable man, you'll take one out, and we'll fight it out.'" Then Groseclose went on: "When he declined, the whole thing was settled as far as I was concerned."

.But it wasn't settled as far as the law was concerned. An old German law states that such a challenge can be punished by imprisonment. At the same time, another law states that if both parties withdraw from the duel, no crime has been committed.

So there's the case as it came before Judge John Speight of Dothan, Alabama. The judge deliberated and was baffled. "It is not difficult to establish the facts in this case," he said, "but the court has been having trouble with the law, and has not been able to satisfy itself." A modest judge who frankly admits he's stumped - doesn't know the law.

CORONATION

More news about the Coronation:- According to the Duke of Norfolk, there will be T.V. and color cameras at five places in Westminster Abbey. So most of the ceremony will be caught and transmitted to the screens of all T.V. owners in Britain, and to millions more on the continent.

Not all of the Coronation will be televised. The more sacred parts such as the anointing of the Queen - to be omitted. And there'll be no close-up T.V. shots of her.

There will be some two hundred and sixty in the Queen's procession; including forty pages, one of whom will be Winston Spencer Churchill - a grandson of the Prime Minister.

Sir Winston will, of course, be there. And his son Randolph will be one of the ushers. Three ~~generations~~ generations of the Churchill family taking part in the

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Coronation - the Prime Minister, his son, and grandson.

One member of the royal family will be absent - Princess Anne, two-year-old daughter of the Queen, who is too young for such occasions. But the heir to the throne, four year old Prince Charles, will be there for a while. He'll be taken to the Abbey for part of the service, and then back home, to wait for the return of his mother.

Nelson, according to the Duke of Norfolk, rehearsals for the Coronation ceremony will start this Thursday.