

L.T. - P&G Monday, December 10, 1951.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

In the Philippines the violence of nature has become almost too fantastic for imagination. Yes, that same fire mountain.

A few days ago we heard of the volcano Hibok-Hibok in tremendous eruption - devastation spread far and wide over the island of Camiguin. Today Hibok-Hibok erupted six times in a little more than an hour. There were six individual explosions of terrifying power -- shattering the summit of the mountain.

That in itself, staggers imagination. So it seems too much - to add another culminating fact:- The six eruptions occurred -- in a typhoon. A giant tropical storm - sweeping the central islands in the Philippines. With winds of more than a hundred miles an hour, the typhoon was lashing the mountain - when

Hibok-Hibok burst into repeated new explosions.

No new loss of life on the island of Camiguin, the imperiled population having been evacuated. But the city of Cebu, the second largest in the Philippines, was hit hard by the typhoon - a deluge surging through the streets.

KOREA-TRUCE

(At Pan Mun Jom ^{there have been more} ~~today~~ ~~there were~~ charges and counter charges. Both sides used the phrase -- "quit stalling"!) Admiral Joy proposed that exchange of war prisoners be taken up immediately. Then the Communists countered by demanding that the Allies first agree to inspection behind the lines by neutral powers, or no inspection at all! (The U N putting prisoners first, The Communists, that question of inspection.)

Meanwhile, the ~~xxxxxx~~ propaganda war reached the air waves, with General Ridgway's headquarters expressing the view that the Red refusal to take up the question of prisoners is - here are the words: "a thousand times more repulsive than the ordinary act of kidnapping by the lowest form of gangsters."

To which the Peiping radio answered that it was the Allies who were stalling. Peiping

KOREA TRUCE - 2

repeated the demand that the question of inspection
by neutrals must come first.

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~~At the next meeting of the truce teams,
a few hours from now, it's expected there'll be
a showdown on these two issues: The impasse over
prisoners-of-war and inspection behind the lines.~~

The Allied and Communist Truce teams ^{are again} ~~have just~~
~~started meeting in~~ *in session at* Panmunjom. This follows an earlier
complaint by the Reds that The U.N. has violated the
Neutrality agreement by attacking Kaesong. Their
~~announcement~~ *complaint* however did not say whether the attack
was from the air or from the ground.

New Story

A Bulletin just in from Korea states that the United Nations has just admitted that one of its twin engine planes bombed and strafed Kaesong today.

The UN news says the plane was shot down and it is expected there will be a showdown on the two issues. However as far as there is no word on whether the Reds will be willing to discuss the exchange of prisoners first.

LATER WORD: THE COMMUNISTS have just agreed to begin immediate discussions on an exchange of war prisoners.

ADD TRUCE

~~(Follows the sentence " Be Decided as a first step)~~

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to begin immediate discussions on an exchange of war
prisoners.**

KOREA-WAR

The only ^{actual} news from the warfront tonight

is of four minor enemy probing attacks on the East

Central front. In icy weather the Communists

attacked under cover of heavy snow flurries, but

were beaten off without any loss of ground by the

U N. Elsewhere on the front reports are "all quiet."

falling in his oil policy. "Seven months after

nationalization," he said, "the government not only

has lost its former large revenues from the Anglo-

Iranian oil company, but must meet the huge costs

of maintaining the Abadan Field from nearly empty

coffers.

In answer, Premier Mossadeq announced

today that he is "eager" to turn over management

of the Iranian oil industry to the World Bank for

reconstruction. It all seems something of a paradox,

IRAN

In Teheran today, Premier Mossadegh came under heavy fire in the Mahjlis - the Iranian parliament. The leader of the opposition Abdullah Ghadisa Azad, led the attack and demanded that Mossadegh resign the premiership. Azad and other members of the opposition accused Mossadegh of failing in his oil policy. "Seven months after nationalization," he said, "the government not only has lost its former large revenues from the anglo-Iranian oil company, but must meet the huge costs of maintaining the Abadan Field from nearly empty coffers.

In answer, Premier Mossadegh announced today that he is "eager" to turn over management of the Iranian oil industry to the World Bank for Reconstruction. It all seems something of a paradox, first seize the oil from foreigners and then hand it back again.

EGYPT

The Egyptian government has chosen an auspicious date for tomorrow's special meeting of the Cabinet. Tuesday will be the anniversary of the birthday of the Prophet Mohammed; and the Cabinet selected this as the date on which to decide whether or not diplomatic relations will be severed with Britain.

There is word from Cairo tonight that the Egyptians will do nothing so drastic - for economic reasons, because of the vital importance of Egyptian trade with England.

EUROPE

The Foreign Minister of Belgium calls for the creation of that European Army "within two months" which is an echo of the fact that, after all the long-drawn out palaver, General Eisenhower's international Army of Western Defense has not yet com^e into existence. - o - o - o - o -

Delegates ^{to} of the "Council of Europ" are gathered in the French City of Strasbourg - where, today, the Belgian demand was backed by Premier De Gasperi of Italy. Who was even more drastic -- proposing the immediate creation of a European Army under a "supra-national" authority. That is the authority of a United States of Europe.

General Ike's Army is blocked by a variety of economic difficulties - especially in Britain and France. Ironically, Germany, ^{now} seems to be the best off! - the defeated country. (

I have a letter from Cornelius Vanderbilt, just returned from a tour of Germany. He writes: "Germany is today on the biggest building spree since the turn of the century. More housing units" he goes on, "were constructed in Germany this year than in any other place on earth, except for southern California."

Whereupon Neal Vanderbilt, who is giving an illustrated lecture at New York's Town Hall tonight, states the figures. In the American Zone of occupied Germany - three hundred and seventy-six thousand new housing units were put up this year. Southern California, Los Angeles County - three hundred and seventy-eight thousand.

CZECHS

(From Vienna tonight, further word on that Czechoslovak ~~communist~~ purge.) The dispatch states that the recent wave of arrests ~~had~~ involved more than fifteen thousand people, including many party and government big-wigs. (Those jailed are accused of conspiring with Rudolph Slansky, the former secretary-General of the Communist party.) Slansky, arrested a couple of weeks ago, was charged with "conspiring to overthrow the Czech government," *The same* ~~and this~~ reason is also given for the other fifteen thousand arrests.

A sidelight on the recent purge suggests that anti-semitism may be an underlying cause.

(Reports stated that fifty percent of those arrested during the past twelve months have been Jewish.

Also, that Jews have been cleared from all top party and government jobs. *in Czechoslovakia.*)

TRUMAN

Why did President Truman fly back from Key West? We are not told. At the White House today the President was in session with the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Defense Minister Lovett, back from Paris, and officials from the State Department. In a bulletin given out by Press Secretary Short, we hear only that "the world situation, including Korea, was discussed. But no policies or decisions were made."

"Is it original or unethical for the Democratic Chairman to be held business interests?" he asked. "Then he added, sarcastically: 'If some people had their way, you'd have to go into an abbey and choose a monk as party chairman'."

MCKINNEY

Frank McKinney, National Chairman of the Democratic Party, told a news conference today that he made a profit of sixty-eight thousand dollars on a thousand dollar investment. This came on the heels of a report that ~~he~~ both McKinney, and Frank McHale, Democratic National Committeeman for Indiana, had made huge profits from investments in the Empire Tractor Company of Philadelphia. However, McKinney insists there was "nothing unethical". "Is it criminal or unethical for the Democratic Chairman to ~~be~~ hold business interests?" he asked. Then he added, sarcastically: "If some people had their way, you'd have to go into an abbey and choose a monk as party chairman".

SENATOR

Governor Val Peterson of Nebraska today

appointed Fred Seton to succeed the late Senator

Wherry. Wherry was a Taft follower. Seton is a

close supporter of Harold Stassen, and is described

by the Governor as an "internationalist."

MOTHER

At Cleveland, Mrs. Pauline Patterson has a good arm! - they ought to try her out in baseball, the way she pitched a husky strike today.

Mrs. Patterson, thirty years old, was trapped in a fire - with her two year old daughter. They were on a high second floor, at a window - and the flames were sweeping through the room. The mother screamed for help, and the call was answered by a disabled veteran of the Second World War, Joseph Yacinski, who came running. Shouting, he told her to throw the child to him! - and, the way things were, it had to be a considerable toss. "She pitched the baby hard," the veteran said today. "I had to step back to make the catch." Like a backstop, who has to reach for a high one.

By this time the flames were singing the mother's hair. She jumped, and was caught by a

sixteen year old boy - Tom Kibort. Full grown
woman coming down - quite a catch for a sixteen
year old.

Old Mr. Screen Ford was digging a well yesterday -
aided by his eighteen year old son, Leon. He was at
the bottom, twenty feet down - when the planking at
the upper part of the well collapsed. Down came a
huge mass of boards and sand. The fallen timbers -
catching his foot in a vice. The sand burying him
to the waist. Leon tried to save his father, and
shouted for help.

The rescue job began, only to run into
one disaster. There was another collapse of boards
and sand. This time Ford was buried up to his neck
and still another collapse was threatening, planks
giving way. But now the eighteen year old showed
the stuff he was made of. At the bottom of the well,
and held himself against moving timbers, and held

RESCUE

From Oregon, a rescue story -- with just about all the thrills you could ask for. On a farm four miles out of Hermiston, fifty-one year old ~~Rm~~ Norman Ford was digging a well yesterday - aided by his eighteen year old son, Leon. He was at the bottom, twenty feet down - when the planking at the upper part of the well collapsed. Down came a huge mass of boards and sand. The fallen timbers - catching his foot in a vise. The sand burying him to the waist. Leon tried to save his ^father, and shouted for help.

The rescue job began, only to run into new disaster. There was another collapse of boards and sand. This time Ford was buried up to his neck -- and still another collapse was threatening, planks giving way. But now the eighteen year old showed the stuff he was made of. At the bottom of the well, he braced himself against sagging timbers, and held

them up by muscular strength. This he did for seven hours - saving his father from death every minute of the time.

The only way of rescue was to dig into the well from the outside - and help was summoned from the McNary Dam nearby; the great barrier across the Columbia River. Workers responded - with digging equipment. Night came, and they put up floodlights, as they dug. They used bulldozers to gouge out the earth, and then had to go the rest of the way with sand shovels.

This morning they reached Ford, but still could not get him out - his foot wedged by the timbers. But they could relieve the son from that job ^{down there} of holding up collapsing boards and sand - like a modern Atlas.

Farmer Ford, all the time, was in good

spirits. After eighteen hours, he was cheering his rescuers. Finally, they released his foot, and took him to the surface. His first words were "how is that boy?"

The answer was -- okay, in bed! The doctors had ordered the eighteen year old to bed, he was that exhausted - and no wonder. "He stood like a concrete wall, for hours." *Said his father tonight: -*
Stalwart son - Nelson!
~~The father says tonight.~~