

JAP TREATY *S.I. - Sumner and P. & D. Friday August 15, 1947.*

(America turns down the Soviet proposal for drafting a peace treaty with Japan. Moscow insists that the matter be turned over to the council of foreign ministers - in which the Soviet veto operates.)

Several weeks ago our government offered the suggestion that the Japanese treaty be drafted by a conference of the eleven nations that were at war with Japan, decisions to be made by a two-thirds majority - no veto. The Soviets responded with a rejection, claiming that international agreements called for the foreign ministers of the big powers to do the job - veto.

Today's reply made by the State Department is that in those big power conferences, Teheran, Yalta, Potsdam, there was never any decision about a treaty with Japan. Instead, Japanese matters were left up to the countries at war with Japan - and these should now draft a treaty.

The strong implication is that, if Moscow continues to reject a conference without a veto, we'll go ahead without Moscow - the other nations in the Pacific war concluding a treaty with Japan.

INDONESIA

At Lake Success, today, the Netherlands Government charged that devastation, Arson, and murder are the order of the day in Indonesia. The Dutch ambassador, Van Kleffens, told members of the security council that the security's "cease fire" order had resulted in the murder of hundreds of innocents.

His government, he said, had accepted the security council's order not because it accepted U.N. jurisdiction, but out of humanitarianism. Van Kleffens charged it was not the Netherlands stand in the way of Indonesian freedom, but the lawlessness of the Republican Government. He insisted that the control of the Indonesian Government was in the hands of "those who during the Japanese occupation delivered thousands of their own nationals to the enemy to serve as slavelabor."

The Netherlands' statement to the council was attacked by the Polish and Philippine representatives, but the Belgian delegate backed up the Dutch spokesman and contested the right of the Security council to deal with a dispute between the Dutch and the Indonesian Republic.

Security Council President El Khouri was about to call for the opinion of Russian delegate Gromyko, when a legal squabble broke out among the delegates. El Khouri insisted that the question could be decided if someone put forward a concrete proposal that the U.N. Security Council did not have jurisdiction in the case. But the U. S. delegate, Herschel Johnson, objected. He said this would mean a veto and so the council adjourned the case until Thursday without decision, while strife and disorder continue in Java.

INDIA

(The formalities of Indian independence were concluded today - when Lord Louis Mountbatten, Britain's last Viceroy in India, handed the seals of office to the government of the Dominion of Hindustan at New Delhi. Yesterday, Mountbatten did the same in the case of the Mohammedan Dominion - Pakistan.)

New Delhi today was a steaming, sweltering place - Bengal in mid-summer. Yet the crowds under the blazing sun were so dense the police had to charge cheering mobs to force a passage for the ceremonial coach with the team of eight white horses - in which the last of the Viceroys rode to wind up the affairs of the British Raj. Vision goes back to the great line of British rulers of India, Clive and Warren Hastings, the stately Viceroys - *Lord Curzon and all the rest.*

~~Today's news from India has a dark page too - that same dark page of a savage rioting between Hindus and Moslems. An orgy of homicidal violence continues at Lahore, capital of the Punjab, also at nearby~~

"And the new Indian independence has a ferocious beginning in the Punjab."

Late news from the editor of the Lahore Tribune: "Mass murder in Lahore tonight" he says, "hooligans in control of much of the walled city," hooligans ix dealing death and destruction. A mounting death toll. Telephone system paralyzed, city isolated, rioting mobs blocking the exits from the city to prevent evacuation to the terrorized inhabitants. But the dark page we can match with a bright page tonight -- unexpectedly bright. It comes ^{from} ~~from~~ Calcutta, ~~where~~ only a couple of weeks ago the streets ran with blood of victims of some of the most blood thirsty rioting that India has ever known. A dispatch today from Calcutta, India's largest city, reads: "Calcutta the scene of incredible fraternization. All Calutta, Hindu and Moslem alike, thronged the streets to celebrate Indian independence. Hindus and Moslems by the thousands embracing each other publicly!") So says the almost incredible idspatch.

PALESTINE

(Trouble in Palestine is seething more dangerously than ever - with the killing of at least sixteen x Arabs today. Twelve lost their lives in the blowing up of a ~~mess~~ building by the official army of the Jewish Underworld, Hagana.) Among the victims were five children. (Hagana states that the building was a nest of terrorists who were responsible for the shooting up of a Jewish cafe in which a number of Jews were killed several days ago. Hagana calls the blowing up of the building - an execution.)

Just before this happened, a band of Zionists surprised twenty Arabs, men, women and children, gathered around a fire in an orange grove. The Arabs were eating thier meal before daylight on the last day of Ramadan - Moslems having to fast from sunrise to sunset. The Jews separated the women and children from the men, whom they then x shot with a fusilade of rifle x fire. Four Arabs killed - while the women and children ran away shrieking.

The responsible leadership of both Jews and Arabs is still trying to quiet the trouble - which ~~threatens~~ threatens to turn into a guerrilla war.

FERDINAND

Prince Ferdinand Carolath-Schoenaich, Step-son of the late Kaiser Wilhelm -- who was responsible for the marriage of his mother Princess Hermine to the Kaiser -- is in trouble tonight. Ferdinand has been worried recently about the disposition of his mother's jewels.

But, today, he was arrested by the American Army C.I.D. -- just a few hours after his mother, Princess Hermine, was quietly buried in a Potsdam Cemetery. The charge -- Ferdinand had applied for a job as a British Army chauffeur. To get that position he had to fill in a questionnaire, and in the questionnaire, he had denied that he was a nazi. But when British and American authorities consulted the Nazi party-membership files they found that Ferdinand was a party member, that he joined the Nazis in Nineteen Thirty*two before Adolf Hitler came to power. Ferdinand was arrested in his apartment. He had not attended the funeral of his mother today because he feared to enter Russian occupation zone, so he ~~ix~~ sent his ex-wife Rosa Rausch.

LEE

The War Department gives an intimation of return and retirement in the case of Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, American Commander in the Mediterranean Theatre - saying that last February the General ^{himself} stated ^{that} he wanted to go home soon and obtain his retirement from the Army. ^{At} At the Same time, the War Department indicates that General Omar Bradley, veterans' Administrator, will look into the state of affairs in General Lee's command. General Bradley is scheduled to sail today on an inspection tour of Europe, and the War Department notes that this will include the Mediterranean Theatre.

All of which follows the scathing criticism of General Lee by ~~Rx~~ Robert Ruark, columnist of the Scripps-Howard newspapers. In a series of articles, Ruark has been charging all sorts of abuses in General Lee's command, officers lording it over G. I.'s, exaggerations of rank and privilege all over the place, soldiers imposed upon, the General luxuriating in kingly style.

Today in Rome, General Lee held a news conference - this immediately after a private audience

with the Pope. He ^said he had read the accusations made
by Ruark, but would give no answer other than stating that
he had made a report to Washington - and the War Department
would do the answering.

TAYLOR

President Truman has sent Myron ~~W.~~ Taylor back to the Vatican on a mission to ~~a~~ Pope Pius. ~~the~~ ~~French.~~ There has been bitter opposition by some ~~Protestant groups~~ to American Representation at the Vatican but President Truman states that he ~~xxx~~ wants Myron Taylor — *who happens to be a Presbyterian* — to confer with the Pope on problems the President describes in these words: "Relative to the establishment of peace under a moral world order."

EISLER

(Gerhardt Eicler was convicted again today - the German Communist who is said to have been Stalin's Number One Secret Agent in bossing the American Communist party.) Previously, Eisler had been convicted of contempt of Congress, which can produce a year in ~~prison~~ prison or a thousand dollar fine. (Today he was found guilty of passport fraud - because he concealed his communist affiliations in making passport statements.) That can mean five years in prison and a five thousand dollar fine.

SUICIDE

Today doubt was expressed about the strange story of eight former Canadian prisoners of war who made a pact of happiness in suicide.

At Reno, Nevada, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., the Vanderbilt who transferred from Fifth Avenue Society to newspaper work, has been telling a coroners jury about the suicide of a secretary of his, a twenty-seven year old Canadian, Melvin Roberts. According to Vanderbilt, Roberts told him about the eight Canadian prisoners of war, of whom the Secretary was one. For four years they suffered the misery and brutality of a Japanese prison camp. They talked things over and agreed that, if they were not happy as free men in the post-war world, they would kill themselves.

Vanderbilt says that ~~he~~ his secretary claimed that five out of eight had ~~xxxx~~ already carried out the grim pledge - and then the secretary, himself, took an overdose of sleeping tablets.

The doubt cast on this account is expressed by Colonel Frank Clarke, Canadian officer in charge of

returning war prisoners. He was well acquainted with the Vanderbilt secretary, who worked for him during a period of six months after the war. Colonel Clarke states: "I feel sure that, if there were any such agreement made in the prison camp, I would have heard about it." ^{TP} Still, he admits there may be something to the war prisoner story of happiness or suicide. "It could be," says Colonel Clark, "that after the men got back, some were a little less rational, and might have talked about something like that and ended up with some such arrangement."

All of which leaves one still wondering - about the lugubrious tale of the prisoners of war so concerned about their prospects of being happy in the post-war period.

NEW LEAD BRITISH MINE

From Whitehaven, England, tonight, news of a grim disaster -- one hundred and eleven men and boys entombed in a coal mine that extends for seven miles under the Irish Sea.

England's oldest undersea coal mine; the William Pit; started one-hundred-and-forty years ago.

This afternoon's explosion ripped through the main workings of the ancient mine and trapped every man but one. Harry Allen, on his way to work, was blown to safety; but was so shocked he couldn't tell a coherent story.

Rescue workers immediately went down, -- out under the sea to rescue their entombed comrades. They worked feverishly, hindered by frequent falls of rubble and the even dangerous coal gas.

Outside, on the pit head, hundreds of pit workers from neighboring mines rushed to volunteer offering their services, so many volunteers the police had to be called to clear the area around the shaft. And on the fringe of the crowd the families of the trapped miners--

more than a thousand people, hoping and waiting.

As yet no word from those hundred and eleven men trapped under the sea, but experts have discovered that the roof of the mine was not blown off as was first anticipated. So the sea has not poured in to drown the hundred eleven entombed men.

To Americans, a mine under the sea may seem a strange thing. A friend of mine who has visited that mine -- the William Pit -- described it to me as an eery sensation to be in a gallery deep under the sea. But every day for one hundred and forty years, men have worked in this mine. Fathers and sons wresting coal from under the bed of the ocean.

Latest news from the scene of disaster -- five man-rescue teams working in relays have penetrated two and a half miles under the sea, into the main tunnel. Nearer every hour to the scene of the explosion. Gas and heavy falls of rock are hindering their work, but they are pushing on -- striving to save the hundred and eleven men and boys trapped under the Irish Sea, -- in that ancient mine.

CALIFORNIA

A water shortage in California.

River and stream flows are dropping and so are the water tables, the level at which water is found underground. Dropping dangerously. The state water division describes the situation as ~~*****~~ ^{alarming} -- the Sacramento River, forty to fifty percent below last year. The feather river, seventy-five to fifty percent ~~in~~ deficient.

In some areas the water tables are the lowest ever recorded, and much of the California agriculture depends on irrigation, fed by streams and rivers, flowing down from the Sierra Nevadas to feed the lush soil.

HURRICANE

The hurricane has hit Tampico, and all day that Mexican port was blated by the fury of wind and waves. The wind at around one hundred miles an hour, and the beach battered by waves eighteen feet high. Building demolished, parts of Tampico flooded. The situation called - alarming.

To get a more intimate view of the hurricane, let's go to some U S Army flyers who were scouting the hurricane in a bomber. Out over the Gulf, they thought they might run into winds around sixty miles an hour, and says Captain Joe Chapman, "we didn't expet the hundred-and-fifteen mile an hour winds we encountered.

"We felt like monkeys riding in a tissue paper kite", ~~xxx~~ he relates, with the "tail of the bomber shuddering in the wind." "The sea was a mass of white foam", adds Captain Chapman. "The wind so strong the tops of the waves were blown off into spray before they had a chance to break".

*And that hur - blows us
~~I suppose we up here should be~~
along to you, Nelson.*

LANDLADY

I'll pass along this next bit of news on the basis of the old newspaper theory of -- man bites dog. In this case, tenants evict landlord. Or rather -- Landlady.

It happened in Los Angeles, where Mrs. Margaret Withers and her daughter Joan complained that they were paying eighty dollars a month for a room, when the ceiling was forty. The authorities ordered the rent to be reduced, where upon the Landlady decided that she'd move in with the tenants.

"She moved in on Saturday night, while they were out," claims Mrs. Withers, "And was sleeping on an alcove balcony. We had about as much privacy as a goldfish. Since we were tenants paying our rent, we served an eviction notice."

Whereupon the Landlady was evicted, and at last reports was making her home in an automobile in the driveway outside the house. Living in her auto.

And now Hugh our authority of everything about automobiles -- except living in them.

BRITISH MINE

Suggestions of ultimate terror come from the scene of a British mine disaster. One hundred and eighteen men and boys ~~xx~~ were deep in the black pits at Whitehaven , England, today, when there was a devastating explosion. The mine extends deep out under the sea. It is Englands oldest undersea mine - and the fear is that the blast ~~x~~ may have blown out the roof, and let in the water of the ocean. The sea pouring into the mine.

ARAB DELEGATES

A professor at Penn State College takes me to task. In his letter he says: "Several times you have referred to the Arab delegates to the U N as "the Moslems" or "followers of Mohammed". This is not correct. The delegates of Syria and Lebanon are Christians and their alternates are Christians. Also, three of the representatives of the Arab Higher Committee are Christians." Then he goes on to add: "Although Christians in the Arab World are less than ten percent of the population they have about fifty percent of the delegates". And ~~then~~ he concludes: "Don't you think you should correct the false impression you have given?"

Well, Professor, you are right. But, you don't go far enough. The term Arab World, if you include all of the Near and Middle East, is totally incorrect. The true Arabs are the desert Nomads of Arabia, the Bedouin. Prince Faisal and the members of his staff, the men who ~~wearing~~ wear the flowing robes at the U N, they represent the

Arabs. And then there are Arab town and city dwellers. But the other peoples of the Near and Middle East are descendents of the ancient Phoenicians, Lebanonese, Hittites, Kurds, Jews, and descendents of all the armies that have fought up and down that section of the world including the armies of the Crusaders, the Armies of Napoleon, Romans, Greeks and so on.

ROMANIA

More American charges against a Soviet satellite - our State Department protesting against the brutal mistreatment of political prisoners in Red Romania. The diplomatic note charges that opponents of the Communist dictatorship are ~~xx~~ being kept in concentration camps ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ under conditions of atrocity. They are half starved, and are submitted to torture to force confessions to be used when they are ^{tried} ~~tried~~ for treason. That is, for opposing the red dictatorship.

FLYERS

The Army denies any knowledge of American war flyers held prisoner in Soviet Russia. This ~~is~~ in answer to a statement made by ~~Mrs. Ida Stishmeth~~^{the} of Los Angeles ~~is~~ mother of a flyer lost in one of the bombing raids of the Romanian oilfields.

Her son was in a B-24, which was missing after the raid, and has never been heard from. She claims she has evidence that the crew of the B-24 survived, and ~~they~~ are now prisoners in Soviet Russia. According to her account, the flyers, forced down, were captured by the Germans, and then taken by the Soviets - when the Red Army overran Eastern Germany. As evidence she presents a photograph, a picture of a number of American flyers in a German Prison Camp, and identifies several of them as members of the bombing crew.

To this the War Department replies that the photograph xxx was taken six months before the raid on the Romanian Oil Fields, and the prisoners of war shown ~~in~~ it are ~~really~~ flyers who crashed in another plane.

To this is added the general statement that

the Army has no knowledge of any American flyers held prisoner in Soviet Russia.