

The news from Korea takes a turn, tonight - word that the Chinese Reds have thrown three divisions against Hamhung and that the troops of the Republic of Korea have fallen back fifteen miles.

Earlier today at Tenth Corps Headquarters a spokesman announced that a Chinese Communist regiment was spearheading a vicious Red counter-attack against the Third R.O.K. Division. That Chinese prisoners just captured, said their orders were to re-capture the vital port of Hamhung by Wednesday.

Meanwhile in Washington the State Department stated that it had no word of Chinese Communists fighting in Korea. That if Chinese Reds are there, in the fighting, it is up to General MacArthur to report this direct to the U.N.

The attack which the Chinese are alleged to be leading had driven the South Koreans back, now threatens our vital supply route to the northeast where the landings were made the other day.

This is the first withdrawal by U.N. Forces since mid-September.

Near the west coast another Red force, estimated at ten thousand, has wiped out a third of the South Korean Sixth Division. Reinforcements are being rushed to the aid of the South Koreans, both on the east coast and in the west. While the South Koreans have been taking heavy punishment the U.S. Twenty-Fourth and Seventh Infantry Divisions fought their way closer, to the Manchurian border.

On the east coast a flying column of the Seventh Division travelling on snowbound mountain roads is now within thirty-seven miles of Manchuria.

In the West of the U.S. Twenty-Fourth Division is pushing on towards the hydro-electric plant at Hansung - has gone five miles further and run into fierce enemy resistance.

It seems that the Reds are preparing for a last stand all across North Korea.

INDO-CHINA

In Indo-China tonight the Communists are on the offensive again. They have broken through the French defense line of the Red River above and below the key frontier Fort of Laokay. The reds crossed the river on rafts last night. They are attempting to encircle the French defenders of Laokay.

NOBEL PRIZE

One of the first official acts of the new King of Sweden, Gustav the Sixth, will be - the presentation of the Nobel Prizes. This occurs traditionally on the birthday, early in December, of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish chemist and inventor of dynamite, who founded the awards. This year an especial interest will focus on the winners of the prize for medicine: Three of them -- American Doctors Edward Kendall and Philip Hench, and the Swiss, Dr. Tadeus Reichstein. They are to be jointly honored - for the discovery of Cortisone, the new wonder drug for the treatment of arthritis. All of which takes me to a letter that I've just received -- though, at first glance, it might seem to have mighty little to do with the Nobel Prize and Cortisone.

My wife tells me I have been talking too much about Tibet recently. She is nearly always right. But this is a great story.

A week or so ago there arrived in Calcutta a personage who attracted the immediate attention of the Communists in India. He came from Tibet - an official of the Dalai Lamas' Government. An Englishman - Reggie Fox. This was the more interesting to the Reds because, at that very time, negotiations were going on, at New Delhi, between a Tibetan delegation and the ambassador of Red China to India.

The next thing, as the letter relates - really made the Communists open their eyes. It was noted that this Englishman, in the service of Tibet, received a mysterious package, a parcel from what the Reds out there call - the notorious American spy, Lowell Thomas, who last year, with his son, Lowell Jr - equally notorious spy - made a trip to Lhasa on a secret mission for the U.S. Government. Then, said the Red press in India, Fox proceeded to write a long report to the secret agents, Lowell Thomas Sr. & Jr.

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But the most remarkable was yet to come. The Dalai Lama's English official made arrangements to carry the contents of the mysterious package under his clothes -- wrapped around his body -- on his way back to Tibet. Which of course is an old way of carrying secret stuff, gold, jewels, hidden things -- under the clothes, next to the body.

Mysterious! -- And you can imagine the surmises in the Red imagination. So what's the answer? Well, the secret is more remarkable in a way than anything the Communists would ever dream.

Last year, in Lhasa, we got to know Reg Fox rather well -- a London Cockney who had gone to Tibet as a wireless man with a British mission years ago. He liked it, married a Tibetan and stayed. -- He became radio adviser to the Dalai Lama's Government, picking up whatever broadcasts he could on the Roof-of-the-World - He became the Dalai Lama's ears. Reg did us invaluable favors, sending out radio messages

for us, which were picked up by ham operators in the United States and transmitted to my office and family.

Reg Fox, with his Tibetan wife and four children, was happy at Lhasa except for one thing. When we first met him, he came hobbling - on two canes, - crippled by arthritis. For several years walking had been a torment - sometimes impossible. We got to talking about this, and the new drug, rumors of which had gone round the world - Cortisone. We told Fox that, when we got back to America, we would investigate, and try to get some of the wonder-working medicine for him. So you see how this letter, which is from Reg Fox, ties in with Cortisone -- and the Nobel prize for its discovery.

Back in this country, we went to the Merck Chemical Company and made inquiries. There Dr. Carlisle - George Merck and their associates, told us they were just going into production on Cortisone - so extremely rare and costly. But they said they

would let us have some of the first -- to send to far-off Tibet. Which they did, some weeks ago, to my son, together with instructions on how to use it - instructions from Dr. Carlisle, one of the top-ranking scientists for Merck.

So that's what was in the package we sent to Reg Fox -- a one-year supply of Cortisone for his arthritis. And he came down all the way from Tibet over the Himalayas, from Lhasa, by caravan to Calcutta, to receive it - a journey of torture. There recently he began taking the drug under the supervision of a Calcutta physician.

Dr. Carlisle told us to have him send back a full account of his experience with the malady, symptoms and so on. So that was the long report which Reg sent to us, and which has so stirred up the Communists.

Dr. Carlisle stated, further, that the Cortisone would spoil, if exposed to extreme cold - such as the

freezing temperatures encountered in transportation over the lofty Himalayas, at this time of year.

And that is why Fox, right now, is carrying his one-year supply of Cortisone next to his body, under his clothes, to keep the bottles of the drug at a warm temperature. Tonite he is somewhere on that dizzy mountain trail, on his way back to Lhasa.

So there you have the secret of the curious dealings between the Dalai Lama's official and what the Reds call - the notorious American spies, Lowell Thomas Sr. & Jr. Do you suppose they would ever believe the truth? Stranger, in fact, than their own Red imagination.

Reg Fox, in his letter, tells me that the first doses of Cortisone, which he took at Calcutta, brought quick relief. Which, to us is the most important part of his letter - as it may be for thousands who suffer from arthritis.

TIBET

Tibet has appealed to India - for aid. ^{against the Chinese Reds.} The Indian representative at Lhasa has transmitted to Prime Minister Nehru - a plea, from the ministers of the boy Dalai Lama, whom they regard as the reincarnation of Chenrezi the Buddha of life. The assistance requested is carefully described as "diplomatic."

The Tibetans do not suggest military force - which India, in any case, would have great difficulty in getting across the lofty barrier of the Himalayas.

The government of Pandit Nehru has already protested to the Chinese Communists - about the Red invasion of Tibet. But in New Delhi they say no answer has been received - or is even expected. One supposition at New Delhi is that Prime Minister Nehru may place the case of Tibet before the United Nations.

The word from India would seem to indicate that it may be too late for diplomatic action. The

latest news places the Communist force within two hundred miles of Lhasa - which I doubt. The Tibetans have retired from an ancient stronghold called Lho Dzong, and now the principal obstacles in the way of the invaders are two passes, Shargung La and Taro La, one - sixteen thousand seven hundred feet high. The other - seventeen thousand one hundred feet. In times of old, the Tibetans used to repel invaders in some passes by hurling rocks down upon them - rolling huge stones down the steep inclines. But that won't do much good in these days of modern warfare, and at the moment there seems to be no way to keep the Reds from seizing Lhasa. Although they could have been held up by a small-well-armed guerilla force.

We hear that the Dalai Lama and his ministers are prepared to flee to India, when the Reds draw near. The sixteen year old living Buddha and his ministers

may seek refuge at the City of Gangtok in Sikkim,
just over the southern border. Gangtok was ~~the~~ where
we made our base last year - where we organized our
caravan ~~xxxxx~~ on our way to Lhasa. So now that
mountain eeyrie in Sikkim may become the capitol
in exile of ^{the} Tibetan lad who is the supreme pontiff,
revered by millions of Buddhists in Central Asia.

BATH TUB

Some time ago we had an item from -- I believe it was -- the National Safety Council offices in Chicago, telling us how to get in and out of an automobile -- to avoid falling on your face or knocking off your hat, or looking clumsy. Now I have a note from a lady down in Orlando, Florida which may interest those of you who are good at inventions. She writes: "I am eighty years old. And have thanked you a number of times for telling how to get in and out of a car. It works. Now I should be grateful if you will tell me how to get out of a bath tub! Mrs. Helen May Gratz, Orlando, Florida.

At eighty, that must be a problem. My suggestion is: Write to Rube Goldberg and have him draw a sketch of some device that will lift you

out.

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*Or maybe Nelson has a
~~suggestion~~ better idea!*

ALL SAINTS DAY

From the Vatican comes news tonight of a new article of faith for the Roman Catholic Church - the first dogma to be announced in seventy years. On Wednesday Pope Pius XII will proclaim "The Assumption of the Virgin Mary." That the Virgin Mary ascended bodily into heaven - like Christ," taken up to heavenly glory with both her soul and her earthly body."

Formal and solemn approval of this dogma was given in Rome today, at the Vatican - in the Hall of the Benedictions this morning, by one of the greatest gatherings of Roman high church dignitaries in history. Five hundred and twenty prelates - thirty-five cardinals, and one-third of the archbishops and bishops of the Roman Catholic Church -- had gathered to give their solemn approval to Pope Pius XII. As soon as His Holiness had mounted the Papal throne the traditional signal for strangers to leave was given -- "extra omnes!" The doors were closed

and locked from outside by the Swiss guards who then took their positions to prevent anyone from entering.

The formal proclamation of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary will be made by the Pope on Wednesday - All Saints day -- as a climax of Holy Year.

LAKE SUCCESS

At Lake Success tonight, Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky said that an extension of Trygve Lie's term as U. N. Secretary-General would be "illegal." But at the same time he gave assurance that Russia would not quit the U. N. On this issue. Earlier this morning Soviet delegate Malik had made a last-minute attempt to prevent the issue from passing to the General Assembly from the Security Council. His proposal was defeated seven to one.