

FLEET

L.I. - Sunoco. Wednesday, Oct. 17, 1945.

There was a majestic sight in New York harbor as warships steamed in past the Statue of Liberty today - ships led by the great old aircraft carrier Enterprise, "Big E". [#] Seven warships came in today, and they were a mere vanguard of a mighty fleet that will be assembled in New York harbor for Navy Day, October twenty-seventh.

STRIKES

John L. Lewis today called off the soft coal strike, and ordered two-hundred-and-four thousand idle miners to return to work on Monday. That brings to a close a strike that has cost the nation thirteen million tons of fuel - fuel badly needed in reconversion of industry.

John L. Lewis offers no precise explanation of his sudden decision, merely saying he was acting - "In the public interest". He adds that negotiations with the mine owners in the wage dispute will be taken up at a later date.

RUSSIAN DEMANDS

Soviet Russia has again demanded that General MacArthur be ousted, and that the control of Japan be turned over to a four power commission, a commission on which the United States would have the same voice as the others. This was disclosed today by Secretary of State Byrnes. The United States government has previously stated its opposition to the notion of replacing MacArthur.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR

The quick visit of Soviet Ambassador Gromyko is a puzzle - it was so fast that it crossed the wires between the White House and the State Department in Washington.

Gromyko, Soviet Ambassador to the United States, flew from London and arrived in Washington yesterday morning. In the middle of the afternoon he took a plane back to London.

Whereupon the State Department said the Soviet Diplomat, during his momentary stay, did not see Secretary of State Byrnes. At the White House, however Presidential Secretary Ross declared today that Gromyko did not see President Truman, but that he did see Byrnes. Later the ^{Presidential} Secretary said that he had been misinformed; *and he*

~~He~~ entered a denial to one rumor that is going around, that Gromyko's quick visit was for the purpose of handing to President Truman a message from Generalissimo Stalin. The White House declares that no communication from Stalin or the Soviet Government has

been delivered to the President.

So why did Gromyko arrive and leave in such quick time? I suppose we'll have to ask Stalin -- you ask him.

President Truman was denounced today before a Congressional Committee - William Z. Foster, the Communist Leader, doing the denouncing. Foster appeared before the Committee on Un-American activities, and charged President Truman with what Foster called "Aggressive Imperialism." And he also delivered a blast against Secretary of State Byrnes.

"For the last two months," said the Communist Leader, "President ~~Mr~~ Truman has undoubtedly been yielding to the monopolistic forces of American imperialism - and Mr. Byrnes' appointment was a concession to imperialism."

Foster also blasted against Senator Vandenberg, Governor Dewey, former President Hoover, and John Foster Dulles, who was American advisor at the London conference of Foreign Ministers. ^{W.M.Z.} Foster called them all "Typical American Imperialists."

Nor did he neglect General MacArthur. ~~He~~ ^{In} he used this phrase: -
 hurling charges against ^{W.M.Z.} "The arch conservative MacArthur."
~~as he called the General.~~

The Communist Leader also paid his respects to the Committee before which he was appearing. He described its drive against un-American activities in the following words: "A combination of Hitlerian Red baiting and Japanese dangerous thought control and Salem witch-hunting."

One wonders whom William Z. Foster likes. Could it be somebody named Stalin?

ATOMIC BOMB

A terrifying picture of Atomic dangers was painted today by two scientists who participated in the development of the Atomic Bomb - Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer and Dr. H. J. Curtis. They told a Congressional Committee that a war with the elemental projectiles would be - "Too horrible to contemplate." ~~They stated that the picture, as they saw it, frightened even themselves.~~

~~Dr. Oppenheimer repeated the statement that there is no defense against the Atomic Bomb. He ~~xxx~~ referred, for example, to rockets, such as the Nazi V-2, rockets ^{carrying} ~~with~~ Atomic Bombs. He said also, that it would be possible for spies and saboteurs to plant atomic explosions.~~ Dr. Curtis indicated that the prospect of atomic bomb warfare might compel an abandonment of cities, a dispersal of population - and life underground.

Senator Fulbright of Arkansas gave the opinion that the United States would be more vulnerable to atomic attack than Soviet Russia, because Russia is much bigger in area and because Soviet industry is less

concentrated than ours, less of a target for bombs.

The two scientists agreed with this, Dr. Oppenheimer adding: "Atomic power has weakened the military position of the United States." He said that for the time being it has strengthened us, but not in the long run - not when other nations have developed Atomic Bombs.

With these reflections for an argument, both scientists urged that the whole problem of atomic energy be turned over to an international organization, so that, said Dr. Curtis: "Atomic bombs will be used solely by an International Commission for the preservation of peace."

That, declared the scientists, puts the whole thing up to world diplomacy. And Dr. Curtis warned: "One ^{False} ~~step~~ move in international diplomacy might mean the virtual destruction of this country." Dr. Oppenheimer added; "I don't envy the secretaries of state who have to grapple with this problem."

Sounds like a rather terrifying dilemma.

Suppose ~~that~~ we should turn over the atomic secret to world control, and let every nation in on it - and suppose ~~that~~ some other nation should not live up to the bargain. That nation might, of course, develop the atomic bomb eventually, but we'd be giving the secret now, which might perhaps be putting the atomic bomb sooner than necessary in the hands of a nation that might use it against us.

JAPAN

In Japan, the Emperor Hirohito today proclaimed a general amnesty, calling off penalties inflicted for political offenses. About a million people are affected. Thousands are political prisoners already liberated by General MacArthur. Most, however, suffered a ~~xxx~~ loss of political rights - which they have now regained.

General MacArthur, meanwhile, has abolished Japanese government ~~xx~~ restrictions on motion pictures. He tells the Japs to keep their hands off the film industry! - "~~and~~ permit it to reflect the democratic aspirations of the Japanese people", says MacArthur. The General believes that freedom of motion pictures, as well as freedom of the press, will hasten the progress of democracy of Japan.

JAP SOLDIERS

In the Straits of Malacca, off Singapore, there's a small island called Rembang - a typical bit of tropical earth with hills and jungles and ~~xxx~~ mangrove swamps. Today's news tells us that the island of Rembang is now being used in the solution of one of the large post-war problems in the Pacific - what to do with the hordes of Japanese troops who were spread by Jap conquest all the way from Manchuria to the Solomon Islands.

Word from Tokyo has been that it will take at least four years to transport the hundreds of thousands back to Japan. So what ~~is~~ to be done with them in the meantime? Well, so far as the area of Malaya is concerned, Rembang is the answer. That ^{small} island is being occupied by a hundred and twenty thousand Jap soldiers and sailors,

~~The native inhabitants, Malays and Chinese, have been moved out, evacuated to another island nearby. And Japanese troopships are moving to Rembang - these being a few old Japanese postal vessels.~~

JAP SOLDIERS

In the Straits of Malacca, off Singapore, there's a small island called Rembang - a typical bit of tropical earth with hills and jungles and ~~xxx~~ mangrove swamps. Today's news tells us that the island of Rembang is now being used in the solution of one of the large post-war problems in the Pacific - what to do with the hordes of Japanese troops who were spread by Jap conquest all the way from Manchuria to the Solomon Islands.

Word from Tokyo has been that it will take at least four years to transport the hundreds of thousands back to Japan. So what ~~is~~ to be done with them in the meantime? Well, so far as the area of Malaya is concerned, Rembang is the answer. That ^{small} island is being occupied by a hundred and twenty thousand Jap soldiers and sailors,

~~The native inhabitants, Malays and Chinese, have been moved out, evacuated to another island nearby. And Japanese troopships are moving to Rembang - these being a few old Japanese coastal vessels.~~

~~Supervised by the Allies, the operation is~~ under the command of a Japanese Vice-Admiral, who will ~~run~~ run things on the island.

~~It is believed that the hundred and twenty-five thousand Japs on Rembang will stay there for at least a year - one of the most extraordinary colonies in history, massed exiles on an island, something unheard of until now; but the Rembang story is likely to be repeated over and over again along the line of tropical islands - one way to solve the problem of the hordes of Japanese troops all the way from Manchuria to the Solomons.~~

EAST INDIES

The London government announces that British troops will remain in the Netherlands East Indies, until the Dutch are in a position to resume control and maintain law and order. This ~~xxx~~ was stated in the House of Commons today by Prime Minister Attlee, who admitted that the British, in the islands of the East Indies, have relied on Japanese troops to a large extent to put down revolutionary disturbance.

GREECE

Greece has a new Premier today - the Archbishop Damaskinos. And that's a reflection of how tangled the Greek political situation is. Archbishop Damaskinos, head of the Greek Orthodox Church, has been serving as Regent. ^{And} That means -- a highly respected ecclesiastical dignitary holding down the lid.

A few days ago, the Premier of the Athens Government resigned, and ever since they have been trying to choose a successor. Attempts have failed, ^{with} ~~and~~ the deadlock ~~is~~ complete that the Archbishop has to take over the post of Premier - in addition to the regency.

ARGENTINA

The labor disturbances in Argentina increased today - strikes and demonstrations by workers in favor of Colonel Peron, the ousted strong man who has been so loudly denounced as a Fascist. You'd think that labor would be against Fascism, but there is a lot of dilemma in the Argentina puzzle.

The latest from Buenos Aires tells us that in six towns, things are tied up because of pro-Peron strikes. And mass labor demonstrations, which began in the suburbs of the capital city, are spreading to the center of Buenos Aires. ~~In the suburbs, strikers favoring Peron cut off all transportation service, burning street cars and stopping bus traffic. Other walkouts are threatening. The federation of telephone workers has called a twenty-four hour strike to begin at midnight - all in support of Peron.~~

The former strong man was today held in a military hospital. He was reported to have been arrested, but the government now explains that Peron

was placed under protective custody - for his own safety.

When he arrived at the hospital today, a big crowd gathered outside, waving flags and demanding that Peron be set free. The ousted strong man sent out to them this message: "Once again I'll establish my solidarity with the workers. I will always lead their struggle", said he.

To which the crowd shouted: "Peron for President!"

Official union leaders are discounting the pro-Peron labor support and say the whole thing is being staged by Peron gangsters. - But that doesn't seem entirely plausible, in view of the wave of strikes and labor demonstrations.

FRENCH ELECTION

It sounds like almost a ghost story from France to hear that Daladier is campaigning as a candidate in the elections - Daladier who was the French Premier at the time of the outbreak of the European War. His name recalls disenchanting memories of French politics before the war. So the return of Daladier to the political arena is like a ghost story, but it's a lively one - accompanied by angry shouts and yells and a throwing of tomatoes.

His own party, radical socialist, has asked him to withdraw, because his ~~xxxxxxx~~ campaign speeches have resulted in riots - with the tossing of tomatoes. But Daladier refuses. Today he declared that he would not withdraw - because, said he, the disturbances against him have been stirred up by Communists.

The disturbances have been uproarious. In one place in South France, Daladier, scheduled to make a campaign speech, was driven off the platform by a volley of tomatoes. In the next town rotten eggs were included in the volley.

In the town after that, Daladier and his group tried a trick to foil the hecklers. He attempted to make a speech, safe in the house of a political supporter, - the political oratory to be transmitted over loud speakers throughout the town. The hecklers couldn't throw things, but, they cut the wires leading to the loud speakers, and broke into the house and carried off the microphone.

France is having a national election complicated by an intricate kind of ballot - with extra complications for Daladier.

LITTLE AMERICA

We hear of a "Little America" established in Europe, in Paris - the G I's over there creating for themselves a bit of home. They have taken over a section of Montmartre, fabled in song and story; and there, today, everything is typically American - at least according to an article in a French magazine, which describes "little America" in eloquent terms.

The article states: "The Americans are homesick. So, to fight the blues, they have organized home in Montmartre. They have tried to create there the conditions of life which they miss so much.

"As soon as you arrive", says the French magazine, "you are struck by the typical American atmosphere. There is that sort of ease, that nonchalance of a good natured child".

After which the Frenchman breaks into raptures: "All these soldiers, rather sloppily dressed, the vivacious stares of the gum-chewers, the slightly hesitant gait of those who come out of the cafes, all this makes you think you have been transported to Chicago".

Yes, ~~doesn't it~~ remind^s you of Michigan Boulevard. ~~or Wacker Drive?~~ Dear Old Chicago.

"~~This~~[&] illusion is perfect," writes the Parisian author. "Here are jeeps ~~which~~ ^{that} run without hesitation down one way streets, ~~which~~ ^{that} climb onto sidewalks as in Harold Lloyd Movies, and ~~which~~ sometimes - ~~but~~ inadvertently, run down pedestrians".

~~Thanks for the "inadvertently". And the reference to the American habit of driving the wrong way down one way streets should interest the traffic cops all the way from Maine to California.~~

The description of "Little America" culminates with a burst of French ecstasy: "In the narrow streets", it says, "you meet likeable drunks who make you compliments in English, or lovers who, even though in transit, have renewed the art of love".

2 Yes, it certainly does sound like ~~America, or, at least,~~ ^{well, like} a Frenchman's idea of America. Especially - the likeable drunks and the renewal of the art of love.

And now let's renew our acquaintance with Hush.