

L. J. - P. & G. Wed., Dec. 15, 1948

SUBSTITUTE ESPIONAGE

(The indictment of Alger Hiss for perjury is to be interpreted in the light ^{of the fact} that he cannot be indicted for espionage. This, because of the Statute of Limitations -- three years. He is accused of having given secret State Department documents to Whittaker Chambers back in nineteen thirty-eight, ten years ago)-- and an offense of this kind cannot be prosecuted after a lapse of three years. (So the Grand Jury in New York could only indict on the perjury charge.)

Yet, ^{the charge} ~~it~~ amounts to an ~~accusation~~ ^{Red} of espionage

~~activity, turning over American State secrets to the spies of Soviet Russia. This -- alleged to have been done by a State Department official, who occupied a post at a policy-making level, who did preliminary work in the founding of the United Nations and who participated in the Yalta Conference, that famous Roosevelt-Stalin meeting. Moreover, Alger Hiss is ~~the~~ president of the~~

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Carnegie Endowment for International Peace -- now on a three months leave of absence with pay, twenty thousand dollars a year.

The Grand Jury indicts Alger Hiss ^{for} ~~for~~ perjury on two counts, the principal charge being -- (that Hiss lied under oath, when he denied that he had given secret State Department material to Whittaker Chambers, for transmission to Soviet espionage.) ~~The Grand Jury, in the indictment, specifically cites the positive and repeated denials that Hiss gave, when he was asked one question after another -- did he turn over to Chambers those official secrets which are being headlined as the pumpkin papers.~~

Tonight Alger Hiss repeats his denial, and insists that he told the Grand Jury the truth when he said -- no. He will be arraigned tomorrow or the next day and will be put on trial -- for an offense that carries a possible five years in prison and two thousand dollars fine.

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The Grand Jury handed down the indictment just as its term was expiring -- but more Grand Jury work remains to be done in the espionage sensation. This will be taken up promptly by a new Grand Jury, which will be installed to deal with other phases of the spy story.

In Washington, the Committee on Un-American Activities tonight gave prompt approval of the indictment saying that it was a vindication of the Committee's work -- proof that there is more to it than President Truman's Red Herring. The public will take today's event as food for considerable thought -- the indictment of so prominent a figure, indicted for perjury because he denied Red espionage, ~~at a time when he was at the policy making level in the American State Department.~~

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SOVIET SHIPS

At last -- we are to get back thirty-one lend-lease vessels from Soviet Russia. After no action and much stalling for a couple of years, Moscow suddenly agrees to return thirty-one ships loaned to the Red forces during the war. These consist of twenty-eight naval frigates and three ice-breakers.

Altogether, we gave the Russians seven-hundred-and-eleven lend-lease vessels, but most of these are small ^{craft} ~~vessels~~ and are not wanted back.

Today's concession by Moscow marks a re-opening of the whole question of Soviet lend-lease. Negotiation will be resumed -- long after all other lend-lease nations have settled. The Soviet total is eleven billion, three hundred million dollars. But we will make no attempt to collect all of that. A small fraction will have to do -- as in the case of other lend-lease agreements.

PALESTINE

From Tel Aviv, the announcement that Israel has stopped armistice-talks with the Arabs. They were negotiating details, which Israel did not think important enough. The announcement is that ^{the Jewish state} ~~Israel~~ is willing to discuss a formal armistice or a full-fledged peace settlement - but, no more minor matters.

One intimation is that ~~the Jewish state~~, before going into a big-time peace parlance, ^{as they} will demand the withdrawal of - "foreign armies." That is, the forces of the Arab states.

U.N.

In Paris - another Soviet veto. This one was cast against the admission of Ceylon as a member of the United Nations. On the Security Council everybody else was in favor, but two negative Red votes gave the veto. It was the twenty-ninth cast by Soviet Russia.

Another application for membership was put off for a couple of days, the Council voting to delay consideration of the request of the State of Israel to be taken into the international fold.

SALVADOR

Tonight, in the Republic of El Salvador, a revolutionary junta is in control of that Central American country. The deposed President is a prisoner in the army barracks. A sudden revolution occurred last night, and there was a flurry of street fighting today.

The Army claim is that the President was trying to get himself reelected to another term - which is illegal.

Anyway, El Salvador presents ^{one more} ~~another~~ example of recent military revolutions in Latin-America.

CHINA

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The China news presents conflicting stories about the northern metropolis, Peiping. One version is that the Communists have captured the city and made the commanding general a prisoner. But this is denied by the Nationalist Government, which states that the Reds made a hit-and-run attack on Peiping -- nothing more.

In Washington, Acting Secretary of State Lovett said today that the visit of Madame Chiang Kai-shek has made no difference in our China policy. The wife of the Generalissimo saw President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall, and appealed for all-out American aid. But Acting Secretary Lovett states that American policy remains the same -- based on Congressional action, which provides two-hundred-and-seventy-five million dollars for economic help, and one-hundred-and-twenty-five million dollars for military assistance -- to combat the Red sweep in China.

ADD CHINA

The latest -- a government statement that the city gates of Peiping have been closed to prevent the infiltration of Red soldiers in civilian clothes. Huge fires are reported in the western outskirts of the city, to which point the Communists have advanced.

DEFENSE

Washington discloses a new five-point program to bolster national defense. This has been drawn up by Secretary Forrestal, with General Eisenhower as his personal adviser.

The principle of the five points is the appointment of a group of top scientists and military leaders to study and make recommendation in all types of weapons -- including the atomic bomb.

Today's announcement in Washington indicates that new and greater bomb tests are scheduled for Eniwetok Atol. That far Pacific area was the scene of experimental explosions earlier this year -- everything kept a deep secret. The word is now that Eniwetok remains a closed and secret sector -- where new atomic tests will be held.

MURDER

A late report from Guam -- a clue in the brutal murder of the young woman, Ruth Farnsworth, fiancée of an Army Sergeant. Clothing has been found in the quarters of two men under suspicion. Found -- in Army barracks, the two suspected being soldiers.

HERO

Today in Los Angeles a hero's funeral was given to the returning remains of a wartime G I -- posthumous winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Solemn religious services were held for a soldier who, to save his comrades, threw himself on a handgrenade about to explode.

So at what church were the services held? No church at all -- Buddhist Temple. Los Angeles has a shrine of the ancient creed founded by the Prince of India nearly twenty five hundred years ago, the Buddhist Temple of HISHI HONGANJI. The shrine is Japanese, and that explains matters. Private Munemori was a hero in that famous four-hundred-and-twenty-second Combat Team -- that outfit of Japanese Nisei which made records for winning decorations in the European war.

So in ^{the} Los Angeles ~~today~~ ^{at} ~~the~~ funeral services, instead of Christian hymns -- there was the low chanting of Buddhist monks.

RESCUE

Up in Alaska, the Yukon territory, there was a rescue-a rescue by glider pick-up. Six human beings, marooned on the ice of the frozen Stewart River, were snatched from death, when a big Army C-54 swooped low, and picked them off in a glider.

Last Monday an Army C-47 was flying to Point Barrow, on the Arctic shore of northernmost Alaska. The plane was hit by a cross wind, was blown off its course, and ran out of gas. The pilot had to make a forced landing. The time - middle of the night. But the full moon was bright in the northern sky, and the pilot was able to make a moonlight landing on the ice of the Stewart River. The plane wrecked, but nobody hurt. But - there they were, marooned in the frozen wilderness of the Arctic winter.

They had signalled their position, but when rescue planes came over, they faced an apparently impossible task. No chance to land safely in the desolation of ice and snow.

So they resorted to a glider - the kind of slowly floating aircraft that can land almost anywhere. They towed to the scene a glider equipped with skis, and cut it loose. The pilot made a good landing - the skis came sliding down on the Stewart River ice, and survivors were taken aboard, and then all they had to do was - pick up the glider.

They do that sort of thing in the Air Force, as routine. But this was under desperate conditions. Today the navigator of the rescue plane, Captain George Accas, told of the peril of that pick-up job. "Our rescue plane," he says, "was forced to drop in over a hundred foot hill, and snatch the glider with a limited five hundred yard straightaway - at ten feet of altitude."

But they did it, and tonight the survivors are thawing out at Fairbanks.

After which we have the same story all over again - or let us hope it will be the same. On the Greenland icecap tonight, there is a party of stranded flyers, and the attempt

is being made to pick them up by glider. On December Seventh, Pearl Harbor Day, an Air Force weather plane was forced down, with seven aboard. They have been there ever since - marooned for eight days on the Greenland icecap. ^{IF} Yesterday, a B-17 bomber came down to rescue them. But, having landed, the bomber could not take off - because of ice conditions.

There were two aboard, pilot and co-pilot, and that increased the number of Greenland castaways - nine of them now. There's only one possibility left - ^a glider pick-up. So the Air Force is sending two gliders - for the most spectacular exploit of rescue in Air Force history.

GIRLS

In Oregon they have found the missing highschool girls -- the ten who disappeared last night. They were ^{discovered} found huddled and ~~freezing~~ freezing in a stalled automobile on a lonely sideroad -- in the blizzard swept country of the Ochoco Forest.

Last night ten highschool girls left a ^{party at} ~~Baptist~~ a Baptist Church, ^{at} Bonneville, Oregon, and drove off in a car, saying they were on their way to look for a place to go skating. They detoured around through deserted byways. They got lost and their car ran out of gas. So there were the ten highschool girls marooned on a freezing night in the car. They huddled together to keep warm and passed long miserable hours.

Meanwhile, a frantic search was being made for them -- because its no ordinary sensation when ten girls vanish. The search was fruitless, until the pilot of a plane spotted a car on a road in lonely Juniper Flats -- Ochoco Forest. He reported this, and today the girls were found -- an unhappy ten. Some--with frostbitten ^{fingers.}

BABY

Well, the royal baby was baptized, with all due ceremony, today. The Archbishop of Canterbury performed the stately ritual of the Church of England, and sprinkled baptismal water brought from the River Jordan. The entire royal family was there, including King George, who stood throughout the half-hour ceremony, in spite of the arterial malady of the legs from which he suffers.

The Baby? Oh, he behaved himself, didn't cry. He didn't let out a single wail, as he was christened Charles Philip Arthur George. London is calling him - "Bonnie Prince Charlie."

ADD BABY

The christening coincides with Christmas festivities, and tonight there was the traditional palace ball-royalty dancing with the servants. The Queen stepped around with a page and a footman, while Princess Margaret Rose danced with the King's valet.

LEAP Y.

As the year comes to an end, we have many statistics about this or that. ~~The figures for accidents on the highway, for example - with the National Safety Council giving us urgent warning - to drive carefully during the holiday season, always a bad time for motor car accidents.~~ We have the figures for snowfall and rainfall, retail sales and potato production. Also - love and romance.

Nineteen Forty-Eight was Leap Year, though that sentimental fact did not seem to stir any overwhelming, ardent interest. You'd think the marriage rate would have gone up, but it didn't. The figures show a decline. ~~There were~~ Fewer marriages this year than last. ~~(So the answer would seem to be that the girls do not take enthusiastic advantage of Leap Year - or maybe they were just not so skillful. I shouldn't want to suggest that the boys may have been successful in ducking.)~~

~~(However that may be)~~ the United Press went out to find examples of brides who did pop the Leap Year question, and asked them - how they went about it? Just how does a damsel

say, "Will you marry me?" Does she blush with downcast eyes?
Or does she just grab the guy?

One of the Leap Year brides is Ida Lupino, the
Hollywood actress who married Movie Producer Collier Young.
She admits that she had to do the proposing, taking advantage
of the traditional privilege - and she tells how she did it.

R "I guess you could call me a Leap Year girl," says Ida Lupino.

"We had been going around together, and then one night he
invited me over to dinner and said it was - important. Then
for three hours he hemmed and hawed, and played soft music."

Many a lady will recognize the situation, especially
the soft music. So what did Ida do about it? She was getting
impatient.

Leaping Lupino

~~She~~ relates that, finally, she spoke up and said:

"What's this about that's so important?"

And he said: "Darling, you know how I feel about
you."

To which Ida responded: "In other words, you'd like

to marry me?"

He said - "Yes." ~~And that was that.~~

So that, girls, is one way of doing the Leap Year proposing. Nineteen Forty-Eight is almost gone; ~~and~~ there

isn't much time left - only sixteen days. ^{So hurry hurry if} ~~but you might want~~

You want

to try the technique, ~~and~~ The tip-off is when he starts

~~giving~~ with that ^{soft} soft music. ^{Then hurry, hurry!} ~~When the soft music plays in~~

~~Leap Year Nelson~~

PLANE

In Washington, the Air Force denies that a new and elaborate transport plane was intended for Governor Dewey - on the assumption that he would be elected President. In Albany, Paul Lockwood, Secretary to the Governor, echoes the denial - saying they never heard of any such idea.

The Air Force explains that the new luxury airliner was built to fly "very important persons" on special missions. You know, the V.I.P. on an air voyage of state.

It was suggested to President Truman that he might use the sumptuous plane - plush all over. But the President grinned and hummed a tune: - "I don't want it, you can have it -

it's too swank for me"! ~~he sang~~ So sang our musical president. And what tune from you, Nelson?