

LT. - P. + G. Fri. Oct. 17 - '52.

The State Department in Washington has handed Moscow a note concerning the B-29 bomber which Soviet fighters shot down off Japan on October Seventh. The note is phrased in the strongest terms, It speaks of a "wanton and unjustifiable attack" by the Russian planes. It demands damages for the B-29, and for any Americans who may have been killed.

The Russians claim that our bomber violated Soviet territory, and opened fire first. The State Department replies that the plane was over the Habomai Islands, which belong to Japan, not to Russia. And our note points out, the B-29 carried no bombs, ^{and} ~~while~~ its guns ~~are~~ described as "inoperative."

(The ~~B-29~~ was the fourth American plane either shot down or forced down by Soviet fighters during the Cold War. Our reaction is expressed by the State Department in these words, "The United States Government would urge the Soviet government seriously to consider the grave consequences which can flow from its reckless practice.")

Substitute KOREA

In Korea, American infantrymen have captured the strategic hill known as "Pike's Peak". A United Press dispatch tells of our troops attacking along a ridge leading to the summit. The fighting became fierce as the G.I.s moved up, hurling grenades, and then fighting ~~the Chinese Reds hand-to-hand, with bayonets, rifle-butts, and fists.~~

We now hold the main vantage points in the sector which is called the "Iron Triangle". But the Chinese are massing troops on the other side of the hills. ~~and~~ An Allied spokesman says that a large-scale counter-attack is expected at any moment.

POLAND

In the U.N. General Assembly, Communist Poland calls for an immediate cease-fire in Korea. The proposal is a reply to Secretary of State Acheson's declaration of the American position on Korea. Acheson asked for more help by member nations to defeat the Red aggressors.

The Polish Foreign Minister brings up the old Communist line, including the demand for unconditional repatriation of prisoners-of-war. So this meeting of the U.N. General Assembly begins with the familiar ~~issue~~ deadlock over Korea.

POLITBURO

One of the most familiar, and sinister, words in our political vocabulary will be heard no more. The word - "Politburo." The Russians, instead of the Politburo now have a Presidium. So, let's look back for a moment at the Politburo. It was set up by the Communists in Nineteen Seventeen, just before the Revolution, Lenin was then the Party leader, and with the Revolution he of course became dictator of Russia. Stalin was one of the original members of the Politburo, in fact only he has survived right up to the present. The other leaders of Nineteen Seventeen? A number were executed by Stalin during the purge trials of the 'Thirties; and the most famous of all Leon Trotsky, was driven into exile in Mexico, where he was murdered in Nineteen Forty-One.

Stalin brought his own henchmen into the Politburo,

and so secured his absolute control. The passing of the Politburo does not mean that Stalin's power is diminishing, for he most certainly has the same control as the new Presidium.

Experts on Soviet affairs say that the Presidium has more members than the Politburo,-- more because the Russian dictator wants to draw a group of the younger Bolsheviki into the ruling circle. Thereby strengthening the system, so that his intended successor - who is said to be Georgi Malenkov - can take over with a minimum of friction.

INDO-CHINA

Our Ambassador to Indo-China, Donald Heath, has escaped a plot to assassinate him. From the Indo-Chinese capital of Saigon comes news that ^{Ambassador} Donald Heath was named on a Communist "assassination list," ~~of anti-Reds~~ marked for death. The authorities got wind of the ^{is. And} ~~plan to kill Heath some months ago.~~

^ Last Sunday police picked up the intended assassin, after keeping him under surveillance for twenty-four hours. He was armed with a sub-machine gun, a pistol, and several grenades. His ^{— so he admitted —} plan was to kill the Ambassador by firing a burst of machine gun bullets through the window of our Embassy during dinner. ^{TR} A woman, said to be an underground liaison officer for the Reds, was also seized.

^{— the brain of all this —}
(Then the police traced the ringleader, and killed him as he was resisting arrest. On his body they found the "assassination list" of anti-Communists. Indo-Chinese police are searching for more of, what they term, the "suicide committee" named to carry out the executions.)

INDONESIA

In Indonesia, the government is in a ^{wrangle} ~~minor conflict~~ with its army. There has been no military coup as in Egypt and Lebanon. But the army has forced the government to agree to a national election soon.

The leaders of the armed forces oppose the present Parliament because, they say, its members have been too free in criticizing the Defense Ministry. So when Parliament called for an investigation of the Defense Ministry and the Army as well, the military ~~men~~ acted, ~~They~~ seized control of communications, imposed a nightly curfew, alerted ~~their~~ tanks and armored cars, and trained ^{their} artillery on the presidential palace.

This action by the army seemed ~~persuasive~~ to President Soekarno. After consultation, with his generals, he announces a national election. It remains to be seen how the generals will react if the new Parliament turns out to be as unfavorable to them as the old.

General Eisenhower makes a declaration of independence. This in reply to the Democrats who charge that he is a captive of ^{the} Old Guard Republicans, and that Senator Taft is ^{now} calling signals for the Eisenhower campaign.

Not so, replies ^{the General,} ~~Ike~~. Speaking at whistle-stops in Maryland and New Jersey, he clarifies his position as leader of the Republican Party. He admits that he takes advice from others - Republicans, Democrats, and independents. "But," says he, "let me be quite clear as to my personal responsibility for my ultimate decisions. Those decisions have been, and will be mine alone. This crusade which I have taken to the American people represents what I, myself, believe. I have acted and have spoken from my own deep inner convictions of what is best and right for America."

What about ^{his opponents} ~~the Democratic~~ accusation that he has made special deals with individual Republicans in order to maintain harmony in the Party? ^{His} ~~Ike's~~ answer is, "At the very beginning of this campaign I asserted that I was a 'no deal' man, that

I would make no arrangement of any kind that could be interpreted as even an implied promise of future political or other favor or benefit. I am still a 'no deal' man."

STEVENSON

Governor Stevenson is opposed to withdrawing our troops from Korea in the near future. In reply to Republican spokesmen like General Eisenhower and John Foster Dulles, the Democratic nominee argues that such a move would mean certain disaster.

Speaking in San Diego, California, Stevenson calls the Dulles position on Korea "isolationism." Of the Republicans he says: "It would be a national disaster, it would be a world disaster, if they get a chance to torpedo our foreign policy."

From California, Stevenson is going on to Texas, to try to win back those Texas Democrats who say they intend to vote for Ike.

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Former Pres. Hoover is scheduled to address the nation — over this network tomorrow evening — a special message to young America, I believe — it is to be.

FINLAND

The Finnish Cabinet has resigned in the midst of a government crisis. A dispatch from Helsinki says that Premier Kekkonen handed in his resignation after his coalition government failed to agree about rents and farm prices. The President of Finland has asked Kekkonen to form a new Cabinet if the coalition cannot work out a compromise.

Substitute FINLAND

A newspaper in Bonn, Capital of West Germany, reports that East German Deputy Premier, Walter Ulbricht, has been killed in a train crash. According to the newspaper, Ulbricht was on his way to Russia, when Polish saboteurs derailed his train, hurling him to his death. ~~So far, neither Bonn nor Berlin has confirmed the report.~~

TUNISIA

New reports of violence in Tunisia. A dispatch shows that Nationalist agitators are stepping up their sniping at the French. A group of terrorists ambushed a payroll crew, killed one of the crew with machine gun fire, and escaped with some thousands of dollars in wages. Four Arabs are accused of bombing a radio station in Tunis. And the terrorists have attacked Jewish business men, whom they accuse of refusing to support the movement for Tunisian independence. All Communist inspired - is the report.

FORGERY

A Communist editor in New Delhi, India, has come up with a new twist in attempting to discredit ^{American} our Ambassador, Chester Bowles. The story is related in a dispatch from New York Times Correspondent Robert Trumbull.

Some time ago, according to Trumbull, an Indian newspaper, called The Current, published a letter which apparently had been written by Chester Bowles. The letter stated that our Ambassador was anxious to meet Communist friends in Bombay.

The Current is an anti-Communist paper. So its editor, D. F. Karaka, wrote an article attacking Chester Bowles as an ally of the Reds.

The Ambassador ~~naturally~~ repudiated the letter as soon as he read it, ^{and} also protested to Premier Nehru. The Indian authorities investigated the case, and now the facts are known. ^{— yes the letter was a} And the answer is [^] Communist forgery; ~~The letter was~~ written, say the authorities, by a Red editor, R.K. Karanjia - ^{Editor} a rival of Karaka.

^{Editor} Karanjia photographed the letter after he had written it. The photograph was then sold to Karaka, who rushed it into print under the impression that he had a ^{big} scoop.

But the scoop turned out to be a hoax - the Communist editor putting one over on his rival. Both ^{editors} ~~men~~ are scheduled to appear in court. Karanjia, ~~is~~ charged with forgery, ~~and~~ Karaka ^{with the necessity} ~~will have the painful job~~ of proving that he was hoaxed.

PARIS

The United Nations are causing another furor in Paris. But this one is not about politics. It concerns a U.N. proposal to build a skyscraper to serve as headquarters of Unesco. The architectural plans call for a sixteen-story structure of the same shape as the U.N. Building in New York. The site - just outside Paris, ~~near the famous woods.~~

When the traditionalists of the French capital heard of the plan, they rose in protest. They claim that the proposed Unesco headquarters would ruin one of the best views of Paris; ^{also} ~~They point out that~~ the building would be out of place ~~on~~ the ~~Paris~~ skyline; ~~and they threaten to fight the U.N. proposal on~~ the grounds that the beauty of Paris is more important than ~~giving~~ ^{having} Unesco a new building.

Which reminds us of the famous controversy over the Eiffel Tower. The traditionalists of fifty years ago protested against the erection of that celebrated structure. But ever since ~~the~~ ^x Eiffel Tower has been the best-known landmark in Paris.

METEOR

Observers in our Southern states report a huge, flaming ball of fire, streaking across the sky, and disintegrating into thousands of blazing fragments. According to a United Press dispatch, Southerners are not agree on the appearance of the celestial phenomenon. It is described by different observers as being white, blue, green and orange. Some say it was at an altitude of three hundred feet, others ~~make the distance~~ ^{say} three miles. Reports of its size vary from "the size of the moon", to "as big as a house." In Dallas, Texas, three policemen claim that it exploded without a sound. But a resident of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, heard a tremendous blast, followed by, what he calls, a "strange wind" that shook his house.

According to ~~the~~ astronomers, the ball of fire was a meteor - a fragment from outer space which exploded when it reached the atmosphere of the earth. But even this scientific explanation is ~~not unchallenged~~ ^{Nelson - by} Five airline pilots ~~who saw~~ ^{who} ~~the object~~ ^{that - said they:} report: - "it seemed slower than any meteor we ~~had~~ ever ~~seen~~." "