

ESPIONAGE

LT-K. Wed. Oct. 21-'53.

An astonishing story was told today in the Congressional investigation of that remarkable deal in wartime - whereby the plates for American occupation money in Germany were turned over to Soviet Russia. So that the Reds, themselves - could print American occupation money for their own use. They did - grinding out two hundred and fifty million dollars' worth. Which we, ourselves, had to redeem later on. We made good for that occupation money - to the tune of a quarter of a billion!!

The witness, today, was Elizabeth Bentley, who was once a courier for Communist espionage in the United States. She says the whole thing was put across by Communists in the U.S. Treasury Department. She - acting as an intermediary, giving them instructions ^{from} ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Soviet bosses. TP The whole thing ~~But, this is a very interesting story, and it~~ sounds like a bitter ironical comedy.

Elizabeth Bentley told the Committee today that the first idea was - to counterfeit the American occupation

money. So the Reds wanted samples of it - before it was issued. She got the samples - from Communists in the Treasury Department. But the counterfeit scheme failed - and then the Reds had a better idea, much better. They'd have the United States Government turn over the plates, themselves, to Moscow. With authority - to go ahead and print American occupation money. So that's ^{actually} what happened. - through the influence of Treasury Department Reds!

Such is the story told by Elizabeth Bentley, ~~today~~ who says the top official in the scheme was the late Harry Dexter White, then Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. He - acting in collaboration with an espionage group called the "Silvermaster Ring." Elizabeth Bentley says she personally transmitted the orders to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, and William Ludwig Ullman, the chiefs of the ring. Both - U.S. government officials at the time.

Today, Silvermaster and Ullman were questioned by the Senate Committee, but refused to answer - on

Constitutional grounds. They wouldn't say whether or not they were Communists, or had been agents of Communist espionage.

Yesterday, Harold Glasser and Frank Coe refused to answer the sixty-four dollar question. They have been named as officials who participated in the diplomatic negotiations, whereby the plates for printing American occupation money were given to the Soviet Reds! *Makes me shudder to think of it!*

PRISONERS

The American prisoner-of-war, who decided to come home, was interviewed by news reporters today. A Virginia mountaineer, Private Edward Dickenson of Big Stone Gap, ~~Virginia~~ - who was one of the twenty-three Americans remaining behind. But he changed his mind, and was handed over to the U.S. authorities.

Today, he told the newsmen he is not a Communist, and added: "I want to be back with my own people." ^PThe reporters asked him why did he stay behind with the Reds, when other prisoners-of-war were set free, during the summer? He wouldn't explain. "I had my reasons," he said in a glum tone.

He admitted - there was a girl back in Virginia. At the prison camp, he got a letter from her, saying - the romance was off. Today, he was asked - had that anything to do with his decision, refusing repatriation? He bristled, but wouldn't answer. He merely repeated - he was not a Communist, and wanted to be back with his own people.

In Washington today, President Eisenhower said that he wonders - why more American prisoners-of-war didn't fall for the Red propaganda. He said he had a full report from General Dean - about his three years in a prison camp.

In a long talk at breakfast, the General told the President about the methods of Communist indoctrination. The way - captives were submitted to it, incessantly. Only too often, American G.I's had a meagre understanding of the free government of their own country - and it's a wonder that more didn't succumb to the Communist arguments.

PANMUNJOM

At Panmunjom, a meeting of the Neutral Commission has been called. The first one - since the delegates from Red Poland and Czecho-Slovakia walked out on Monday. There was doubt that the two Communist Neutrals would attend the session summoned for today. But they said - "Yes". Ending - their three-day walkout. However, India proposes that the Commission take an indefinite recess because the Anti-Communist Korean War Prisoners still refuse to face the Red "explainers."

ISRAEL

The government of Israel is ignoring the decision in Washington - to discontinue U.S. economic aid, until Israel halts her irrigation project along the River Jordan. Syria protests, on the ground that water of the Jordan would be diverted. The United Nations instructed Israel to discontinue the work, pending further negotiations. Today, the Cabinet of Premier Ben-Gurion voted eight-to-three, to go ahead - and never mind the suspension of American aid.

Last year, Israel got sixty-five million dollars from the United States - and the belief was that Washington would hand over a similar amount this year. The Jewish state needs the money badly, but the word at Tel Aviv is that Premier Ben-Gurion expects to make up for it - by using money to be paid by Western Germany. The West German government having agreed to pay reparations for Nazi crims against the Jewish people.

In Washington, today, ~~the~~ President Eisenhower said that he had been consulted in advance about the decision to half American aid to Israel - as announced by Sec. of State Dulles.

The Embassy of Israel, in Washington, denies that the government of the Jewish state is defying the United Nations. And adds that the Israeli government has agreed to consider a U.S. plan for a power and irrigation project in the valley of the Jordan.

FOLLOW ISRAEL

Today, troops of Egypt and Iraq marched into Jerusalem - the Old City, which is held by the Moslems. They came to reinforce the Arab Legion of the Kingdom of Jordan. This is in connection with a bitter dispute between Jordan and Israel - following Israeli raids against Jordanian villages, in which many Arabs were killed.

Jordan responded by invoking a Security Pact, signed by the Arab League last year - and, today, in Amman, *— on the plateau east of the Jordan & the Dead Sea,* the Jordanian capital, the Political Committee of the Arab League met for a discussion of the crisis. Eight Moslem nations - represented.

And all the while angry crowds were storming through the streets of Amman - shouting for revenge, and calling on the Arab Legion in Jerusalem to retaliate. The mobs hurled stones at buildings occupied by British and American officials.

ITALY

Dispatches from the borders of Italy and Yugoslavia state that two divisions of Italian armor are massing along the frontier - with hundreds of American-made Patton tanks. These - lined up in the neighborhood of Gorizia.

On the other side, the Yugoslavs have moved up forces of tanks - the same kind, American-built Pattons. Both Italy and Yugoslavia - having received all that armor from the United States, under our program of military aid.

President Eisenhower will not campaign for candidates in the Congressional elections next year. He stated that at his news conference today. He said he won't inject the high office of president into local political battles. He realizes the importance of a Republican Congress for the success of his administration, and he might speak out in general terms - but he won't give presidential backing ^{to} ~~of~~ individual candidates.

This statement will be a blow to some Republicans, who had hoped for an Eisenhower barnstorming trip. However, the Republican National Committee says the G.O.P. high command made up its mind, long ago, that the President would not make a whistle-stop tour to influence local political campaigns.

BENSON

Secretary of Agriculture Benson gets a firm vote of confidence - from President Eisenhower himself. There have been suggestions that Benson should resign - because of discontent among the farmers. The President remarked that the Secretary of Agriculture should not be criticized because he has not been able to produce a miracle to cure economic ills in agriculture. And added - that the politicians are more alarmed about the farm situation than the farmers themselves.

T.V.A.

The President doesn't seem enthusiastic about proposals to sell the Tennessee Valley Authority to private interests, As was proposed, recently, by Clarence Manion, Chairman of a committee named by President Eisenhower.

The suggestion that the government should sell T.V.A. is being denounced - and, today, the President said that any such sale might wreck the Tennessee Valley development. ~~He added - that the T.V.A. is a historical development.~~

EISENHOWER - GOLF

President Eisenhower went golfing today - on orders from the doctor. He had a busy schedule, but took time out. The White House physician, Major General Howard Snyder, saying he wanted the President to get some - rest and relaxation. The President hadn't played golf for a month, during which time he has had a strenuous program - including two weeks of rigorous travel.

IMPELLITTERI

Mayor Impellitteri is out of the contest for Mayor of New York City. Today, a state Supreme Court Judge ruled that the petition to place his name on the ballot ~~was~~ ^{was} invalid. There is no appeal from this decision, and the only chance the Mayor would have would be to run as a "write-in" candidate. His name not on the ballot, they'd have to write it in. Which would be a hopeless enterprise.

The decision is based on the fact that most of the thousands of people who signed Impellitteri's petition failed to register in the forthcoming election.

FIGHT

The winner of the middle weight champion fight is Bobo Olson from Hawaii. At New York's Madison Square Garden he won the unanimous fifteen round decision over Randy Turpin of England. So, Bobo Olson becomes the Middle Weight Champion of the world.

BURGLAR

RETAIN

At Toledo, Ohio, the police have caught what sounds like - the champion burglar of them all. James Thomas ~~fifty-two years old, made a full confession, but he~~ can't give the number of burglaries he committed in the last seventeen years. Too many - he lost count. In the last six years, he robbed one hundred and twenty-five homes. That's as far as he can remember, precisely.

~~He is an ex-convict, released from a Michigan prison in Nineteen Thirty Six~~ after which ^P he operated a burglary circuit between Chicago and Cleveland. Systematic and methodical - with a regular work-day. Two hours a day - between seven-thirty and nine-thirty P.M., when people might be away from their homes - out for dinner, or for some entertainment. His favorite work-day was Friday - when, in the evening, families were likely to attend high school basketball or football games.

He operated according to strict rules, and was caught - because he violated one of them. He had two

automobiles. One - ordinary looking, an inconspicuous bus that wouldn't attract attention. That one - he used for his burglary jobs. The other, a flashy green convertible, something to catch the eye. That one was for his gay social life. But, in Toledo, he was careless, and drove the dazzling green convertible up and down the street - watching for people to leave their homes. The local folks couldn't miss that flashy automobile. They became suspicious, and took down the license number. Which led to the arrest of the champion burglar.

BIBLE

This being Bible Week, we've had favorite quotations from President Eisenhower and former President Herbert Hoover. Which reminds us that many people cherish particular passages from the Sacred Scriptures. I know that I do, especially those familiar lines from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, the thirteenth chapter, which begins:

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity -- I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal."

The chapter ends with these words:

"¹³And, now, abideth Faith, Hope, Charity -- these three. But the greatest of these is Charity."

So said the Apostle to the Gentiles.

RIVER

New Orleans is worried, because Old Man River - is turning green. Which looks bad - for the New Orleans water supply. ~~Ominous - when a tinge of green spreads over the great surge of the Mississippi River.~~

The trouble is - another stream. Which has a melodious Louisiana name - the Atchafalaya. That river is draining off water from the Mississippi - thereby lowering its level. That, in turn, causes the salt water of the Gulf of Mexico to back up into the Mississippi. It's the salt that brings about the change of color - green. ~~The water from the Gulf has been moving up the Mississippi at the rate of a mile a day, and has now reached New Orleans. The City gets its~~ water supply from the Mississippi, and the color of green may be followed by the taste of salt.

U.S. engineers have been trying to do something about the misbehavior of the Atchafalaya River, but haven't been able to stop the diversion of water from the Mississippi.

Old Man River - turning green, *Mike, because of the misbehaving Atchafalaya.*