

REPLY C. I. S. Mon. Oct. 16, 1950.

The Swedes have been eager to put their national football team in a game with a famous Soviet team - just a friendly meeting of course. So a reporter went around to the Soviet Embassy today, to ask: "How about a definite "yes" or "no," -- will your team be accepting our invitation to come over and play us in Sweden this winter?"

Surely not necessary to consult Moscow about that. But the Soviet diplomat consulted his files, looked out window, back at his files, and replied:

"This much I can tell you -- one of those alternatives

Yes or no
is the right one." *How's that for being evasive, Nelson?*

In Stockholm they've been having an epidemic of burglaries. Last week, many Swedes received an announcement that, for a fee, a special night watchman would guard homes and apartments -- keep an eye out for night prowlers.

The ~~ix~~ police decided they'd check on this new agency. Just a routine investigation. At the agency offices, to their surprise the Stockholm police found two familiar figures: Erik Anderson, and Bengt "The Bottle" Lund, two notorious burglars, for whom they had been looking.

So in Stockholm, they may not have a night watchman service, but at least the police do ~~th~~ have their hands on two against whom the Swedes were ~~locking~~ ~~locking~~ their doors and windows!

TIDELANDS

In Washington, the Supreme Court today ruled that the submerged oilfields off the coasts of Texas and Louisiana belong to the Federal Government. This finally settles the eighteen months old dispute over oilfields claimed by Texas and Louisiana, ~~and thought~~ ^{— an area that} ~~to~~ ^{may} contain ~~between five and ten~~ ^{many} billion barrels of oil.

This decision of the court backs up the ruling made in Nineteen Forty-Seven about similar tidelands in California.

ELECTIONS

Yesterday's rigged elections in East Germany went off without a hitch. Says Chancellor Adenauer, of West Germany; "They can do it better than the Nazis." It was an election of the usual Communist sort. There was no provision for a "yes" or "no". It was "yes", and all defaced ballots counted for the regime. But strangely, in the official returns it appears - officially at any rate - thirty-five thousand East Germans did cast negative votes. So the question now is - where did the Communist election officials get this figure, since a "no" vote was not allowed? Sounds like propaganda.

Of twelve million three hundred thousand eligible to vote, more than twelve million one hundred thousand turned out - which shows what kind of a grip the Communists have on East Germany.

Soviet-sponsored news today tells of East Germans marching proudly from their homes and factories to vote.

A western observer who risked arrest -

ELECTIONS....2

slipping over the border at Klein Machnow, brought back a different story. He tells of downcast people trudging along in small groups, terrified to stay at home for fear they would lose their jobs. "I guess I voted," remarked one East German farmer. "My name was checked off the list; an official handed me a piece of paper, told me to fold it quickly and drop it in the box. I never even had a chance to see what was on it."

FRENCH

The French National Assembly opens in Paris tomorrow, and tonight Premier Rene Pleven's coalition government is preparing to fight for its life. They'll be under bitter attack in the assembly for the humiliating French defeats in Indo-China - also for French opposition to the United States demand for a German army to help defend western Europe. ^{At present} France stands in virtual isolation amongst the North Atlantic Treaty powers on the question of rearming Germany.

Last week, the French Government called for seven-hundred-and-seven million dollars in American aid, but this is more than America can pay, at the moment at any rate. So this week in Washington, Secretary of State Acheson and the French Finance and Defense Ministers are holding meetings. Discussing how the French plan ^{can} be trimmed to fit in with over-all plans for North Atlantic defense. The Secretary of State today had one suggestion - that the French give up the idea of building four aircraft carriers ^{that are not} ~~now~~ ^{a part of the} required under North Atlantic Treaty plans.

ISRAEL

Israel is still without a government.

Following the Cabinet's resignation yesterday, Prime Minister Ben Gurion told Parliament this morning that he could not form a $\frac{1}{2}$ majority government. ^{He} _^ proposed instead the formation of a minority government, pending a general election. The new-caretake~~r~~-regime to include seven members of Ben Gurion's own Mapai Party, ⁶ _^ one member of the Sphardi Party.

In Tel Aviv, Israel's Parliament ^{will} _^ votes on this suggestion tonight.

Emperor Bao Dai, head of the Viet Nam - is flying home to Indo-China Wednesday from France, where he has been negotiating with the French government.

INDO-CHINA

Two hundred and thirty-eight miles of the border between Indo-China and China tonight is in Communist hands. And today they over-ran another frontier fort. General Carpentier has ordered all civilians out of Langson, a town now considered the key to the whole French defense line; their most heavily fortified position in northern Indo-China.

A French spokesman tonight stated that Ho Chi Min's Communist troops - ~~greatly outnumbering the~~ ^{great outnumbering the} French -- are rolling South. They now are within ninety miles of the large city of Hanoi. The Red, in fact is shouting that his army has "smashed the entire French frontier defenses."

From Hong Kong comes word that four shiploads of American arms have been rushed to Indo-China. And that twelve Viet Nam battalions are ~~ix~~ being raised to fight with the French.

CHINA

From Hong Kong tonight there's a word that the Chinese Communists are now going to allow foreign shipping to steam up the river to Canton -- the gateway to South China. *This will be* The first time since the Reds occupied the teeming port a year ago that any foreign ships have been allowed to enter.

ADD_KOREA

At Lake Success today the Russians made the charge that the U N forces in North Korea have included Japanese. This is denied both by our delegate, Warren Austin, and by MacMarthur in Tokyo.

PRISONERS

American planes have been out over North Korea today - this time not looking for targets. They have been searching for a thousand U.S. prisoners of war - last heard of in a railroad tunnel on the east coast. In addition to the planes American and South Korean soldiers are hunting for these G I's.

The question tonight is, what has happened to the missing thousand G I's?

ADD KOREA

Late word from Korea. As United Nations forces smash through the collapsing Red lines towards Pyongyang, air reconnaissance brings back the word that Red forces are digging new defenses north of the North Korean capital. So it looks as though the North Koreans last desperate stand may be made after Pyongyang has fallen.

KOREA

In Korea, the race for Pyongyang has been stepped up. The latest tells of U. S. Cavalrymen ripping through the new North Korean mountain defenses - advancing some fifteen miles today. (Our tank spearheads are now only forty-two miles from Pyongyang. Also they are in flat country with no more hills ahead.

Word tonight is that the Reds seem to have lost their will to fight. Scores waiting along the highway asking to be captured.


Four U. N. columns are converging on Pyongyang. Seventy thousand Americans, South Koreans, British and Australian troops driving across North Korea, at top neck speed. One South Korean division is ~~xx~~ within thirty-eight miles of the capital.


----- 0 -----

Meanwhile, on the east coast, the South Koreans at last report were only five miles from the industrial center of Ham Hung.

The plight of the Communists is reflected in their communique today, which reads:- "We are

KOREA.....2

continuing the bitter battle with the advancing enemy
on all fronts - falling back in order to reach more
advantageous defense positions." 

~~So, final victory seems to be near at hand.~~ 

Since
 Just four hours ago President Truman's return to the mainland aboard his personal plane the Independence touched down at San Francisco. The President is back home to tell the world about his mid-Pacific meeting with General Macarthur. *he has made a quick ride thru San Francisco and is not at work now on his speech, his report to us*

Macarthur. It is not expected that President Truman will be announcing any new policy toward Asia. More likely he will merely re-state our existing attitude towards the Communist menace in the Far East and how best we can counter it. Waiting to meet Mr. Truman this ^{evening} ~~afternoon~~ were Vice-President Alben Barkley and Mayor Elmer Robinson of San Francisco. ~~With them the President left the airport for a tour through the city. Tonight he will be at his hotel putting final touches on his speech for tomorrow night.~~

ADD EISENHOWER

The latest pictures a chorus of approval in "liberal Republican circles" - with one voice after another raised in favor of the Dewey proposal. Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon is applauding, as is Governor Langley of Washington. The feeling is that General Ike is not definitely saying - no. A Republican source in Washington puts it this way: "It looks like Ike is leaving the door open for a draft. In the past, he always slammed it."

Well, here's an example of the way he rejected previous Presidential suggestions. In Nineteen Forty Eight he said: "I am not available for, and could not accept, nomination to high political office." Which was slamming the door loudly - and it's not nearly so loud this time. Some people think - the door may be slightly ajar, at least.

EISENHOWER.....

Governor Dewey ^{has} started things going well in advance by
sounding the slogan -- "Eisenhower for President." →

EISENHOWER

Tonight the political attention of the country is focussed on four words, four simple monosyllables. These words -- "They have not changed."

For days-to-come the soothsayers, looking to the Presidential election two years hence, will be trying to figure out the meaning.

General Eisenhower responds to Governor Dewey, who sprang a weekend political sensation by coming out in favor of -- Eisenhower for President. Governor Dewey stated that he would back a Republican nomination for our World War Two commander of victory in the west.

Today General Ike replied - by referring to his former refusal to seek a Presidential nomination and to the opinions he expressed at the time. Harking back to those opinions he said: "They have not changed."

Tom Dewey's declaration was taken promptly to President Truman, on his way home from his conference with General MacArthur in the far Pacific.

The President's response was ~~one word~~: an exclamation -- "fine, fine" said he smiling.

"Governor Dewey," said he, "is very generous."

That was followed by a declaration from Harold Stassen, former Governor of Minnesota and now president of the University of Pennsylvania. Stassen has been prominent in the past in competition for the Republican Presidential nomination, and many consider him to be of Presidential timber right now. So what has he to say?

He puts his opinion in these words: Governor Dewey has shown real statesmanship in his forthright declaration. I am pleased he has taken this step." So there are Stassen cheers for Dewey backing Eisenhower.

The General, himself, expresses the most cordial of thanks to Governor Dewey: "Any American," says he, "would be complimented by the knowledge that any other American considered him qualified to fill the most important post in our country. In this case, "he goes on, "the compliment comes from a man who is governor of a great state, and who has devoted many years of his life to public service. So, of course,"

he says warmly, "I am grateful for Governor Dewey's good opinion of me."

The tone sounds almost like an acceptance of support. But then, Eisenhower goes back to the previous Presidential campaign, when he declined all suggestions of the Republican nomination for the President. He said, at the time, that a military man should not be in the White House -- not unless the circumstances were extraordinary.

So now he responds to Governor Dewey in these words: "My convictions, as to the place and methods through which I can best contribute something to the cause of freedom, have been often expressed. They have not changed."

Four words - for the political wisemen to interpret and argue about. Just as, years ago, they cast horoscopes about that famous Calvin Coolidge refusal: "I do not choose to run."

It is a little early to be thinking and maneuvering with a view to Nineteen Fifty-Two. But