

KOREA PRISONERS *LT. R. G. Thurns - Apr. 23 - '53.*  
*Good Eve - E-body!*

U N officials in Korea are trying to figure out the meaning of the latest announcement by the Communists. One thing is certain -- the Reds do promise that they will hand back more prisoners, ill and injured. The figure they named <sup>(to begin with</sup> ~~in the original~~ ~~exchange agreement~~ was six hundred and five. Now they say they'll return more than that. Which presumably would mean more Americans than the one hundred and twenty including <sup>(ed)</sup> in the original agreement.

But how does this new Red promise affect the charge -- that the Communists are holding back numbers of prisoners? ~~This appears to be more certain than ever today, with new stories from liberated captives now coming, in worse shape than they, themselves, were left behind in North Korean hospitals and camps. Well, the new promise made by the Reds today, <sup>is</sup> in ambiguous terms, -- and it is hard to tell.~~

*We don't know. It*

At a meeting of liaison officers, in Pan Mun Jom, Communist Major General Lee Sang Cho gave the following statement to U.S. Admiral John

*Daniel*  
~~Swain~~

Here are the exact words: "I would like to inform your side that the sick and wounded captured personnel, whom our side is liberating, ~~this time~~, include not only all sick and wounded personnel held in the prisoner of war camps on our side, but also those captured recently by our side at the front. Therefore", the Communist representative went on, "the number of personnel to be repatriated is more than the estimated figure of which your side has been previously informed."

One supposition is that the Reds, in talking about recently captured prisoners, are merely saving face -- meaning, really, that they will hand over prisoners they have been holding back, in violation of the agreement they have made. This is the ~~stout~~ view taken by General Mark Clark in Tokyo. He seems

to take it for granted that the Reds mean they'll return all the sick and wounded.

Other American officials, however, are inclined to think the Communists are merely talking about recently captured U N soldiers -- who have not yet been taken to prisoner-of-war-camps. They don't specifically promise the return of sick and wounded captives, whom they have been holding back. Leaving that point of dispute -- unchanged.

The one saving grace is that we will, apparently, get back more prisoners of war.



over eighty, <sup>years of age, and</sup> several others over seventy."

Bishop Cooper says that many died. The Americans <sup>(soldiers)</sup> were sick and wounded -- and ninety-six perished. The Commander of the death march, was a brutal major of the North Korean police -- known as: "The Tiger". Which is in line with statements we get -- that the North Korean Communists showed themselves more inhuman than the Chinese.)



Sailor Thomas Waddill of Fort Worth, Texas ~~XXXXXX~~ declares: "We were fed three times a day up there in the hospital -- all the chow we wanted". Samuel Armstrong of San Antonio, Texas described the treatment he received as -- "wonderful".

Most of these American prisoners, in the latest batch sent back, were captured in the fighting during the past month or so. All evidence pointing to the fact -- that the Reds began to treat prisoners much better during recent weeks. The change might well be connected with a new Communist policy of conciliation.

But the atrocity stories continue today -- told by South Koreans. They say they were tortured with savage brutality. One -- a woman -- the only woman in the prisoner exchange thus far. She enlisted in the South Korean Army as a cook, was captured. She says the Reds beat her unmercifully, day after day.

## FOLLOW PRISONERS EISENHOWER

The latest from Pan Mun Jom tells of still another session of prisoner exchange. ~~It's~~ It's morning over there, and twenty-five South Koreans passed through Freedom Gate. Followed by -- nineteen Americans and six other allied prisoners. Another twenty-one Americans will follow later in the day. The Americans who have passed through "Freedom Gate" thus far today seem to be in good condition -- ~~were~~ cheerful and ~~and~~ laughing.

On the other side of the exchange, We find the first Red captive -- refusing to go back to the Communists. A North Korean ~~North Korean~~ soldier, who was being carried to a train load of prisoners at Pusan. Suddenly, he protested -- said he didn't want to go back. So he was left behind, while the other Reds went on to be exchanged.



## EISENHOWER-POLICY

Today President Eisenhower gave his news  
~~xxxxxxx~~ conference a discussion of policy in the  
matter of West European rearmament. He was asked  
about a report ~~xxxxxxx~~ that the United States has  
agreed with Great Britain -- that the build-up of  
military power should be stretched out over a number  
of years. Not in such a hurry, ~~right away~~.<sup>P</sup> The  
understanding had been that the program was aimed  
at Nineteen Fifty-Four, the peak of Western armament  
to be reached -- next year.<sup>P</sup> But the President said:  
that the need in Europe is -- a program <sup>to be</sup> ~~that~~ carried  
forward steadily. Just keep it going, without any  
deadline. He decried the supposition that western  
Europe should be ready for an attack -- on any  
specific date. You can't tell when a crisis might  
come and the idea should be -- to increase Western-  
European ~~an~~ defenses in a steady methodical way.

~~The President told the news conference  
that there has been no direct reply from Soviet  
Russia -- to that Eisenhower statement of foreign~~

policy, a week ago today. Those peace and disarmament proposals have evoked no Russian Response.

In Paris, the NATO Council of Ministers received a message from the President today. General Ike made history as the commander who began the planning of armed forces for the North Atlantic Treaty Alliance, -- and, therefore, could speak as more than the President of the United States. He warned the Ministers of Nato, in <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ tactful way, not to wax too optimistic ~~xxxxx~~ about the Soviet peace offensive.

"Until the conditions for genuine peace have been firmly established," said the Presidential message, "it would be fool-hardy for us to delude ourselves about the dangers confronting us."

## EISENHOWER-LEGISLATION

*And* The White House news conference today should be a final answer to previous fears -- that President Eisenhower might not oblige the reporters with plenty of news -- might not meet and talk with news men fully and freely, might be stingy in discussing matters for press and radio.

Today's news conference was copious -- dealing not only with foreign affairs, but with domestic matters in abundance. President Eisenhower took up the subject of the St. Lawrence waterway. He said the United States should join Canada in that great project.

*Also, he announced that*  
~~he said that~~ shortly, ~~which~~ he will give Congress plans for reorganization of the State Department ~~and~~ ~~also~~ the Department of <sup>Defense.</sup> ~~which~~

He told the reporters he didn't think it was wise for Congress to ~~cancel~~ cancel programs for public housing -- which the House of Representatives voted down. (But, he said he didn't think the Republican legislators were defying the White House.

{ They were merely following their own conscience,  
thought the President. )

~~( He said he believed -- there should be a  
revision of the law governing atomic energy. We  
should foster the private development of atomic  
power and the Atomic Energy Act should be amended. )~~

These are merely some of the topics that  
President Eisenhower discussed at his news conference  
today.

## RENT CONTROL

The House of Representatives has voted to ~~not~~ abolish all federal rent controls on August First. The controls are scheduled to expire -- midnight, next Tuesday. So, in effect, the bill would continue them for three months more, extending rent ceilings for that length of time.

The measure now goes to the Senate, which seems to be in no condition to consider anything. Today the marathon ~~xxx~~ debate on the Tidelands Oil issue continued. The opponents of the Tidelands bill talked on and on with endless oratory -- although they insist it is not a filibuster. (Apparently, ~~the rent control bill won't get action until the Tidelands affair is over. And that might not be, possibly, until the ceilings on rent have passed out. The Senate - doing nothing about them.~~)

## GRUENWALD

The mystery man of Washington, Gruenwald, the Dutchman, is in the news again, -- and this time his name is linked with that of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Gruenwald, who has done secret investigation for various prominent people, now says -- he did an undercover job for F.D.R.

This testimony, given before a congressional committee <sup>today</sup> stirred immediate interest, but the Dutchman refused to say -- what kind of investigation it was, or whom he investigated. He merely stated he had been commissioned to do the undercover job by Thomas Corcoran., one time aid of the late President Roosevelt. "Tommy the Cork" of New Deal fame. All of which stirs up a lot of curiosity.

## PLANE

There's no word about the big transport plane missing over the Cascade Mountains of Washington. A C-47 which was on its way to take aboard a military passenger list at Seattle. Only the crew of four was in the plane -- which vanished in foggy weather.

At Orting, Washington, a farmer tells of seeing a brilliant flash in the sky. But it isn't clear whether this might apply to the missing C-46.

## GENERAL

There's a section of California that seems to be threatened with all the devastation of war. Threatened by ~~an~~ a U.S. Air Force General. The target -- a dude ranch -- which may be assailed with bombs, rockets, and flaming napalm. Such is the charge made by a pioneer woman flier, Mrs. Florence Barnes, who accuses BrigadierGeneral Joseph <sup>Holtoner</sup> ~~Haltner~~, Commander of the Edwards Air Force base near Muroc, California.

The dude ranch, owned by Mrs. Barnes, is near the Air Base, and the government wants to take over the property -- offering one-hundred-and-eighty thousand dollars. ~~is worth~~ The ~~price~~ pioneer woman flier values it at a million and a half. She says General <sup>Holtoner</sup> ~~Haltner~~ took reprisals, and placed the dude ranch out of bounds for his Air Force people. So she sued him for Three Hundred Thousand Dollars. ~~she~~ <sup>she</sup> today - in court - <sup>she</sup> told of ~~the~~ threats the General is ~~alleged~~ alleged to have made. Saying: He'd have his bombing squadrons blast the <sup>dude</sup> ~~ranch~~ ranch, with



DENVER

I'm in Denver tonight, having arrived this morning -- and the first thing I did was to take a look at the Rocky Mountain News. All in the spirit of -- home sweet home. I grew up at Cripple Creek, the great old gold camp in the mountains. But, I *came down from the high mountains to attend Denver Univ?* ~~went to ~~XXXXXX~~ school in Denver~~ and married a Denver girl; *also* *for a while* ~~and~~ worked as a news reporter here - on the Rocky Mountain News, *and Times. The news today* ~~which, today, XXXXXXXX~~ was commemorating its ninety-fourth birthday. The first newspaper to be published in Colorado.

Today's birthday article was written by Robert Perkin, who dwells on a famous event back in Eighteen Sixty-four - when a flood swept the Rocky Mountain news away. Editorial office, printing press and all. The three thousand pound steam press was found later half a mile down Cherry Creek.

Five editors and reporters were able to save their lives, because the roof of the Methodist Church came floating down stream, and lodged on a nearby bank. They took refuge on the church top -

until rescued.

Well, that flood is a legend in Denver newspaper history, and so is the account of it written by one of the reporters in the narrow escape. He was also a Professor, Denver's first schoolmaster, Professor O. J. Goldrick, after whom a school <sup>was</sup> ~~is~~ *in this fast growing city,* ~~now~~ named. The Professor described the coming of the deluge in the following majestic prose: "A frightful phenomenon," he wrote, "sounded in the distance and a shocking calamity presently charged upon us. Is there no power to stem the tide? Men are mere ciphers in creation."

*And that's*  
~~Must have been~~ quite a flood - of words,  
 as well as water, and now a flood of  
 song.