

MacARTHUR

R.J. - P. & G. Thursday, Oct. 12, 1950.

Tonight President Truman is flying to his meeting with MacArthur - somewhere west of Hawaii. Complete secrecy still shrouds the subjects to be discussed by the President and Supreme Commander. But, from sources close to MacArthur headquarters in Tokyo, we have an inkling of the attitude the General will take.

We are told that he goes to the conference with views that have been attributed to him all along - that the United States should adopt an all-out policy against the spread of Communism in Asia. MacArthur believes that the Korean War should set a precedent - the crushing of Red aggression there should be the pattern of the future. In other words, we should be ready to give the Korea treatment to Communist expansion in other parts of Asia - like French Indo-China. And - Formosa. The MacArthur contention is that the Red problem along the shores of the Pacific is as important to this country as the Communist menace in Europe. He does not

agree with the opinion, said to be prevalent in Washington,
on the otherside of
that our greatest danger is Soviet aggression ~~in~~ the
Atlantic. He thinks Asia is as important as Europe.

But - will MacArthur say that to Truman? It all
depends - replies Tokyo. We are told that the General will not
set forth his views, unless the President asks him to. He
will wait to be questioned. He'll give replies on every point
the President brings up. But, as for his own ^{opinion} ~~view~~ of
American policy in the Pacific - he'll wait until he's asked.

This is explained on the ground ^{of} ~~that~~ MacArthur's
military character. He is a stickler for protocol - and the
President of the United States is his chief, who summoned him
to the conference. Something like a colonel calling in a
captain - ^{which would be the} ~~same~~ relation, on a lower level. In other words,
MacArthur is the Supreme Commander in the Far East, but
Truman is the Commander-in-Chief.

An odd ^{sidelight} ~~side-light~~ on all this is given by the
London Times today, which expresses the hope that General

MacArthur will not "devour" President Truman. That British newspaper has the European view that Soviet ambitions in Europe are the big danger. So the London Times doesn't want to see President Truman "devoured" at the conference in the mid-Pacific.

That voracious word, meaning "eat 'em alive" is explained in an article from the Times correspondent in Washington, who writes: "So many men have left Washington to explain the Administration's policy to General MacArthur in the past - and have been converted to his point of view."

KOREA

The Korean Reds appear to be pulling their forces back toward their capital, Pyongyang. Today aerial scouts reported enemy troops and transport moving to the rear. This fits in with a belief that the resistance to the drive of the U.N. forces may be breaking up. Today American troops were within sixty-five miles of Pyongyang, which represents a ten mile advance - as compared with the news of yesterday.

A three-prong drive is on, and the heaviest resistance is being encountered by the spearhead over to the east. The other two columns are having an easier time, as they push forward with an advance led by tanks. The key point of Kunchon, ~~which~~ still remains in enemy hands, ^(but) was outflanked today and is being encircled - in the race between the American First Cavalry and the British Middlesex Regiment, each ambitious to take Kunchon. Battlefront reports describe Red resistance as weakening - all ~~is~~ supporting the supposition of a Communist withdrawal for a last ditch defense of Pyongyang.

On the other side of the peninsula, the east coast,

there was a reverberation of tremendous gunfire - as an American naval squadron bombarded the port of Chongjin. That's the only remaining east coast harbor of any consequence left to the Reds - and Chongjin is only forty-nine miles from the border of Soviet Siberia. The port was pulverized ~~by the guns~~ ~~of the ships~~, by salvos from American naval guns, including the giant batteries of Battleship Missouri. →

SIGN

Here's an item to startle you, and make you think the tenth wonder of the world has arrived. An advertisement that does not say - "Our products are superior, and we give perfect service." This news dispatch tells about a store that has put up a sign reading: "We'll always let you down."

But don't faint. The place in question is at the Twentieth Air Force Base on the island of Okinawa, and the sign decorates a shop that sells - parachute rigging to aviators. So those parachute people are actually advertising: "Our products are superior, and we give perfect service."
"We'll always let you down."

U.N. - FOLLOW KOREA

At the U.N. tonight, General MacArthur was instructed to limit the Free Korean Government to South Korea - and set up a new civil administration in the conquered areas of North Korea. This is in contradiction to the intentions of the government of South Korean President Syngman Rhee - which has proclaimed its own authority over all Korea.

Today's decision was handed down by a committee set up last week to plan the unification of all Korea - General MacArthur told to establish local, autonomous administration in the home grounds of the Reds.

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Here's a late bulletin from the U.N. - another Soviet veto. This time - cast against Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations. The Security Council, by a majority vote of nine to one, recommended that Trygve Lie be continued in his present job. But the Moscow delegation has turned against him, and said - veto. The Soviets want the Foreign Minister of Red Poland to take the post of Secretary General of the U.N.

IMMIGRATION

The State Department took drastic action today - under the Communist Control Bill. American embassies and consulates abroad were ordered to suspend visas for all foreigners - except displaced persons. They are not to be allowed into the country, until the Departments of State and Justice have clarified the provision of the new law - barring people who have been connected with totalitarianism, which includes Nazi and Fascist, as well as Communist.

Actually, of course, Congress was hitting at the Reds - and included other totalitarians as a sort of decoration. The Truman administration opposed the bill, and is now enforcing it to the letter. It sounds like that old way of retaliation - just enforce the rules. All of them literally, and - what a mix-up! So now we have the order - suspend all visas for foreigners, except displaced persons.

In New York today, another batch of ~~displaced persons~~ Italians were seized, taken into custody, and held by the

Immigration authorities. This time it's a group of distinguished musicians who arrived aboard the British liner Queen Mary, on a "good-will tour." They come to give a benefit concert in behalf of an Italian version of "Boys Town." Which is, of course, an adaptation of our own "Boys Town," in the Middlewest, founded by the legended Father Flanagan. The good-will tour seems to have been approved by the State Department, but now it's held up by the Immigration authorities. One of the musicians is Victor DeSabata (Sabata takes the accent on the first syllable), who is engaged to conduct concerts for the New York Philharmonic.

In the battle over Communist Control, the Italians are in the middle. A few years ago, totalitarian Fascism was quite popular in Italy - until Mussolini stuck his neck into Hitler's war. So you might have to look hard to find an Italian of any prominence, who can't be caught up on Fascism. Last ^{Tuesday} ~~week~~ the Immigration authorities grabbed people arriving on an Italian liner. One was a Metropolitan opera star.

Another - Maestro Toscanini, of all people! They were turned loose after a while - and so, no doubt, will that good-will tour held up today.

I suppose it's all good politics in the Truman battle against the Communist Control Bill - but will it create so much good-will everywhere?

The American Legion today adopted a resolution of severe criticism against the State Department - and blamed Secretary Acheson for, what the Legion calls "a refusal to evaluate the dangers of Communism." ~~It~~ But the Secretary's name was not mentioned, in what amounts to a compromise.

The Legion Committee on Foreign Affairs had considered it an "oust Acheson" resolution. But this was rejected in ^{favor of} something more moderate - ^a call upon President Truman to "reconstitute" our Department of State. Resolution adopted with a roar - by the Legion Convention at Los Angeles.

ATLANTIS

The spirit of Columbus Day makes this next bit of news appropriate - word of a new project of discovery and exploration. In Fourteen Hundred and Ninety-two, the voyage of the Genoese navigator might have seemed fantastic, but no more so than the scheme announced today. But it's an old idea -- Atlantis, a quest for the lost Atlantis.

In London they have what is called - "The Atlantis Research Center." The chairman - Explorer Egerton Sykes. He says he's going to try it in a submarine.

A special under-sea craft has been built - a small one, with an observation window, out of which they hope to behold fabulous, if not mythical, scenes.

Well, the legend of Atlantis has beguiled mankind since the earliest dawn of history. The philosopher Plato tells of it as an ancient story in his day - how a great brilliant kingdom, far to the west, was overwhelmed by the ocean, and sank into the sea. In

modern times, there has been speculation about a possible continent of the mid-Atlantic, which disappeared below the waves. So now they say they're going to try an undersea voyage to the lost kingdom or continent - and navigate, maybe, among the sunken palaces, temples and shrines of Atlantis.

Well, in Fourteen Hundred and Ninety-two, Columbus was thought fantastic - but here we are.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Strange doings in Czechoslovakia - where the police confiscated an edition of the official Communist newspaper. The reason - a picture on the front page, a handsome photograph showing Red President Gottwald administering the oath of office to the new Communist Defense Minister. Prominent in the group was the Chief-of-Staff of the Red army - and the photograph pictured a decoration on his sleeve. The Swastika, Hitler's crooked Cross. Sabotage! Some artist or engraver had filled in the Nazi emblem.

The police confiscated the whole edition, and ~~the~~ the photograph was cut down, the offending sleeve and Swastika trimmed out.

But, when the revised picture was printed, in the next edition, it was noticed that one of the assistants to the Red President had a Swastika on his coat. Sabotage all over again. So that edition was confiscated, and the next one appeared with no photograph at all.

This follows a whole series of similar incidents.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA - 2

A little while ago, a humorous magazine of the Communist Union Organization ran a cartoon showing the imperialist Americans launching a battleship called "Peace." Then it was noticed that the caricatured Americans in the picture had the faces of Communist leaders.

TRUMAN

Before leaving St. Louis today, President Truman discovered that a president doesn't rate any higher than any other citizen - not with the telephone operator. Ready to continue his trip out into the Pacific to meet General MacArthur, he picked up the phone in his hotel room, and said to the operator: "This is the President. I want to talk to my wife."

"Sorry, sir," the operator replied sweetly, "do you have her number?" Just as if it were you or I.

Of course, she might have risen to the occasion and used her wits - calling the Washington operator or something. But the hello-girl is an autocrat in her own sphere, and the routine is: "Do you have the number?"

That was an awkward question, because the President had to turn to his press secretary, and say: "What is that White House number, Charlie?"

Well, at least Charlie Ross knew. "National, One Four One Four," he replied.

Which also shows that a president may know less
than some of us ordinary citizens - who do know our own
telephone number, *Nelson.*