

TRUMAN-MACARTHUR (T.F.G.) Dec. 10-52. Wed.

President Truman says - General Douglas MacArthur should advise him "at once" of any proposal he has for Korea. The President does not mention the name of MacArthur, but puts it in these words: "I think that, if anyone has a reasonable plan for ending the Korean fighting in an honorable way, in a way that will not lead directly into a great war - that plan should be presented at once to the President."

This comes from the special ~~xxxx~~train on which President Truman is traveling back to Washington, after a visit to his home town of Independence, Missouri - where he attended the funeral of his mother-in-law. On the train he heard that President-elect Eisenhower had communicated with General MacArthur - expressing his interest in the proposal MacArthur says he has.

Here's a later dispatch - stating that there will be a meeting between the two Generals in New York shortly after Eisenhower's return.

CARNEGIE FOUNDATION

In Washington today, a Senate committee heard the story of the appointment of Alger Hiss as the President of the Carnegie Endowment for international peace. The witness - John W. Davis, a trustee of the fund - noted constitutional lawyer, and candidate for the Presidency on the Democratic ticket in Nineteen Twenty-four.

He declared that, in Nineteen Forty-seven, the fund was in need of both a President and a chairman. For the latter office, they wanted John Foster Dulles -- now named by President-elect Eisenhower to be the new Secretary of State. Dulles agreed, on condition that a full-time President be named - and it was he who suggested Alger Hiss. Dulles explained that he had encountered Hiss in connection with Foreign affairs. "And," says Davis "recommended that we look him over, which we did." He says they investigated Hiss carefully, and the reports were what Davis calls "entirely favorable." So Hiss was made President of

the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

(Later came the charge, made by Whittaker Chambers, that Hiss had been a member of a Red espionage group in the government. Hiss thereupon offered to resign - but was given a four months leave of absence with pay. John W. Davis explaining: "It was the feeling of the board, which I thoroughly shared - that to accept his resignation would be prejudicing his case.")

All of which was followed by the trial and conviction of Alger Hiss, charged with perjury when he denied he transmitted State Department secrets to Red espionage.

ROSENBERG

A New York Federal Judge, today, denied another appeal made by the convicted atom spies, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. Judge Sylvester Ryan refused to set aside the death sentence -- imposed on the husband and wife for taking part in the disclosure of atomic secrets to Soviet Russia.

The Rosenbergs have now only two chances left to escape execution - set for the week of January Twelfth, at Sing Sing. They can plead to the courts for - judicial clemency. Or they can ask President Truman - for mercy. The President could commute their sentences to life imprisonment.

Meanwhile, the Communists ~~are~~ are making all possible use of the Rosenberg case - for Red propaganda. At Vienna, they ^{are} launching, what they call - a "peace conference." Same old Moscow line, by using "peace" for propaganda. And - they'll make as much noise as possible about the Rosenbergs. The Communist line is that they ^{are} persecuted victims of war hysteria in the United States. Also, victims of anti-semitism.

The Communists are bearing down on this the more heavily - because of the violent anti-semitism at the recent purge trials in Czechoslovakia, the Slansky affair. This, we hear, has caused bitter, angry repercussions. Which the Reds are trying to counteract by shouting - "anti-semitism" in this American case of atomic espionage.

PROTEST

The United States sends a stiff protest to Red Hungary, also to Moscow, demanding redress for an American plane that had to make a forced landing in the satellite country, a year ago. Hungarian Reds arresting four Air Force flyers, jailing them on trumped up spy charges, and imposing a fine of one hundred and twenty-three thousand dollars. Which had to be paid to get the airmen free - blackmail.

The State Department now calls for a return of the cargo aboard the plane, together with documents carried by the flyers. Also, payment for the value of the plane - placed at a hundred thousand dollars. Which is almost the amount of ransom paid the Communists.

It isn't clear what can be done to make the Reds come to terms, if they should reject the protest - which they^are likely to do.

(France won a victory at the U N this afternoon - when the political committee rejected a resolution in the Tunisian question.) France has been boycotting all moves to investigate the disturbances in that North African possession; - which also goes for Morocco. (The French don't want any U N interference whatever.)

But Pakistan brought forward a resolution - to invite the Bey of Tunis to send a representative to the U N and join in the debate. Which was rejected by a narrow vote - twenty-six to twenty-four.

(The French victory was due largely to the United States - the American delegation voting against the resolution - our stand usually influences ~~by~~ other delegations - and may well have been the deciding factor in the narrow vote.)

U N

Here's the latest -- a report from the United Nations -- that the U N has fired four non-American employees, suspected of Communist activities. Hitherto the ones dismissed have been Americans charged with being Red. Now citizens of Britain, France and Scandinavia -- let out on Communist charges.

At the Port of Aden, ⁱⁿ southern ^{west} Arabia, a trial began today - of number one international consequence. The Supreme Court of the British protectorate took up the case of the Rose Mary. Which is a petty tanker, with a cargo of seven-hundred-and-eighty tons of oil, worth less than fifteen thousand dollars. But its Anglo-Iranian oil-shipped from those great petroleum fields ^{seized and nationalized} ~~that have been seized~~ by the Iranian government, ~~nationalized~~.

The Rose Mary, with a name out of the English language, flies the flag of Honduras, belongs to a concern in Switzerland, and is under charter to an Italian company. She put in at the oil port of Abadan, and loaded up with Iranian crude - which was to be sold on the European market. But, navigating out in the Arabian sea, the Rose Mary had engine trouble, and had to put in at the nearest port. There the British authorities held up the vessel and cargo, on a claim by the Anglo-Iranian oil company.

The London government thinks the affair ~~is~~

so important, they've sent one of the leading lights of British law to argue the case - Sir Hartley Shawcross, former Attorney General and British prosecutor at the Nuremberg trial of war criminals. He to present - what amounts to the whole British international contention. Namely - that Iranian oil belongs to the company, on that ground the British will take legal proceedings, anywhere in the world.

Which is a large order - now embodied in that picayune tanker, the Honduran, Swiss, Italian Rose Mary.

UNION

New York City is having a wage dispute with bus drivers -- which now produces a new twister in labor controversies. The union today voted to give passengers free rides - starting midnight Sunday, unless the companies grant a forty-hour week, with no loss in pay. That is, the drivers on nine bus lines will refrain from collecting fares.

Union President Michael Quill says the free rides for three and a half million passengers a day will rouse the employers to do something. Also - demonstrate the spirit of Christmas. I don't know how this would rank as a Christmas celebration, but it would be dramatic - in a labor dispute.

CHURCH

At Denver, this evening, the Greek Orthodox Church became a member of the National Council of churches. That ancient religious group, which dates back to early Christian times, has a membership of about one million in the United States. Headed by Archbishop Michael, of New York, the Greek Orthodox believers are now affiliated with a religious organization that numbers thirty different sects. This evening's event was marked by colorful ceremony - a processional in the Denver Civic Auditorium.

NAVAL OFFICER

In Maryland, a retired naval officer emerged from a mental institution, today - thereby ending a case that has been a strange mystery.

Retired Commander George Reeves had a fine career in the Navy - ~~commander of warships, including~~ ^{seawing on} several cruisers, ^{and commanding a destroyer.} In Nineteen thirty-eight, having retired, he got into an automobile accident, and was fined six hundred dollars. As things turned out, he was given the option ~~of~~ ~~paying~~ the fine - or go into the Spring Grove Mental hospital for observation.

He preferred ~~to go~~ the mental hospital. There ^{to} ~~was~~ declared - sane, perfectly normal. He could have left - by merely making application. But he never did. He stayed there fourteen years. The case was ~~in~~ all the stranger because he had a wife and daughter, - ~~His~~ wife died six years ago.

They said he could be considered ~~not~~ mentally

unbalanced only, in the words of a statement -

"because he made no effort to get out of the hospital for fourteen years."

But finally he did, ~~and~~ walked out today - sixty-six years old, quiet, soft spoken. Still silent - about his strange decision.

BOYS

Phoenix, Arizona, reports the case of the four desperados; - and, the punishment to fit the crime would seem to be the old woodshed treatment, with father's razor strop. Four teen age boys held up an institution, trying to recruit girls in their career of crime. Which wound up - with salted peanuts. They began by stealing an automobile with which they drove to the county juvenile detention home, last night. Two of them, wearing white hoods for masks, walked in, pointed a gun, held up the officer on duty - and locked him in a solitary confinement cell.

Then, brandishing the pistol, they made their way to the sleeping quarters of girls, juveniles held in detention. Ten were in bed there, and the two boys wearing the hoods, told them to come along, and escape. But the girls only pulled the blankets over their heads - scared out of their wits. The desperadoes tried to rout ~~traverse~~ them out, taunted them, called them - "chicken". But it was no go - the girls

wouldn't move.

The desperadoes, thereupon, started out alone - held up a tavern, and forced the bartender to hand over fifty-seven dollars. With plenty of bravado, they also made him give them a bottle of champagne. The bartender says they picked the cheapest champagne in the place.

The climax of the robbery game, when they forced him to open up the supply of salted peanuts. That was the loot, and off they went - eating peanuts.

Well, its too bad that we don't have woodsheds any more and father doesn't have a razor strop. The old fashioned way would certainly be the way - with those peanut eating desperadoes.

ART

There's an argument in Milwaukee - over a pool table in an art museum. Which arouses protest. People saying - it makes the place look like an old time pool room; not so elegant or artistic.

Of course, you may ask - what has the eight ball to do with Michelangelo, Rembrandt, or Picasso? Well, the pool table was part of the original furnishings of an old Milwaukee mansion now displayed in the Museum.

It's a billiard table - and in polite circles, pool is called "pocket billiards", To get away from the rowdy tone of the old time pool room. But "what's in a name?" As Shakespeare asked. The controversy ~~is~~ is taken up by the Billiard Congress of America, which argues: "To excoriate billiards, merely because there are some disreputable establishments, and there are some highly reprehensible characters who play the game, in one form or another - is like saying that we Americans should not eat bread, because the Communists in Russia eat bread."

Nevertheless, the Trustees today voted against the pool table - and out it goes. Which makes old time pool sharks like Jelby Burns and me shake our heads and say: in the immortal words of Jas. Whit. Riley:- What's the world a'commin' too,? Nelson?