

CHARTER

L. J. - *Senaco*. Monday, July 2, 1945.

(3)

There was aⁿ historic scene in the United States Senate today. President Truman appeared, presenting one of the great documents of all time, the United Nations Charter. He asked the Senate to ratify it promptly. And he made it clear that no amendments were invited. It is not a case, he said, of choosing between this Charter and some other document. The choice is between this Charter and no charter at all. It has been evolved after full discussion in the greatest possible glare of publicity. It is not true, he said, that there were many points of disagreement among the United Nations. And he used these words: "The fact is that there were comparatively few points upon which there was not accord from the very beginning."

Mr. Truman then pointed out to his former fellow Senators that improvements will come in the future, as the United Nations gain experience with the machinery and

methods which they have set up. ^{TP} "It is not a static treaty, it can be improved," said he. "It points down the only road to enduring peace; there is no other." ^{Then} he added:—"It seeks to prevent future wars, it seeks to settle international disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice. It seeks to promote worldwide progress and better standards^d of living. It seeks to achieve universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all men and women -- without distinction as to race, language or religion. It seeks to remove the economic and social causes of international conflict and unrest."

After Governor Dewey's statement yesterday at Mackinac, it is conceded that the ratification of the Charter by the Senate of the United States is almost an accomplished fact. As leader of the Republican Party, ^{Gov.} ~~Gov.~~ Dewey said no reservations were necessary, and would simply delay adoption. He also called for quick ratification.

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Senator Barkley, as majority leader, informed the President that he had information that there would not be more than six votes against the Charter. In fact, he could not put his finger on as many as six.

BYRNES

The Senate today confirmed the nomination of James F. Byrnes as Secretary of State - without a single dissenting vote. This was as expected. Jimmy Byrnes is one of the few men who are equally popular on both sides of the political fence. Republicans like him just as much as Democrats. The nomination went through without even the usual committee hearings. Secretary of State Byrnes will face his first big job when the Big Three meet at Berlin, where he will be the President's chief counsellor. So, it seems fortunate that Jimmy Byrnes was one of those who went with President Roosevelt to Yalta, where so many momentous decisions were made.

SURRENDER FOLLOW JAPAN

There was a sensation in Washington today when Senator Capehart of Indiana announced that he definitely had heard that Japan offered to surrender thirty days ago. The offer, he said, included the giving up of all territory the Japs have taken since Nineteen Thirty-One -- which would include Manchuria; also that the Japs said they would demobilize their army, and put their navy out of commission, what is left of it.

Senator Capehart added that he had this information from a government official, whom he would not name. He went on to say that he does not know what was done about this offer.

The Indiana Senator made his statement not on the floor of the Senate, but to newspapermen. In the meantime, the Republican leader, Senator White of Maine, did on the floor of the Senate demand that President Truman inform the public just what are the unconditional

surrender terms to be imposed on Japan. In so doing he explained that he was speaking in his personal capacity, not as Republican leader. Senator Barkley, as Democratic leader, then protested against Senator White's remarks. He said it was questionable whether it would be proper for the President to define any terms of unconditional surrender without consulting the other Allies.

But, the Senator Capehart statement was the sensation of the day.

ADD JAPAN

The Japanese radios continue to broadcast warnings to the Mikado's people that the invasion of their country is at hand. The Tokyo spokesman today announced that the Japanese government has an infallible air force in reserve. ^{That} It has also completed plans for using civilians as freight handlers ^{to} ~~and thereby~~ facilitating transport. ^{TP} The curtain is about to be raised on the homeland battle, ^{That's the theme of} ~~is the slogan of~~ broadcast after broadcast. ^{The Japs say that} New planes are being built in great numbers, ^{these to} ~~and they will~~ go into battle the same day they are made. ^{something} ~~They will be~~ superior weapons ~~and~~ ^{to} ~~will~~ surprise the enemy.

^{latest} Japan, said the broadcast, will have a complete advantage in many points. First of all, superior numbers in troops and equipment, then the topography of the country, mountains with cliffs abutting the sea, not like ^(the flat) ~~axfing~~ level plains of France.

Tokyo ^{also} ~~then~~ pointed out that the Allies will have to bring men and supplies in ships; ^{while} ~~But~~ the Japanese will be able to concentrate against any invasion point, ^{if} even if the railroads have been destroyed. — *so they say.*

AIR_FORCE

The Twenty-First Bomber Command has thrown another one-two attack at Japan, the third in a week. A task force of B-29s bombed the oil refineries and storage areas to the southwest of Osaka, less than twenty-four hours after yesterday's big raid when almost six hundred planes set four of the Mikado's cities on fire.

The Twenty-First Bomber Command has now brought the war home to no fewer than twenty-three enemy cities. It has delivered more than seventy-five thousand tons of explosive bombs and incendiaries in less than four months. Those twenty-three cities have a total population of eighteen million, one-fourth of the seventy-two million in the Japanese homeland.

CHINA

Here is news, if it's true. Tokyo announces that our forces have landed on the island of Amoy, which is just off the southeast coast of China. Tokyo says the Americans landed there last week, June Twenty-seventh. The Japs, ~~which~~ add that the landing parties were at once discovered and driven off. They say our force landed in a hundred junks -- Chinese junks -- under American command. Sounds odd, that story, because all our amphibious operations are conducted with landing craft. At any rate, neither our own high command in the Pacific -- by the way, which is our high command out there, MacArthur or Nimitz? Neither confirms this story. And Chungking also says nothing about it.

However, Chungking does report heavy fighting in the frontier region of Indo-China. Chiang Kai-Shek has considerably strengthened his forces in the southern part of the Province of Kwangsi. The word from the mainland of Asia today is that a reinforced army of Japanese counterattacked the Chinese at Chungchingfu

in Indo-China, and forced the Chinese to withdraw. The Japs have three divisions left in Indo-China.

The Chinese have announced that the Japs have withdrawn from the island of Weichow, which is between the Luichow Peninsula and the northern coast of Indo-China. And that's considered to be the first step toward a complete withdrawal of enemy forces from the large island of Hainan. For several years the Japs have been building airfields on Weichow, employing the usual throngs of Chinese coolies for the job. Those fields may be most useful to us.

BORNEO

Here's some Borneo news from General MacArthur's headquarters in Manila. It will not be long before the Australians have complete possession of Balikpapan. ~~It will be~~ One of the richest prizes in the ^{whole} ~~entire~~ Borneo campaign. The city is ~~now~~ now in flames, and the Australians ^{have driven} ~~drove~~ two miles inland from the beachhead and have captured the hills dominating the ~~city area~~. The furious Allied attack from the air has sent the Nips on the run northward.

Tokyo reports still another Allied landing ^{— sometimes Kō-ala-sambojuh —} at a place called Kula (Koealasangbodja), twenty-seven miles northeast of Balikpapan. But the Allied reports make no mention of that.

MacArthur has already landed five thousand of ^{his} ~~the~~ Australians on the beachhead. ^{— with some} ~~There are~~ two hundred and fifty landing craft on the job, disembarking fresh men every hour.

It's interesting to observe that this is the

FIRE

first operation under MacArthur's command in which the airfields were not the first objective. MacArthur's plans are for the capture of Balikpapan itself, since in addition to its refining facilities, it's a useful port with excellent shipping facilities -- even in Borneo.

MacArthur in person, is on the job, and under fire again; walking ~~xxx~~ through miles of swampland and climbing hills of loose shale to where he could watch operations -- with a large scale grid map in front of him, as he ^{conferred} ~~conferred~~ with an Australian brigadier.

Suddenly eight shots zipped by them. A Jap sniper had their range. The staff ducked, and the brigadier looked nervous, but ^{MacArthur continued to study} ~~MacArthur continued to study~~ the map.

Finally the brigadier said: "You know, he has been there for a bit of a time," -- referring to the Jap sniper.

"Okay," said MacArthur, "We'll root him out later today."

Whereupon he finished his conference with the
brigadier, to whom he said: "Tell your boys I am proud
of them for the way they have pushed ahead. They are
doing fine."

since December 1941... the Greek
... that Great Britain has been
operating with the British fleet against the Japanese
in the Indian Ocean.

All of these... discussion
as to what the Greeks expect to do... if any.

interests in the Pacific...
The Japanese have... and also

that we are... fighter
planes in this... aircraft

... would be if this were true...

JAPAN

For three years and a half the Japanese government has been in ignorance of an important fact. One of the nations at war with the Mikado is Greece. Athens has just notified Tokyo that a state of war has existed since December Eight, 1941. A spokesman of the Greek Embassy at Washington said that Greek warships have been operating with the British fleet against the Japanese in the Indian Ocean.

All of which arouses considerable discussion as to what the Greeks expect to get out of it when Japan is conquered. The Greeks have few, if any, interests in the Pacific.

The Japs have come up with another odd item: that we are using girl pilots to fly our P-51 fighter planes, in China. I know how pleased our airmen - Chennault's boys, would be if this were true. To them

white women are but a pleasant memory. Well, Japanese ground batteries at Kweilin claim to have shot down three P-51s, each manned by an American girl. They say these girl Mustang pilots were dressed in smart outfits designed by Walt Disney! They looked swell, said the Jap broadcast, but, as fighter pilots their aerial technique was inferior, so they quickly fell prey to Japanese flak.

What a cockeyed yarn that is! When you cross the Himalayas at Kunming -- that's the headquarters of Chennault and his famous Flying Tigers -- an officer comes aboard -- he's an eloquent Irishman by the way, his name, Bryan Mennough of the Mennoughs of Kilarney -- and he tells you with an oratorical flourish that altho you are in one of the most glorious cities in China, with a wonderful climate, home of the A.V.G. and so on, that for the duration of your stay in China you will see almost no American girls, and that they will be but

a pleasant memory.

Later on, on a trip down toward the Japanese Corridor, in the seldom visited city of Kweiyang, capital of the province of Keeichow, I did see a few American Red Cross girls. They proudly took me through the new building they had just taken over. They even had a small radio station and they asked me, just for the fun of it (they said it would give the soldiers throughout China who might be listening a shock) -- they asked me to sign off for them at the end of their day of broadcasting. They were the only American girls that I encountered in all of China, except a few who work for our Ambassador out there, Pat Hurley, and a few who are employed by the Strategic Services people. But they don't fly fighter planes. So this is another Jap pipe dream.

SUBMARINES

An item from the Navy. Uncle Sam's submarines have bagged ten more Japanese vessels. ~~One~~ One, a converted gunboat, one a patrol escort vessel, six merchant ~~merchant~~ ships, and two tankers.

And a lone British submarine, under American command in the Far East, torpedoed and sent to the bottom a Japanese man-o-war, a ten-thousand-ton cruiser.

PRICE

A company of Uncle Sam's First Cavalry, operating on Luzon, captured a batch of prisoners and among them was a native of Formosa. The Formosan told Lieutenant Terrill Price, Jr., of Ridley Park, Pennsylvania, that there were a hundred more Japs waiting to surrender. So Lieutenant Price went over to negotiate the deal. He took with him the Formosan prisoner, an interpreter and a supporting platoon of rifles with a field radio.

As they approached, a Japanese private stepped out of the bush, bowed from the waist, and gratefully accepted an American cigarette. He told Lieutenant Price that there were sixty more Japanese waiting ahead of them on a little hill. By dint of the field radio, the pilot of a cub plane overhead verified the story. So Price left the platoon and went ahead with the prisoner and his interpreter. They crawled under a barbed wire fence and met a group of Japanese soldiers around a small shack. Out of the shack rushed a Jap

lieutenant, hysterically waving a pistol. At the same time, a bunch of angry enemy soldiers, armed to the teeth surrounded Price, his interpreter and the Formosan. The Jap lieutenant kept yelling, "Pass, pass, pass."

So Price pulled out his identification card.

At that the Jap lieutenant subsided and made the interpreter lay down his carbine. And he wanted Lieutenant Price to give up his pistol, but Price refused and said "Take me to your commanding officer, and we'll get ~~xxx~~ on with this surrender business."

So the lieutenant led Price and the interpreter to a Japanese ~~xxxxx~~ captain. Price and the interpreter told the Japanese that the war ended three days ago.

he thought
For a while he had sold that story, and even went so far as to unload his gun. That is, he turned his back and ejected one round from his automatic, but

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he still had seven rounds in his clip, though they didn't know it.

Finally, Price and his interpreter were brought before the Japanese colonel. By that time the rifle platoon he had left behind him had given him up for lost and had gone back to camp.

The colonel jawed away for about ten minutes, and Price could see things were not going any too well. Finally, the Colonel got up from his chair, saluted, gave some brisk orders, and walked away, leaving Price and the interpreter there.

Next, the Japanese permitted the interpreter to go back to the American camp and verify the story that the war was over. Price, alone in the Japanese camp, said to himself that he would give the man ten minutes headway, and then make a break for it. By the time the ten minutes were up, Price found himself being watched by only three Japanese officers and two guards.

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He threw his steel helmet smack in the face of one of the officers, shot a guard in the stomach, and knocked the two other officers down with his second and third shots. Then he ran as he had never run before. Naturally, the remaining guards started shooting, and yellow soldiers popped up from everywhere, firing madly.

Said Price: "Why they didn't hit me, I'll never know."

And he continued: "I went through a coconut grove, I ran two hundred yards across a camote field. Then I dropped below a riverbank, with Japs firing all the time."

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But he did make it back to camp, and the first man he ran into was the interpreter, who couldn't believe his eyes. It was not until then that Price knew of the orders the Japanese colonel had given as he saluted and walked away. The orders were: "Dig two holes, grave size."