

DRAFT

C. J. - Sunoco. Monday, April 8, 1946.

General Eisenhower, speaking today in favor of the draft, warned the Senate that in its hesitation it is gambling with our national security and with world peace.

Some senators have urged the objection that continuing the draft would alarm foreign nations.

Ridiculous! says General Eisenhower. Then he told how Field Marshal Zhukov had said to him that he feared the people of the United States were so peace-loving they would not be realistic. Also, that the famous Red Marshal had added that after the First World war, our people had been far too hasty in leaving Europe.

Furthermore, that no nation really fears the intentions of the United States. And that viewpoint expressed by Marshal Zhukov is shared by the other peoples of Europe, said General Eisenhower, who then pointed out that we undertook seriously and soberly to complete the job started in Europe and in Asia. And it's up to us now to be just as serious and sober in showing that we

have the power to carry out our commitments.

He followed this warning by saying that right now General MacArthur, in Japan, is in a critical position. That if he doesn't get more men, he'll be in real trouble.

In spite of this warning, later today, a bill was introduced in the House, a bill to suspend the draft for six months. As a substitute this bill would set up an intensive recruiting drive, a drive based on higher pay for servicemen. The bill was offered by Representative Vinson of Georgia, Chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee of the House.

FOREIGN

An inspired Russian editorial, in PRAVDA, today again attacked the policy of Britain, America and the United Nations.

According to PRAVDA, Soviet Russia is full of nothing but the most peaceful intentions, while Iran and Britain the United States and the United-Nations are picking on her.

Today also came the publication of Ambassador Gromyko's letter to the Security Council demanding that the Council drop the Iranian question entirely. Gromyko sticks to the point he made on the Twenty-Sixth of March, that since the Soviet troops began to evacuate Iran on the Twenty-Fourth of March, the Security Council has no reason whatsoever to consider the Iranian Question.

The result of all this is that here in New York, members of the Security Council are anxious to drop the Iranian case. Last year most of them were strong for

President Quo Tai Chi of the Council and Secretary General Trygve Lie have decided ^{that} Gromyko's letter is not urgent, ~~and~~ ^{that} there will be no need to consider it unless Gromyko insists.

~~On top of that~~ ^{From} Radio Moscow ^{we learn} ~~broadcast the news~~

that the Kremlin and Teheran are about to begin economic negotiations. This follows the oil concessions that Iran handed over to the Soviets. Letters between the Iranian Premier and the Russian Foreign Minister were also made public. ^{Premier} Ghavam wrote to Molotov that ~~their~~ negotiations ^{so far} had been so successful that they opened a new era of mutual understanding. Ghavam added the hope that economic relations will be negotiated just as successfully to the advantage of both countries. Ghavam will go to Moscow.

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Iran. What came to light today shows that Iran was telling the Security Council that the Persians could not negotiate with Russia while the Red Army was on Persian soil, whereas they were negotiating right at the time. So the Council members now consider that the Iranians misled them, and that Russia flouted the authority of the Council.

The indications tonight are that the Council will meet tomorrow without the presence of either Gromyko or Secretary of State Byrnes. Mr. Stettinius will speak for the U.S.A.

Secretary Byrnes announced that Uncle Sam is willing to sign offensive and defensive military alliances with the other American republics. That would include Argentina, provided the new government of the Argentine republic can prove that it has eradicated Axis influences which have threatened the security of the inter-American system.

LEAGUE

A voice

~~A noise was heard from Geneva today, which to many people must sound like a voice from the grave.~~

~~It was~~ the voice of the impotent and moribund League of Nations. It began its final assembly today in order to dissolve and transfer its powers, if any, and its functions functions, to the United Nations.

~~One would have thought that they might just have forgotten all about it and quietly closed up shop. But it was felt that the session was necessary in order to make everything legal.~~

The first plenary session of the last assembly of the League of Nations began with a dispute, a dispute over Argentina. The delegates from the Republic on the LaPlata objected because none of them was named as a vice-president of the League. So they stayed away, like Gromyko. The Argentines ^{*ians*} took it to heart because

earlier this year they wanted one of their judges elected to the international court. ~~for a justice~~ They lost by just one vote.

that

ATOMIC

If Uncle Sam is wise, he'll hang onto all he knows about atomic energy, all he knows and all he has accomplished. That is, until the U.N., or somebody else, has devised some method for international control that will be sure and fool-proof.

So insists

~~That advice comes from~~ Senator McMahon of

Connecticut, Chairman of the Committee on Atomic Energy.

so
He said ~~it~~ today in answer to ~~what~~ Senator Claude Pepper

of Florida, *who has been urging* ~~said yesterday~~ ~~The New Deal's Florida~~

that we ~~mouthpiece is for us to~~ stop immediately all production

of atom bombs and hand over to the United Nations all available information.

Senator McMahon thinks that's moonshine. *Here's*

his Committee has virtually completed drafting a bill ~~which~~

~~will~~ put the matter into the hands of a civilian

commission, *with* ~~plus the~~ War Department and ~~the~~ Navy *advisors.*

^ The Commission ~~will~~ control not only future experimentation in the field of nuclear fission,

but also all information on the subject. ^{TR} Senator McMahon is opposed to open publicity of atomic secrets, and ~~responsible scientists agree with that they should not be broadcast.~~

It was revealed today that Uncle Sam even now is spending four hundred million dollars a year on producing and improving atomic bombs. That is, at the rate of more than a million dollars a day. Some of that money is being spent on experimental ^{for this} ~~the~~ new military and civilian uses. The money comes out of the Special War Funds at the President's disposal.

JAPAN

In Japan, the leaders in that country ~~have~~^{have} ~~having~~^{having} been holding sessions, all over the food shortage. Today a Left Wing delegation, of twenty-six, after half an hour of heckling the Premier about food, farmers and laborers, demanded his resignation. Whereupon Premier Shidehara stood up and started to stalk from the room.

Then one of the Left Wingers shouted that he couldn't leave. They were not finished with him. At that the delegation actually bore down on the Premier and started pushing him around. Cabinet secretaries hearing the uproar, burst into the room, made a wedge around the Premier and hustled him off.

All this was a sequel to yesterday's episode, when a mob stoned the Premier's house, and some even fired shots. The disturbers, yesterday, were driven off finally by our people, and by Japanese police with machineguns.

CHINA

Among the leaders in Singapore are many able Chinese. One of these, Tan Kah Kee, who has interests throughout Malaya, says that his countrymen, that is, in China, should be left to themselves -- left to fight it out. That both Uncle Sam and Russia should withdraw all support from both the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communists -- let the two main Chinese groups fight it out -- a civil war if necessary.

Tan Kah Kee declares that many leaders in the present Chinese government are utterly corrupt and therefore unfit to ^{hold} ~~hold~~ public office. A Chinese civil war, says this Singapore tycoon, would settle the troubles once and for all. And he says the war wouldn't last long either -- Chinese generals being what they are.

Harsh words from one of their own people looking on from his place of security in Singapore!

TRIAL

It was Hermann Goering himself who ordered the execution of those fifty recaptured officers of the R.A.F., the airmen who got away from a Nazi prison camp. He ordered them executed, and cremated.

This came out at Nuremberg today in the cross-examination of Field Marshal Keitel, Hitler's Number One military yes-man. The execution, said Keitel, was discussed at a conference of Generals. One of them protested against such brutal treatment of prisoners.

The British prosecutor spoke up at that point and asked Keitel whether he himself had not replied to the protest that he didn't care a blankety-blank what was done.

Keitel answered -- "No, not like that, but I said something similar."

An American prosecutor then asked him whether he had not in many cases committed breaches of international law and the Code of Soldiers.

To which Keitel replies - "Ya! Ya!" and slumped in his chair.

SMITH

Gerald L.K. Smith goes to jail. A municipal judge in Chicago today imposed a sentence of sixty days on the head of the so-called American First Party, sixty days for contempt of court.

All this arises out of a trial of a man named Terminiello, a Catholic priest suspended by his church. Terminiello was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct, at a rally held by the ~~AMERICAN~~ America First Party last February in Chicago. During the trial, Gerald L.K. Smith distributed a statement to reporters. For this the judge sent him to the sneezer for sixty days.

BASEBALL

The attempt of a Mexican promoter to inveigle our Big League baseball stars south of the border is ending in a note of comedy. Yesterday, the papers were full of the news that Verne Stevens, hard-hitting short-stop of St. Louis, had returned ^{from} ~~to~~ Mexico from ~~Uncle Sam's land~~ in such a hurry ~~that~~ he even left his clothes behind, ~~his~~. And today Mrs. Stevens returned by airmail the five thousand dollar bonus that the Mexican producer had paid him. Even for twenty-five thousand a year for five years, with fifty thousand dollars of the money placed in escrow in a New York bank, (plus a high-salaried winter job,) Stevens ~~decided~~ ^{decided not} to play ball south of the Rio Grande. As a writer for the Houston Post explained it, Stevens ~~had~~ found that the Mexicans had plenty of matadores, picadores and cuspidors, but not enough ball players, to make Big League baseball possible.

This evening we ~~hear~~ ^{hears} that Mickey Owen ~~is~~ back in San Antonio, Texas, Mickey Owen whose prospects in

Mexico were to be so brilliant that after five years he would be able to retire. Branch Rickey's one-time star catcher on the Brooklyn Dodgers is now waiting in Texas for a telegram from Papa saying, come home and all will be forgiven.

We have yet to learn just what ~~was~~ crack ball players found in Mexico that led them to spurn such high salaries. An explanation may be found in the story of an exhibition game played by a couple of American teams in Mexico City a few years. For background we should realize that betting on baseball south of the border is so keen that it sometimes leads to the cemetery. At this exhibition game, the umpire was Beans Riordan. As the game started, he called the two American managers and said: "Look here, this is one game in which all my decisions are going to be right, and neither of you two fellows is going to dispute one of them." Beans explained

further: "I aim to leave this ball ground on my feet and not on a shutter. The way they bet here, an umpire who decides againsttthem stands no show. The minute either of you talks back about one of my decisions, I'm going out of here quick and straight to the railroad station, and I'm not going to wait for anything."

The managers complied, though with a wry face.

The consequence was ^{that} one ball game was played without a demurrer from ~~either~~ a single manager, catcher, pitcher or batter.

All of which
~~That little episode~~ may help us to understand why Mickey Owen is back in San Antonio, and why Verne *even came home without* Stevens ~~left~~ his clothes ~~in Mexico.~~

CHURCHILL GRAMMAR

~~A few days~~ *Some days* ago I told about a discussion concerning Winston Churchill - not about his international philosophy, but about his grammar. The argument was touched off by the fact that Churchill, in a public message, had used the phrase "This is me" instead of the more academic "This is I." Some precise grammarians complained about that, while eminent professors of syntax rushed to the defense of the Churchillian "This is me."

All of which brought a letter from a friend - Cecil Roberts, who writes from Miami. Referring to the wrangle about the grammar of so eminent a master of English as Winston Churchill, he relates: "I have been having a secret debate with myself. When Winston Churchill was here, he wrote to me one day saying, 'It is good of you to wish Mrs. Churchill and I to visit you.' That," Cecil Roberts continues, "has kept me busy - turning the

sentence around 'It is good of you to wish Mrs. Churchill and I to visit you.' I wanted to ask Winston about it, but somehow I could not find the courage. We all," the letter concludes, "slip so often, that it is a mean pleasure for us to find that others, the greatest amongst us, have their moments of doubt."

Well, I can sympathize with Cecil Roberts. I should hesitate to be persnickety about grammar, but there is something mighty peculiar in that construction - "It is good of you to wish Mrs. Churchill and I to visit you." The echo seems to repeat over and over - "Mrs. Churchill and me, me, me."

After which the echo continues, "Now you, you, you," *Hughli.*