

C.I. - Sunco, Monday, Dec. 31, 1945.

MacArthur

Secretary Byrnes has just confirmed General Mac Arthur's statement that he was not kept informed about developments at the Moscow conference - - developments concerning the establishment of a four-power arrangement for the control of Japan. Also -- General ~~MacArthur~~ Marshall did not give apparent approval to the decisions that were being made at Moscow.

The Secretary explains that the statement made by Thomas Blake, press officer of the state department, was not authorized - - the statement that General Mac Arthur knew about the goings on at Moscow and gave him his okay. The Blake statement was denied in emphatic terms by Mac Arthur.

In addition to this secretary Byrnes tells us that it was great Britain, not Soviet Russia, that insisted most strongly that other nations should be given a voice in the administration of Japan - the arrangement that has been criticized for giving the Soviets a voice and a veto.

This follows sharp criticism of the possibility that Mac Arthur might be overruled and that his administration might

Mac Arthur

be handicapped by the complicated system agreed upon at Moscow.

Japan

Here's a thing that, I suppose, never happened in history before: a divinity resigns! a god quits his celestial job, and announces that he's a mere human being. Who is it? Why, Hirohito.

The Emperor of Japan, worshipped, by a nation of eighty million, as a god, issued a proclamation today stating that there is nothing divine about him at all. By imperial mandate, he is

just another Japanese, just like JOE Takahashi from Osaka, or any other fellow.

So the Japs begin the year of nineteen forty-six minus the diety they have been taught to worship. This of course, follows General Mac Arthur's directive abolishing state shintoism, the cult of the divine emperor. Hirohito falls in line; and quits as a god.

The doctrine of the divinity of the emperor is not so very old in Japan. Ironically enough, it began in a big way with the introduction of western civilization. The Japs had always cherished the legend that the imperial dynasty was descended from the Sun Goddess—the way the kings of classical Greece claimed to be descended from Jupiter, apollo or hercules. But for centuries

Japan ✓

the emperor was a mere figurehead- sometimes hardly treated with respect.

The change came after Japan, hitherto a hermit kingdom, had been opened up by our own ~~Admiral~~ ^{Commodore} Perry- and the Japs decided to adopt such benevolent institutions of the west as guns and battleships. They went modern in that militaristic way, but in their form of government ^{they} reverted to primeval superstition- the divinity of the Emperor. The contrast may explain a good deal-adopting modern ways of war and, at the same time, fixing up a religion that worshipped the Emperor as a God.

Anyway, the doctrine of the imperial divinity was incorporated in the consitution of modern Japan, the constitution adopted ⁱⁿ in eighteen eighty-nine. It made Emperor-worship a part of the Japanese official system.

^{And} ~~that's~~ that's all over now- thanks to Mac Arthur. Hirohito, stepping out as a God today, declared that the idea of his divinity was what he called-"A false conception." The imperial proclamation states the following: "the ties between us and our people do not depend on mere legends ^{and} / myths. They are not predicated";

continues Hirohito, "on the false conception that the emperor is divine."

So today the Japs behold their chief divinity stepping off his pedestal, and maybe going out to shoot a game ^{of} pool ^{on the Kinga.} But seriously-the formal abolition of the doctrine of the Imperial divinity must leave a considerable gap in the religious system of the Japanese. I wonder how they'll fill it in. Christianity might be the answer-if the soviets don't get there first.

Pearl Harbor

The Pearl Harbor investigation was renewed today, and featured letters exchanged between - Betty and Mustapha. Betty was the nickname for Admiral Stark, chief of naval operations at the time of the attack. Mustapha was a nickname that Admiral Stark gave Admiral Kimmel, Commander of the fleet at Pearl Harbor. Why mustapha *such an* exceedingly moslem Turkish name? Obviously Admiral Stark, in kidding, was thinking of Mustapha Kemal, the strong man of Turkey.

And What do we learn from the correspondence ^{between} of Betty and Mustapha?

The general tenor of the letters as read before the Pearl Harbor committee today, was that Admiral Kimmel was much concerned about the inadequacy of the fleet and its equipment at Pearl Harbor. He was constantly asking for more ships, more armanent, more mechanisms, more guns. He felt that we didn't have enough navy to fight two wars, one in each ocean. ^{TR} Admiral Stark wrote to Admiral Kimmel that the fleet was already at war in the Atlantic - and he expected war in the Pacific at any time.

One fact of history was disclosed today - Admiral Stark telling Admiral Kimmel that President Roosevelt, months before Pearl

Harbor, planned an expedition to seize the Azores. He instructed Admiral Stark to get ships ready for such a move - to forestall the German seizure of the Azores. However, the plan was never put through - the British procured bases in the Azores by negotiating with the Portuguese government, *and then we got a base of our own there on Santa Maria Island.*

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Jap sub

A curious document was made public today. It's a statement by the Captured skipper of a Japanese midget submarine that attempted to get into Pearl Harbor; while ^{the} Japanese planes were ^{doing} ^{their} bombing on that fateful December seventh. He is sub-lieutenant Sakamaki- who, while a prisoner of war, told the sad story. He related it in English, Japanese variety, pidgin.

Sakamaki started by telling what the war was all about. "Your honorable have-country" he said, "instituted an economic blockade of Japan, a have-not-country-- until we had no choice but natural collapse."

Sakamaki was indignant about that, and resolved on a mighty exploit. In his midget submarine he and a companion were released by a warship of the Japanese fleet steaming to attack Pearl Harbor. Sakamaki's plan was to sneak in and fire a torpedo at an American battleship. But he had some trouble on the way - and the midget sub couldn't fire a torpedo. But Sakamaki was not deterred by that. He was going to do or die - especially

die. Sakamaki was going to be a real spectacular hero.

"We determined," says he, "to proceed without hesitation on the surface of the water. And, dashing into the harbor and climbing the gangway ladder, we hoped to leap onto the deck and die simultaneously with blowing up the enemy warship, just as in olden times."

That was a brilliant resolve, but Sakamaki was still out of luck. He ran his midget sub on a reef, which knocked it altogether out of gear, and Sakamaki, instead of dying, was captured.

His story concludes with a mournful plaint: "due entirely to my inept navigation and strategy," he moans, "my honor as a soldier had fallen to the ground. Thus I betrayed the expectations of our people, and became a sad prisoner of war, disloyal to my country."

Poor Sakamaki!

Hitler

The story of how the Hitler was captured was made public today. The news disclosed yesterday that Hitler had left such a document trying to carry on the nazi propoganda ^{his and} after its death. He raged because Goering and Himmler had betrayed him, as he claimed, and the screed that he left blamed the war on what Hitler called - "international Jewry."

The story we have today tells how just before he committed suicide, Hitler dictated his testament to a woman stenographer, who made three copies - and he signed them. Then each copy was given to a messenger, one to be taken to Admiral ^{Do}enitz - whom Hitler named as his successor. Another was to go to the German General in command at prague. The third was to be preserved by the messenger in any way he could devise - preserved to be handed down to future Nazis.

The three messengers made their way out of bombed and blazing Berlin, and put in a telephone call to admiral Doenitz at Hamburg. It was arranged that a plane would be sent for them. However, they missed connection with the plane, and started walking.

When they got as far as Hannover, the news of Soviet, British and American advances made them realize that there was no hope of delivering ^{the} documents to Admiral Doenitz ^{and} the General at Prague. The messengers thereupon separated, each trying to lay low, and keep the Hitler testament concealed.

The discovery resulted from sheer accident. One of the messengers, Lorenz by name, was arrested by the British because he had false identity papers. He was about to be questioned, and as he stood up a British officer heard a faint sound of crinkling. Sounded like paper. The officer investigated, and found a copy of Hitler's testament ⁺ in the lining of a shoulder of the prisoner's coat.

That put the British on the trail of the other two messengers. One, Meier, by name, was arrested in the Ruhr. A British intelligence officer states: "Meier has refused to reveal the hiding place of his set of documents, but he is still being interrogated.

^{The} Third messenger was found in a hospital in Bavaria - Wilhelm Zander, who was an advisor to Martin Bormann, Deputy to Hitler.

He said he had hidden his copy of Hitler testament in the home of a woman who had been a secretary to Bormann. At the house of the woman, she stated she had become frightened and had hidden the documents in the house of a relative of hers. At the house of the relative the documents were found.

That's how the British captured the three messengers and two copies of Hitler's testament. The story puts an end to rumors at Nuremberg today, rumors that Martin Bormann had been captured, that he was one of the messengers, captured by the British. Bormann's name is high on the list of war criminals who are being tried at Nuremberg, but he had never been found. The British further scotched the rumor by saying they have excellent evidence that Bormann is dead. They have testimony that during the battle of Berlin the deputy fuhrer was walking beside a tank which exploded and killed him.

Mine

They've decided to seal up the tragic coal mine at Pineville, Kentucky. Rescue work was abandoned today in the face of violent underground flames and suffocating clouds of deadly mine gas. The rescue crews could not continue - too dangerous.

Seven of the miners trapped by underground explosion, have survived. Nine were taken out, but two succumbed. Several bodies were taken out, and sixteen men still remain unaccounted for. Hope has been given up for them. They are considered surely to have perished.

So today the Kentucky inspector of mines ordered the devastated coal pit to be sealed - cut off the air to suffocate the fire.

Labor

Here's an economic prediction for the coming year - made by the Labor Department:- Post-war unemployment has been less than had been expected. "There has been a decrease of total wage and salary payments," ^{So} declared A.F Hinrichs, statistician of the labor department, "but it has been less drastic than anticipated."

In other words, the post-war depression that many had expected, has not materialized. There has been no "depression psychology" says the labor department.

The prospect for the coming year is one of rising economy, increasing employment. Some have predicted an unemployment figure of eight million for this coming spring. Today's labor department statement says that figure will not even be approximated.

In other words, it looks like a boom. The statement indicates that there's one thing that may check the up-swing - a feeling of caution in business, prudence about plunging. And maybe this caution won't be a bad thing - to keep the boom within reason.

W C T U

Here's a toast for the New Year, a merry toast to be tossed off at midnight. We have it from that jovial, roistering side-splitting organization, the Women's Christian Temperance Union. And, of course, the toast of the W T C U should be drunk with a non-alcoholic beverage.

So keep this in mind for your toast to the New Year tonight, You rise gayly, and raise your glass and sing out:

"I pledge perpetual hate

"to all which can intoxicate."

That's the W C T U toast to the New Year, and ^{you-maybe!} maybe you'll appreciate it better tomorrow- the morning after.

ENDING

Even if you are not one of those who
will be at the Rose Bowl game tomorrow, here's hoping
that the New Year, 1946, will be a rosy one for you.
For all mankind the road ahead looks like a thorny
one. But here and there, along the way, may there be
a rose bowl for ^{each} ~~one~~ of you. You too hop, I mean Hugh.
and S-L - until Wednesday.