

TAFT

L.P.-K. Friday, July 31, 1953.

When President Eisenhower, today, heard of the death of Senator Taft in New York - he drove immediately with Mrs. Eisenhower, to the Taft home in Washington. There they expressed their condolence to Mrs. Martha Taft.

This emphasizes a tragic element in the passing of the Senator from Ohio. He and his wife had been inseparable partners thru throughout his distinguished political career. They were a team - Bob and Martha. She was brilliant, witty, graceful. He was square, forthright, and could be blunt. They made ideal partners in political life - until several years ago, Mrs. Taft was stricken with paralysis.

Earlier in the week, in a wheel chair she went to the side of her husband in the New York hospital. Then she returned to their Washington home. Yesterday when her husband took a turn for the

worse - she was too ill to travel, and had to remain in Washington.

2 He was a son of President William Howard Taft, and sought to follow in the footsteps of his father - to the White House. He rose to the top in the Republican party, and became known as "Mr. Republican". Repeatedly - he sought the nomination for the presidency. But failed to win it. The last time - last summer, when General Eisenhower won the prize. Taft took the disappointment with the best of grace, and became a tower of strength for the Eisenhower administration.

Several months ago, the sixty-three year old Senator fell ill with an ailment of the hip. It was never stated publicly what the malady was - but it was cancer that spread rapidly. Taft was told this months ago, and took the news with a smile.

This morning the end came - the Senator's four sons at his bedside.

Senator Taft's chief political antagonist was former President Truman. They really did wage political war with each other.

Today the ex-President said: "Senator Taft and I were friends. He and I did not agree on public policy, but he knew where I stood, and I knew where he stood. We need intellectually honest men like Senator Taft." Former President Hoover uses the word "irreplaceable". Today he said: "Senator Taft was more nearly the irreplaceable man in American life - than we have seen in three generations."

In Ohio, Governor Lauschee will name a successor to the Senate. The Governor is a Democrat, and the selection he makes could change the political complexion of the Senate but Governor Lauschee announces - that he'll not appoint a successor to Taft until after the present session of Congress. Which leaves the Republicans in control, for the time being, at least.

ADD TAFT

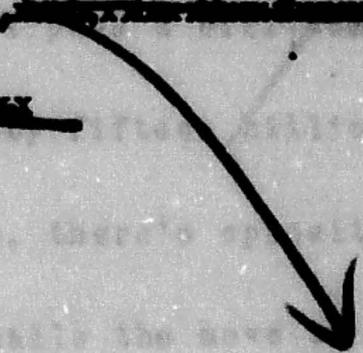
There was a quick move today to have the Ohio legislature change the ~~existing~~ state election law - ~~as~~ to permit the people to choose a successor to Senator Taft at any early date.

4
Republican Senator Bricker of Ohio put in telephone calls to state legislators, urging them to take action for an election this coming November. The expectation ^{is} is that Ohio voters would choose a Republican to succeed Taft, while Governor Lausche might name a Democrat.

SUB LEAD NATIONAL DEBT

There was heavy congressional action today.
Congress tonight passed as the bill to
raise the limit of the national debt -- as
requested by President Eisenhower. The House took
favorable action in a hurry, ~~but in the Senate,~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~



Draft
NATIONAL DEBT

There was fast congressional action, today, on President Eisenhower's request for an increase in the limit of the national debt. The Ways and Means Committee of the House voted -- okay. And the word is that the congressmen will pass a bill tomorrow - to raise the debt ceiling by fifteen billions.

But, in the Senate, there's opposition.

Senator Byrd of Virginia, calls the move an "invitation to extravagance." A number of Republicans join in that opinion. So there'll be a fight in the Senate over the presidential recommendation to lift the limit of the national debt from two hundred seventy-five billions to two hundred ninety billions.

COMMITTEE

There was another uproar today, when the Reverend Jack Richard McMichael appeared again before the committee on Un-American Activities. This time, the Methodist clergyman from Upper Lake, California, was confronted by a witness who says he knew him as a communist. — Manning Johnson, negro, who, at one time, was a leader among the Reds.

5

The two stood gazing at each other, and the Reverend McMichael ^{declared} ~~declared~~ "I certainly do not recall his name, and I do not recall his appearance." The accusation and denial were under oath, and the committee remarked that somebody was guilty of perjury.

~~The committee charged that McMichael was a member of the Communist Party and was active in the organization. He was associated with several other persons.~~

ADD COMMITTEE

Later, the Reverend McMichael was confronted by two former under-cover agents of the F.B.I. ~~Reverend McMichael, Director of the~~
~~State, who~~ ^{who} say they overheard the clergyman in a discussion with Communists on the subject of "how to spot F B I agents at Red meetings." Today, he denied that he ever knew them.

BOMBER

The United States protested ^{in the strongest terms} to Soviet Russia today, against the shooting down of an American bomber off the coast of Siberia. ~~Dispatches from Moscow~~
~~State Department~~

Moscow charges that the B-fifty had violated Soviet territory, started the shooting - when intercepted by Red fighter planes. Our government replies that the bomber, on a routine gun training mission - was forty miles off the Siberian coast. This is the definite statement of the co-pilot of the plane, who was picked up by an American ship.

6
The others of the crew of seventeen are missing but - reports are that survivors were sighted in life rafts, and that Russian ships were in the area. So they may have been picked up, - ~~the State~~

~~Department demands immediate information regarding~~

~~survivors.~~

FOLLOW PLANE

Here's the latest -- a Moscow protest, claiming that American fighters shot down a big Soviet plane over China, with a loss of twenty-one lives. To this the State Department replies that the Russian plane was over the Korean war area, when attacked. This occurred six days ago -- before the armistice.

KOREA-AIR

With the armistice on in Korea, The U.S. Air Force gives a final tally for the war in the sky. During the Korean conflict, American planes shot down eight hundred^{and} thirty-nine enemy jet fighters, those Russian-built MIGS. Probably destroyed one hundred^{and} fifty four, and damaged nine hundred^{and} nineteen. - Which would certainly put the Communist losses at a figure well over one thousand jets. [In addition, our pilots shot down more than a thousand propellor-driven planes.]

The air losses for our side are not given. But, in the war of jets, the word was all along - eleven to one in our favor!

BERLIN

The food march on Berlin has begun. An organized move by East German factory workers - in addition to the hundreds of thousands who have been swarming, haphazardly to get "Eisenhower food packages"

A Berlin dispatch states that thousands of workers who took part in the anti-Communist revolt last month - are mobilizing for a march into West Berlin. Emxk Vowing - that Communists won't keep them from getting the American food. There may be a rebellion if the Red police try to stop them.

At the same time, the Red authorities are seizing those "Eisenhower food packages" at a greater rate than ever. [Wholesale confiscation of the groceries brought in by hungry people of East Berlin.]

Nevertheless, the rush continues - a quarter of a million more crossing into West Berlin today.

U.S. officials promise that they will provide food

packages for all the people of the Soviet zone.

8 And - there are eighteen million of them.

ROBBERY

Germany reports a startling robbery -- the theft of the crown jewels of Prussia. Crooks broke into the castle of the Hohenzollerns, in southwestern Germany - cutting their way through iron bars guarding a store room. This they looted, making off with seven and a half million dollars worth of treasure.

The plunder includes half a dozen snuff boxes, studded with diamonds, which belonged to Frederick the Great. A military baton, set with rubies and diamonds -- carried in the old days, by Field Marshalls of the Royal House of Hohenzollern. And the baptisimal gift which Queen Victoria sent for the christening of her grandson, Prince Wilhelm of Prussia, later the Kaiser of World War One.

These are examples of the mass of heirlooms taken away by the thieves. They missed only one,

the royal crown of Prussia - which was locked away in a steel safe.

9 This is a crime story with a pageant of history for a background. The castle of Hohenzollern is not far from Switzerland - a long distance from Prussia. The Hohenzollern family originated there, and built the castle - on top of a mountain - back in the Ninth century.

Then, in the year Fourteen fifteen, a Hohenzollern became Duke of Brandenburg - of northern Germany. Three centuries later, the ruler of Brandenburg became King of Prussia - and Frederick the Great made Prussia the first military power of Europe. In the following century the Hohenzollerns became emperors of Germany - only to meet their downfall in the first World War.

9/2

All that history stems back to the castle of

ROBBERY - 3

on the mountain - the robbery of which is a headline today.

INTRO TO TIBETAN MONASTIC SOUNDS

Earlier this week I told of having been along the Tibetan border in India a few months ago, giving a brief report on conditions in Chinese occupied Tibet.

On that same trip, my wife and I visited a Tibetan Buddhist monastery of the yellow-hat sect, arriving at a moment of prayer. The great temple was dimly lit by butter lamps, incense filled the air and grotesque figures of Tibetan deities surrounded the monks who sat cross-legged on cushions, alternately playing temple drums, cymbals and twelve foot long horns and then chanting their prayers. Here is the tape recording I made of their ceremony.

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(1 mins 45 secs of sound effects and Rinpoche's speech)

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10:45

11

ENDING FOLLOW RECORDING

12
All of which means "I hope everything is
well in your country!" spoken in Tibetan.

What's your message, Mike Fitzmaurice?