

JAPAN

C.T. - Sunoco. Wednesday 5.26, 1945.

The Australians today announced their support of the Soviet proposal that an Allied Control Commission be set up to administer Japan - instead of the Military Administration run by General MacArthur. The Australians said they were dissatisfied with the way things were going, and claimed that Canada, South Africa and New Zealand agreed with them.

The attitude of the British Dominions is based on the fact that they are not being given a voice in the control of defeated Japan. They say that they should be consulted. So that makes them agree with the Soviet demand that an international commission should take the place of MacArthur.

There is no real indication of how the British Government itself stands in the matter - the Cabinet in London. There have been intimations, however, that British Foreign Secretary Bevin does not agree with the Soviet disapproval of General MacArthur. Moscow Foreign Commissar Molotov, at the Council of the Foreign Ministers, has been complaining

about MacArthur and the way things are being handled in Japan. For example, he says that Jap soldiers, upon being taken out of uniform, have been given weapons and used as policemen. Molotov wants MacArthur's place to be taken by an international commission on which the Soviets would have a place.

President Truman, however, stated today that there will be no change, and that General Douglas MacArthur will stay on as Supreme Allied Commander-in-Chief of Affairs in Japan. And the President added several plain spoken declarations. He said that all the nations who had an interest in the matter had agreed on the present policy, and that he had never received any official notice that any of them were dissatisfied. If they had a complaint, said he, they could present it to MacArthur. He pointed out that the Soviets have a representative in the group surrounding the General out there, and so had an ample x opportunity to state their case to MacArthur.

Criticisms of General MacArthur have been made here in the United States, protests in the Left Wing Press ~~largely~~ largely -- and now the controversy takes on an international scope, with official complaint against MacArthur made by Soviet Russia.

JAP WEAPONS

The Japs, apparently, are going to dwell in what used to be their guns. Today General MacArthur ordered that the armament of the Japanese Military Forces be junked, turned into scrap metal - this to be used for civilian relief in the conquered country.

One of the great shortages in Japan right now is housing, and the tons upon tons of cannon, mortars, machine guns and rifles will provide a lot of iron for the construction of dwellings. That is - Jap armament will be used to repair a lot of the havoc wrought by American bombing.

And, at the same time, General MacArthur today ordered the Japanese Army and Navy to turn over their entire stocks of food, clothing and other supplies to the Tokyo Home Ministry - to be used for the relief of the civilian population. Supplies heaped up for war will now feed the hungry.

DOOLITTLE FLYERS

The brutal truth is out about the execution of Doolittle Flyers. Three were murdered by the Japs at Shanghai. This the Japs themselves had announced vaguely at the time. Now, United States Army Officials have discovered the official record of the Court Martial that ordered the executions.

The Court Martial was a farce, a parody of anything approaching justice. The three flyers who took part in the first bombing of Tokyo were brought before a mock tribunal, the proceedings of which lasted a brief half an hour. These consisted of little more than a reading of regulations promulgated by the Japs, regulations that decreed the doom of the captured flyers. Everything was in the Japanese language, the hapless Americans not understanding a word that was being said - and the executions were immediately carried out.

All this is formally stated in the Court Martial record, now in American hands, and it gives the names of four Jap Officers who decreed the

executions. These Japs are now high on the list of war criminals and will face a court a great deal more civilized than the one in which they figured - more legal, more just, but equally stern.

Eight Doolittle flyers in all were captured, and all were sentenced to death, but the sentences on the other five were commuted. One of these died later in China, a victim of malnutrition, beri beri and dysentery, [^]Japanese mistreatment. The other four were liberated when Japan surrendered, and are ~~now~~ now in the United States. Just why some of the death sentences - ^{beheadings} ~~murder sentences~~ - were carried out and some commuted is not made clear.

PATTON

General Patton is on the carpet again. "On the carpet" meaning - face to face with General Eisenhower. The two are old friends, and General Ike has the greatest regard for the military gifts of old Blood and Guts.

But it has been Ike's duty more than once to give George a raking over the coals, a dressing down, or -- whatever you want to call it. He does it as a friend to friend, as one old pal to another - but it has plenty of meaning.

Today General Eisenhower ordered General Patton to appear within a week, and give an account of what he has been doing in Bavaria - over which German Province Patton has been administering as Commander of the American Occupation Forces. This follows Patton's statement that, so far as Nazi and Anti-Nazi was concerned, it's the same difference as Democrats and Republicans in the United States - the ins and the outs.

Patton has been keeping some Nazi Officials

in minor posts, on the ground that they were the only experienced administrators he could find. And I suppose old Blood and Guts was annoyed by complaints of Anti-Nazis, who wanted to get in. Anyway, he has apologized for the unfortunate comparison of Nazis and their opponents to Democrats and Republicans, and has received stern orders from Eisenhower to clear out the Nazi office holders.

Today, Eisenhower's Chief-of-Staff, Lieutenant General Walter D. Smith, explained the newest Patton dilemma in the following words: "His mouth", said General Smith, "Doesn't always carry out the functions of his brain. George^e acts on the theory", he continued, "That it is better to be damned than say nothing -- and that some publicity is better than none". That's as sharply said as Patton's own remarks.

General Smith added that he didn't know what will happen if General Eisenhower should find Patton's report on the Administration of Bavaria ~~to be~~ unsatisfactory. He didn't know, if in his own words -

"What disciplinary action would be taken".

The Eisenhower Chief of Staff went on to say that Nazi officer holders will be removed, even if it does result in some inefficiency. Better have less efficiency and no Nazis.

However he pointed to the problems that Patton has to face in running Bavaria. The Press said he was "too critical" And he added that, if the expulsion of all Nazi Officials should result in a bad situation next winter, with starvation and deaths in Bavaria, the first one to be blamed would be General Patton. He would be accused of bad judgement - even though the trouble came about because of tossing out the Nazis. General Smith observed that anyway, Supreme Headquarters is not really worried about Naziism in Bavaria. The greatest apparent danger there, he explained, was an inclination toward ultra-conservatism and that would seem to make sense, because Southern Germany is traditionally conservative and Catholic.

General Smith added one sprightly detail. He said that Headquarters had got reports that American Military Policemen in Bavaria were telling the Germans that they were "Patton's Gestapo". That was meant as a G.I. Joke, but the Germans took it seriously - the Teutonic sense of humor being heavy. The Germans figured solemnly that, on the basis of the G.I. wisecracks, American General Patton was reestablishing the Gestapo!

SPAIN

The pressure on the Franco Government of Spain was continued today by the publication of a letter written by President Roosevelt last March. Addressed to Norman Armour, United States Ambassador to Spain, the letter pointed out that the Franco Regime gained power with the assistance of Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany, and helped the Axis enemies when things looked dark for the Allies.

The late President in his letter pledged ~~what~~ what he called - "The extermination of Nazi and similar ideology".

All this was made public today by Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson, and followed the publication of a letter over in London - one written by Winston Churchill. Franco sent to London a proposal for an alliance of Western Powers against Soviet Russia and this Churchill turned it down in resounding terms.

It isn't clear how far the pressure against the present regime in Spain is likely to go.

President Roosevelt, in his letter, said: "The form of government in Spain and the policies pursued by that government are quite properly the concern of the Spanish people." He added, however, that there was no place in the community of nations for a regime founded on Fascist principles.

STRIKES

The word tonight is that six hundred and seventy two thousand workers are on strike all over the country. The principal labor disputes are in the oil industry, New York office buildings, and the West Coast lumbering industry.

Twenty two oil refineries have been closed by walkouts, and an extension of the strike appears to be certain - if a United States Conciliation Conference, now being held, fails to find a solution.

In New York, the A. F. of L., threatens to extend the strike of building service employees from Manhattan to the whole city. The New York Police estimate that a million, five hundred thousand persons are affected by idle elevators.

On the West Coast, sixty thousand lumber workers are out in four states, and the strike threatens to spread to forty thousand more.

In addition to these major walkouts, the list includes a whole series of others in various parts of the country -- a strike epidemic that threatens to increase.

PEARL HARBOR

The Chief Counsel chosen for the Pearl Harbor investigating committee is a veteran of public service, the seventy one year old William DeWitt Mitchell. He was Solicitor General under President Coolidge, and was Attorney General in the Cabinet of President Hoover. Having been thus prominent in two Republican Administrations, he was selected unanimously by the Congressional Committee - which consists of six Democrats and four Republicans. Now, ~~the~~ he will act as Chief Counsel for the committee in its investigation of the Pearl Harbor disaster ^{at} public hearings and the questioning of witnesses.

Committee Chairman Senator Barkley indicated today that the public hearings will not begin until he and his colleagues in the inquiry have returned from Pearl Harbor - where they will begin their quiz on the Pearl Harbor scene.

ESKIMO PRISONERS

Here's a variation on the theme of prisoners liberated from the Japs and sent home - Eskimo prisoners. Today at the Atsugi airfield near Tokyo, one hundred natives of the Far North, sons of the Aurora Borealis, were taken aboard transport planes and flown back to their native villages in the Aleutians, ^{and Alaska,} ~~They are~~ Eskimo [^] ~~^~~ made captive [^] when the Jap ^s seized Attu and Kiska.

Now they are on their way back to their bleak northern islands, which are home sweet home to them - home to the Aurora Borealis. ^{and the Willy Was of the treeless Aleutians.}

PARACHUTE RECORD

And now let's note that eight miles is a long way down - especially if you are falling that far. So says Major Vasili Romanyuk of the Soviet Army, who has established a new record for parachute jumping. The news today tells how away up in the stratosphere, he leaped from a plane, and came down forty-one thousand nine hundred and eighty-four feet - falling like a rock nearly all the way. He didn't open his parachute until he was twenty-five hundred feet from the ground.

I don't know how long it took the Russian Major to descend those eight miles, but he might have had ~~xxx~~ leisure enough to figure out some new Soviet demand at the council of foreign ministers in London.

to be made
^
Hugh, how would you like to jump out of a plane at an altitude 10,000^{feet} greater than Mt. Everest and plummet toward the earth like a rock?

C.I. - Susco. Thursday, Sept. 27, 1945.

Emperor Hirohito's visit to General MacArthur,

~~eating humble pie~~, has revived ^{the} rumors that he is going

to abdicate. These rumors ^{comes} ~~are apparently garnered~~ from

conversations with Japanese ^{the} ~~they do not come from~~ ^{themselves,}

~~American officers~~. One suggestion is that the Mikado's

obeisance was a final gesture of conciliation before giving

up his throne to his son, with his brother as regent.

Neither of them have any responsibility for the present

plight of Japan.

MacArthur has not disclosed a word of what passed

between him and the Emperor during the thirty-eight minutes

in which they talked. They conversed through a Japanese

interpreter. Four hours later, Premier Prince Higashi-Kuni

was summoned to the imperial palace. ~~Probably the only~~

~~people who know what MacArthur and the Emperor talked~~

~~about are MacArthur himself, the interpreter, President~~

~~Truman, and maybe General Marshall.~~

One

~~Another~~ guess is that the Emperor begged MacArthur

to be lenient. Whatever he did, he unquestionably
humiliated himself in the eyes of his subjects and his
ancestors. In two thousand years of recorded Japanese
history, no Emperor ~~before has~~ ^{ever} called upon a foreigner.

The word today is that
~~It did not make a hit with~~ the Japanese ~~They~~ feel the
humiliation, ~~keenly~~ *deeply*.

PRISONERS FOLLOW JAPAN

An American newspaperman who has recently been released from a Japanese prison camp just paid a visit to a camp in western Java, where Japanese are imprisoned. And he is furious. He reports that the same men who beat their prisoners, starved them in surroundings of filth and disease, are luxuriously quartered in the cool hills of Java, in camps richly stocked with the best of foods, wine and medicines. They have everything from American canned milk and modern refrigerators to rice wine. ~~of~~ ~~course anybody who likes~~ Japanese rice wine ^{by the} ~~is welcome~~ ~~to it, since to American palates~~ ^{way, palates} ~~it~~ tastes like ~~it~~ ~~distillation of~~ ^a boiled inner tube.

However, John Bower of the United Press counted in one storeroom two hundred thousand pounds of rice, thirty-five thousand pounds of sugar, seventeen hundred pounds of tea, six hundred bottles of wine, and ^{on} ~~so~~ ¹ Tennis rackets, baseball equipment, gramophones

with plenty of records, and ~~all the~~ stores of khaki cloth and readymade clothing, sheets and soft mattresses.

All this, reports John Bower, for seven hundred Japs who are to be interned for only six months. They have a neat, well equipped surgery and hospital under a competent

surgeon. Elsewhere on the same island, ^{he says that} at the present moment, Europeans and others are dying every day, ^{our own people} not yet

released from prisons ^{camps, and with} ~~and camps~~. The Allies ~~are~~ having a ^{difficulty} ~~hard time~~ bringing in adequate medical supplies for ~~some~~

^{who are} fifteen hundred suffering from malnutrition and harsh treatment.