

MOROCCO

Wed. Jan 20 - '54.

France, today, sent reinforcements to the border between French and Spanish Morocco - and French warships made an appearance off the coast.

The French are irked by a move in Spanish Morocco, where native leaders want to set up a sovereign of their own. In opposition - to the Sultan in French Morocco, Sidi Mohammed Ben Moulay Arafa.

This, we hear, is backed by the Spanish authorities.

The trick of the situation is a tready made nearly fifty years ago - according to which Morocco was divided into two protectorates, French and Spanish, ~~But~~ - was to remain one country, one realm, under one sultan!

So the French claim the present move is a violation of the treaty. They insist that Spanish Morocco must remain under the sovereignty of the sultan backed by the French, Sidi Mohammed Ben Moulay Arafa.

All making a new point of ~~international~~ international friction.

Between France and ~~Spain~~ Spain - this time.

INDO CHINA

Indo China reports a naval operation - far inland.

The vital town of Thakhek is in the middle of the Kingdom of Laos - and Laos, itself, is an interior country.

Yet, Thakhek, today, was captured by landings from warships.

The answer - the Mekong River, one of the great streams of this earth. The French advance on Thakhek was partly by land - partly by River. Naval vessels flanking a column of troops that advanced along the banks of the stream.

The boats got there first, and landed riverborne troops.

PRISONERS

At Panmunjom

The release of the anti-Communist prisoners of war was completed today. Seven thousand North Koreans - taken to Seoul. Fourteen thousand Chinese - ~~to~~ to Inchon, where they boarded U.S. Naval vessels, bound for Formosa.

One hundred anti-Communists remain at PanMunJom. Ninety three saying - they don't want to go either to South Korea or Formosa. They prefer to be released - in some neutral country. A few others - held on criminal charges, We're demanding - that they be handed back.

In spite of protests from the Communists, the release of the prisoners went off without incident. The captives marching joyfully - to liberty.

The pro-Communists are still at Pan Mun Jom, with The Reds - refusing to take them, ~~back~~. Insisting - they must be kept in detention until a peace conference has been held. So things look doubtful for them, ~~and that goes for~~ ^{including} the twenty-one ~~penegade Americans.~~ ^{E. J. A.}

CONFERENCE PROPAGANDA

Berlin reports Red propaganda that looks - not so good for the meeting of the Foreign Ministers. Communist newspapers of East Germany are saying that Molotov will settle for nothing less than the scrapping of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. German Reds are insisting that any settlement must be preceded by German unification. While our side calls - for free German elections, first!

All taken to mean the arrival of Molotov in a mood of - no compromise.

CONFERENCE FRANCE

In Paris, today, Foreign Minister Bidault got his instructions - for the meeting of the Foreign Ministers.

There was a session of the French cabinet, and they told the Foreign Minister what to do. Or/rather - what not to do.

The rumor is that Molotov will propose a deal - with France. The French - to scuttle the West European Army ~~an~~ plan, in return for a settlement in Indo-China. Bidault to say - no. Rejecting - any ~~and~~ such deal.

He's also to say - "no" - to any Molotov suggestions for a five-power parley, which would include Red China.

Nor is he to play the role of - mediator. France to take no middle position. But stay on the western side, firmly with Great Britain and the United States.

BUDGET

President Eisenhower's budget, which will be presented to Congress tomorrow, was made public today. Copies had been passed around, under a pledge of secrecy - but the contents leaked out. So the budget message was released ahead of time.

The President ~~says~~ calls for the spending of sixty five billion dollars in the next fiscal year. Last year's budget was seventy-one billion, five-hundred million. So the President makes a large cut - five-and-a-half billions. Nevertheless the new budget will leave a deficit of three billions,

The top emphasis is on air power and atomic weapons. Army and Navy take large reductions, as funds are shifted over to the new ways of war - the power of the atom delivered through the air.

EISENHOWER-CELEBRATION

Tonight, President Eisenhower has a magnificent glass cup - twelve-and-a-half inches high, and etched ~~in~~ beautifully with pictures. Scenes from his career. The farm boy in Kansas, the West Point cadet, the soldier ~~and~~ ~~and~~ serving his country, the commander directing the D-Day invasion. Finally - Dwight Eisenhower taking the oath of office as President of the United States.

The spectacular cup - a gift commemorating his first anniversary in the White House. Members of the Cabinet chipped in and procured it. The presentation, today - made by Vice President Nixon.

Just one year ago today, General Eisenhower took the oath of office, and became President of the United States. So how ~~does he look at~~ ^{do} things ^{look after his} after twelve months in the White House? - the veteran soldier, the military hero, running our government?

Well, during his first year in office, he brought about an end to the fighting in Korea. Which, in the election campaign, had been the most dramatic issue. ^{That} Eisenhower statement - "I will go to Korea." Today, there's an armistice, which may be more or less shaky. But the fact is - that President Eisenhower did bring an end to the fighting in Korea.

Similarly, in the field of foreign policy, he won acclaim with his - "atoms for peace" proposal. However, that may turn out, the fact is that Soviet Russia has accepted that Eisenhower offer - to talk atomic matters in terms of peace, instead of war.

In matters of domestic policy, the picture is

different. The President's farm program, faces a stubborn fight in Congress - and the farm vote is at stake. His labor program is in for a battle - the amendments he names for the Taft-Hartley Law.

So the picture is two fold. Favorable - in the realm of international affairs. Controversial - in the field of domestic policy.

That's the contrast - at the end of the first Eisenhower year. Which, at the same time, marks the beginning of an election campaign. With the burning question - who will win the congressional elections in the fall?

From Washington, the disclosure - that the chief investigator for the committee on Un-American Activities borrowed three hundred dollars from screen actor Edward G. Robinson. Sounds mighty peculiar.

Some while ago, ^{the} /tough guy of the movies was questioned by the committee on charges connected with Communism. Edward G. Robinson - a willing witness, who testified that he was led, ignorantly, to associations backed by the Reds. ^P Seems odd, for the committee investigator to borrow three hundred bucks from him.

The fact was disclosed today by Congressman Kit Clardy of Michigan, who says - that was the reason why Louis J. Russell was fired from ~~his~~ his post. He adds that Edward G. Robinson did nothing wrong. But they'd like to know more about - the loan.

COFFEE

In Washington - a call for -- "Coffeeless Wednesday". Congressman Lawrence Smith of Wisconsin proposes that people, everywhere, refrain from coffee on Wednesday of each week. This, as a way to bring down the high price.

Today ~~Major~~ ~~food~~ food chains hiked ^{coffee} ~~the~~ price to - one dollar and three cents a pound. In many cities, the ten cent cup of coffee has gone up to fifteen.cents.

So the Congressman wants - "coffeeless Wednesday."

The strangely behaving witness in the Walter Reuther case now claims that he doesn't know anything about the shooting of the President of the C I O, six years ago,)

When - Reuther was head of the ~~am~~ auto workers.

Donald Ritchie repudiates the statements he made previously - although the auto workers union paid him a five thousand dollar reward for the information.

He's in Canada now, denying everything. But the prosecutor in Detroit says - proceedings to extradite Donald Ritchie will be continued. They want to prosecute him in connection with the shooting of Walter Reuther.

CALIFORNIA

In the San Gabriel mountains of California, the people are being warned - if it rains, they may have another disaster of rock and mud.

Today, several thousand went back to their homes - after having been driven away by huge slides of boulders and soggy earth.

The muddy disaster was an end product of great forest fires. The flaming tempest - that swept through the wooded slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains last month. Burning out the timber and brush, especially at Mount Wilson - where the great astronomical observatory stands.

At the time the prediction was - that the forest fire might be followed by dangerous landslides. Trees and vegetation, holding the soil, having been swept away by the blaze. If heavy rains came, loosening the earth - down it would come.

Well, during the past few days, they had those heavy

rains, more than five inches falling on Mount Wilson - and the prediction came true. Slides of earth and mud - pouring down on towns and isolated homes.

In Palmer Canyon, houses were shoved from their foundations. Others, which stood firm, had their sides caved in - by an ocean of ooze and stones pushing down the slopes.

At the foot of Mount Wilson, the town ^ASierra Madre was invaded - mud and rock piling four feet deep in some streets.

No casualties, but plenty of damage, ^{— with a} ~~and one~~ big job - of digging out.

CRASH

A dispatch from Buffalo gives the latest --
in an air crash there. A big passenger plane plunging
into a field, shortly after a take off. But - no lives
lost. Several injuries, apparently, but nothing too ~~seri~~
serious.

NEW ORLEANS

There was a wild scene at a courtroom in New Orleans, today. Crowds of women screaming - and banging on the door. The judge caught in the mob, ~~xx~~ and pushed around.

All because of intense feminine interest in a lurid wife-murder trial. The defendant - the ~~xx~~ owner of a ~~XXXXXX~~ resort in the French quarter.

The Judge, after being pushed around by the crowds of women, permitted ~~xx~~ only thirty spectators to enter the court - thereby frustrating a lot of feminine curiosity.

In Chicago, an explosion in a school set off a wild panic among the children. The blast occurred in a ~~sat~~ boiler room under - the kindergarten. Exactly where a screaming stampede was most likely to happen among the four-and-five year olds.

It seemed like a disaster, and police and ambulances came hurrying to the scene. But what did they behold? Out came eighteen hundred pupils, in an orderly march. Headed by - the kindergarten class. / The four and five ~~yar~~ year olds lined up as in a review, their teacher, Miss Marie Jones, shepherding them along.

Today, in Chicago, they were calling Marie Jones a ~~the~~ ^a Pied Piper. Well, the original Pied Piper of Hamelin led a procession of rats, by toot^ling on a flageolet. Marie Jones did the same thing, with children - by singing.

When the explosion shook the kindergarten class, knocking the kids from their seats, and they started to scream in panic - the teacher called for a song. —————→

"Come on! everybody sing!"

And then she started one of the kindergarten tunes. Which did the trick. Forty-three moppets forgetting their fright, and taking up the familiar song.

Then she got them into the routine fire drill, and led them out, still singing. Other classes were marching out, and they fell in behind the kindergarten.

So that's how Marie Jones turned possible disaster - into a pied piper parade. "Come on. Everybody sing!"