

C.I. - Sunoco. Sunday, Nov. 30, 1945.

The Army and Navy have new commanders.

Chief-of-staff General Marshall steps out, and his place is taken by General Eisenhower. And Fleet Commander Admiral King is succeeded by Admiral Nimitz.

These shifts in the top level of command are of

^{course} not unexpected, especially in the case of Eisenhower.

It has long been rumored that he would replace General Marshall, who will be sixty-five next month, and has wanted to retire ever since the surrender of Japan.

General Eisenhower is in the United States right now, having come over from occupied Germany to give testimony before Congressional Committees, in favor of compulsory military training and a unification of command. Also, as we now surmise, the Eisenhower trip home was made with a view to his becoming chief-of-staff. He takes over at once -- while Admiral Nimitz will not take over Admiral King's job until Christmas.

The job in Europe that Eisenhower has been holding, the task of administering the American Occupation in Germany, goes to General ^{JOE} McNarney. Admiral

Nimitz will be replaced as Commander of the Pacific Fleet --- by Admiral Spruance.

President Truman, in a news conference today, stated that General Arnold, Army Air Commander, has asked to be relieved -- but his resignation has not yet been accepted. ~~Rumor is that when General Arnold does retire, he will be succeeded by General Spaatz, who commanded the American strategic air forces in the air war against Nazi Germany, and later against Japan.~~

The President was reminded of the fact that the new chiefs in the Army and Navy have sharply conflicting views on the subject of a unified command for the land and air forces and the fleet -- Eisenhower having testified in favor, and Nimitz against. The President laughed and said that he would have something to say about that when the time comes -- and he'll say it in a message to Congress. He said he thought that by that time General Eisenhower and Admiral Nimitz would, in the words of the dispatch, "All be in the boat." Presumably they'll come around to an agreement with whatever the

President, their Commander-in-Chief, recommends in his message to Congress.

Counselor of the Pacific Fleet because of his opposition to President Roosevelt's decision to base the fleet at Pearl Harbor.

Yesterday, Admiral Richardson told me he had informed the President that Pearl Harbor was not suitable as a base, and that the facilities to prepare the ships for battle -- if war should break out -- the Admiral wanted to base the fleet on our own Pacific Coast, where the facilities were adequate.

Today he stated that, when war came, the advantage based on Pearl Harbor would have had to return to our own East Coast to get ready. Of course, the surprise of the Japs prevented the use of that.

Once again today the statement was made that President Roosevelt wanted the fleet to remain based on Pearl Harbor for diplomatic and psychological reasons -- to intimidate the Japs, restrain the bluff them. And Admiral Richardson expanded and developed

PEARL HARBOR

In the Pearl Harbor inquiry, Admiral Richardson stated today that he had been dismissed as Commander of the Pacific Fleet because of his opposition to President Roosevelt's decision to base the fleet at Pearl Harbor.

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Today he stated that, when war came, the warships based on Pearl Harbor would have had to return to our own West Coast to get ready. Of course, the surprise blow of the Japs prevented the need of that.

Once again today the statement was made that President Roosevelt wanted the fleet to remain based on Pearl Harbor for diplomatic and psychological reasons -- to intimidate the Japs, restrain them, bluff them. And Admiral Richardson expanded and developed

that theme.

He stated that Secretary of State Cordell Hull believed, that the fleet at Pearl Harbor would strengthen American diplomacy. He declared that an advisor in the State Department, Dr. Stanley Hornbeck, apparently had more influence over the disposition of the fleet than he himself has^d -- although he was its Commander. At the same time, Dr. Hornbeck was, in the words of the Admiral -- "Unwilling to accept the responsibility for retaining the fleet in Hawaii."

Admiral Richardson said the fleet was not ready for war, not ~~xxx~~ prepared for battle. It was short of ammunition, and never received enough appropriations from Congress to have enough men -- never more than eight-five per cent of a sufficient number. He added that President Roosevelt was opposed to recruiting more men for the Navy, saying the President believed that mechanics could be inducted quickly if they were needed.

Today's testimony included a declaration that, in nineteen forty, President ~~xxx~~ Roosevelt was thinking

of cutting off Japanese trade across the Pacific -- a sort of blockade. The Admiral stated that this plan was revealed to him by Secretary of the Navy Frank ~~Knox~~ Knox -- and Richardson protested ~~in~~ vigorously against it.

He argued with Knox that the stopping of Japanese ships would mean war -- and the Navy was in no shape for war. Secretary Knox, he says, did not like this, and the intention to blockade Japan was pressed ~~on~~ -- to the extent of a formal plan being drawn up. This plan was handed to Admiral Richardson, to be carried out when the time came -- but it was never put into operation.

The Admiral stated today that in all of this, his attitude was supported by Admiral Stark, then Chief of Naval Operations. Their view did not prevail, and Richardson was relieved of his command of the Pacific Fleet. He was replaced by Admiral Kimmel -- who was our Pearl Harbor Commander when Japan struck.

CHINA

Soviet Russia has given Chiang Kai-Shek permission to take control of Manchuria -- this is announced by Chungking tonight.

Earlier today we heard that Chiang Kai-Shek had made an appeal to Moscow, pointing out that the Soviets had agreed that the Chiang Kai-Shek Government should take over Manchuria. That promise was being violated, ~~as~~ according to the Chinese Nationalist ^{leader} -- who stated that Soviet forces were giving passive assistance to the Chinese Communists in Manchuria. The ~~Chiang~~ Chiang Kai-Shek remonstrance to Moscow seems to have been effective -- with Chungking announcing Soviet permission to take over Manchuria.

IRAN

In Persia, troops of the Iranian Government were on their way today to take action against the Communist insurrection. ^{And} They were stopped, by the Russians. There's a Communist uprising in Northern Persia -- which is a zone of occupation by Soviet Forces. We've been hearing that the Persian Reds were being aided and abetted by the Red Army -- which seems to be more than ever the case, with Soviet Troops halting Persian Forces on their way against the Communists.

~~In Moscow today, Soviet charges were made that the British are playing up the disturbances in Northern Persia for their own benefit -- publicizing incidents to divert attention from their own troubles in Palestine and Indonesia.~~

TRIAL

At the Palace of Justice in the old city of Nurenburg, today, a British Lord Chief Justice opened what may well turn out to be the most momentous trial in history. The accusations against the top ranking Nazi war criminals are not merely those of murder and atrocity -- although they are charged with a sickening amount of horror and barbarity. The central crime laid to them is something new -- the guilt of having made war, of having conspired and launched the most deadly and destructive armed conflict in history. In other words, the court at Nuernberg is acting on the principle -- that war is a crime against humanity.

A twenty five thousand word indictment was read by American, British, Russian and French prosecutors. The indictment charged specific actions in the conspiracy to ~~mk~~ make war, and it went on to dark and gruesome details of Nazi atrocity -- ferocious crimes during the war.

The defendants listened to the indictment with varying expressions.

United Press correspondent Clinton Conger described them as follows: "Some in uniforms, some in civilian clothing, some grim and silent, some breaking into an occasional sneering laugh -- the defendants ~~xxx~~ squirmed on their benches, ~~x~~ whispered to each other, shook their heads in denial of accusations against them, and occasionally nodded sleepily, as they faced the bar of world justice."

There are twenty of them, of an original list of ~~xx~~ twenty-four. And tomorrow they will be summoned to make their pleas -- guilty or not guilty. Presumably, they will all plead innocent, as is usually the case in a common police court as well as a tribunal of world justice.

HITLER

News tonight pictures Adolf Hitler in a new guise -- that of a fickle and unfaithful lover. This appears in a diary kept by Eva Braun, whom he married shortly before their double suicide. She notes time and again that she was going to ~~c~~commit suicide, take over-doses of sleeping pills, because of Hitler's infidelities. In one passage she remarks: "When he loves me he takes it about as seriously as his promises, which he never keeps."

She relates how she watched while Hitler bought flowers for another woman and invited her to supper.

The other woman in this case is named as "Annie Ondra", ~~mx~~ the German Motion Picture actress who married former heavyweight champion Max ~~Schman~~ Schmelling.

Another Hitler light of love is identified merely as "Walkure." That name, of course, refers to the Amazon heroine of Wagnerian Opera -- usually played by a buxom bulky German soprano. Eva Braun notes: "Her

name is Walkure, and she looks it -- including her legs."

Well, in spite of the jealous frenzies,
Eva Braun *stayed with her Adolph*
~~never did get around to the suicide that she~~
~~so often threatened -- that is, not~~ until those last
thundering hours of Nazi doom, when she and Hitler
took the suicide way out together.

STRIKE

The General Motors Strike was called tonight -- three hundred and fifty thousand workers in a labor battle against the nation's largest industrial combine.

The point at issue is the C.I.O. demand for a thirty per cent increase in pay. General Motors had a deadline for an answer -- four P.M. today. No answer was forthcoming, and the auto workers union took immediate steps to call a walkout. The preliminary measures were completed as night came on -- and now the strike has been called.

LABOR-MANAGEMENT

The other day, in reporting a telephone interview that I had with Representatives of Industry at the Labor-Management Conference, I remarked that I would try to do the same thing all over again -- and get in touch with the union leaders this time. Today seemed to be an appropriate occasion -- with a good deal of newspaper comment saying that the Labor-Management Conference is not accomplishing anything much. Is that view too pessimistic?

I put in a few telephone calls to Washington, and got some opinions. John L. Lewis was rather non-committal. He merely said: "It is always useful to get together and exchange views."

Philip Murray, President of the C.I.O., was more optimistic. ~~He~~ ^{he:} Said, "The progress of the conference, as expected, has been slow. Men representing both industry and labor are meeting for the first time." To which he added: "I am in no way pessimistic as to the outcome of the meeting, and think much good can come out of it." The conference, he reiterated, "Can do much to

minimize industrial strife, and ^{he added,} "I hope it will do so."

On the Management side, Eric Johnson, President of the United States Chamber of Commerce, said: "The newspapers ^{do} seem a little pessimistic. ^{But} I think we will get some results. The public," he went on, "was led to expect ^{that} the conference will settle imminent strikes, but it will not -- it was never intended to."

Here's a break of news that I picked up in the telephone interviews -- ^a proposal is going to be entered for dealing with strikes by a system of fact-finding. The idea would be for most strikes to be referred to the Governors of the States -- who would appoint fact-finding boards. These -- to ~~xxxx~~ enlighten the public about the real issue of the labor disputes -- and the merits of the case.

If a strike should be of more than statewide importance, nationwide, the Federal Government will be asked to appoint a fact-finding board.

This fact-finding business would amount to an appeal to public opinion -- as was pointed out to me

by Ira Mosher, President of the National Association of Manufacturers.

C.I.O. President Philip Murray argued for the ~~XXXXXX~~ proposal to have the conference go on record as favoring a nationwide increase of wages: "Most of the unrest in the nations," said he, "is attributable to the fact that wage earners have had terrific pay cuts in their wage envelopes." ~~The conference, "He went on, "Can be helpful in allaying much of that unrest, if it declares itself unequivocally in favor of increased wages."~~

Here is something for a guess, a statement made to me today -- and see if you can guess from which side it came; ~~Labor or Management~~. Who said ^{it} a union leader or a big industrialist? Here is the statement: "We believe that the country should return to free enterprise, the formula that has made America great -- the formula that will preserve our free institutions." That, you'd think, ^{most likely would come} ~~must have come from~~ ^{from} a big industrialist. Not at all, the man who said it was

John L. Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers.

~~Lewis was explaining why he was opposed to the C.I.O. demand that the conference go on record as favoring nationwide increases of wages.~~ He said the C.I.O. wage proposal was too limited -- because, argued Lewis, it would maintain the present restrictions on both wages and prices. He thinks that industry should be allowed to go ahead and make profits, and that labor should have its share in the form of higher wages and shorter hours. That's the reasoning ^{of John L. Lewis} ~~for John L. Lewis~~ ^{in his} declaration for free enterprise.

B-29's

The B-29 that landed in Washington today bore out the forecast that we had a couple of weeks ago -- the prediction that it wouldn't be long before a superfortress would break the ~~zone~~^{long} distance record. At that time B-29's flew from Japan non-stop to Washington -- but the distance was short of the world record set by British airmen in Nineteen Thirty-Eight. They made a non-stop record of seven thousand, one hundred and fifty-eight miles. ^{well,} The B-29 that arrived at Washington today broke that mark by more than a thousand miles -- flying from Guam to Washington, a distance of eight thousand, one hundred and ninety-eight miles.

A glance at the map will show you that Guam, ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{actually to} ~~to~~ the east of the Philippines, ~~is~~ separated from the United States by one immense expanse of ocean. And the ~~men~~ men of the superfortress, after leaving the shores of that tropical island, did not catch sight of land again until they reached Cape Flattery, near Seattle.

The trip from Guam to Washington took thirty five hours, the B-29 averaging two hundred and thirty-four miles an hour, -- in the face of a good deal of bad weather. In seven different areas they ran into icing conditions, which caused trouble.

Ten airmen made the record-breaking long distance flight, the pilots of which were Colonel Clarence Irvine and Lieutenant Colonel George Stanley.

The Army Air Forces are prompt to point the morale in today's record-breaking flight -- the lesson that this nation can be reached by bombers from great distances. The flight proves, ^{says} ~~is~~ the War Department -- "The fundamental aeronautical smallness of the world."

And what's on your mind tonight,
Hugh?