

JAPAN

Thurs. June 1st, 1950.

The Tokyo Government states that Japan wants to sign a separate peace with the western powers.

General MacArthur has declared that the defeated Japanese have earned the right to have a pact of peace - and now Japan asks for a treaty with the west, even though Soviet Russia be left out.

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This comes as the Japanese Communist Party calls a general strike - in protest against the military trial of seven Japanese accused of attacking five American Army men - on Memorial Day. This was the first instance of violence against Americans in the entire occupation of Japan. So the U.S. Army and the Japanese Government are being stern about it - and are likely to be equally stern against any Communist violence in protest.

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The Reds claim that the defendants on trial are innocent, the attack the doing of Trotzkyites. Wonderful, how the Communists keep on hating Stalin's old

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enemy - Trotzky.

AIRMAN

At Hong Kong, James McGovern appeared again today. When last seen, he looked like a beefy full-back on an exceptionally husky football team. Today he showed up a walking skeleton, his clothes hanging on him like a mother hubbard, his face thin and haggard, with a long black beard.

McGovern is the latest American airman to be released from captivity by the Chinese Reds. He was a flyer on the Chinese airline run by General Claire Chennault, of Flying Tiger fame - and six months ago McGovern crashed in Red territory. The Communists picked him up.

He says he was treated well, by what he calls - "Chinese, ^{red} standards." In jail, all he had to eat was left-overs from the meals of the Communist officers - and he lost seventy pounds. Somebody stole his razor - hence the black beard.

He had to submit to a lot of questioning, which was an ordeal. The Communist Intelligence officer

spoke only Mandarin, the language of north China. But the interpreter, who knew some English, spoke the Canton dialect of south China. So they had to have another interpreter, who translated from Mandarin to Canton^{see}.


Sort of ^a double-play combination from tinker-to-evers-to-chance. From Mandarin, to Canton^{see} to English.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Red trial in Czechoslovakia brings the usual profusion of confessions. Today, a former government official told how guilty he was - in a plot headed by former American Ambassador Laurence Steinhardt. He said he transmitted information to the Americans - but his memory turned out to be a little vague. The charge is that the information included atomic secrets - about uranium. Also - secret weapons. But the defendant said he didn't remember any such atomic, secret-weapon data. All of which was a flaw in an otherwise perfect confession - the tradition being for a prisoner to remember everything, even what didn't happen.

GERMANY

Today was medical inspection day along the Soviet-British border in Germany. Last night we heard of a menacing crisis created by Communist youth on the way home from the big Red rally in Berlin last weekend. Reports of danger of epidemic, and they were ordered to submit to precautions. They refused - and, the last we heard, they were threatening to storm the border. But they finally wore out, and gave in - nine thousand today going through medical inspection.



FOLLOW GERMANY

The latest - a giant Communist military parade in the Soviet sector of Berlin - the Red police, actually a Red Army, marching fifty thousand strong.

This display of armed strength causes some apprehension in western Berlin - expectation of some possible new Communist move.

COMMUNIST MAP

In London today, officials were scanning a map. A chart of Red empire - or so it is claimed. Published by the ministry of information in Red Czechoslovakia, the map shows territories under Soviet control or influence.

Naturally, the Reds don't give themselves any the worst of it, when it comes to claiming - and some of the countries named are surprising. Brazil - listed among those under Soviet control or influence. Also, South Africa - which may surprise people in Capetown. Others, colored red on the map - are French Indo-China, Hong Kong, and Tibet. Which strikes me with some surprise - Tibet - so soon.

I have been hearing from some of our friends in Lhasa and I haven't heard that the realm of the Dalai Lama has gone Communist. Tibet, of course, is gravely threatened; but I don't think that Soviet control and influence have spread through the Himalayas to the long frontier of all-important-India - not yet.

(This new Communist map of the world does concede some countries to the "western war mongers." Meaning - us, chiefly; those imperialist American war mongers. Among the countries listed as being outside Soviet domination are - Greece and Turkey; Yugoslavia - the Soviet puppet that rebelled; and, surprisingly, Finland - though that northern republic is bound under a treaty imposed by Moscow.)

WASHINGTON

The high brass of newspaper reporters, the Washington correspondents, are making a decision in the realm of international affairs. They^{are} to decide on two Soviet ~~xx~~ newsmen, correspondents of Pravda, Moscow's journal of the Communist Party, who want privileges of the press gallery in Congress.

The State Department recommends - yes. But in Congress today there were protests - the argument that, in Moscow, the newsmen of the west have mighty little freedom of the press. In Washington, on the other hand, the representatives of the Soviet news agency^{are} ~~are treated like any other foreign correspondents, granted full privileges, - as are the reporters from New York's Communist Daily Worker. This has aroused Congressional opposition in the past - and now Pravda~~ ^{them in our Congressional press gallery} wants ~~press gallery privileges~~ for its two representatives ^{who probably will get what they ask for since} ~~My guess is that the Committee of Washington~~ ^{we have} correspondents will agree - on the ground that we have freedom of the press in this country, and the Soviet

SPY

In Philadelphia today, the judge named a lawyer to represent Harry Gold, charged with atomic espionage - in collaboration with Dr. Klaus Fuchs, the British scientist.

~~The judge appointed John D. ~~W.~~ Hamilton, who was campaign manager for Republican candidate Alf Landon back in Nineteen Thirty Six. John ~~W.~~ Hamilton is now a law partner of former U. S. Senator George Wharton Pepper, dean of the Philadelphia bar.~~

Harry Gold described as repentant, asked the judge to name for him an attorney - "Whose patriotism is unimpeachable." Gold's words.

The judge certainly ~~o~~bliged, naming not a leftist lawyer; - but John D. ~~W.~~ Hamilton, Alf Landon's old campaign manager.

Seven Republican senators come out in opposition to campaign tactics that Republicans may rely on - using the charges of Reds in government as ammunition for the Congressional elections. The Alger Hiss conviction, the sensations of atomic espionage, the Amerasia case - are, of course, climaxed by the thundering charges hurled on all sides by Senator McCarthy of Wisconsin. The public is worried, and the whole thing presents opportunity for political assault. So the Republican situation is obvious.- But now comes a warning against the exploitation of a Red scare.

The statement was drawn up by Senator Margaret Chase Smith of ~~Maine~~, and is endorsed by Senators Tobey of New Hampshire, Aiken of Vermont, Ives of New York, Hendrickson of New Jersey, Wayne Morse of Oregon, Thye of Minnesota. They blame the Truman administration for its attitude toward the menace of Communists in the government, and charge - "complacency." But they add: "Certain elements of the Republican Party have materially added to the confusion, in the hope of riding

the Republican party to victory, through selfish exploitation of fear, bigotry, ignorance and intolerance."

Senator Smith says she does not want either a "whitewash" by the Democrats, or a "witchhunt" by the Republicans.

MANHUNT

A wildman-hunt is on in Georgia tonight -- following a most humiliating treatment of the police. It began in Tennessee -- where a Lieutenant of a highway patrol drove up to a wrecked passenger car, to investigate. At the wreck, two men and a woman ~~xxxxxx~~ seized him, took his weapons, threw him out of his patrol car and roared away in it.

They drove to a farmhouse a few miles away, represented themselves as officers of the patrol and grabbed the farmer's roadster. Then, in the two cars, they drove through a mountain pass into northwest Georgia, where they abandoned the patrol car - and were chased by an automobile load of Georgia police.

But the desperadoes had a thirty caliber machine gun, which they had seized from the Tennessee police lieutenant -- and with this drove off the Georgia policemen, who retreated in a hail of machine gun bullets.

Later, the fugitives wrecked the car they had - and are presumably on foot in the Georgia mountains

where the indignant police have mobilized the biggest
manhunt those parts have ever seen.

GOLD

Tonight at Belle, Missouri, they're saying - old Chris Lehnhoff, was right. Legend relates that years ago, ~~old Chris~~ found gold on his Missouri farm. ~~He was~~ Digging a well, when he struck two veins of the yellow metal. But old Chris never did anything about the treasure find - he was only interested in water.

Old Chris has long since disappeared from this world of wealth seekers - but the legend lingered, and his son, Chris Junior, joined in an effort to find that gold. Forty citizens banded together, and ~~on the ancient farm,~~ at the old well, they sank a shaft. Sure enough, they struck ^{pay dirt,} ~~these veins of ore.~~

So the gold fever ran high - but today came the report from the government assay office in St. Louis. ~~Same story as in so many places - gold, but not enough.~~ To make mining a paying proposition, ore has to run one-tenth an ounce of gold per ton. But the samples showed only eight ten-thousandths of an ounce. Old Chris Lehnhoff may not have been a mining expert - but he was right.

ROBBERS

Can drop

Here's about a blue grass hercules from Kentucky, who came to New York, and encountered the perils of the big city. His name has a fine Kentucky flavor - Zeb Vance Williams.

Zeb had a bankroll, and flashed a couple of big bills in a bar - hundred dollar bills. That attracted the notice of a soldier in the Air Force, a disgrace to his uniform - who teamed up with a taxi-driver to rob Zeb Vance Williams.

They told him they'd show him a real hot spot, and drove him to an obscure alley - where the two grabbed him for the robbery - pinning his arms. But the citizens, they come strong - in Kentucky. So Zeb Vance Williams gave one powerful heave, breaking loose - and swinging two punches, exactly two. He flattened the soldier with one - the taxi-driver with the other.

Then he called the police, who took away the two rogues, foolhardy enough to match their combined strength - against one blue grass Hercules from Kentucky.

POET

We all know that a poet, with dreams among the stars, can be forgetful and confused about mere mundane things - like marriage, for example. Which is illustrated by the case of poet Louis Untermeyer - whose marital affairs are being unraveled in a New York court. Louis Untermeyer is famous for compiling anthologies of poetry - but an anthology of wives can be more difficult.

The poet's fourth wife claims he is wedded to her - and not to his fifth wife. To which he replies that his fourth wife goaded him into divorcing his third wife, who was also his first wife.

it, not in poetry —
If that's not altogether clear, let's express ~~it~~ in simple arithmetic. In a series of weddings and divorces, the poet married number one, then later espoused number two. After which he remarried number one, making her numbers one and three. He was divorced from her, and this, he claims, was at the insistence of number four. Next he acquired number five, but the legality of this is disputed by number four - who claims that there is no number five.

If you're puzzled by this arithemitic, think of the poet. He says he's so confused that, in his words, "I write postcards to myself from my office to my home, so I won't forget something."

Today he found the complication still more bewildering, because the lawyers insisted on saying it in Latin. The attorney for number four boomed out with a Latin phrase: "Nunc pro tunc."

Untermeyer said he didn't know what it meant - shocking. "Don't you understand Latin?" the lawyer asked in a supercilious tone.

Which certainly was a verbal dagger hurled at so learned a poet as Louis Untermeyer, who replied with dignity: "I don't understand legal Latin. I understand Latin only when it is written by poets - Horace, Virgil and others."

So he knows "Arma virumque cano." ~~the whole line~~

~~arithmetic~~

^{TP} But he doesn't know - "Nunc pro tunc." Do
Ya, Nelson?

~~Well, after all that arithmetic of wives, I~~