

L.T. - P&G. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1951

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

In Washington tonight the State Department began an immediate study of the declarations made by Stalin. There will be no official comment until tomorrow at least. In Congress, however, there are open expressions, the gist of which can be expressed in a remark by Senator Hickenlooper of Iowa, who said: "It is just the same old Communist malarkey -- propaganda."

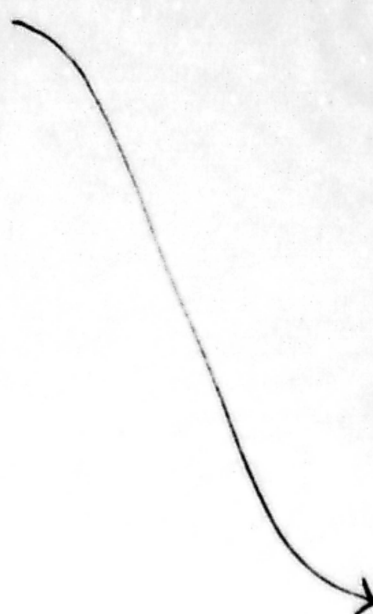
The headline, naturally being picked out, is the Stalin statement -- "war is not inevitable." He spoke in answer to questions submitted by a correspondent of Pravda, official newspaper of the Russian Communist Party -- and Stalin's answers were broadcast by the Moscow Radio.

Everything in Pravda is official. So this is all a part of a well thought out Kremlin plan of course.

Actually, the first question was about recent declarations by Prime Minister Attlee of Great Britain - who spoke in strong terms of Soviet preparations for war. Stalin denounced this, and claimed that Russia is really concentrating on a peace time economy.

Next, he was asked about the prospects in Korea, and stated that the U.N. forces would be defeated -- unless they accept proposals made by Red China.

The reasoning of the Soviet Dictator is interesting. He was asked: "Is it possible that American and British generals and officers are worse than the Chinese and Korean generals and officers?" Stalin



answered: "No, they are not worse. American and British Generals and officers are in no way worse than those of any other country." To which he added that the American and British soldiers do not believe that they are fighting a just war. "The matter at issue", said the Soviet premier, "is that this war is extremely unpopular among American and British soldiers."

Then finally, he was asked "is war inevitable?" and answered: "No. At any rate, war cannot now be considered inevitable." He stated there were aggressive forces wanting war, to make super profits -- but the people of the west did not want war.

Altogether -- a peaceful sounding statement from Stalin. *For propaganda reasons of course.*

KOREA

In Korea the Red attack swings to the east. (After taking a bad beating along the line between Wonju and Chipyong, the Communists have made a push intended to flank that mountain front on the east.) Today Red columns thrust for sixteen miles, threatening the highway and railroad junction of Chechon - gateway to the old Pusan beachhead. A news dispatch from Korea pictures heavy fighting seven miles northwest of Chechon.

The way the Communist offensive was beaten off in the Wonju-Chipyong area is shown by the fact that not one Red assault was made today. This - in spite of the fact that snow and clouds held off the American Air Force - the activity of the planes cut to a minimum. That made things especially favorable for the enemy. But the Reds, after savage losses, failed to take advantage of the snow storms and low-hanging clouds. Instead, American units of the Tenth Corps struck forward at seven points -

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counter-attacks marking at least a temporary turn of the tide in that sector.

FOLLOW KOREA

The latest from Korea pictures a retirement
(on the eastcoast -- the U.N. forces pulling back below
the thirty-eighth parallel, to shorten their lines.)

More serious, perhaps, is the withdrawal from Pyongchang
-- which is twenty miles northeast of the vital highway
from Wonju to Chechon. The Reds have been battling to
cut that highway, unsuccessfully thus far.

HOOVER-DEWEY

The hearings on sending more American troops to Europe may witness a contest between former President Herbert Hoover and New York Governor Thomas E Dewey.

Today several Republican members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee urged that the two leaders ~~be~~ heard

-- the only living ex-president and the titular head of the Republican Party. *To a considerable extent they* ~~They, of course,~~ represent oppo-

site opinions. Former President Hoover, advocates the

defence of ^{the} a western, ~~hemisphere Gibraltar,~~ ^{(concentrating} ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

on naval and air power -- while Governor Dewey holds, in the strongest terms, that we should back the Free

Nations of Europe with American land forces under the international land army commanded by General Eisenhower.

TP Later Chairman Senator Connolly of Texas announced that he was sending telegrams to Herbert Hoover and Thomas E Dewey, inviting them to testify.

ACHESON

Secretary of State Dean Acheson declares that Western Europe will "double" its armed forces next year - and he is "hopeful" of bringing the army of Spain into the system of Atlantic Treaty Defense. Spain - with three-hundred-and-fifty thousand soldiers.

In stating all this, the Secretary of State was backing a decision to send one hundred thousand more American troops to Europe - as announced by Secretary of Defense George Marshall.

WAGE STABILIZATION

Today in Washington organized labor ~~appeared~~ pulled out formally from the Wage Stabilization Board. (Last night, three Labor members took a walk out, and this was made official today -- when the United Labor Policy Committee, representing the major unions, instructed them to submit their resignations, to President Truman.)

The reason -- the decision, made by the Board, to stabilize wages at ten percent above the levels of January fifteenth, nineteen-fifty. (The three ^{Laborites} ~~Industrial~~ ~~and~~ objected strenuously, but the limitation to a ten percent increase was put through ^{by} ~~the~~ six members ~~last~~ representing industry and the public.)

ADD WAGE STABILIZATION

~~The latest~~ ^{word} ~~a report from Washington~~

that Defence Mobilizer Charles E Wilson, is offering to name a Labor Representative as one of his top assistants -- which would meet a number one demand the unions are making.

AMENDMENT

(Georgia becomes the thirty-first state to ratify a constitutional amendment limiting Presidents to two terms. The Georgia legislature has taken action and that leaves -- five to go.)

The Anti-Third Term Amendment was passed by Congress in nineteen-forty-seven, and immediately went on to the States. Twenty-four ratified that same year, but then there was a lag until this year -- when seven more voted Okay; and ^{now} Georgia today. The remaining five needed would come from a list of seventeen states ~~very~~ largely in the south.

The Amendment, if ~~simultaneously~~ ratified by the ~~thirtieth~~ next Presidential election, would have no effect on any third term ambition that President Truman might have. He is exempt, specifically, from the two-term limitation.

The New York State Board of Regents has banned the Italian film called -- "The Miracle." This is the motion picture over which there has been so much controversy -- produced by Roberto Rossellini, the Italian film director, who has also been in the headlines for his romance with movie actress Ingrid Bergman.

"The Miracle" is banned in New York State on grounds of -- "sacrilege." It is a sordid bit of realism and fantasy, telling the story of an idiotic woman who gets into a lunatic sort of romance with a man she believes to be St. Joseph. It sounds none too pleasant -- but, I suppose that Rossellini, who is a Catholic, and his fellow Italians might be puzzled about the imputation of "sacrilege." Italian literature and Italian Opera have a way of making rather free and easy with subjects more or less religious.

Cavalleria Rusticana is a melodrama of murderous revenge, staged at the door of a Church, with the

villagers going to mass. While La Tosca presents the arch villainies of a Papal Minister of Police employed by the Vatican at a time of revolution. But nothing sacrilegious was ever thought about these -- Rome being tolerant in such matters.

SOUTH SEA PARTY

Today was the day of the big party -- in the Tonga Islands. Never had the Coral Atols of the South Seas known so magnificent a "Luau", Polynesian for -- feast. Roast pigs on spits were lined for two hundred yards -- flanked by mountains of poultry, crayfish, yams, taro root, bananas.

The Big party thrown by a big Queen -- her Majesty Queen Salote, who stands six foot three inches, and weighs two-hundred-and-eighty pounds. For thirty-three years she has been the sovereign of the Island Archipelago and today celebrated the signing of a treaty with Great Britain fifty years ago.

With the British High Commissioner, Sir Brian Freeston, Queen Salote, proceeded ^{through} thirty-five triumphal arches, and the ceremony culminated with the presentation of a letter from King George VI of Great Britain -- who greeted her South Sea Majesty as an equal sovereign. Prime Minister Attlee sent a royal chair of state, while the Order of Commander of the British Empire

was bestowed on the Crown Prince. His Royal Highness, Tungī, worthy son of a mighty mother; He ^{also} weighs -- two-hundred-and-eighty pounds.

The Big Party, the record-breaking "Luau", was thrown at a place called Nukualofa. Which, in Polynesian means -- Land of Love. I'd love to have been there.

LIAR

Big time scandal in the Air Force was cleared up today, and the answer is -- a champion liar. Sensational charges of blundering and outrage were made and a Senate Investigation was threatened. But all turned out to be founded on nothing more than a series of whoppers and tall stories.

An Air Force corporal at the Randolph Field Base, San Antonio, Texas, grew bored and weary, so decided to amuse himself by exercising his imagination. He wrote to his mother that he had been shanghaied into a unit bound for Korea. It was a case of false identity -- he being mistaken for another soldier. He got as far as Hawaii where the mix-up was discovered. But then there was another mistake, and he was thrown into jail for thirty-six hours. After which he was to be taken by plane back to Texas, but things went Snafu once more -- and he wound up in Washington, D.C. Later on he was taken to Scott Air Base in Illinois. Finally at long last -- to Randolph Field. So he made a journey

for more than fifteen thousand miles -- all because
of a series of fantastic blunders in the Air ~~Force~~ ^{Force}
so he said!

When Mom got that letter, she was indignant --
as what Mom wouldn't be. ~~She~~ She was so outraged that
she appealed to a Senator from her state -- and, in
Washington, the Senator placed the protest before the
Air Force, and demanded an explanation.

Bewildered Air Force officials took the matter
to the corporal in question. Today he admitted that
every word of his letter to his mother was false. He
was just exercising his talents as a champion ~~short~~ ^{tall}
story teller; -- *but for a time it* (looked like) ~~but it~~ ^{an uproar for the}
Air Force.

MARRIAGE

At Houston, Texas -- a strange marriage. The newswire has a way of bringing oddities of matrimony, and this one has charms of its own.

Harry McCutcheon, was sentenced to four years in the Federal Penitentiary in Leavenworth for peddling marijuana. He was let out on parole, and violated the parole. Mrs. Carol White was ~~convicted~~ convicted as a shoplifter last Wednesday, and is out on bail. They decided to get married -- but, meanwhile McCutcheon was picked up for parole violation, and ordered back to Leavenworth. But he still wanted the wedding. He said that, at Leavenworth he would not be permitted to write to Mrs. Carol White, or receive letters from her -- unless they were married. He wanted the wedding so that, in prison, he could have a "pen pal".

The authorities at Houston agreed, and they were joined in matrimony. At the ~~mar~~ ceremony the groom found he had lost the wedding ring, but the bride handed over a golden band that she had used in one of two previous weddings. Marriage - so that a convict can have a "pen pal."

SPANKING

In Paris today penalties were imposed on André Boisson, who was charged with -- spanking the girl friend in public. André admitted as much. He said they were walking along in the market square when they had a quarrel -- and the girl friend slapped his face. So right there, in the public market, André put her across his knee and voila - administered a spanking. The Parisian Judge found that this was unjustified -- even if the Mademoiselle had snacked André first. I suppose the spanking ~~gambol~~ gained the greater popular attention. Imagine the lively interest of a lot of Frenchmen, as the girl friend got paddled. Also -- how much of it did she get? The Judge today commanded André to pay Mademoiselle seventy thousand Francs. Which should pay for a lot of spanking in France, Nelson.