

GRUENTHER

L.T.P.G.M. Mar. 24-52.

You might say that General Eisenhower testified in Washington today - though it was through the mouth of his Chief Aide, General Alfred Gruenther. Appearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Gruenther gave an optimistic picture of the growing armed strength of Western Europe, under the command of General Ike. Ground forces ready for combat have nearly doubled in the past year. "But," warned Gruenther, speaking for Eisenhower, "the West European nations will have to put forth a maximum effort" if a Red attack should come. Only by going all out -- could they hope to survive.

All this -- in the debate on the White House proposal for more foreign aid, seven billion, nine hundred million dollars.

But the news men were more interested in -- General Ike's return, to campaign. Gruenther was asked about that, and replied: "The boss told me some time ago that, when it comes to political matters, I'd be very much more useful to him if I stayed out." Which was a candid way of saying -- no comment.

The blast of comment that we hear comes from the House of Representatives -- where (Democratic leader Congressman McCormick of Massachusetts denounced Eisenhower for "campaigning" while still in uniform. He said the General should not be, at the same time, a candidate for the Republican nomination and the Commander of the International Army in Europe.) So, declared the Democratic leader, General Ike should resign his command, and come home. Which is exactly the opinion of a lot of Republicans -- who like Ike.

Meanwhile, General Ike has authorized the publication of an interview in which he said this country has drifted -- "Too far to the left." The interview was with David Lawrence, editor of U.S. News and World Report, a couple of years ago. Off the record -- then. But now, General Ike says -- go ahead. And is quoted as declaring: "We must not allow ourselves to travel the road that Great Britain has been traveling. America is not the kind of country that needs Socialism. "There are times," he went on, "when the government, acting for all the people, must intervene in the economic life of the country, and use government aid to tide the people over in an emergency. But, "he warned, "this is a far different thing from making it a permanent proposition. Or -- using wrongfully the idea of 'emergency' to install some kind of Socialist system or government paternalism."

~~(Note: This can be cut, tabbed, or dropped.)~~

DEWEY

The news wires are taking note of a birthday. Governor Dewey of New York - fifty years old. With *enough* achievement and experience in politics to qualify as an elder statesman of eighty. But then there was always a complaint - that Tom Dewey was too young.

He rose to Presidential stature in his thirties having already won fame as a gang-busting District Attorney. Elected Governor, he competed for the Republican nomination in Nineteen Forty - the one carried off by Wendell Willkie. Then - ran for the Presidency in Nineteen Forty-Four and 'Forty-Eight.

According to normal standards of age, Tom Dewey is ^{*still*} in the middle of a career, and it will be interesting to see what the second half may be - for the political figure, so long considered too young.

FINNEGAN

(The former tax collector at St. Louis gets two years in prison -- James P. Finnegan, one time politician crony of President Truman.) He was charged with accepting three thousand dollars from the American Lithofold Company, which got a half a million dollar loan from the R.F.C. Also, for taking five thousand dollars from a hotel company that had a claim against the U. S. Coast Guard.

(He was found guilty of selling the influence of his high federal post,) and the Judge today said -- two years in prison and a ten thousand dollar fine. Finnegan was released on bond -- pending an appeal.

scandals of income tax. Klein said today that he asked his lawyer in amazement -- "Who is Greenwald?"

Styles Bridges of New Hampshire, Republican Senate leader, states that he considered the case with tax officials -- Klein today declaring that he never met Bridges. He may be good at a business deal, but he never knew why he was getting all that help. Neither does the innocent bystander.

TAX SCANDAL

A Congressional Committee, today, heard -- an astonished business man. Hyman Harvey Klein made five million out of a thousand dollars invested in a Canadian Whiskey deal. Which involved a number of foreign corporations, Cuban, ^{and} Panamanian -- and the charge was that these were "dummies", to avoid U.S. Income taxes. So the talented business man got into tax trouble. Various people grew interested in his behalf -- and that's what astonished him.

One of them, Henry Gruenwald -- the mystery man called the "Silent Dutchman", because of the way he has refused to answer Congressional questions about scandals of income tax. Klein said today that he asked his lawyer in amazement -- "Who is Gruenwald?"

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NEW LEAD STORY

Late word from Washington. Defense Mobilizer Charles E. Wilson has just made a statement to the Press criticizing the steel worker's wage increase recommended by the wage stabilizer's board. Wilson describes the wage recommendation as a "serious threat" to the stabilization program, *He says* ~~and stated that~~ he will meet with union leaders and steel industry representatives as soon as possible to try and work out a new wage formula.

TRIESTE

(Rome presented a lurid scene today, with bitter rioting over the Trieste question. Last week there were disturbances in Trieste, and today these spread to Naples and Milan, with the worst violence in Rome.) There four thousand students clashed with the Police, the students marching through the City, shouting "Viva La Duce" and raising their arms in the Fascist salute. ~~The worst demonstrations around Vatican City, where the demonstrators took refuge before charging the Police.~~

Finally, the cops called out their "water wagon" - a fire engine fitted out with tanks of red dye. These they turned on the students, spraying them a bright scarlet, to help identify the rioters. Which all presented a lurid scene - cracked heads, Fascist salutes, and the crimson spray, ~~on the borders of~~ ~~Vatican City.~~

ADD KOREA TRUCE

Meanwhile radio Peking announced today that all the Communist negotiators, including troops, jeep drivers and newsmen will receive special medals. As radio Peking put it "for their efforts in resisting American aggression and aiding Korea - at Panmunjon".

In the air war today more than one hundred communist MIGS sallied south of the Yalu River. However, our fliers described them as "not very aggressive", and report fourteen MIGS destroyed or damaged.

In four separate battles, ~~swirling high over the valley~~ our Sabres downed three of the Russian jets, ~~two more~~ two more probably--with seven others damaged.

KOREA - TRUCE

(A cloak of secrecy is coming down on the Korean truce talks. At today's meeting - a partial blackout. Full secrecy expected tomorrow.)

Today's discussion centered around this news ban, and following the meetings our spokesman said: "We almost came to an agreement, but not quite."

The censorship is believed to be a face-saving move, to enable the negotiators to work out a compromise on the prisoner repatriation issue.

A story from the battlefield tells of the strangest airstrip. Not so big, but constructed in a remarkable way.

Deep inside No Man's Land, a patrol of Marines got into a fight, and several were wounded. The situation called for - evacuation by helicopter. But they were on a ridge, covered with deep snow - into which a flying machine would sink.

Previously the ridge had been a Red artillery position - and, around in the snow, were thousands of discarded shell casings. These the Marines collected - and packed them into a space of snow - until they had an air strip of brass. Ten feet long - a helicopter not needing much room. Onto this frozen base the flying machine landed - evacuating leatherneck wounded.

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The Twenty-Fifth Infantry Division reports the opposite of all those Washington stories of the Army squandering the taxpayers money. Corporal Ruben Gartman of Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin, saved some two

hundred thousand dollars for the taxpayers in one day.

Corporal Ruben runs a bulldozer, with which he hauled a truck out of the middle of a river - truck and cargo worth a few thousand. That same day, he retrieved a tank, stalled at the edge of a cliff - ready to go over. The bulldozer dragged it to safety, and tanks are mighty expensive. Shortly afterward, the Corporal retrieved another tank, which had broken through the ice, and was in the water up to the top of it's radio antenna.

Ruben Gartman, in the words of the Army announcement, "Saved the government enough money to pay his Corporal's wages for the next one hundred and thirty years." If he lives that long.

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The Marines report the return of Sergeant Joseph Baumer of Irvington, New Jersey - reenlisting for service in Korea. A few months ago, the Sergeant was discharged back in the U.S.A: and looked around for a civilian job. He got one - tough even for a leatherneck. Hired - as a sword swallower in a Hollywood movie.

Wanting to be spectacular - they made it a flaming sword.

Trouble was, Baumer swallowed some of the flame, which also set his false whiskers on fire.

So back to the Marines - asking for war duty in Korea. Where it's a lot safer - bullets and bombs, but you don't have to swallow a flaming sword.

ARCTIC

The other night, I had a suspicion I was passing along a howling boner. When I repeated what a News dispatch had to say - about the thickness of the ice on the Polar Ocean. The story said - ten to twenty thousand feet. Which astonished me so much that I was sure there must be a mistake in the figures.

So I checked, and the figures were correct. But, as I am now informed - not for Ice!

This correction comes from Colonel Bernt Balchen, of the air force - the famous arctic flyer and explorer. Bernt told me on the telephone today that a survey is being made - from the Arctic shore all the way to the North Pole. With experts of the Navy making soundings of the Arctic Ocean. How deep is it? Well, they are finding depths from ten to twenty thousand feet. So those figures apply - to water, not ice. The sheet of ice that covers the ocean is only

from six to ten feet thick - quite a difference!

In fact, said Colonel Bernt Balchen, they are taking soundings in the good old-fashioned way. By dropping lead and line down to the bottom of the sea -

through a hole cut in the six to ten feet of ice.

The task being - to map the bottom of the Arctic Ocean. Important - for explaining the origin of currents that sweep the Seven Seas.

At the town of Lewes, in England - a courtroom scene. The defendant - compelled to turn around in his chair, and not face the witness - or - he might hypnotize her.

In England, the courts are stately.- with Judges in full bottom wigs. And, today - the majestic traditions were preserved at the Town of Lewes, although the drama was as theatrical as ^{any of} our own American trials, ~~can sometimes be~~

A young woman, Diana Rains-Bath, suing an American stage hypnotist - claiming he put her in a trance that caused her a long emotional disturbance. The hypnotist, Ralph Slater - sitting ten feet away.

Whereupon, her lawyer addressed the court, Justice Sir Richard Croom-Johnson: ^{TR} "My Lord," said the lawyer, "I wish to suggest that the defendant should not sit so near the girl. Or, in fact, anywhere in sight of her."

"Is this", asked his Lordship, "a suggestion that he should not hypnotize her in the face of the Jury."

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"My Lord," the lawyer responded, "the nature of this case makes it abundantly clear that the girl may be extremely afraid of him."

Whereupon hypnotist Ralph Slater had to turn around in his chair, with his back to the witness, as she testified that, in the stage hypnotism act, she was made to weep and cry - "Mommy, Mommy."

Testimony, ^{Nelson,} to which the hypnotist listened - with his back turned ^{to} *Diana Rains-Bath.*