

SUBSTITUTE ARMY DAY

C.I. - P. & B. Wednesday, April 6, 1949

(Los Angeles)

Today was Army Day -- and the last one.

This evening in Washington Secretary of Defense ~~xxxx~~ Louis Johnson announced that hereafter all three branches of the service will celebrate jointly. The Army, Navy and the Air Force will get ~~xxxx~~ together and hold all their parades and demonstration on a single -- Armed Forces Day. President Truman has personally approved of the move, and the legislation will be submitted soon to Congress, to establish the new holiday. The date has not yet been decided upon -- still to be named.

All this is in keeping with the unification of the Armed Forces -- which has not been the easiest thing to accomplish. Rivalries persist, and it is felt that these rivalries are stimulated by each branch of the service having its own day -- a competition of days. So now unification extends to celebration, with a unified -- "Armed Forces Day".

On this last Army Day President Truman

and the occasion to say that he would not hesitate to use the atomic bomb -- if that time as weapon were needed to protect the liberty of the free world.

He was addressing a group of Democratic members of Congress chosen in the November election, and his remarks got around to the fact that he had been in office only a few months when confronted with the decision of whether or not to use the newly devised atomic bomb against Japan. He defended the decision he made -- defended it against criticism that has been made in this country. Only tonight a nationally known educator comes forward with the opinion that the atomic bombing of Japan was wrong, a mistake.

But President Truman replies with the ~~main~~ belief that the atomic bombing of ~~Ni~~ Hiroshima and Nagasaki saved the lives of at least two hundred thousand Americans and ~~was~~ twice that many Japanese. Hence -- justified.

This was followed by the statement, in these words: "If the welfare of the world, and the

Democratic nations of the world were at stake --

I would not hesitate to make that decision again."

BURMA

News from Burma -- the land of Rangoon, the Shwe Dagon -- ~~to~~^{and} Mandalay. I want to address this item especially to an Irishman from Erie², Pennsylvania. Which may sound strange.

Anyway, the Burma government at Rangoon has made peace with the tribes of the Karens, those clans of the jungle calling off their revolt. Which, you may think is nothing to concern an Irishman from Erie, Pannsylvania.

Since the end of the war Burma has been in turmoil, ^{this} coming to a climax recently. The little news which has trickled out of that exotic land, far away, has featured the usual thing-- the Communists. The Reds of Southern Asia are making trouble, and staged a formidable revolt in Burma. But the ~~partisans~~ ~~of the~~ Soviets are only part of ^{the} a story. Burma is a land of strange tribes and a number of these joined the Reds in revolution -- especially, the Karens. With fantastic superstitions, rituals, and sword dances, the Karens know little of Marx, Lenin and

Stalin. But they have long been at odds with the ruling race of Burmese, and the insurrection was intended to establish an autonomous regime for the Karen tribes. All so formidable that the Karens, together with the Communists, are reported to have taken control of most of Burma, outside the capital city of Rangoon. Only the other day the Burmese government announced a triumph in being able to regain possession of Mandalay, the second city of Burma.

But now, apparently only the Communists remain to be dealt with, the revolt of the Karens ending with an agreement that grants their demand for self rule. Political news from the land so strange and eerie -- interesting to an Irishman from Erie, Pennsylvania.

The reason for the side remark is -- Phil Cochran, one of the most famous of American air figures of the Second World War. He is, by the way, the prototype of Flip Corkin of Terry and the Pirates, that comic strip character having

been modelled on the Air Force flyer. Well, ~~Elia~~
Phil Cochran of Erie^l, Pennsylvania, led the first
all-air invasion and that ~~was~~ was in Burma. ^{FF} He
flew in ^{those} British commando forces of the legended
British General Wingate, and seized positions
behind the Japanese line -- all by air, by glider.
Right now, Phil Cochran is working for a Hollywood
studio which is producing a picture called -- jet
pilot. Phil Cochran ^{the} technical advisor - seeing
that the film presents an accurate picture of jet
aviation ^{of} of which he has been making a study -
problems of filming jet planes in action for a
Hollywood feature.

So, for ^{Col} ~~Phil~~ Cochran, this news from
Burma tonight means memories of the ~~dark~~ days when
his planes flew and fought over the country of the
Karens, whose rebellion now has ended. The days
-- when he commanded the gliders that swooped down
into jungle clearings, and landed air ^{invasion} ~~invasion~~
forces -- preparing the way for the capture of

Mandalay from the Japanese. That same Mandalay
which the Burmese government has now recovered.

HOPE DIAMOND

In New York the mail man, today delivered a package, to Harry Winston, who took the parcel and said: "I'm not superstitious. As a matter of fact, I feel particularly happy today."

Winston is a jewel merchant, and the package contained a fabulous fortune -- in precious gems. So he might well feel happy, though some other people might not -- being more superstitious. Because, among the gleaming brilliants delivered today one was -- the Hope Diamond.

The jewel merchant has purchased the collection of precious stones left by the late Mrs. Evelyn Walsh McLean, Washington society leader. He paid a million dollars, acquiring two historic diamonds.

The most valuable of the two, merely as a gem, is a hundred carat pear-shaped stone called - the Star of the West. But the other is the Hope Diamond -- an oval an inch and an eighth long, with world famous and historical associations that make it priceless -- if anybody wants to buy a jewel of such ill-starred and sinister reputation.

The record of the Hope Diamond is ~~an~~ one of the fantasies of this earth. ^{The gem} ~~It~~ first appears in history more than three hundred years ago, when a French adventurer acquired ^{it} ~~the magnificent stone~~ in Southern India. He smuggled it out and took it to France, where he sold it to King Louis the Fourteenth -- who gave him a fortune for it and a title of ~~high~~ nobility. ~~But~~ ^{The} son of that original owner squandered the fortune, and the father, ~~in~~ at eighty, went back to India, seeking wealth all over again -- and in India he was killed by wild dogs.

In France, the great Minister of State at the time was -- Fouquet renowned for his magnificence. He borrowed ^{the ~~stone~~ diamond} ~~it~~ from the King, and wore it at a party - misfortune immediately descending upon him. He was overthrown, lost his eminence, his wealth and his life.

The diamond passed along through various hands, bringing misfortune in its trail -- owned and worn by Marie Antionette, most unfortunate of Queens.

TP In Seventeen Ninety-two, during the French rebellion, the gleaming gem was stolen from the ~~English~~ ^{royal} ~~queen's~~ treasury, and dropped out of sight for thirty-eight years, reappearing in Eighteen Thirty, in London. *TP* There it was bought by the banker Henry Thomas Hope for half a million dollars and thereafter was known as -- the Hope Diamond. ~~The~~ Bad luck ~~that~~ ~~followed~~ in the Hope family culminated when Sir Francis Pelham Clinton Hope went bankrupt, and lost his beautiful young American wife, ~~and~~ the celebrated actress named Mae Yohe, who eloped with another man.

TP A few years ago Mae Yohe died in Boston, aged and penniless, on relief -- a W P A job at ~~Sixteen~~ Dollars and fifty cents, a week. Her life had been a long ~~series~~ series of misfortunes, and she blamed them on the Hope Diamond. *TP* Meanwhile, the great brilliant had been sold to Sultan Abdul Hamid of Turkey, --
The dealer who handled the transaction died in an automobile accident, with his wife and child, thrown over the cliff. In the harem of the Sultan the Hope

diamond was worn by Abdul Hamid's favorite -- the beautiful subaya - and she was presently put to death-- by "the Red Sultan," as they called him for his deeds of blood.-- Misfortune struck him too -- he lost his throne.

Such was the history of the Hope Diamond when, after passing through other hands, it was bought ^{in 1911} by Mrs. Evelyn Walsh McLean - of Washington Society and newspaper fame. She laughed at the superstition, and liked to wear the dark ~~and~~ storied gem to parties. Her ~~son~~ son was killed in an automobile accident. Her daughter, wife of a former U.S. Senator, was the victim of an overdose of sleeping pills. Which certainly seemed to continue the sinister legend of the Hope Diamond. ^{TP} So now, the picture, today, the new owner opening the package and taking out the oval shaped gem an inch-and-an-eighth long, gazing at his new and wondrous possessions, and saying-- "I'm not superstitious, as a matter of fact I feel particularly happy today." Happy because he has the

Hope diamond. I wonder what a long line of former owners would say to that?

But to whom will he sell the gem? Who will buy ~~xxxxxxx~~ the Hope Diamond? Nobody at all, says Harry Winston. He is not offering it for ~~xxx~~ sale. ~~xxxx~~ "I intend to exhibit it," ~~he~~ says ^{he.} "I think the public is entitled to look at the most famous diamond in the world."

Today votes were counted at various places, local elections - with a couple of oddities. In Los Angeles, the result is no oddity at all - Mayor Fletcher Bowron piling up a big lead, but not an outright majority over all the other candidates. Which means-- a run off election between Mayor ~~Mr~~ Bowron and Number Two man Lloyd Aldrich.

At Bronson, Kansas, ~~the~~ men were stunned today, when they found that the women had run away with the town election. Bowron, with a population of four-hundred-and-fifty, is no metropolis, but goes on record with a successful feminine revolt -- the ladies electing a mayor and likely enough getting control of the town council.

The trouble arose when ~~male~~^{le} voters held a caucus to select candidates, ~~for Mayor and town Council~~. The women showed up, wanting to take part in the caucus -- but were simply shooed away. Wives and sisters, aunts and ~~nief~~ nieces, were given to understand, in lofty fashion that hubby, Daddy and

Uncle would select the candidate and run the town.

PP So what did the ladies ^{do}? In high ^{dudgeon} indignation, they gathered for a caucus of their own, and nominated their own candidates -- including Mrs. Marie Clark for Mayor. ^{Then} They went ahead and ~~waged a vigorous campaign~~ denouncing ^{ed} the men for being lazy do-nothings in their city government -- the town fire alarm an awkward old contraption, the water supply a relic ~~is~~ out of the past.

The men didn't believe the revolt of the women would amount to much. So imagine their astonishment today when they found -- Mrs. Marie Clark elected mayor. And ^{the} City Council equally divided ^{between} ~~among~~ men and women -- a majority depending on one member, still undecided.

So now the ladies will see what they can do about the fire alarm and the water supply -- they having ^w ~~rested~~ political control from their husbands, fathers, uncles and nephews.

At Bonduel Village, Wisconsin, Candidate

Froelich elected. Candidate Froelich defeated. They are father and son, who ran against each other ~~xx~~ for village President. John Froelich has held that office since Nineteen ~~xx~~ Thirty Six, and his son ~~xx~~ Lawrence thought it was about time the younger generation started running the village. So a lively father and son campaign was waged, Pappy beating Sonny Boy by three to one. Today ~~father~~ ^{Pop} Froelich speaking of Froelich Junior said: "I guess I showed

~~that~~ ^{the} young whipper-snapper!". ^{TP} And now you show them -- or rather tell them, Ken!

COMMUNISTS

In the New York Red trial - a Communist party member testifying that he has been in continuous touch with the F B I, all during the period of his membership as a card-carrying Communist, ^{he} ~~He~~ has been giving the F B I secret information about what was going on among the Reds -- this over a period of years.

He is Herbert Philbrick of Melrose, Massachusetts, motion picture theater executive, Assistant Advertising Director ~~for~~ ^{for} a chain of movie houses. Today he stated that seven years ago, in Nineteen Forty-two he ~~was~~ joined the young Communist league, the Red youth organization. But, before doing so, he had a discussion with a special agent of the F B I -- and he communicated with special agents during the period of his membership in the young Communist league. ^{TP} Then, in Nineteen Forty-four, he became a full-fledged member of the Communist party, and still remained in his words "continuously in touch with the F.B.I."

He said that ~~is~~ right now he is a member

COMMUNISTS - 2

of the professional group, district Number One, of the Massachusetts Communist party - the group numbering about seventy. ^{He} He told of what he called -- "mobilizations". There were discussions for mobilizing the professional group -- discussions at a meeting early last year, ~~in~~ Nineteen Forty-eight.

The meeting ^{was} ~~were~~ led by a woman known as only: "Martha."

And, ~~by~~ by a man named "Pete". Which corresponds

with well-known Communist practices, real names

concealed, ^{monickers as} ~~and~~ conspirators using such ~~names as~~ --

"Martha" or "Pete".

The all-im^{portant} point of testimony came in the ~~was~~ following evidence given by the Communist party member in touch with the F B I:

"Martha ^{stated} ~~stated~~ that the purpose of the mobilization was to enable us to get ~~together~~ together quickly in case of an emergency," *said he.*

Which certainly does sound like Communist party plans for action, conspiring for some sort of insurrectionary business -- in case of an emergency.

Much to the point -- in the trial of eleven top
leaders of the Communist party who are charged with
plotting against the United States.

A move was made today to bring before the United Nations ~~at~~ the ^{cases} ~~trial~~ of Cardinal Mindszenty, Primate of Hungary, and the thirteen Protestant pastors condemned by the Reds in Bulgaria. In the General Assembly ^{at} Lake Success, ~~Long Island~~, Australia and Bolivia proposed that the U N investigate ^{those trials} ~~cases~~ of the Cardinal and the pastors. Immediate opposition was offered by Poland, the Soviet ~~XXXXXX~~ puppet -- the Polish delegate arguing that the world organization has no right to interfere in the internal affairs of Hungary and Bulgaria.

In response to that the United States suggested that the Australian and Bolivian proposals be taken up under the peace treaties made with Bulgaria and Hungary, those two countries ~~XXXXXX~~ having given guarantees of ~~an~~ freedom of religion.

STRIKE

The National Capital was without newspapers today, a wild-cat strike of pressmen tying up all the Washington papers. Not one appeared today.

 o
The word from New York seems to indicate that the city-wide strike of taxi drivers may be breaking up.

ARMY DAY

This was Army Day - with Americans everywhere headed by President Truman hailing the ground forces of the United States. High military Army officials took the occasion of Army Day to urge a program of American armament, for the western countries that have signed the North Atlantic Security Pact.