

L.T. - P&G. FRIDAY, FEB. 9, 1951

(Mt. Tremblant, Canada.)

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Late this afternoon in Korea, U.N. Commander General Matthew Ridgway radioed back to his headquarters: "We're getting ready to wash our feet in the Han." The General was in a lead tank of an armored force that drove to the River Han. That stream in winter is a bit icy, for any footwashing, but we all understand what the General meant.

The tank force drove four miles in seventy-five minutes, and there was not a sign of resistance. The Han flows through the southern suburbs of Seoul, and they reached the riverbank four and a half miles from the edge of the city. This lack of resistance was typical of events all along the line - the Reds in full flight.

The enemy force still south of the Han is believed

to number no more than ten thousand - a small remnant of the huge army Red China sent to drive the Americans out of Korea. A few weeks ago it looked as if that might happen; but, the fortunes of war sure do have dizzy changes over there. That massive Red army of a hundred thousand has been cut down to a mere ten per cent of its former number; and they are now in a trap south of the Han, trying to escape. It is estimated that, of the original force, fifty-nine thousand were killed or wounded.

All this was signaled by a drama of generals today. MacArthur again flew from Tokyo to survey the battleline - in front of Seoul. But his plane couldn't land - bad weather, ceiling zero. All air activity was at a virtual standstill today, because of low hanging clouds. The Supreme Commander was scheduled to meet Eighth Army General Ridgway at Suwon, but the weather there was impossible. So MacArthur flew back to Tokyo - while Ridgway, after waiting for him, jumped into his tank, and led the armored drive to the river. After which,

that radio message from him: "We're getting ready to wash our feet in the Han."

Only in the central mountains are the Reds putting up a heavy fight, and there it's a stubborn battle, as our forces push forward. On the east coast, the Republic of Korea forces continued the U.N. advance today, and captured a key town - no resistance.

The latest tonight is a dispatch stating that (an American patrol has pushed into Inchon, harbor of Seoul. That famous Inchon, where the amphibious invasion was made - now retaken from the Reds.)

KOREA - INFLATION

We've heard how tough it is for the G.I's in Korea, and things have got worse in the town of Suwon. Today the local Korean barbers raised the price of hair cuts - to seven and a half cents. A fifty per cent hike, the previous price having been - hair cut, five cents. So, the G.I's now have another reason to squawk.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Red Czechoslovakia makes another protest, charging American planes with violating its Communist territory. This time the Red government at Prague declares that two American jet fighters flew into Czechoslovakia, as far as Prague, the capital. The note, sharp in tone, was delivered to the American Embassy over there today.

ITALY

Trouble for the Communists in Italy continues - with resignations of fourteen leaders of the Partisan Association, which is Communist dominated. The fourteen signed a declaration of solidarity with the two members of the Italian Parliament, who quit the Communist Party. Titoism. They refused to put Russia over their own country.

The Red bosses are described as especially worried by the defection of the fourteen partisan leaders today, because it is known that the partisan outfit has large stocks of Communist weapons hidden away. Another dispatch from Italy tells of a police raid, which seized armament in a concealed arsenal of the Reds.

AFRICAN ELECTION

We have the results of that election on the Gold Coast, about which we heard earlier this week. The election - in which illiterate tribesmen voted by marking pictures of insects, animals and fishes, red parrot, blue beetle, green fish, maybe pink elephant. Symbols for candidates - whose names they wouldn't be able to read.

Well, the victory goes to a faction - pro-Soviet, thirty-four out of thirty-eight legislative seats won by that pro-Communist outfit. Sounds like a Red sweep in darkest Africa, but there's more to it than that.

The pro-Soviet faction is headed by a tribal wonder-worker, a mighty witch doctor in the kind of magic called - Ju Ju. Which is Gold Coast for - voo-doo. His followers believe that he can raise the dead, can transport himself instantaneously from one part of the Gold Coast to any other. He happens to be in jail right now, on a sedition charge; but the fact that he can't transport himself out of the calaboose doesn't alter the doctrine of his disciples.

So that's the outfit that Soviet intrigue has teamed up with in Africa. Red Stalin and Black Magic -- Joe-Joe and Ju-Ju.

ROYAL MARRIAGES

The Near East will witness two royal marriages over the weekend, and there's an odd coincidence. (Two and a half years ago, King Farouk, of Egypt, and Shah Mohamed Riza Pahlevi of Iran announced their divorces on the same day. The Shah was breaking his marriage with Farouk's elder sister. Now the two sovereigns are being wedded again, within a space of twenty-four hours - both espousing beautiful teen-age commoners.

Farouk's bride will be Narriman Sadek, whom the monarch is said to have taken away from a young Egyptian diplomatic official, according to a story of romantic melodrama we had some time ago.

The wedding of Shah Mohamed Riza Pahlevi of Iran will be signalized by something special in wedding presents -- gifts from Stalin. Word from Teheran is that the Soviet premier has displayed a magnificence worthy of an oriental potentate of old. To the Shah he has sent a desk set studded with black diamonds. To the bride-to-be, a mink coat worth a

hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Stalin, you will recall, ignored the wedding of Princess Elizabeth of Great Britain - but then the Soviets have well known ambitions in the direction of Iran and its precious oil. So, Stalin gives mink and black diamonds.

SUBSTITUTE HOOVER

The word tonight is that former President Herbert Hoover may be invited to appear before Senate committees next week, and explain his stand on the question of American troops for Europe. This follows the Hoover radio address tonight, in which the former President repeated and expanded his previous contention. He said: "There is nothing that Stalin would like more than to get the United States in his clutches by fighting us on the ground in Europe."

Congressional hearings are scheduled, with Secretary of Defense George Marshall as the first witness -- and the Hoover view may be presented by the former President himself.

DRAFT

The Senate Preparedness Committee has voted to draft eighteen year olds for twenty-four months of service -- and to wipe out the deferrments for non-veteran husbands without children. The bill now goes to the Senate ARmed Services Committee and provides that no eighteen year olds will be drafted until all others now eligible have been inducted into the armed forces.

CONTROLS

The Government at Washington today struck at a threat of black markets in meat - by restricting the number of slaughter houses permitted to operate. This is to eliminate the fly-by-night operators, who would sell meat at prices above the legal ceilings- black market.

At the same time, the Government reveals that the price freeze has failed to stop the climb of wholesale prices. These increased by seven-tenths of one per cent during the week ending February sixth. It was the thirteenth straight week for the wholesale prices to rise - in a steady climb.

RED INDICTMENTS

A U.S. Federal Grand Jury handed down indictments today against an outfit called - The Peace Information Center. Five officers of that, whatever it is, are charged with failing to register as foreign agents - the Peace Information Center regarded as a branch of Soviet propaganda.

One of the five officers is the former mother-in-law of William Remington, convicted recently of perjury, when he declared he was not and never had been a Communist. In the defense the one-time official of the Department of Commerce declared that his former mother-in-law, Mrs. Elizabeth Moos, was a Communist - and said all his troubles were caused by his marriage to his former wife, who at one time was a Red. Mrs. Moos, sixty-eight years old, is now believed to be behind the Iron Curtain - having attended a rally of Red peace propaganda in Communist Poland.

WEATHER

The thermometer hit an all-time low at Mountain View, New York, today, where the temperature sank to forty below zero. Which tells the story for great areas in the East, the cold spell giving people a frigid, frosty time. Here on the north side of Mt. Tremblant, where I have been today, the mercury went to 45 below. But it started climbing when the sun came out and outside the window, ten feet from me, the mercury says 28 below, with a possible 50 below on the mountain by morning.

Then, slowly, she revived. This morning her temperature was normal. Pulse and blod pressure - back to normal. She could move - and talk, though feebly. Finally, her temperature rose to a hundred and one - fever.

The doctors are not sure she will reocover. But her amazing revival, after being frozen, is described as a phenomenon in the annals of medicine.

FREEZE

RETAKE

Medical wonder increases over what they are calling - the "deep freeze" woman. She was frozen stiff - frozen to death, it seemed. But now she's running a fever.

She is a twenty-four year old Negro woman, who was found yesterday morning in a Chicago alley. The weather - eleven below zero. She had lain there all that night, and the police found her, frozen rigid. They took her to a hospital, saying she had frozen to death.

But the doctors found faint signs of life, although she had practically no pulse or blood pressure. They took her temperature and found it to be sixty-four -- far lower than ever recorded in a living human being. Normal temperature is ninety-eight and six-tenths. A human being rarely survives when the temperature falls to between eighty and eighty-five degrees. At seventy-two degrees - death is almost certain. And the frozen woman had a temperature of sixty-four.

They thawed her out, gave her blood plasma and cortisone - and put a tube in her throat to promote breathing.

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GOAT

In Dallas, Texas, the police today locked up - a goat, a bewhiskered, belligerent old billy goat. Crime - as follows: ON a business street of Dallas, the onery critter chased two ladies in wild flight. One was walking along in sedate, proper fashion, when the old goat charged her. She ran screaming, and fled into a department store. 0

The other lady had a harder time of it, being out in the open. The billy goat went after her and she was lucky enough to reach a telephone pole. Round and round she went, the goat chasing her. Ring around the telephone pole - the lady and the goat. It took several cops to subdue the critter in a struggle for ten minutes - while a crowd of the citizens of Dallas watched and cheered.

FAT MAN

From London, a scientific denial of the old statement - that nobody loves a fat man. A British medical periodical publishes a statement that more thin men than fat ones are divorced by their wives - because fatty gets along better with the little woman. The periodical states: "A comfortable obese man is easier to live with."

All of which would seem to echo Shakespeare, as when he has Julius Caesar declaim:

"Let me have men about me that are fat.

Sleek-headed men, and such as sleep o'nights;

Yon Cassius has a lean and hungry look;

He thinks too much. Such men are dangerous!"

The wives it seems agree with Julius Caesar, do you,

Nelson?