

L. T. - P&G - FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1952

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

(The strategy of the "Big Lie" was on today - at the United Nations. Soviet Russia demanding - that the United States be condemned for practicing germ warfare in Korea and China.) Before the new Disarmament Commission, Moscow Delegate Malik charged that the American forces in Korea were using bacteriological warfare, for the mass destruction of the civilian population in Red Areas.

(Which, of course, only repeats the fantastic accusations made by the Chinese Red radio) - the strategy of the "Big Lie" now employed in the councils of the United Nations. An apt line of comment comes in a dispatch from Hong Kong, stating that far and wide in China, epidemics are sweeping - measles, influenza, pneumonia. Outbreaks of disease - far into the great spaces of China, and a long way from the battlefield in Korea. No doubt, it's all the doing of American planes! Germ Warfare! Which again shows - what we already know - that the Reds will stoop to anything!

KOREA

In Korea, at Panmunjom, ^a ~~the~~ negotiator for the U.N. used a couple of contrasting expressions. "Dizzy new height", and - "dismal new low." Describing today's truce talks, Colonel Andrew Kinney said: "We touched, I think, a dizzy new height in Communist intransigence and illogic - and a dismal new low in progress." Which describes the ^(continuing) ~~continued~~ deadlock.

FOLLOW KOREA

(The latest - new outbreaks of violence at the prisoner of war camp on Kojea Island. There the Reds have repeatedly made trouble but, this time, with such violence that twelve were killed in battle with UN guards.)

Various attacks have been seen, the one today was former Colonel of the Red Army. Yassil Ershov, now a political refugee, told me he was a supply officer for a division of the Red Army. To which was attached a unit of the Stalin Secret Police. Acting as counter-espionage agents - also as executioners. (He said it was part of his duty, as a supply officer, to provide extra rations of vodka to those executioners.)

One was (Borisov) and he was always asking for vodka. He had nightmares, would awake in terror during the night and pour down vodka. (On one

MASSACRE

(A hideous account of savagery was given in Chicago today - where a congressional investigating committee is holding hearings on the "Katyn Massacre." The ~~murder~~^{murder} of ten thousand Polish officers in the Second World War. The Soviets blamed the Nazis - but there's plenty of belief that the Reds did it. Various witnesses have been heard, the one today - a former Colonel of the Red Army.

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One was a Captain Borisov, and he was always asking for vodka. He had nightmares, would awaken in terror during the night - and pour down vodka. (On one

occasion, Borisov, ~~back~~ drunk with vodka, told Ershov that he had participated in the massacre of the Polish officers in the Katyn Forest. His own unit of Secret Police - killing four hundred. Shot at the edge of a shallow pit - and buried.)

Saying this, Ershov broke into passionate invective against the Stalin ~~xxx~~ tyranny - and a plea for the freedom of the Russian people.

Surprising news from behind the Iron Curtain - news about a purge of books in the Soviet Zone of Germany, as many as five million weeded out of the public libraries in all the towns, cast away - because they^are not according to the party line.

TP There is no surprise, of course, in a ~~Red burning of books, that there is no surprise in the~~ Red burning of books. - That's normal. The astonishment is in the name of one of the authors - Karl Marx. Two names, in fact, Marx and Engels. The twin founders of Marxian Socialism - which developed into the Communism of the Soviets.

(A news dispatch from Berlin states that the Reds of Eastern Germany have given the order - the writings of Marx and Engels must be revised. They must be changed, so as to fit the Stalinist party line. It would seem that some of the notions put forth by Marx and Engels are contrary to the Marxian gospel as now taught by Stalin.)

Well, it's a curious thing - but years ago Marxian Socialists withheld the publication of the complete works of Marx and Engels. It's odd - but some of the writings of

Karl Marx have a tone decidedly anti-Semitic. Marx, himself, was of a Jewish family that had become Christian. He was the mortal antagonist of the Middle Classes, the bourgeois trading classes, and these were largely Jewish. Which inclined him to opinions anti-Semitic - and there was a long delay in the publication of ^{all} the works of the twins of Socialism, Marx and Engels.

AUTO WORKERS

Things blew up today at ~~Detroit~~ Local Six Hundred of the Auto Workers Union - when Union President Walter Reuther opened a drive to clean out Communism. Number Six Hundred is the big Ford Local - and congressional hearings in Detroit have been picturing it as a hot-bed of Reds. Reuther is moving to take control - and, today, the Local closed its offices - after moving out files and correspondence. The President of the Local declares there'll be - a fight to the finish.

INTERNAL REVENUE

(The reorganization of tax collecting got going promptly today - after the Senate okay, given yesterday.) Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder announces a beginning ~~in New York and Chicago~~ ~~in both New York and Chicago~~, in both New York and Chicago. In those two metropolitan cities, the tax collectors, politically appointed, are being replaced - one district commissioner to be named for each city, under Civil Service.

All of which is in accord with the White House plan - to take tax collection out of politics, and put the whole bureau under Civil Service. Except - the top Commissioner in Washington.

FOREIGN AID - POLITICS

(In the battle of the Foreign Aid program, the political angle develops.) But almost everything turns political this year.

Today, Senator Connally of Texas opened fire on that figure of seven billion, nine hundred million dollars, requested by the White House. The Texan says we'll weaken ourselves by

"throwing away" money, as he calls it. But the political angle

appears in ^{Congressional} ~~the~~ words of admiration ^{for} ~~the~~ General

Eisenhower. ^{He is} ~~the~~ pictured as the American who knows more about the needs of the free countries of Europe than anybody else.

~~His~~ Words of admiration ~~are~~ from Democrats - and the one thus admired is a candidate for the Republican nomination. Which, in itself, would make anybody perceive points and angles of politics.

(The notion is, of course, to get Ike over here as a ~~the~~ witness in the hearing on foreign aid - the General giving the testimony of an expert.) We heard about it last evening ^{and} and, today, Democratic Senator McMahon of Connecticut served notice - that he will press the demand. He'll do it at a meeting of the

Foreign Relations Committee on Monday.

(Republican Senator Lodge ~~of Massachusetts~~ is opposed - and he's the campaign manager for General Ike.) Other advocates of Eisenhower are likewise against any notion for calling the General to Washington - and so is Ike, himself. (Today's dispatch repeats the General's contention that, if Congress needs expert advice, this can be given just as well by General Grunther, Eisenhower's deputy in Paris.)

(The view is that, if the General returned in uniform, a soldier giving his opinion about the seven billion, nine hundred million - he certainly would support it, backing the Truman Administration.) ~~(If Congress cut the figure - ^{that} ~~that~~ could be interpreted as a ^(slap at) ~~slap at~~ Eisenhower. Congress is sure to make a reduction - and this is equally sure to be supported by Senator Taft of Ohio, who is running against Eisenhower. ~~Some of the~~ ~~Republican~~ All of which might only deepen the split among the Republicans.)~~

So you see the political complexities - founded in

the fact that Eisenhower has a double personality. Commander of the Army of West ^{European} ~~Europe~~ defense - and, at the same time, Republican presidential possibility over here. Living two lives - which can always be intricate.

Of course, Congress can't compel him to come to Washington. ~~The proposal, pressed by Democratic Senator McMahon, would amount to - an "invitation." which the General could refuse - having ^{a good} ~~an~~ example for that.~~ Time was when General MacArthur, then the Supreme Commander in Tokyo, was urged to come home and testify on Far Eastern affairs - but he refused politely. So could Ike.

(Along the line of other political developments, Senator Taft has nothing to say about a voice in New Hampshire. One of his chief supporters in the Granite State, Richard Jordan of Manchester, comes out for Ike. Taking heed of the result of the recent primary, he switches, and urges Taft to do likewise. And - heed what he calls, the "mighty voice" of New Hampshire. I forget what the population is ^{- and the} ~~the~~ number

of electoral votes. But, anyway, the Ohio Senator is not heeding the "mighty voice."

(His ear is more likely turned in the direction of the Southwest - where the Chairman of the New Mexico Taft Committee sent a wire today, ^{Saying -} that the Senator will get "most, if not all" of the New Mexico delegates to the G.O.P. Convention, fourteen.)

WET BACK

At San Antonio, Texas, immigration officials predict that Alberto Gonzalez^Z will be back in the U.S.A. by Sunday. Tonight, he is on his way south to the Rio Grande - deported as a wet back. He entered the country illegally - but here's Alberto's record:

Serving in the army in Korea, he was wounded in the hip, and got a broken ear drum.)

He was awarded the purple heart, five campaign stars, the UN ribbon, the Korean service ribbon, and a unit citation. What a wet back.

Returning to this country after all that military service, he became engaged - wedding scheduled for Sunday. Instead, he's being deported. But the officials declare that he will be back, under legal permit - in time for the wedding.

TORONTO

Toronto is having a - price war. But its' the weirdest a retail store ever knew. No price cuts - in this price war. Instead, the merchants offer - trade-in values, ^{that are} weird, ^{and} fantastic. Making a purchase, you can trade in anything - down to a broom, or an old straw hat. And - have a crazy value placed on it.

Today the Mayfair Radio Company of Toronto offered a trade-in allowance of two hundred dollars for what is described as "anything" - in the purchase of an elaborate radio, television and record-player set. A vacuum cleaner concern mentions - "your old broom." Twenty dollars for that.

Last year Toronto had a price war - a regular one, along the lines of the Macy-Gimbel affair in New York. But this one sounds like retail business - gone mad.

There's a reason. The purpose - to reduce down-payments. Canada has a law on installment buying. Requiring - a down-payment of one-third of the purchase price. The trade-in gets around that.

In one advertisement, ^a radio-television-record-playing

set is priced at seven hundred and twenty-nine dollars. The customer, by law, is required to plunk down two hundred and forty-three dollars. But the Company offers a two hundred dollar trade-in for any old radio. Which cuts the down-payment to forty-three bucks.

So that's the way the cockeyed price war goes - with soaring values placed on all sorts of junk. Great for the customers - although, of course, ~~what~~ they get no cash for the rubbish. They have to make a purchase, and lay out the cash. But what else are customers for?

BUSHMEN

At Capetown, in South Africa, there are eighteen pygmy bushmen - making poisoned arrows. Brought for a celebration of the Three Hundredth Birthday of South Africa, they had their first glimpse of civilization, and their only reaction is - poisoned arrows.

The South African bushmen are of long renown - as one of the most primitive races on this earth. They inhabit the desolate, blistering deserts of Southwest Africa - and are becoming extinct. Now less than five thousand of them. An effort is being made to preserve them - the type of mankind most primitive. A campaign on - to make their ancestral hunting grounds a tribal reserve, where they'll be safe and secure from the civilization of the white man.

Those eighteen pygmies were shown the sights of Capetown - but were not impressed. They merely laughed at coats, trousers and hats. Said their own ^{loin} ~~loin~~ cloths are better. Nor do they like the style of dining in Capetown. Preferring their own banquets of berries and

snakes and roots.

So they were glad to retire to a special camp, bushman style, prepared for them at Capetown. Where they've now settled down, content with ^{occupations} ~~occupations~~ of their own.

The bushmen are expert hunters of game on their desert homeland - using bows and poisoned arrows. They have poisons that are a mystery to the white man. So, at Capetown, those eighteen ^{aborigines} ~~aborigines~~ keep themselves busy - making poisoned arrows. ^{Nelson -} Maybe they'd like to shoot their lethal darts at civilization. ^{And} Maybe they're not so foolish.