

TIBET

L.J.-P.S. Wed. Nov. 22 - '50.

Here is one of the most important stories of the year. Possibly one of the most important I have ever put on the air:-

A despatch from Asia states that the Soviets have begun the establishment of air bases in Tibet - to threaten India; that Red planes have already landed on the Roof-of-the-World; that the Russians have discovered radio-active deposits, material for the atomic bomb, on that lofty plateau in the Himalayas. All of which is based, not on rumors along an Asiatic frontier, spread by tribesmen and caravan drivers. This comes from official intelligence reports of high authority. All of which my son and I prophesied a year ago.

This story - a notable scoop - was filed by Robert Trumbull, correspondent at New Delhi for The New York Times (and the North American newspaper alliance.) Trumbull is one of the soundest newspapermen, as I can vouch from personal acquaintance; we got to know him a year ago. He was waiting at the base of that great mountain wall when we came out across the

Himalayas. And then we flew across Bengal to Calcutta together.

Today he states that his account of Soviet operations in Tibet is based on information "obtained by extraordinary intelligence work, the details of which cannot be revealed. From what he calls - "unique inside sources on the scene."

Such is the authentication for the statement that, last spring and early summer, parties of Russians selected sites for air bases in western Tibet. The place -- along two great lakes. One - Lake Manasarowar. The other - Lake Rakas. These two large bodies of water are not far from India-Tibet border. Just across the main range of the Himalayas lies Nepal, the border state which is now having its own revolutionary trouble. Only three hundred miles away is New Delhi, capital of India - about one hour by air - half that in a jet. The lakes are the source of three great historic rivers of Hindustan - like the Indus, the Sutlej - and the Brahmaputra rises there. Lake Manasarowar is sacred to

Hindus and Buddhists.

Lake Manasarowar and Lake Rakas are close together separated by a narrow strip - and this neck of land is the place for a Red flying field. It is one long stretch of level ground, firm and flat - a great natural air strip. Adequate for an air armada of any size.

When we were in Tibet we noted the many large areas that planes could have used - in a region of the tallest mountains in the world and a vast plateau. Tableland - is exactly the word, as flat as a table in many places, ideal for flying. Which I have said on this program before, but it is worth repeating - in the light of these new tidings about a Soviet airbase on the Roof-of-the-World. Threatening India. And if the Reds ever get India, then all Asia will be theirs, with over a billion people.

Russian sea planes are said to have made landings already on Lake Manasarowar. This occurred shortly after the Chinese Reds began their invasion of

~~Roof of the World.~~

The despatch today confirms what we have been saying -- that the giant wall of the Himalayas does not protect India nearly as well as many suppose. It points out that great river valleys from Tibet down into India are natural airways, along which planes could fly at reasonable altitude - without having to surmount the towering peaks and loftier passes. Also - that there are many passes through which a military advance could be made.

Among the Soviet parties that penetrated western Tibet, was one in the guise of Buddhist pilgrims. - On yaks they transported statues of Buddha, that prince of India who was the light of Asia. Then, as they traversed a country of cliffs and canyons, a strange thing happened -- one of the Budhas broke into a clicking bussing noise.

The native Tibetan caravan men were wildly excited -- a miracle. The Soviet pilgrims were equally excited. They led the yak with the Buddha among the

crags and ledges - and everywhere the statue kept clicking and buzzing. The Soviet pilgrims with chisels collected samples of rock over a wider area. You guessed it -- inside the placidly smiling image of the enlightened one who taught the way of Nirvana - there was a Geiger Counter, for detecting deposits of radio-active metal.

Here is how precise this information is. "The inside source," who provides this news, states that the samples of rock ^{the} Soviet pilgrims collected were strangely heavy; - and uranium is the heaviest of metals. It ~~looks~~ looked like pitch-blend - which is the richest uranium ^{is} ~~is~~ radio-active material for the atom bomb.


So the Soviets have discovered uranium on the ^{near Mt. Kailas, the holiest mountain on this planet,} Roof-of-the-World, ^{which reminds me, at a late date to be}

^{we,} that on our trip, ~~to Tibet,~~ we should have taken along - some Geiger Counters. The thought never occurred to us, ^{all of} which is an apt comment on the Red propaganda charges that we went to Lhasa on a mission of American espionage.

All along the way through Tibet, we noted vivid

evidence of mineral wealth. Yes, we should have taken a Geiger counter.

Today in Washington, Secretary of State Dean Acheson was asked for comments. Reporters queried him about this sensational dispatch from New York Times man Robert Trumbull. Dean Acheson replied that he had no reason to doubt the story of Soviet plans for air bases in Tibet - to threaten India.

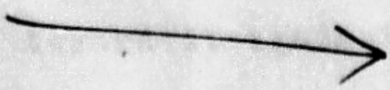
There have not been many news dispatches in our time more important to all the nations of the planet than this one. 

TIBET...?... & ~~is~~

~~Just~~ several weeks ago. The reports indicate that

right now Red planes are flying back and forth between
Lake Manasarovar and ^{Kokang in Russian Turbistan.}
~~Khetan in Red Sinkiang.~~

Tibet is a land of lakes. ~~and~~ We noted one after
another, [^] great spaces with the stillest of water, ideal
for seaplanes. Of course, the great altitudes offer a
problem for aviation - but nothing that engineering could
not overcome. ^{The} Soviets, in fact, appear to have solved
those problems already - with a series of flights to the
Roof-of-the-World.



KOREA

In Korea things are shaping up for what may be the final battle of the war. Today the northwest corner of the front today was quiet - but utterly tense. So quiet that the G.I.'s were having Thanksgiving Day dinners at leisure - Thanksgiving having already begun on the other side of the world. But, the tenseness was increasing by the hour.

Everywhere else along the line the troops of the United Nations were either resting at their goal, the Yalu River, or pushing toward it against little or no enemy resistance. Way over on the east coast the Free Koreans were closing in on the important harbor of Chongjin, the Reds breaking and running - as American warships and planes blazed a path for the advance along the shore.

The ^{is now} ~~crisis was~~ focused on the western end of the line, where the Reds have massed their forces for final defense -- one hundred thousand Chinese and Korean Communists. They've dug in to protect great areas of hydroelectric power. And, there are half a

million Chinese troops massed across the frontier in Manchuria. Will they pour in reinforcements, aiding the defense? That's the question tonight at the critical point, where all is quiet - and utterly tense.

A loophole so big you could drive a Soviet-built Red
Force tank right through it.

Today a Senate committee heard how a Boston
company, with a Chinese president, shipped nearly half
a million pounds of Silicon Steel to Red China. This,
after the outbreak of the Korean War. President Truman
of the Pacific Trading Company told the committee how
it was done - all entirely legal and according to
regulations, through the loophole.

Silicon steel is a vital war material - and
it's export from the United States to China is strictly
forbidden. But the rules are so drafted that this
applies only to the American-made product - and the
Chinese president of the Boston firm imported Silicon-
steel from Belgium. That is, he trans-shipped Belgian-
made metal, routing it through the United States.

EXPORT CONTROL

The Commerce Department is drafting new regulations to keep strategic war materials out of Communist China and other Red countries. This follows the disclosure of a loophole in the existing controls - a loophole so big you could drive a Soviet-built Red Korean tank right through it.

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All of which provoked an uproar in the committee, and now the Commerce Department is getting up new rules to close the big loophole.

The law requires that Red organizations must register, and Attorney General McGrath called for the registration of the Communist Party as an agent of Soviet Russia and of the World Communist movement. The indictment declares that the American Communists are pledged to foment civil war in this country, if we should find ourselves at war with the Soviets.

SUBSTITUTE COMMUNISTS

The Department of Justice tonight took action against the American Communist Party - under the bill for Communist control. The law requires that Red organizations must register, and Attorney General McGrath called for the registration of the Communist Party as an agent of Soviet Russia and of the World Communist movement. The indictment declares that the American Communists are pledged to foment civil war in this country, if we should find ourselves at war with the Soviets.

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RED CONVICTIONS

In New York tonight, a verdict of guilty against a man and a woman accused of obstructing justice in a case of Red espionage. They are an engineer named Abraham Brothman and his secretary Miriam Moskovits, convicted on the testimony of Harry Gold -- who confesses that he served as a Soviet spy. The two defendants were tried for fraudulent stories told to a grand jury - in an effort to cover up the espionage, and throw the F B I off the trail. Now convicted - and facing a prison sentence.

PUERTO RICO

In New York the Secret Service ^{have} arrested the president and past president of the local New York branch of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party. The charge is that they were the master minds behind the attempt to assassinate President Truman. The assistant U. S. attorney declares that the two Puerto Ricans, named Gandia and Labron were - the brains.

FORT WORTH

A violent outbreak of underworld war at Fort Worth, Texas today -- where an explosion of nitroglycerine killed a former member of a narcotics gang and his wife. At the same time, a similar attempt was made to blow up a Fort Worth gambler.

Nelson Harris once belonged to what was called the "Green Drug Ring," dealing in narcotics. Today, with his wife he was about to drive off in his car, when he touched the starter button, a heavy charge of nitroglycerine wired to the ignition blew the car to pieces and its occupants,

~~This became all the more sensational when the police declared that ^{Eggleston} Harris had been accused by a gambler of Dallas - whose wife was blown to bits by a similar automobile explosion some weeks ago - the gambler himself was shot twice by would be assassins.~~

Shortly after today's nitroglycerine explosion a Fort Worth gambler named Eggleston went to his car and noticed that the hood was ajar. He investigated and found - "strange wiring." He called the police who

removed a powerful charge of nitroglycerine. The killing and the attempted killing by nitroglycerine seen to be part of the same underworld war.

Before his death... the total of one of their gang... Bearpatt, pleading guilty of manslaughter. He killed another boy in a fight - between some of young hoodlums - hostility in a tough area between the "Brooklyn" and the "Rivers".

Before passing sentence Judge... he called the gang before him... he selected one, and asked him what he had to say. The gang... and he talked out of the side of his mouth. "What do you want us to do, Judge?" he demanded. "It wasn't Tony's fault, not any more than it was mine. You're not going to refer him by sending him to jail for a long time, Judge."

The Judge... and he looked on... I've got no respect for the law!

TRIAL

Today in a Brooklyn court room the judge said -- "If you saw this in the movies you wouldn't believe it."

Before him stood six dead end kids - attending the trial of one of their gang. Seventeen year old Tony Scarpati, pleading guilty of manslaughter. He killed another boy in a fight - between mobs of young hoodlums - hostilities in a tough slum section between the "South Brooklyn" and the "Tigers."

Before passing sentence Judge Samuel Leibowitz called the gang before him, and they lined up. He selected one, and asked him what he had to say. The dead-end kid in a good suit, stood chewing gum violently, and ~~he~~ talked out of the side of his mouth. "What do you want us to do, Judge?" He demanded. "It wasn't Tony's fault, not any more than it was ours. You're not going to reform him by sending him to jail for a long time, Judge."

The dead-end kid explained - that he had been in jail, and he knew. I've got no respect for the law!

he chewed gum and talked tough. "How can I, not when I see the cops cutting in our card games and crap games. How do you expect us to have respect for the law when the cops themselves don't respect it. Look, your honor, it isn't us kids, it's the environment. We got no place to go. Do you want us to stay home seven nights a week? We got no place to go."

Judge Liebowitz listened, and then said: "I ~~am~~ didn't expect this, but I am certainly glad it came out. We have a special grand jury investigating vice and crime and here we have it out of the mouth of a babe^s."

Whereupon the judge said he would delay the sentence - to think it over.

Nelson - you wouldn't by any chance have something for us to think over?

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