

At the U N tonight, Soviet Russia made a nomination for the vacant post of Secretary General -- a candidate to succeed ~~Tryg~~ Trygve Lie. Moscow delegate Zorin proposed -- a woman from India -- Madame Pandit, sister of India's Prime Minister Nehru^{u.}~~q.~~ But, the Security Council took an immediate vote and said -- no. The vote was a strange one. Two in favor of Madame Pandit; one against; eight = abstaining. It would have taken a majority of all the members of the Security Council to give an approval. ^{But} ~~x~~ Eight countries ^{ed.} ~~abstaining~~ ^{ing.} which indicates the indecisive character of the whole business.

In fact, Moscow delegate Zorin, having nominated Madame Pandit tried to keep the issue from coming to a vote. He wanted to put it off. But the Council insisted on acting. Zorin's tactics were consider to be mere stalling. Effort to keep the question in abeyance until the return of Soviet Chief delegate Vishinsky, who hurried back

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to Moscow ~~xxxx~~ following the death of Stalin.

Vishinsky will be at the U N again on Thursday.

GERMANY

The West German parliament has ratified the pact with the West. The lower house voted two hundred and twenty-six to one-hundred-and-sixty-four -- to ratify the peace agreement which will bring the West Germans into the military defense of the West. Half a million German troops to be incorporated in the international army.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Today Czechoslovakia held the funeral of Red President Gottwald -- and the political angle was foremost. The funeral oration was delivered by Premier Zapotocsky, which is taken to mean -- that he succeeds Gottwald as the Communist boss. The same as in Moscow -- Malenkov's successor to Stalin giving the Stalin funeral oration.

Today Zapotocsky referred to that event, and quoted Malenkov. Which provides another political angle. He affirmed Malenkov's peace talk -- repeating the declaration that the Communist world can live at peace with the free world.

PLANES

Berlin gives us a report that would explain a lot ~~##~~ about those recent Red attacks on American and British planes. The Soviets, we are told, ~~passed~~ ^{offered} ~~along word~~ ~~offering~~ a reward for western planes forced down over Communist territory. Any Red pilot performing the exploit ~~##~~ to get twenty-five thousand rubles, which would come to Six Thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars at the Russian valuation of the ruble.

This information is said to emanate from sources close to the Soviet control commission in Berlin, which state -- that the offer of ^a ~~their~~ reward was incited by the case of the Polish Air Force pilot who, in a dash for freedom, flew a Russian-built MIG to Denmark. ~~The first Russian-built jet~~ in good flying condition ^{that} ~~which~~ western aviation experts have had a chance to study. They've been inspecting ^e ~~that~~ MIG at leisure -- while the Red Government of Poland has been making wrathful demands

~~that the plane be returned immediately.)~~

Moscow ~~is~~ so angry about it - that in retaliation, strict orders were given to force down any western plane flying over Red territory. ~~and~~

with a
~~the~~ reward of twenty-five thousand rubles offered to Communist pilots.

~~Today's dispatch reports the "sources close to the Soviet Control Commission" as believing that~~

The belief is
the American and British planes were attacked through what is called an "access of zeal". The Red pilots eager to collect the Moscow reward. So that's why planes were assailed -- when they were not over Communist controlled areas. They were near the border line, more or less - and the Red pilots were not careful in their eagerness to win the reward.

PICASSO

In Paris today, an article was published -- as humiliating and abject as you could imagine. The author-- the poet Louis Aragon, who ranks as a leading light in French literature. But Louis Aragon is also a Communist - editor of a Communist weekly magazine. His article today -- a humble confession and apology. The ~~kind~~ kind of knee-b^anding that Communists have to do, when they displease the party bosses.

His offense was that he published a picture painted by Picasso, the famous Spanish ^{artist - and} ~~painter~~ ^{Also a} Communist. ^a ~~the~~ portrait of Stalin - with a walrus mustache, double chin, a vacant stare ~~in~~ in his eyes.

The big bosses of the French Communist party call it -- "an effeminate portrait of the man of steel." Also "a mustachioed Mona Lisa. So today, on the front page of his magazine Louis Aragon wrote: "I fully agree with the party criticism, and I thank my party leaders for having expressed it in such terms." That and a lot ^{more bleating and} ~~more~~ beating of the breast.

As for Picasso, the famous painter displays a good deal more self respect. He says: "It's just too bad." And adds, "you can't please everybody."

FERRY

There goes that whistle. I don't know how loudly the microphone picked it up. But it's the local ferry boat whistle -- the ferry piloted by the mayor of the town.

I'm broadcasting tonight, from Balboa Island on the coast of Southern California, where a quiet bay can be seen out of the window here. Only a dozen yards away, the dock for the ferry boat, which whistles as it leaves.

It is a pigmy compared to the Staten Island or Oakland ferry -- carrying no more than three automobiles per trip. The Skipper, Captain Norm Miller; and he's the mayor of Balboa Island. -- The owner of the ferry, -- Joseph A. Beek, is a state official -- legislative secretary.

Captain Norm Miller tells me how he began as a page boy in the State Legislature. Then rose in life -- to become the mayor of this town, and captain of the ferry boat.

He tells me, likewise, about the first ferry boat captain Balboa Island ever had -- a colored man, with a gift of eloquence. ~~Who~~ ^{At} a gala civic party, ^{when he} was invited to make a speech, ~~so~~ the negro skipper arose, and said:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: When the sun rises in the East, and starts on his glorious way across the canopy of the Heavens -- he stops when he gets over the town of Balboa. And he says: 'The ladies of Balboa are the most gorgeous and beautiful constellation which there is in the whole Heavens.' With that outbreak of poetic oratory he sat down -- amid tumultuous cheers.

All of which comes to mind -- inspired by the tootling of the ^{at} ferry boat whistle.

TAXES

Congressman Reed has abandoned his battle for quick income tax reduction -- but he does it in bitter terms.

Earlier in the day, the President told a news conference that, if Congress reduced income taxes, he'd expect the slash to be made up by other forms of taxation.

Congressman Reed hits back by referring to Republican campaign promises ^{to} ease things for the tax payers. The General made the same pledge, when he ran for President. "So today, the Congressman said bitterly: I'm opposed to having the people betrayed by individuals or by either of the major political parties."

SUBMARINE

At New London, Connecticut, today, twenty-three human guinea pigs emerged from a submarine, in which they had been sealed for two months. The Navy -- conducting an experiment to see how sailors would be able to stand the life in an atomic submarine -- which might run submerged for long periods of time. The first - Torpedoman's Mate - Roy Lanphear of Roosevelt, California,

"How do you feel?" he was asked.

"Fine" feplied the sailor. "But it's good to see daylight again!"

The officer among the guinea pigs was Commander R. E. Faucettt of Perryville, Maryland, who says: "The greatest problem was morale, the job of trying to keep everybody happy. We had our usual differences which had to be straightened out. But, on the whole, everybody was happy."

The Navy -- is also happy. The technical results of the experiment are being kept secret, but the test is described as highly satisfactory.

TURKEY

In far off Turkey -- a series of devastating earthquakes. The shocks have been going on for the past twelve hours, says the dispatch from Istanbul. And adds -- they are still going on.

The quakes are centered at a point only twenty miles from Istanbul, that ancient metropolis on the Bosphorus. The first reports of havoc came from a town down the coast from Istanbul on the sea of Marmora.

Towns and villages destroyed by the shaking of the earth -- so violent that it smashed seismographs in Istanbul. Sixty-five separate quakes counted as again and again they rocked that part of Turkey.

The first figures show a death list in the hundreds. The whole area stricken with panic. The earthquakes also felt on Greek islands off the coast.

VIVIEN LEIGH

Tonight is Oscar night in Hollywood, but one of the principal characters won't be there. Tonight, British film actress Vivien Leigh is on a trans-atlantic plane, ~~flying the ocean back to England.~~ She was taken to the airport in Hollywood on a stretcher, her face covered with a sheet to avoid photographs. Unconscious from sedatives the doctor had given her.

Accompanying her -- Sir Laurence Olivier, her husband, together with two nurses. Today Olivier said: "She's in pretty bad shape. All I can say is that she has had a bad nervous breakdown."

~~Next~~ Last year, Vivien Leigh won the academy award, as the prize winning actress. This year, according to custom, she was to have presented the Oscar to the actress who will be named tonight. But strange misfortune struck ~~her~~ down the British screen star, who rose to fame in GONE WITH THE WIND.

She was in Southern Asia, Ceylon, working

on ~~location for~~ a jungle picture called Elephant Walk. The job called for her to return quickly to Hollywood, which she did -- a long airplane flight, from the Indian Ocean to California. Vivien Leigh always had a fear of airplanes, and the sky voyage across oceans and continents was a racking ordeal. When she got back to her movie studio she was in a state of collapse. ^{she} Tried to continue acting in the picture -- but broke down. Her place in Elephant Walk is being taken by Elizabeth Taylor.

(We often hear that life and work are not so easy for the glitter ^{ing stars} ~~stars~~ of stage and screen, and the story of Vivien Leigh shows how tough it can be.)

A late dispatch from New York states that the film star had to be dragged from an automobile to the Trans-Atlantic plane -- dragged by her husband and comedian Danny Kaye. She refused to be carried on the stretcher that had brought her. She was sobbing and shaking her fist at her husband -- as she was taken to the plane. Half way up the ramp the brunette beauty of the screen regained a measure of self-control, turned to bystanders and said: "I'm sorry folks."

We often hear that life and work are not so easy for the glittering stars of stage and screen, and the story of Vivien Leigh shows how tough it can be.

NEWFOUNDLAND

Yesterday was a bad day for the Air Force in Newfoundland. It is now revealed that a B-29 super-fortress was lost, in addition to a giant B-36. Both crashing with a loss of all lives, ~~and~~ apparently, -- a total of thirty-three. The B-36 crashed first, when two of its engines failed. And the B-29 was one of the planes out searching for the B-36 -- when it came to grief, crashing at a point ~~along~~ along the Newfoundland coast.

BLIZZARD

The weather report from northern California tells of a great blizzard in the Sierra Nevadas. Communications cut at Donner Pass -- by the great snows. A storm late in the season, has brought gales and heavy rain to most of northern California -- the ~~luxury~~ lofty range of the ~~Sixxx~~ Sierras getting it in the form of a blizzard.

SWALLOWS

San Juan Capistrano reports -- a champion flight of swallows. The greatest arrival of the birds that the monks at the old Spanish mission can remember. Old residents returning with friends, evidently.

This is St. Joseph's Day, the time for the swallows to fly in from their winter migration, and before dawn flocks began to appear. All morning new swarms kept coming. At last reports, they were still flying in. More swallows this year than ever before -- swarming under the eaves of the famous old mission - and immediately beginning the job of building nests. The swallows of San Juan Capistrano are a long legend -- and this year -- like the human migration to Southern California -- more of them than ever.

Let's see if we can get the Mayor of Balboa to salute the swallows - and our Ivory Girl.