

Lieutenant-General Matthew B. Ridgeway, flew into Korea today -- the new commander of the Eighth Army. At the same time, General MacArthur in Tokyo placed the hundred thousand men of the U.S. Tenth Corps under General Ridgeway's command. On arrival the General said: "I could not be on a happier assignment than this - I have with little advance notice assumed heavy responsibilities before in battle, but never with greater opportunities."

Later in a message to the Eighth Army, he said: "You will have my utmost - I shall expect yours."

Twenty miles north of Seoul Red Chinese forces are massing tonight - ready to challenge the newly reinforced Eighth Army. Word is that the Allied defense line now reaches right across Korea to the East Coast. Dispatches told of skirmishing in that East Coast sector for the first time today. Which means that the exposed flank in Central Korea is now secure. The

Reds tonite stepped up their patrol activities all along the battle lines above Seoul, with many clashes reported. A report from Pusan says that most Tenth Corps units - safely evacuated from Hungnam -- now have new roles under General Ridgeway's command.

## CHINESE

In Peking, the Red Chinese Commander-in-Chief said yesterday that Chinese victories in Korea will boost the cause of Communism in Asia. General Chu also repeated the Red Chinese price for a Korean settlement. He demanded the withdrawal of all U.N. forces from Korea - the admission of the Peking regime to the United Nations - and the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Formosa. It is difficult to see how the last condition can be carried out, for there are no U.S. troops on Chiang's island fortress.

## WEAPON

In Washington today, the Army raised the lid on a new tank-busting bazooka. The new weapon, gives infantrymen "hitting power" they've never dreamed of before. ~~It~~ Fires a hundred and five millimeter shell as big as medium artillery - from a jeep. It ~~has~~ <sup>has</sup> already been tried out in Korea, with great success. So far it ~~is~~ still experimental - not yet in ~~the~~ full production - but word is there's no tank in existence it cannot destroy.



## TIBET

News from Tibet states that the Dalai Lama at this moment is on his way to India, fleeing from Lhasa - as a new drive of the Chinese Reds threatens the Holy City of Buddhism. This news, published by the New York Times, and corroborated by the United Press tonight, emanates from within Tibet, from the town of Phari Dzong; the highest town in the world.

The sixteen year old living Buddha is reported to be traveling with a caravan protected by six hundred soldiers. Tonight's news is that his party has reached the town of Pedo - which is only sixty miles along the caravan trail from Lhasa, on the main mule and yak route to India. To anyone who has been there, one interesting point is that Pedo is on the shore of Yamdrak Tso, the Turquoise Lake. And more particularly it means the Dalai Lama has made the crossing of the Brahmaputra.

This brings a reminiscence - about the time when the previous Dalai Lama, the Great Thirteenth, they call him, fled from Lhasa to India. The predecessor

of the present sixteen year old boy Grand Lama of Tibet was also driven out by the Chinese. And he almost ~~didn't~~ didn't get across the Brahmaputra. That previous crossing was an affair of excitement and violence - and was the basis of one of the strangest of the stories we heard when we were in Lhasa, little more than a year ago.

In the crossing of the Brahmaputra, the Thirteenth Dalai Lama was hotly pursued by the Chinese; and his life was saved by a young officer of his guard. As a boy this officer had been a mere gardener, whom the Dalai Lama liked. Later he entered the army, and at <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ time of his king's flight he was in command of the small body of troops that held off the Chinese forces and saved the Living Buddha.

Later, when the Dalai Lama was restored to his throne in Lhasa - he gave his rescuer a magnificent reward. There was a high Tibetan noble, fabulously wealthy, who had collaborated with the Chinese. He

was condemned to death - and all his possessions were bestowed on the young man who led the successful rear-guard engagement at the Brahmaputra:- all of the traitor's wealth, also his wives, and his name, Tsarong. Also the highest rank, Shape. And that was the Tsarong Shape who entertained us in Lhasa; the richest man in Tibet - the Rockefeller of the Roof-of-the-World.

Now the wheel of destiny has turned again, and the present Dalai Lama the fourteenth, is in flight, also on his way to India - also crossing the mighty Brahmaputra. Which is not so simple with a caravan - especially in an escape. The Tsango Po is ~~what~~ what they call that huge river in Tibet. And the only way to cross is in yak-skin boats - all the people in the caravan, also the supplies, and much of the Dalai Lama's treasure no doubt. The Dalai Lama's caravan is reported to be a big one, more than a mile long, including some six hundred soldiers. In yak-skin boats it must have taken them several days to cross. And what

a wild scene that must have been!

But now the word is that The Living Buddha is over that river which is as large as the Mississippi. He has crossed Nyapso La, a pass more than 16,000 feet high and has reached the lofty medieval - looking fort at Pede Dzong overlooking the Turquoise Lake, in a part of Tibet where a Nun rules over a monastery -- one woman presiding over some hundreds of monks. They call her The Diamond Sow. So the Dalai Lama must be the guest of the Diamond Sow tonight.



SKORZENY

# RETAKE

We have a disclosure today - that New York narrowly escaped being bombed in the Second World War. The Nazis planned to assail the American metropolis with flying bombs launched from submarines -- and failed to do so because German war power was already collapsing. This is revealed by a book, now published -- which tells of the doings of a German mystery man, Otto Skorzeny, head of the Nazi Commandos. This was an outfit, imitating the British Commandos, which carried out the spectacular rescue of Mussolini - after the Fascist Chief had been overthrown in Rome. Skorzeny tells of the plan to buzz-bomb New York by relating a conversation he had with Himmler, the notorious head of the Nazi Gestapo.

The date ~~xxx~~ was late in Nineteen Forty-four when the buzz-bombs, the V-one's were causing havoc in London - launched from across the Channel. Skorzeny quotes Himmler as saying: "New York must be bombed by our V-one's, In the very near future. <sup>continued Himmler,</sup> I think that here, at last, we have a marvelous chance to influence the course of the war decisively."



Well, it's hard to see how the Nazis figured they could stave off defeat, by hitting New York with buzz-bombs from submarines -- since they weren't able to knock out London that way. They did a lot of damage, but nothing decisive.

But Himmler, the Gestapo Chief, had a poor opinion of the fortitude of Americans. "Those people" said he, "will ~~never~~ never resist the nervous ordeal inflicted by flying bombs. Besides, I have always been convinced that the Americans are incapable of suffering direct blows."

~~(Something for us to think about - the assumption that a few buzz-bombs, such as could be launched from submarines, would break the American spirit. I am afraid Himmler was wrong - and it would only have made this country fight the harder.)~~

But the test never came - because, at the time, the Nazi power was being broken so rapidly, they weren't able to send over a fleet of submarines to launch the ~~buzzbombs~~ buzzbombs against New York.

Here in New York today the U.N. Secretariat officially went to work in its new headquarters -- the glass and marble skyscraper overlooking the East River. For four months, as the builders moved out, the Secretariat has been moving in - at night and during weekends. Three hundred vans have been scurrying back and forth the twenty-three miles from Lake Success, Long Island, to Manhattan bringing ~~it~~ with them mountains of files and furniture for <sup>(the three-</sup> ~~thousand-~~ thousand-five hundred permanent staff.

~~In this giant move, each desk and chair was tagged with a special slip telling exactly where it had to go in the thirty-nine story skyscraper. Byron Wood, in charge of the move, said today, that not a single paper clip was out of place this morning.)~~

So far only the secretariat skyscraper building is ready, the trusteeship and Security Council buildings will be ready in Nineteen ~~Et~~ Fifty-two. Until then the Security Council and political committees with a ~~skat~~ skeleton staff of five hundred, *will* stay on at Lake Success.

## BARGES

A heavy fog blanketed New Orleans today where a tugboat was nosing eighteen empty barges into line for a tow. Suddenly the current caught one- and swung it away from the others. The captain spun his wheel to go after it. Then one by one the other seventeen took charge. In a few moments all had vanished - disappearing into the fog.

As the Mississippi swept them down towards the Gulf of Mexico things started happening. A freighter tied up at a dock was rammed amidships - torn from its moorings. Another freighter nearby was also ~~in~~ stowed in. Further downstream a <sup>Liberty</sup> ~~victory~~ ship reported a barge zooming out of the fog - smashing into <sup>head on.</sup> ~~its bow.~~ ~~So far only two of the tug barges have been recaptured and tied up.~~

The latest:-The whole fleet safely tounded up. Word just in tells of a coast guard cutter nosing through the fog twenty-one miles below New Orleans to catch the drifting fleet - before they reached the sea.

## STONE OF SCONE

Some of you may have seen two British films recently screened in this country - both of them fantastic, ~~unbelievable. The sort of thing that never could happen.~~ One told of a part of London called Pimlico which discovered that it really belonged to France. So the residents set up customs barriers, flew the French flag, ended all rationing and became a little French colony right in the heart of London. The other was about an atomic scientist with an atom bomb in a suitcase - threatening to blow up London, ~~of the whole city evacuated, with police searching from house to house for the world-be anarchist. Fabulous stories.~~ Too fantastic to happen in real life. <sup>π</sup> But, I'm sure there's no film script writer who could have thought out the story that the news wire brought us from London yesterday. The theft from Westminster Abbey of the Coronation Stone -- <sup>the</sup> Stone of Scone. Today the hunt is on, <sup>more intensively than ever,</sup> Tonight we learn that the police have been mobilized throughout Britain -- Scotland Yard declaring a security blackout. Road



blocks thrown across all roads from London to Scotland. All cars stopped - searched for the missing 'stone of destiny'. Descriptions of the man and woman in a Ford car, who performed the dastardly act are posted out-side every police station in the country, ~~xxxxxx~~ <sup>with</sup> full page pictures in every newspaper. Scotland Yard has appealed to everyone in Britain to lend a hand. All quite incredible - fantastic, unbelievable.

But so is the reaction from over the border. Up north in Scotland open jubilation is the order of the day. A special flag with the rampant Lion of Scotland is fluttering over hundreds of buildings. Banner headlines in Scottish newspapers tell the tale. The ~~Scots~~ Scottish Nationalists - two million of them - say the stone has not been stolen. They say the police must change <sup>their</sup> ~~the~~ charges - that there has been no theft. They say the stone was stolen from Scotland by Edward I, <sup>and</sup> is now being rightfully retrieved. Some Scots claim that they will



symbolically crown a new "King of Scotland" on the stone - if and when it arrives - if Scotland Yard doesn't find it before it crosses the border. And Scotland Yard doesn't seem too hopeful of <sup>(finding</sup> ~~fighting~~ it at that. The Yard's spokesman admitted today that the stone may not turn up for at least a hundred years. <sup>H</sup> But there <sup>is</sup> ~~is~~ a clue - the Yard has the ~~fighting~~ finger prints of the culprits -- off the damaged Coronation chair in the Abbey. <sup>R</sup> And so the hunt goes on. Fantastic, unbelievable, proof of the ancient adage that - fact is stranger than fiction.

Which makes us wonder - what punishment would fit the crime? Hanging, <sup>—</sup> ~~drawing~~ drawing and quartering at least - ~~XXXXXX~~ on execution hill -- or the Tower of London, ~~perhaps~~ would you say, Nelson?

King George, who is spending Xmas at his country seat at Sandringham in Norfolk, is keeping in close touch with Scot-Yard by telephone for all the latest developments.