

(Clifton Fadiman.)

The news tonight is dominated by the conviction of the eleven Communist leaders, members of the American Politburo. Everywhere the question is being asked -- what does this mean for the Communist Party?

In Washington, Attorney General McGrath, in a statement in the Scripps-Howard newspapers, points out that it was a trial of individuals and not of the Communist Party.

The eleven Red leaders were convicted for conspiracy to overthrow the government, but this does not necessarily outlaw their party.

~~We hear that the Communist organization will make no attempt to go underground - not at present, anyway. The case will be appealed, and the Supreme Court will pass on the constitutional aspects of the conviction of the Communist leaders.~~

U. N.

Late word from the United Nations indicates that Soviet Russia has offered a concession ~~to the~~ ^{WITH RESPECT TO} Greece, and this may bring about an agreement to end the Soviet and satellite policy of stirring up civil warfare in that country.

RUSSIA

Today, the Moscow newspapers used banner headlines to play up the Stalin message to the new puppet government in the Soviet zone of Germany. In this declaration, the Soviet Premier calls for Russian-German cooperation, and there's one phrase that'll make you blink. The Moscow dispatch says:

"Foreign commentators called particular attention to Stalin's statement that Russia and Germany bore the heaviest sacrifices in the war." Which, of course, is literally true. Stalin's Russia and Hitler's Germany, fighting against each other, did suffer the greatest havoc of all. But it does sound strange to hear the Soviets hail the war sacrifices made by the Nazis. Propaganda, of course, but pretty weird propaganda.

CHINA

In Canton tonight they're waiting for the sounds of an air raid siren -- the signal that the defenders are safely out, and it is proper for the Communist Army to march in.

The Communist forces could have entered Canton at any time today, but they halted - to give the Nationalist defenders an ample chance to get away.

This is in accordance with Chinese custom for thousands of years. When a city has no chance of successful defense, the besiegers give the garrison an opportunity to escape. That saves lives on both sides -- which, no doubt, is the way Confucius would have wanted it. Seems quite sensible. Doesn't it, Nelson?

So long everybody - and on Monday, from this studio, you'll be hearing again, the voice of Lowell Thomas.