

L.J. - Sunoco and P. & G. Wednesday, July 2, 1947.

CONFERENCE

(Soviet Commisar Molotov has wrecked the Big Three conference at Paris.) The Moscow foreign minister issued the customary violent and misleading statement, which British Foreign Secretary Bevin described as a travesty of the facts. What Molotov said was that the British and French proposal is to create a new organization standing over and above the countries of Europe, and interfere in their internal affairs, even going so far as to determine the line of development to be followed by the main branches of their industries. And that Bevin denounced as a travesty.

Molotov further declared that European countries would find themselves placed under control and would lose their former economic and national independence. By implication (he accused The United States of aiming to dominate the world, and he said that Soviet Russia definitely would have no part in the Marshall Plan. He even threatened Britain and France that if they accept Marshall's offer, they must face the consequences.)

Bevin, his face red with anger, replied to this: - "My country has faced grave consequences and threats before." Bevin added that Molotov's method is to continue repeating misrepresentations in the hope someone will at last believe them. But he went on to say that the Soviet threats will not deter the British from what they consider their duty. That Britain and France will ask all countries of Europe if they wish to collaborate. And if there are any who reply "yes," then the British and French ought to be able to show by their example how false are the accusations that have been made against them.

The French Foreign Minister announced today that the French government will pursue its study of the Marshall plan -- pursue this study with all countries ready to work with them. He said he hopes that no refusal will be final -- meaning the Russian refusal.

So, tonight, it looks like a final split in Europe, with a line running roughly from Stettin on the Baltic, the big seaport of what used to be Pomerania, down to Trieste on the Adriatic. This to separate the policies and ideologies of two parts of Europe. With the iron curtain along that line, maybe along that line for years.

In the British House of Commons, the Lord President of the Council announced that if the Marshall Plan is not in operation within six months, the British government will have to cut down its imports even more than it has already. That only a prompt application of the Marshall Plan will remedy the condition brought about by the increasing shortage of dollars. That that shortage has obliged other countries as well as Britain to reduce their imports, especially Argentina and Sweden. This Cabinet Minister then pointed out, that, so long as this endures, the world will be on a downward path, and if it continues long, it will end in the throttling of world trade, in short, -- world disaster.

## NEW LEAD FRANCE

The Premier of France called the National Assembly into special session tonight. To hear his report on the alleged plot to overthrow the Fourth Republic and create a right-wing dictatorship. In true French Parliamentary style the deputies shouted, banged their desks, dared each other to come outside and fight, and broke up in an uproar.

Ramadier laid a serious charge before the National Assembly: that right-wing deputies, even though not members of the rebellious group themselves, that secretly they sided with the plotters. That did it. A storm of protest went up from the Right. With catcalls from the Left.

## FRANCE

The list of eminent names and high titles among those under arrest in France grows and grows. As the ramifications of the conspiracy of the Black Maquis grow wider and wider.

This afternoon it was revealed that President Ramadier himself has relieved the Inspector General of French Overseas and Colonial Forces, General Rene de Larminat, who is now on an inspection trip in French Equatorial Africa -- one of the most distinguished officers in the French Army, who was Deputy Commander-in-Chief of DeGaulle's Free French Forces during the War.

Another General of the French Reserves is being held, and the police are looking for one Count de Merville, who is believed to have been the international contact man for the Black Maquis.

Count de Merville, during the war, was a hero of the Underground, <sup>- in fact</sup> said to have been the man who blew up the principal German radio station, the one known as "Voice of the Reich." Since the war, the word now is

that he has been in secret contact with German and Italian underground groups of the Ring Wing. He seems to be the Number One mystery man of this thwarted royalist conspiracy. At any rate, he got wind of what was up and has disappeared.

France tonight seeths with rumors involving the names of more and more people in high places who supposedly wanted to destroy the Fourth Republic.

A member of the family of Richard Wagner goes to jail as a Nazi. She is Frau Winifred Wagner, who was born British and married Siegfried Wagner, the great composer's son. For a time a rumor ran around the world that Hitler was Planning to marry <sup>her.</sup>  
~~Winifred Wagner.~~

It was a German court that sentenced her, condemned her to four hundred and fifty days of hard labor and public work. The court also ordered sixty per cent of her property confiscated and forbade her to hold any public office or join any political party or union for the next five years. Her offense - that she was an active working Nazi, and used the world famous opera house that her father-in-law built at Bayreuth as a center of Nazi Party propaganda.

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## WOMEN

To recruit women for our armed forces! Maybe. Congress has been asked to authorize their recruitment, this to start at once.

A meeting of the Senatorial Sub-committee on the Armed Services fairly bristled with high-ranking officers today. General Eisenhower, Admiral Nimitz, General Spaatz, ~~and~~ General Devers, and others.

Admiral Nimitz pointed out that in the recent war it took a year to put the women's corps of the Navy on a going basis. If our country is threatened again, he warned, we will not have any such year of grace. General Eisenhower seconded this.

## COAL

No soft coal strike next Tuesday. At least, there's an excellent reason for hope. After a secret meeting between John L. Lewis and the northern mine operators, they announced that they had come to an agreement in principle. This, of course, is tentative, and detailed contracts still have to be worked out. Nevertheless, it really sounds as though this was the real Mc Coy. The agreement, so far as it goes, covers not only the northern mine operators, but also the captive coal mines, the pits owned by the big steel companies.

It sounds like good news. Here's hoping it turns out that way. And now Hugh, what's the good news from you.

## TAXES

Republican leaders in Congress have decided they are going to try to pass another bill to reduce income taxes, after all. The new measure to be the same as the one President Truman vetoed, with this important difference, that the tax cut begin next January First instead as of yesterday.

That is, cut personal income taxes from ten-and-a-half per cent in the higher brackets and as much as thirty per cent in lower brackets, meaning a savings to taxpayers of four-billion dollars a year.

Both the House and Senate will take it up next week.

Republican leaders appear to think that this time they'll be able to get enough votes in both Chambers to over-ride any Presidential veto.

## PROPAGANDA

Federal agencies have been using the public funds for propaganda to influence legislation wanted by the heads of those agencies. This charge comes from a committee of Representatives, the Committee on Executive Expenditures, *which* has filed a report, accusing no fewer than six federal bureaus of misapplying their funds in the interest of socialized medicine. The agencies named are the ~~United States~~ Public Health Service, the Office of Education, the U.S. Employment Service, the Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Research and Statistics of the Social Security Board, the Children's Bureau of Federal Security Administration.

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The Committee's report asks the Attorney General to take proceedings to stop such unauthorized and illegal expenditure of public moneys.

## PLANE RESCUE

On the Twenty-first of May, a B-17 Army bomber took off from Panama, carrying fifteen men on furlough to the United States. While over some of the dense jungle of Nicaragua, the big plane caught fire. At one in the morning, May Twenty-second, everybody aboard bailed out into that forest region that has been described by travelers as well nigh impenetrable.

The Army Air Force immediately organized a rescue expedition, sending transport planes and two helicopters from Westover Field, Massachusetts, and Pope Field, North Carolina. These air observers finally spotted parachutes still hanging in the trees -- in fact they spotted chutes over an area of a hundred and seventy-five miles, northeast of Managua.

One of the rescuers, a Captain P.B. Holliday, of Athens, Georgia, a doctor, went to a village some fifty miles from the sea coast, and within twenty-five miles of the crash, to set up a base.

Next they arranged to drop rescue teams from the helicopters as close as possible to the survivors.

These to cut their way through the jungle with machetes.

For the first drop, Captain Holliday put a parachute down from a height of a thousand feet, so the team landed in a mass of bamboo and thorns, only fifteen yards from one of the survivors who turned out to be one of the pilots of the wrecked plane, Lieutenant Bob Rich of Baraboo, Wisconsin. They found him shocked, and out of his mind. He was desperately in need of water. Finally, they cut their way to a stream some forty yards distant, taking several days to do even that -- meanwhile keeping alive by licking the dew off the leaves of trees.

The other rescuers, meanwhile, feared that Dr. Holliday was lost. And in hunting for him and Rich, they found Lieutenant Henry Borrman of Denver, the co-pilot. He had lost his chute, and it was only by chance they found him at all. He was in the last stages of starvation.

Another survivor died as the rescuers were  
~~loading him~~

loading him aboard a helicopter.

At latest reports they have found thirteen of the missing men. With the helicopters still looking for the fifteenth -- the fourteenth having died.

## TRAVEL

The heaviest travel -- and the greatest traffic jam -- in the nation's history is forecast for the Fourth of July weekend. That's the report from Chicago, focal point of the nation's transportation system. In most areas of the country, all types of public transportation are already sold out and the National Safety Council estimates that nearly thirty million vehicles will take to the highways over the holiday. Also that nearly four billion miles will be rolled up on private speedometers.

For vacationers in the Middle West, there is this good news. The American Automobile Association promises no serious shortage of gasoline in that area. It does warn that motorists should prepare themselves for temporary shortages of a few hours' duration in scattered localities.

Meanwhile airlines, railroads, and bus companies, though dubious about their ability to handle the extra load, are adding all available equipment to meet the onrush.

## TRANSPORT

In Seattle the doors of the Boeing plant rolled back and out came the first of a fleet of double-decked Boeing Strato-Cruisers, claimed to be the largest, fastest, and most luxurious of postwar airliners. Weight, sixty-seven-and-a-half tons; to carry eighty passengers and four tons of cargo and baggage at a three-hundred-and-forty-mile-an-hour clip.

At fifteen-thousand -feet sea-level pressure will be maintained. The Boeing Engineers say it is the first plane to make use of all the engineering and manufacturing refinements developed during the war, including such safety features as a "warm wing" to automatically de-ice electric propeller de-icing equipment, and reversible propellers for quick stops on short runways.

## THIRST

Here's the tale of a thirsty pilot: one Frank Pace of Ely, Nevada.

Pace was flying high over the desert today and you know that desert heat. He became thirsty, parched in fact. And tonight he's in jail, all because of his tremendous thirst.

Pace was flying over the little town of Battle Mountain, Nevada, and he couldn't stand it any longer. So the airman decided to drop in -- or drop down -- for a drink. He cut his engine, swooped down to a perfect landing on the main street of the town, parked his plane in front of a tavern, went in and ordered a schooner of brew.

But Pace reached the bar not more than two steps ahead of the town Constable who indignantly ordered him and his plane off the street.

"Obstructing traffic," said the Constable.

"Can't move," said Pace, "out of gas." Both pilot and plane were thirsty.

## THIRST

But he reconsidered when the Constable mentioned the Battle Mountain Jail. Climbing back into his plane, he flew away.

But not for good. No, no. That desert sun is oh so hot and a man's thirst can't be quenched by just one beer. Half an hour later, the Constable was more than surprised to see the same plane piloted by the same airman again taxiing down main street. Again it stopped in front of the same tavern. And in went Pace and ordered 'em up again.

Tonight Mr. Pace is in the Battle Mountain Klink. The charge? "Reckless and careless operation of an airplane on the ground."

Nelson, it looks as though in Nevada you can do somethings once but -- not twice.

TRUMAN

1st show only.

President Truman will deliver his Fourth of July speech at Charlottesville, Virginia. Leaving Washington tomorrow; returning to the capital on Sunday. Spending Friday evening and Saturday at the home of Stanley Woodward, Chief of State Department Protocol.

The President will speak from the porch of the historic mansion at Monticello -- home of Thomas Jefferson.

## BOMBS

The owner of a boatyard on the eastern shore of Chesapeake Bay, a few miles north of Easton, <sup>Pa.,</sup> was working quietly with his son, when a bomb dropped on him from a plane flying high over the countryside. The bomb exploded in the boatyard and left a hole, as one observer said, "big enough to put a steam engine in."

It was a fairly small bomb, weighing between fifty and a hundred pounds, and ~~almost~~ <sup>about</sup> wrecked the boatyard, ~~completely~~. Another bomb fell in a field nearby. Several people reported ~~that they had seen~~ <sup>seeing</sup> a plane flying high at about that time, too high to be identified.

## JAILBREAK

A group of convicts in the Philippines, desperate criminals, carried out one of the most ambitious jailbreaks on record.

Mindoro is an island lying just across the strait from historic Bataan Peninsula. The prison involved is near Calapan, the provincial capital, a seaport at the east end of the strait.

The leader of the forty-five jailbreakers, was a Lieutenant Romero, in for sixteen years -- ex formerly of the military police. He organized the jail delivery with complete knowledge of what was going on both inside and outside the prison, and picked a time when most of the military police at Calapan had left the island to ~~run~~ round up some Japanese stragglers -- leaving the capital almost unprotected.

It was then that the prisoners revolted, overpowered their guards, took away all guns, raided a nearby armory, and the town of Calapan, where they seized the Governor of the Province, holding him ~~as~~ hostage.

While this was happening a plane of the Philippine Airlines, landed at the airfield. The desperadoes decided to use it and escape from Mindoro. The leader, Lieutenant Romero, walked up to the pilot and told him he would not be allowed to take off for two days. The latter replied that if he were held for two days, Philippine Airlines headquarters would think he had come to grief, and would be sending out planes to search for him.

Just what happened then isn't clear. One version is that a Signal Corps Lieutenant of the Military Police organized a group of civilian guards to fight the convicts. At any rate, while the pilot and Romero were arguing, there was a burst of gunfire from the outskirts of the airfield. And when it was over, the improvised force of military police had captured the airfield from the convicts. The pilot then getting away in his plane with the news of the jailbreak.

Military reinforcements were rushed to Mindoro, and today three C-47 transports, loaded with military police, left Manila for Calapan.

So far no report about Governor Morente of Mindoro, or whether the desperadoes have been recaptured.