

RIDGEWAY L.J.P.+G. Wed. Dec. 27-30.

North of Seoul, today, U.N. Field Commanders met their new chief. Lieutenant General Matthew Ridgeway had arrived at the Eighty Army Front. He also paid a visit to the British Twenty-Ninth Brigade. At headquarters, a staff officer outlined plans for possible future withdrawals. But General Ridgeway instead of being interested in withdrawals said: "I want to know your plans for attack!" He got them.

Before visiting the Front he had paid a ten minute call on the South Korean President, Syngman Rhee. When he met the press for the first time he paid a tribute to General Walker: "A lifelong friend whose record and spirit will long last in the Eighth Army."

General Walker's body will be flown to Washington - burial at Arlington.

KOREA

In Tokyo today, at MacArthur headquarters it was announced that the Eighth Army in Korea now faces four-hundred and fifty thousand Reds. With another nine hundred thousand in Manchuria in reserve.

All along the new one hundred and forty-mile U.N. line, fighting ~~is~~ broke out today. Mostly between patrols. But there was a battalion attack on the South Korean section of the line northeast of Seoul. The Republic of Korea forces with the aid of American air power, quickly regained the ground they lost.

An Eighth Army communique says that Chinese troops are now taking over from the North Koreans along this new front. In the ^{Imjin}~~Imjin~~ valley - gateway to Seoul - Chinese in full battle garb, have replaced North Koreans.

As for Seoul, it seems to be a dying city.

One dispatch tells how each hour finds the streets more deserted -- more than sixty percent of the population already has fled.

INDO CHINA

In Northern Indo-China tonight there is "serious fighting" north of the city of Hanoi. The Communists launched a major attack on the Red river delta called the rice bowl of Indo-China. Word is that so far the French have inflicted heavy losses on the rebels -- driven them back from three outposts.

Military authorities in Saigon, said today that they don't believe ~~these~~ these attacks are the start of a general offensive. They consider them probing actions - to find weak spots.

SPAIN

In Washington today, as expected, President Truman appointed Stanton Griffis, Ambassador to Spain. At the same time, came word from Madrid, that Spain's former Foreign Minister, Jose Felix Lequerica is coming to Washington.

So ends a five year diplomatic boycott of Spain. Only a month ago President Truman said it would be a long long time before he would name an Ambassador to Spain. But, apparently under pressure, he has changed his mind.

Britain will also send an Ambassador to Spain. (Probably Sir John Balfour, who had much experience in war-time as Minister in Moscow and in Washington - one of Britain's top diplomats.)

FRANCE

In Paris today, the French Defense Minister told the National Assembly that Russia now has an army of a hundred and seventy divisions - four million, six hundred thousand men. Her satellites -- another million more. The Defense Minister was urging the government to rush through his rearmament bill. There is strong opposition. Many deputies in the National Assembly want the sum reduced.

EISENHOWER

From Paris comes word that General Eisenhower's new headquarters -- for the time being, will be in Paris - at the Hotel Astoria, overlooking the Champs Elysees and the Arc de triumph. During his first return trip to Europe, next week, he will choose a site for his permanent headquarters. The three most likely towns we hear are: Versailles, Fontainebleau, or maybe Strasbourg on the Rhine, in Alsace.

TRUMAN - TAXES

In Washington President Truman disclosed that he will ask Congress to arrange for all of us to pay higher taxes next year. The White House says the idea is to put the government, as nearly as possible, on a "pay-as-you-go" basis.

So, higher personal and corporate taxes seem certain for the coming year.

REMINGTON

Today a New York courtroom was the scene of evidence as damning in sound as you're likely to find in a criminal trial.

The witness was a divorced wife, testifying against her former husband; - ~~and~~ he, ~~is~~ William Remington, the former government official ^{who is} charged with having committed perjury when he swore he never was a Communist.

Today the former wife ^{referred to herself as a} ~~said she was a~~ "reluctant witness". At one point she declared: "It's extremely hard to have to testify against the father of my children. I hold no malice toward him. I've been subpoenaed ~~by~~ by the government", she ^{went} ~~on,~~ ^{explained,} "and I am trying to tell the truth as I know it."

Then The story she told was, ^{that in} ~~as follows~~ in Nineteen thirty-eight ~~xxxxxx~~ she, herself, joined the Communist party. Remington ^{her husband} told her that he, too, was a party member. "I was reluctant to marry Mr. Remington" she testified today. "And one of the

requirements I asked was - would he continue to be a member of the Communist party? She said he replied that he would.

The witness went on to say that, in the war years of nineteen Forty-Two and Forty-Three, they had a series of meetings with Elizabeth Bentley, then a courier for Red espionage -- and paid her their dues as party members, and ^{that} Remington transmitted military secrets to the Communist courier. He was then an official of the War Production Board.

"At one meeting," said the witness, "Mr. Remington had some information he was very excited about. He told her (Elizabeth Bentley) this is top secret. He said he wanted to be sure it got to Russia as soon as possible." To which she added that the secret was "a formula to make explosives from garbage."

On Christmas of Nineteen Forty-two, Elizabeth Bentley gave them presents - a scarf for the wife, a necktie for the husband. The gifts were accompanied by the words: "Merry Christmas from the party."

Sounds odd for the Communist party to be celebrating Christmas - but today in court the scarf was introduced as evidence.

Such was the testimony given today -- and we can round out the story quickly. Two years ago, Elizabeth Bentley turned against Communism, and told a Congressional committee what was then called a "fantastic story" about Red penetration in the government. She named Remington, then an official in the Department of Commerce. He denied everything, and was exonerated more or less. But now he's on trial - facing the testimony given by his former wife today.

HEIRESS

In Houston, Texas, the report is - that Glenn McCarthy is furious, stunned by the news. Glenn McCarthy is the fabulous oil man whose fortune is reckoned at two hundred million dollars, and his fury may seem odd - in the light of his own story.

Twenty years ago, McCarthy was ~~an~~ a penniless young ~~man~~ man, who had grown up in a tough section of Houston. Then, in Nineteen thirty, he eloped with the sixteen year old daughter of W. E. Lee, one of the great oil magnates of Texas. Faustine Lee chose romance and poverty. Her father was furious, and Glenn McCarthy took his bride to live in a fifteen-dollar-a-month flat. His reaction to it all was typical. He swore he'd get richer than his father-in-law. Which he did, and in the same way - striking oil. He built a seven hundred thousand dollar mansion, a showplace of Houston.

Which is much in contrast to the dwelling of another Houston family named Pontikes. They live in a small house in the rear of a shoe repairing

shop - run by the father, an immigrant shoemaker. But, a son, George Pontikes, was able to go to college, Rice Institute, where he made the football squad.

So now the news that Glenalee McCarthy, seventeen year old daughter of the oil multi-millionaire has eloped and married the son of the immigrant cobbler. That's why Glen McCarthy is furious, stunned and speechless - though its only romance repeating itself. A duplicate of his own elopement, as a penniless youth twenty years ago, with a daughter of an oil millionaire.

To complete the irony, Houston is having a fashionable wedding tonight - Glenalee McCarthy's elder sister getting married. Mary Margaret McCarthy is marrying Harry Richards, Jr., son of a prominent Houston family - with full approval of her father. Tonight the magnate of oil gives his elder daughter away in ~~Marriage~~. Glenalee was to have been Maid of Honor for her sister. But instead, she has eloped

for a wedding of her own. Mixed emotions for Glenn
McCarthy of Texas oil.

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have been having a little war of their own. All
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renown and romance. Outside opinion favors Verona -
following the opinion of Shakespeare.

Some while ago we got the news of how the
people of Vicenza took over the ancient castle - which
long years ago, was the residence of the populace,
Juliet's family. Whereupon, several gentlemen of
Verona said the castle ^{was} took away the bed in which
Juliet is reputed to have slept - a dream of Romeo.

The theft of Juliet's bed aroused the
people of Vicenza, and they retaliated. They raided
a famous old castle at Verona, and stole the armor
of the legendary Count Mark-Brand, which is a main
feature in the story of L. etc. Supreme post of Italy.
In this mutual stealing of historical and
legendary objects, the two Italian cities, in their

ROMEO AND JULIET

From North Italy, word of a peace treaty between the cities of Verona and Vicenza - which have been having a little war of their own. All because of - Romeo and Juliet. Both cities claim to have been the home town of the ill-fated couple of renown and romance. Outside opinion favors Verona - following the opinion of Shakespeare.

Some while ago we had the news of how the people of Vicenza took over the ancient castle - which long years ago, was the residence of the capulets, Juliet's family. Whereupon, several gentlemen of Verona raided the castle ^{and} took away the bed in which Juliet is reputed to have slept - dreaming of Romeo.

The theft of Juliet's bed aroused the ~~people~~ people of Vicenza, and they retaliated. They raided a famous old castle at Verona, and stole the armour of the legended Count Can-Grande. Which is a name famous in the story of Dante, Supreme poet of Italy.

In this mutual stealing of historical and venerated objects, the two Italian cities, in their

own way, anticipated England's present sensation -- the theft of the Coronation stone of Scone.

But now Verona and Vicenza have made peace, after a two-day conference - in which Verona agreed to ^{hand} ~~hand~~ back Juliet's bed, which ^{le} ~~le~~ Vicenza is returning the armour of Count Can-Grande. Moreover, both sides decided to celebrate the treaty by staging a gala production of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet next month.

However, observers declare that the feud may break out all over again. Because, in the treaty one question was left undecided. Which city shall have the gala performance of Romeo and Juliet, Verona or Vicenza? That still has to be argued - and the war may be on again.

SUBSTITUTE STONE

In London today Scotland Yard announced

two clues in the search for the missing Stone of Scone.

skoon - or skawn.

The number and description of a ~~torry~~ ^{truck} in which the

stone may have been spirited away - and of a watch

and crowbar found near the coronation chair. "We are

leaving no stone unturned", said Scotland Yard. But

they ~~still~~ have not turned up the stone.

An anonymous telephone call to a Glasgow

newspaper announced last night that the missing relic

is "as safe as if it were under lock and key" -- in

Scotland! ~~And~~ On the radio the Dean of Westminster

~~Abbey has~~ broadcast an appeal. "I will go to

the ends of the earth to recover the stone" said the

Dean. *But if it's in Scotland - what will*
~~And tonight it seems that may well be the case.~~

the Dean of Westminster Abbey do? I wonder.

STARLINGS

From Birmingham, England, comes a story tonight of Red invasion. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Uncle Joe Stalin giving the British the bird or birds, I should say - and all that sort of thing. It seems, says the story, that tens of thousands of Starlings have flown all the way to Birmingham, from Russia. Why Birmingham of all places, I don't know. But, His Majesty's ornithologists say the Russian Starling even has Soviet characteristics: thinner than the English bird - more aggressive - and with a touch of pink about it - pink legs.

Now Nelson, how are you - in the pinks?