

C.N. - P. & H. Thursday, Nov. 11, 1948.

(China claims a big victory over the Communists -- in a million-man battle fought one-hundred-and-twenty miles north of Nanking.) China's red army, victorious in the north, was pushing down into the valley of the Yangtze, the Shanghai-Nanking line. Earlier reports today told of two giant forces locked in a violent struggle, and then came the nationalists claim - victory - (the Chiang Kai Shek government reports that one Communist army was completely routed.)

At the United Nations in Paris, the Chinese delegation today charged that the Chinese Red armies are using Japanese prisoners of war - prisoners captured by the Soviets. As the war ended, with Japan trying to surrender, the Russians rounded up the big Japanese army of Manchuria, and we have heard that these prisoners were being indoctrinated with Communism. So now the Chinese accusation - that the Japanese have been turned over by the Soviets to serve in the China civil war.

In the crisis, Chiang Kai-Shek has ~~also~~ declared

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martial law -- military rule, wartime restrictions
in Central China.

WAR TRIALS

In less than a half hour from now the international military tribunal in Tokyo will gather to pronounce sentence on Tojo and the other Japanese warlords. It is early afternoon in Tokyo. The court had a morning session, then recessed, planning to reconvene for the pronouncement of the sentences, which will end the longest trial in history - two and a half years.

EUROPE

Late news this armistice Day. The military commanders of the western union have completed their defense conferences - British Field Marshall Viscount Montgomery presiding. Meeting in Holland, they drew up joint military plans on what to do in case of war with Soviet Russia. The United States, we hear, had representatives *at* the joint staff conferences.

So what is the plan? What will be the Military strategy of the western powers, ~~if~~ if Soviet Russia should strike? We are not told -- its all secret. But there is an interesting report.

The word in Holland is that Field Marshall Montgomery advocated - a stand on the Rhine. If the ponderous Russian was machine should start rolling - try to stop the Russians along that great river barrier, one of the great historic lines of defense.

The Roman empire took its ~~ix~~ stand on the Rhine, holding that river for long centuries against the German ~~bar~~ barbarians. The Roman frontiers in Europe were - the Rhine and the Danube. So now, once again, the same role for the Rhine all over again --

as the west faces Soviet Russia.

However, we hear that American opinion was opposed to the idea and suggested -- the Pyrenees. Presumably the Americans were not ~~ix~~ so sure that the line of the Rhine could be held, and thought it would be best to defend the ~~great~~ great mountain barrier between France and Spain. Which, of course, would mean abandoning France.

So which opinion won out? The Rhine. The word ~~ix~~ in Holland is that the joint staff conferences agreed with Field Marshall Montgomery, and decided on the ancient river defense - if the huge mass of Soviet tanks and infantry should move forward.

CRISIS

In London, Prime Minister Attlee joins President Truman over here in discounting talk about a possible meeting with Stalin. (From the Little White House at Key West we have had a denial of reports that the President was planning a face-to-face talk with the Master of the Kremlin. In Britain, the suggestion was made that the Prime Minister might join in making it another big three conference. But in Parliament today, Attlee said - no.) He told the M. P.'s that the way for a settlement was through the United Nations, if an agreement could not be reached through normal diplomatic channels.

~~The view on the Western side of the Iron Curtain is that promises made by Stalin in previous personal talks have been broken, and that another repetition would only give the Soviets a chance to make propaganda and interfere with the present line-up of western powers.~~

On the Soviet Side, Red propaganda continues to play up reports of a possible Truman-Stalin meeting,

hailing this eagerly - which sounds like an angle of a peace offensive in the Cold War.

will President Truman do about the Democrats who called to support him in the election? The attitude of the President is expressed by Democratic National Chairman Stephen Spivey. Spivey from a visit to the

he says that the Truman feeling is that... However, with the closer cases in which Democrats were lukewarm. But a considerable number of Truman... is referred to by top... of his own party... returned their back on him.

All this was not... by the National... in a news conference at... he was... that some of the... officials in the... administration had... been less than optimistic... for the apparently... Truman... Would some... of these top... had... their jobs?

... Truman... "all... carried... So... the... will... 9

SUBSTITUTE TRUMAN

The news tonight brings an intimation in that question which many have been asking -- what will President Truman do about the Democrats who failed to support him in the election? The attitude of the President is expressed by Democratic National Chairman Senator McGrath - fresh from a visit to the little White House at Key West.

He says ~~that~~ the Truman feeling is this. "Never mind the lesser cases in which Democrats were lukewarm. Put a considerable measure of Truman wrath is reserved for top shots of his own party who turned their back on him.

All this was set forth by the National Chairman in a news conference at Key West. He was reminded that some of the highest officials in the Truman administration had been less than enthusiastic for the apparently hopeless Truman cause. Would some of these top figures now lose their jobs?

"The President," replied Senator McGrath, "will forgive venial sins as opposed to mortal sins". So there is the cue - the mortal sins will not be forgiven.

HOOVER

In Washington, former President Hoover today discussed plans for reorganizing the Federal government, plans prepared by a commission of which he is the head. He said: "There are no politics in our problem."

During the election campaign, it was remarked that, if governor Dewey were elected president, he would undertake the task of government reorganization - based on the report to be made by the Hoover commission. So what now is the status of that commission? Well, it was created by a resolution of the Republican-controlled Eightieth Congress. But President Truman endorsed the commission - and, moreover, he personally named four of the twelve commissioners who are serving under Herbert Hoover.

Today the former president made no reference to the result of the election, merely saying that the reorganization business has nothing to do with politics.

Former Pres. Hoover
To a news conference ~~he~~ gave a reminder that in sixteen years, the annual expenditure directed by the White House has risen from four billion to forty-three

billion dollars - and he believes that billions a year could be saved by streamlining the whole set-up.

Billions that of course come from the pocket of the taxpayer.

GENERAL WAINWRIGHT

This being Armistice Day, an appropriate ceremony is being held in Chicago at this moment. During the past several months, the disabled American veterans service foundation has been conducting a nationwide word puzzle contest, and the winner is now to be announced - the prize presented by General Jonathan Wainwright, hero of ^{Bataan and} Corregidor who is National Commander of the Disabled Veterans Organization. So now let's switch to Chicago - to General Wainwright and the lucky winner.

GENERAL WAINWRIGHT: I am very proud and happy to announce the successful completion of the first national contest of the Foundation, and I wish to thank the winners and everybody who entered this contest. Your entry fee contributions have benefited a cause which deserves the full support of all Americans who are grateful to our country's disabled veterans.

And to you, ^{Major} ~~Mr~~ James E. Nickerson, I am delighted to present this check for Thirty-three Thousand Dollars to which you are entitled because you were the top winner in this great contest of skill.

JAMES E NICKERSON: General Wainwright, this is really a mighty big thrill. It's a whale of a check and to receive it from you personally makes it a really important occasion for me. I'd like to say I found the contest most enjoyable, ^{especially} ~~especially~~ because it was for such a noble cause. I didn't expect to win a cent.

GENERAL WAINWRIGHT: Jim, I see by your record that you served in the North African, Corsican, Sicilian and Italian campaigns. You have received four battle stars, the Air Medal and the Legion of Merit. Good work. And now I hope this handsome prize of Thirty-three thousand dollars will help you and your good wife and five year old daughter to a lot of happiness in civilian life. And, I am hopeful that as many as two million good Americans like you will enter the second national ~~contest~~ contest of the Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation which will be announced next January.

James E. Nickerson: I hope so too, General Wainwright.
And thanks again.

L.T.: We've been listening in on the presentation made by General Wainwright -- and here's to the success of his next national contest for the benefit of the Disabled American Veterans Service Foundation. Something particularly appropriate for Armistice Day.

~~I wonder who General Wainwright would~~

do you consider the greatest American General of ~~them~~ our time?

There are many who would still vote for General Pershing. I've spent part of today reading General Pershing's biography. I ~~fan~~ first knew the author, Colonel Frederic Palmer, when he was a famous war correspondent, more than thirty years ago. Frederic Palmer was an associate of the now legendary Richard Harding Davis. He refers to General Pershing as "The soldier nobody knew." The ~~time~~ title of the book is simply: John J. Pershing, General of the Armies. It is an absorbingly interesting life story of the man who led our armies to victory in World War One.

STRIKE

The dock strike on the east coast has a dramatic twist - one that ties the walkout of longshoremen with the ~~history~~ ^{and} ~~romance~~ ^{of} aviation. But what can a waterfront strike have to do with the lore and legend of man's conquest of the sky? Well, that point will develop in the mere factual recital of the news.

The walkout began as a wildcat affair in New York, but now has spread to Boston and Philadelphia - tying up those Great Harbors. Tomorrow, a vote will be taken by the dock workers of the east coast, and there seems little doubt that they will ~~organize a~~ ~~that strike, and~~ make it a walkout all along the line, the coastline. ~~So the tie up is expected to~~ extend all along the Atlantic shore, and spread to the Gulf. ^R The trouble concerns a new contract between companies and Union. Officials of the Union agreed on a wage raise of ten cents an hour, but that was rejected by a faction of the insurgents; - and the wildcat strike was on.

~~Today the only stevedores working on the New York~~

~~docks were those unloading perishable foods or putting
aboard ships mail and christmas presents for service
men overseas.~~ The liner America, pride of the U. S.
Merchant Marine, arrived at a New York harbor today -
and the passengers, one thousand of them, carried
their ^{own} luggage ashore.

The British liner Mauretania was due at New
York today, but changed course and put in at Halifax,
instead. The Mauretania has aboard a full list of
passengers. Also - the original Wright Brothers
plane, the first plane that ever flew.

~~That great old contraption, made of sticks and
canvas, is on its final trip. Forty-five years ago the
Wright Brothers, in that historic plane, made the
first of all flights. Later, there was a controversy
over priority, angry resentment - and the original
Wright Brothers plane was sent to London - the
Kensington Museum. But that old argument was
finally straightened out, and Orville Wright, in his
will, indicated that the first successful airplane~~

should be brought back to the United States - a home-coming that has been awaited.

It was decided to put the legended plane on display in Washington, ^{on} December seventeenth, the forty-fifth anniversary of man's first flight.

So the original Wright Brothers' plane was loaded aboard the Mauretania, bound for New York. But now the waterfront strike has changed all that, the legended aircraft taken to Halifax.

Today an official of the Smithsonian Institution Paul Garber, flew to the Canadian port to supervise matters. The original Wright Brothers plane will be transferred to a U. S. Navy ship, brought to New York, then loaded on a truck, and sent speeding to Washington -- its final trip changed by a strike.

SPEED

A new jet speed record - San Francisco to Los Angeles. Today Major Robert DeHaven streaked the three hundred and thirty-six miles in thirty-six minutes and nine seconds. That was nearly four minutes faster than the previous record of forty minutes, also made in a jet plane. Major De Haven left San Francisco at ten twenty-five this morning, and landed at Los Angeles about a minute past eleven - whizzing along at five hundred and seventy-seven miles an hour.

Another dazzling revelation of jet speed, the newest thing in the annihilation of space. *A half hour from San Francisco to Los Angeles.*

MURDERER

A weird murder story, and the echo might well be - honor among thieves. That refrain - sung by the Devil with a banjo.

In a cow pasture near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, today, they found the body of a man who had been shot to death -- and on one arm was a tattooed picture of Satan playing a tune on a banjo. Stranger still, on one leg they found ten new one hundred dollar bills fastened with rubber bands. That was a clue.

Several days ago, two masked bandits held up the home of Daniel Lamont, a wealthy race horse owner at Altoona, Pennsylvania. They robbed him of thirteen thousand dollars in cash and seven thousand dollars' worth of jewelry. The money was in new one hundred dollar bills, and the race horse owner states that he saw one of the bandits sneak out ten of the one hundred dollar bills, when his companion was not looking. **H**olding out on his pal.

According to the police, he was murdered by his pal - who, however, did not find the ten one hundred

dollar bills he had hidden so cunningly, attached to his leg with rubber bands. The story, indicated by the evidence, is that the pal killed him - rather than share with him the proceeds of the robbery. He wanted to keep it all for himself - never suspecting the thousand dollars the other crook was holding out.

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CRICKET

In the news of sports - an uproar in the realm of that very, very English game of cricket. An outcry against - snobbishness in cricket. But ^{the} high toned snobs, this time, are not in England - but in South Africa. And the protest comes from England. At Capetown, they wouldn't let a British boxing champ into the clubhouse of the West Province Cricket Team, because of what the Capetown Dispatch calls "his social standing."

The boxer in question is Freddie Mills, light heavyweight champion of the world, who went to South Africa to meet their heavyweight title holder. Mills won by a knockout and was hailed as a conquering hero. So he thought he'd go to the cricket game.

A British team was playing a match with the South Africans, and the British star batsman, Denis Compton, is a friend of Mills. But when the prize-fight champ tried to visit his cricket playing pal, he was refused admittance to the clubhouse. Twice he tried to get in, and each time he got a cold stare.

Which is not so surprising if you know the ways of cricket. The social line drawn between gentlemen

and no¹ - gentlemen. The Chairman of the cricket club explained: "I didn't think a prizefighter would be at home, or mix, with the members of the club."

That happened several days ago, and it stirred up a big noise, with newspapers in London picking up the story of snobbery. The rumpus grew so loud, that the cricket club at Capetown yielded a concession and now we have the latest. They have permitted champion Freddie Mills to be entertained at tea by the British cricket team, together with prize fight manager, Ted Broadribb. But not in the pavilion of the club. No sir. The champion and his manager were entertained at tea under some nearby oak trees. - Not allowed in the sacred precincts reserved for gentlemen. No social standing.

Maybe so. But it sounds like an item that has been splashed with color - or exaggeration somewhere en route.

And now Nelson, our master of understatement.