

SUB KOREA P.T. - P. 9 Wed. Jan. 31 - '51.

(The latest from the Korean battlefront tells of a heavy red offensive at the center of the ~~new~~ line.) Reports tell of a threatened encirclement of an American-French regimental combat team. This occurred north of the town of Yaju, where the Red assault began with the usual blowing of bugles. The Reds attacked in overwhelming numbers, (After a day of virtual stalemate along the front, the U N offensive halted by bitter enemy resistance.)

## KOREA - RED CASUALTIES

We know that, in the Korean war, the Chinese invaders have suffered heavily, and now we are given some figures. These emanate we are told, from a nationalist underground in Red China. The Chinese Communists have lost three hundred thousand -- that many killed, wounded or captured. Every available hospital from the Korean border to the Yangtze River in Central China - jammed with wounded -- two hundred thousand.

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They <sup>(say that)</sup> ~~estimated~~ only twenty percent of the Red casualties were incurred in front-line battle. The other eighty percent were inflicted behind the lines, by air action -- the incessant assaults by American planes.

These enormous casualty figures are cited to explain, in part at least, the halt~~ing~~ of the Communist offensive -- which was rolling so fast a few weeks ago.

## KOREA -- U.N. UNITS.

The U.N. forces were joined today by two new national units -- troops from Belgium and Luxembourg. The numbers are not large, seven hundred Belgians and fifty volunteers from tiny Luxembourg. But, this now makes a total of thirteen countries, all around the globe, who have soldiers in the war against the Reds.

This is accompanied by news from the French contingent attached to the Second Division of U.S. Infantry. They, today, presented a Croix de Guerre to an American officer -- Lieutenant Richard Smith of Portland, Oregon. Which reminds one of the First World War, when so many of the Doughboys got the Croix de Guerre.

Lieutenant Smith was an artillery ~~man~~ observer, when a ~~Red~~ Red attack isolated a company of French troops. He should have retreated, left his post. But he stayed right there. "His skillful direction of artillery fire", says the citation, "forced withdrawal of the enemy, already inside French positions."

The citation doesn't tell us whether or not Lieutenant Smith got the kiss on both cheeks, so familiar to the Doughboys of nearly thirty-five years ago when they received a French Decoration. But it does remind one of those old day of.....

"The General got the Croix de Guerre, but the son of a gun was never there.

Hinky-dinky parlez-vous."

## KOREA -- BOXER

In the Seventh Division, at the battlefront, there is a Sergeant known among the GI's -- as a disappointed prizefighter. Sergeant Grantford Brown, of Rockford, Illinois, was ambitious to be a boxer, a champion. But all he won was a series of beatings in the ring. "They told me," explains the Sergeant, "I wasn't fast enough with my right." He had a hefty wallop in his right fist, but was always too late in throwing it. So instead of a prizering champ, he winds up as an infantry sergeant in Korea.

He's in an armoured unit, and his tank was assailed by a swarm of Reds. One <sup>(enemy)</sup>~~enemy~~ soldier sneaked through, and jumped on the tank to toss a hand grenade. But the Sergeant ~~was~~ <sup>ed out</sup> ~~was~~ lashing <sup>ed out</sup> with a punch, and this time he was fast enough with his right. He slammed the Red on the point of the jaw -- the punch so hefty that the grenade landed twenty feet away. All of which ~~makes~~ the Sergeant a champ ~~44~~ in a more important arena than the prize-ring.

## EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLDS

The reluctance of Congress to draft the eighteen-year-olds came out into the open today -- with statements that the military leaders have failed to prove that they need the eighteen-year-olds to muster armed forces of nearly three-and-a-half million men. These statements were made by ranking members of the Armed Services Committee of the House. Acting Chairman Rivers, a South Carolina Democrat, says it is possible the goal can be met by drafting 4-F's and others -- now deferred. Republican Congressman Dewey Short of Missouri, charges that the Defense Department already has more men than it can handle.

## DRESSES

A congressional investigation was ordered today in what may sound like an affair of Women's Fashions -- dresses, skirts, jackets. But it is all -- military. The Waves of the Navy and the Lady Marines are said to have ordered one-million, three-hundred-and-fifty-thousand summer dresses. The total number of these service women is ten thousand. Sounds like a-hundred-and-twenty-five dresses for each one.

The question was raised in Congress by Representative Brown of Ohio who said the order for the enormous number of summer uniforms has been placed with a New York Dress Firm. So Congressman Vinson of Georgia, Chairman of the Armed Services Committee, ordered an inquiry. Why all that feminine finery for so few military ladies?

U.N.

At the U.N. today action ~~was~~ was taken for the final passage of the American resolution branding Red China as an aggressor. The resolution was okayed last night by the Political Committee, which made it a sure thing. But it still has to be voted by the full General Assembly. The way today was cleared by the Security Council, which took the question of aggression from its own Agenda -- ~~handing~~ putting it up to the General Assembly, which is expected to act tomorrow.

## EISENHOWER

General Eisenhower told his story three times today. Back in Washington from his European tour, the Commander of the Army of the West reported to President Truman, then to a special meeting of the Cabinet, and finally to a top strategy board, headed by General Omar Bradley, Chairman of the American Chiefs of Staff.

We don't know what General Ike said, but we'll soon find out - because he is going to repeat his story twice again: Tomorrow - before a joint session of Congress, and Friday night - in a radio address to the nation.

## PLEVEN

A Premier said goodbye to a President today. In a call at the White House, French Premier Pleven bade his farewell respects to President Truman -- and thus concludes his visit to Washington. The Premier goes for a brief stay in Canada.

The results of the Washington talks are an official secret, but we hear they did much to dispell fears - of two kinds. The American fear that France would not make a real fight should war come in Europe, and the French fear that the United States might act impulsively and bring on a war through rash action. The Premier and the President gave each other assurances on those points.

## GERMANY

( In Germany, the American Military Administration granted clemency to <sup>(eighty-nine)</sup> ~~seventy-five~~ Nazi war criminals, and the list is headed by a famous name - Krupp von Bohlen. He was famous for years as the head of the giant armament firm of - Krupp. ) He was convicted at the Nuremberg trials, and sentenced to twelve years in prison. But now <sup>he</sup> gets clemency - together with eight directors of the Krupp firm. At the same time, the confiscation of the Krupp industrial empire is cancelled - but its future status remains in abeyance, to be decided later.

Today's clemency includes six Nazi Storm Troopers, convicted for the murder of American prisoners-of-war in the Battle of the Bulge. But seven others must hang - charged with a greater responsibility <sup>for</sup> ~~in~~ that atrocity.

This will end the punishment of war criminals in Germany.

## SUB CONTROLS

The Government is permitting all wage increases that were agreed upon between unions and companies before the wage freeze last Thursday. This applies, especially, to coal. The pay hike in the soft coal industry is okay-- ~~the~~ boost of a-dollar-and-sixty cents a day for the soft coal miners that was announced earlier in the day, and was followed by a similar decision in the case of the hard coal miners whose wage increase was granted just as the regulations went into effect. The wage freeze has thawed out to that extent.

## STRIKE

The government today<sup>1</sup> took legal moves to stop a strike of switchmen that is crippling railroad service in the middlewest. Government attorneys asked a Federal Judge at Chicago to issue a citation for contempt -- the petition naming fifty-three officers of the Brotherhood of Railroad trainment.

## WEATHER

Most of the country is shivering in a cold wave tonight -- with snow, sleet and icy storms. But the worst hit is the lower Rio Grande Valley, where ordinarily it's tropical. Now that section of the Southwest is covered with ice, and it is feared millions upon millions in damage will be done to the citrus and vegetable crops.

The weatherman reports that a new frosty wave is moving down from Canada; though we hardly notice it -- because it is so cold already.

## TRANSATLANTIC

A new trans-Atlantic speed record was set today when a veteran airline pilot flew from New York to London in seven hours and fifty-eight minutes. Charles F. Blair was at the controls of a souped-up Mustang fighter, and cut the previous record by one hour and seven minutes. Forty-one years old, he is a veteran indeed -- having flown the Atlantic four hundred times -- now speed king.

## RIDE

At the Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia, the word would seem to be that Private Jack Cunningham was on his way to Kentucky. But he was going in the noisiest possible style, with the shrieking of sirens, clanging of bells and a volley of gunshots.

Last midnight, the Leatherneck climbed onto a fire-engine belonging to the Quantico Base, and started out - turning on the siren and the bells for a deafening pandemonium. The Military Police gave chase, and Private Cunningham added to the din of shrieking and clanging by firing a volley of shots. People for ninety-three miles were aroused by the midnight uproar -- until the clamoring fire-engine ran off a curb, into a <sup>(ditch.</sup> ~~ditch.~~ After which, Private Cunningham was on his way to the Guard House.

The home town of the Leatherneck is in Kentucky, and today a Marine Corps spokesman said: "I have no idea where he was going, except it was in the general direction of Kentucky." <sup>P</sup> Home Sweet Home. But he played <sup>it to</sup> the tune of sirens, bells and gunshots.

## SERGEANT

This is about Flavius McPeak -- a name that suggests a professor of Classical Philology, or something. Flavius -- derived from the Flavian Emperors of ancient Rome. And McPeak would go well at the University of Edinburgh. The story is much more simple and human.

At Waco, Texas, a confession was made today by a grey-haired veteran of long time army service -- Sergeant Flavius McPeak, just retired. To the police he said: "I have come to take my medicine. Thirty-two years ago I stole three thousand dollars from a Chemical Company."

More than three decades ago, Flavius McPeak, a cashier, was able to steal fifty dollars a week. After he had run the stolen money up to three thousand dollars, he skipped and was never caught. Today he told how he joined the Army, and served all those years --- mostly overseas. Recently retired, at the age of sixty-six, he began to think about that old misdeed, and decided

to pay the penalty of law.

But it is no go - no prosecution. Today the President of the Chemical Company said: "This man has lived a good life for the past thirty-two years. Give him my regards and my ~~blessings~~." So that is the story of Flavius McPeak, *Nelson*.