

PRECEDE KOREA [J. R. P.] Mar. 23 - Fri. '51

There was plenty of drama this evening in the way the news wire brought the statement by General ~~Mr~~ Douglas MacArthur - that he stands ready to negotiate with the commander in chief of the Chinese Communists for the end of the Korean war. That, in itself, was striking enough - the Supreme Commander expressing a will for a battle-front conference.

First came a bulletin stating that MacArthur was taking a plane for another trip to the scene of action - which, right now, is the thirty-eight Parallel. Newsmen in Tokyo pointed out, with prompt emphasis, that those MacArthur trips to the front have usually meant heretofore - some new offensive. For example, his last visit preceded the assault culminating in the great air invasion by the paratroopers north of Seoul today. So the assumption was drawn that another big military move might be at hand.

Then followed further dispatches, sending along a statement issued by the Supreme Commander,

as he took off for Korea. In this he pointed out, in some detail, the fact that the military power of ~~the~~ Red China has been exaggerated. The ~~ix~~ tactics of overwhelming mass assault have been beaten by the superior armament of the Americans. And Red China has not the industrial capacity to wage a victorious modern war. So, they might now be willing to consider a settlement.

Then followed the vital declaration with these words:

"Within the area of my authority as military commander," states General Douglas MacArthur, "It should be needless to say that I stand ready at any time to confer in the field with the commander in Chief of the enemy forces - in an earnest effort to find means whereby the realization of the political objectives of the United Nations in Korea might be accomplished without further bloodshed."

In ~~Wa~~shington the prompt reaction is that this MacArthur declaration is a bold move to spur the

Chinese Reds into conferences for peace. MacArthur, by offering to negotiate personally with the Red Commander-in-Chief, might open the door to a settlement in Korea.

Word just in from Tokyo gives an opinion at MacArthur headquarters that the invitation issued by the Supreme Commander does not indicate the likelihood of any meeting with Chinese Red commanders during MacArthur's present trip. He merely took occasion of his flight to the war front to suggest the idea of possible negotiations.

## KOREA

(The great paratroop drop was an overwhelming success today - smashing the last powerful force of Reds below the thirty-eighth parallel in Korea.) United Press correspondent Jack Burby went along with the soldiers of the sky, and accompanied them ~~down by~~ <sup>when they</sup> ~~jumped,~~ <sup>parachuted,</sup> There was no resistance, air power having blasted the landing site north of Seoul with such a devastating deluge of fire that all possible <sup>(opposition</sup> ~~effort~~ was wiped out. However, Jack Burby tells of a regiment of Red Koreans not far away. They saw the rain of soldiers from the sky - the pageant of thousands of brightly colored parachutes. So what did they do? Jack Burby says the Red regiment simply ran away - terrified by the brilliant, but deadly spectacle of air invasion.

The paratroopers, seizing strong points and establishing a perimeter, were promptly supported by powerful thrusts on the ground - two armored columns thundering forward to catch the first corps of Red Koreans between the hammer and the anvil. The hammer -

the tanks. The anvil - the fortified paratroopers. Ten hours after the landing by air, there was a junction of forces - the rolling armor linking up the soldiers from the sky.

It is not known <sup>to what extent</sup> ~~how much~~ that Red Korean First Corps has actually been trapped. The latest news tells of the Communists in wild flight, scrambling to get across the Imjin River - near the southern bank of which the paratroop landing was made. Two key points were captured immediately, the town of Uijongbu, which fell to the tanks. And - the big Red center at Munsan, captured by the paratroopers.

This crushing blow north of Seoul, puts our forces right up against the thirty-eight parallel in that area. Same story along the remainder of the battle front. Everywhere the U N army continued to advance today, And <sup>now is</sup> ~~was~~ up against the parallel from coast-to-coast across the Korean peninsula. The insistent supposition is that patrols, at various places, are <sup>(across the)</sup> ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Parallel - since it has been

made perfectly clear that General MacArthur <sup>(has</sup> ~~has~~ the  
authority to drive beyond the line in the maneuvers  
of battle.

## DRAFT

The army has cut the April draft call<sup>in</sup> half. Previously it has<sup>d</sup> been the intention ~~to~~ to call out eighty thousand men. But that figure was reduced today to forty-thousand. The reasons are two: First -- an unexpected increase in voluntary enrollments. Secondly a decline in casualties in the Korean war, not nearly so many as had been expected. Hence the draft call for April is cut it two.

## FRENCH STRIKE

Things were bad in France today - because of the huge transport strike. The government used soldiers and drafted large numbers of railroad strikers to keep things going. But large sections of industry were paralyzed. Traffic tied up - with half a million workers out

## RAILROADS

The railroads are asking for an increase of freight rates. In Chicago today the announcement was made that they have applied to the Interstate Commerce commission for permission to boost rates on freight <sup>up</sup> ~~by~~ an average of fifteen percent.

Meanwhile in W<sub>a</sub>shington the government reports that the cost of living rose one-and-three-tenths percent during the month ending February Fifteenth. Which automatically qualifies railroad workers for an increase of pay. One million non-operating employees are entitled to a hike of six percent an hour -- because of the increase in the cost of living.

CRIME INVESTIGATION

In New York, John P. Crane refuses to resign as Vice President of the International Association of Fire Fighters, a union affiliated with the A F of L. Crane, who is also President of the New York local, is the one who testified that he gave ten thousand dollars to former Mayor O'Dwyer and fifty-five thousand to James J. Moran, O'Dwyer's close friend, Money meant as a campaign contribution, also to promote good will.

This was a sensation at the New York hearings held by the Senate Crime Investigating Committee - and the President of the Fire Fighters Union, John P. Redmond, demanded the resignation of Crane. Crane called this a hypocritical act, declaring the union President knew about the political contributions; so, he refuses to resign as Vice President. *In reply the union takes action - suspending Crane.*

In Washington, meanwhile, Committee Chairman Senator Tobey of New Hampshire is urging Congress to continue with the work of the crime investigators - authorize them to go on looking into the connection between politics and the underworld in various parts of the country.

PLANE

Tonight hope is vanishing for the giant air force transport plane, which has vanished over mid-Atlantic. Fifty three airmen aboard, including Brigadier General Paul Cullen, Deputy Commanding General at the Barksdale Air Base, Shreveport,

Louisiana. (Earlier in the day it was believed that the globemaster might have landed perhaps in the Azores, or Iceland, or <sup>even</sup> ~~perhaps~~ Ireland. ~~The weather was so~~

bad that communications were disrupted with such points. But now they have been heard from - and no sign of the big transport. A widespread search is going on in the north Atlantic. By ship and plane, but the fear is the globemaster plunged into the storm-swept sea.)

ADD PLANE

The latest -- a report that wreckage has been sighted four hundred miles off the coast of Ireland, debris from an airplane -- and this ~~is~~ may be signs of a crash of the Globemaster.

## RAIN MAKING

In the State of Washington there's a battle between "wets" and "drys". But this has nothing to do with prohibition. The quarrel concerns that liquid of which the prohibitionists approve so much - aqua pura, water.

The battle has a <sup>broad</sup>~~board~~ meaning in a matter that, more and more is becoming of national interest - rain making. Some authorities are uncertain about the real effect of the new devices to make water ~~exit~~ fall from the clouds. But there are plenty of complaints from those who don't want it to rain!

In Washington the feud is between wheat and grain growers who pray for rain in September, and still more of it in October. They are the "wets". The "drys" are the fruit and bean growers, who don't want any rain at all between April and the middle of October.

Last year the "wets" installed rain ~~making~~ apparatus on Mt. Hood, Oregon, <sup>nearby</sup> and <sup>in</sup> Mt. Adams, <sup>in</sup> Washington. From powerful generators on those peaks they ~~seeded~~ seeded the clouds with silver iodide - the rain making

technique. That was followed by rainfall three and a half inches above normal - plenty of moisture for the wheat and grain farmers. But it made the fruit and bean growers scream - ~~the rain~~ <sup>-- all that rain</sup> hurting their crops.

So now they are putting up a threat to stop the whole thing. But how can they do it? There is no law to govern rain making, and the generators are still on Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams, ready to seed the clouds again with silver iodide. But the "drys" have a scientific scheme ~~one~~ of their own. They say they will install more powerful generators to seed the clouds more strongly - so the rain will fall in the mountains, before it reaches the lowlands, where the farms are located.

Rain-stoppers versus rain-makers, and the fear is that if the "drys" are successful, they may dry up large areas extending through several states. *Reminding us once more - if we need to be reminded - of what a delightfully cozy world this is.*

CRIPPLE CREEK

When I was <sup>on top of the Rockies at Victor and</sup> ~~at~~ Cripple Creek early last week, <sup>at Cripple</sup> a water shortage was on - and today inhabitants of that famous old gold mining camp learned the painful truth. They will be having a water shortage for some time to come -- all the more serious because of the great New Carleton gold processing mill, which we dedicated and which promises to renew ~~XXXX~~ prosperity and population.

The Cripple Creek reservoirs were frozen, but the weather has turned mild, and water commissioner Tom Fay went out to make a check. He found the ice was thawing, but he also found something else. "There isn't anything under the ice" says Tom Fay in a tone of dismay. While frozen over during the winter the reservoirs were drained dry.

The cause? Leaks were found. The underground pipe had been leaking so badly that nearly all the water <sup>ran out</sup> ~~has been lost~~ - and has not been replenished, because of an unusually dry season.

One leak was so bad the local people thought it was a natural spring. Water from the ~~pipe~~<sup>dam</sup> spouted out of the ground, and was mistaken for one of the springs common in the mountains.

So today they were plugging up the leaks, and in time the reservoirs will fill up again. But, meanwhile, they are having to import water - and Cripple Creek is on rations of H-two-O. *Life* it was in the boom days, before reservoirs were built on Timber Peak. My mother - and all others - bought water at 5 cents a bucketful. So a bath even on Sat. nite was a luxury - like bathing in champagne.

## BOY

At Redwood City, California there is a fifteen year old boy who today is wearing a badge of an honorary sheriff; Alvin Julian, a negro boy, tall and skinny. At fifteen, he is five feet eight and about as wide as a pencil. <sup>TP</sup> At ~~the~~ Sequoia High School he is the boxing champion at a hundred and twenty pounds. Five-eight, and a-hundred-and-twenty! - that shows what a bean pole he is. But it also explains why <sup>he is</sup> ~~xxxxxx~~ the local hero - sporting a sheriff's badge...

A baby fell down a drain pipe, for a drop of ten feet - and the drain pipe is a foot wide. The mother called for help - and it was evident that the only way to save the child was to lower somebody head first into the pipe. No man could possibly get into it, so they tried boys, holding them by the feet, and lowering them. ~~The~~ Three boys, in succession, couldn't make it. They couldn't squirm down into the pipe only twelve inches wide.

That was when Alvin Julian came along, the long lean bean pole. The only hope - that skinny. So

they tried Alvin - and it took three attempts, but finally he made it. Able to squirm down into the pipe, while they held him by the ankles - his long arms able to reach the baby ten feet below.

The child was bruised a bit, but <sup>recovered</sup> ~~came too~~ quickly -- after which Alvin scampered away. It took several hours to hunt him down and take him to the Sheriff's office, where the badge was pinned on his shirt - making him an honorary sheriff of Redwood City.

## ANIMALS

In British Columbia they shot seven dogoyotes. The strange name means - a cross between a dog and a coyote. On Lulu Island, <sup>off the coast of the Brit. Col. mainland</sup> there has been a reign of terror among the chickens in the barnyards - because of raids by the dogoyotes. So hunters have been trying to exterminate the strange hybrids.

It seems that a ~~am~~ female coyote started associating with local dogs, and the result was one litter, ~~ixxxx~~ after another of cunning, predatory cross ~~breeds~~ breeds. Earlier this week they succeeded in shooting ~~the~~ the mother coyote that <sup>started</sup> ~~caused~~ all the trouble, ~~and which promises to end the plague.~~ However, the raids on the hen houses are still continuing, thus indicating that some <sup>of the</sup> dogoyotes are still ~~xxx~~ ~~coming~~ ~~around~~ at large on Lulu.

## CROCODILE

At Cincinnati, Cleopatra's appetite finally caught up with the old girl, and she is a victim of her greedy relish for bottles, bricks and hunks of rock. Cleopatra is the crocodile at the Cincinnati zoo that rose to headlines last year when she had an operation -- the only crocodile to undergo major ~~XXXX~~ surgery. At that time, it was the same story - Dr. Karl Pleuger removing three pop bottles, three other broken bottles and thirty nine stones from the ~~XXXXXX~~ stomach of the huge reptile.

Equally remarkable was the fact that she was then, for the first time, called Cleopatra. Previously she had been christened with another name. When the people of the zoo got the huge crocodile from Egypt, they were under <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ false impression. <sup>And they</sup> ~~So that~~ named the croc Mark Anthony. It was not until the operation was performed that the truth was discovered, and they had to change the name from masculine to feminine. So Mark Anthony became Cleopatra - a transformation which would have astonished the Greeks and the Romans,

not to mention Shakespeare.

But though her name was changed, Cleopatra didn't change her diet. Yesterday she succumbed to her greedy appetite, and today they found in her stomach three bottles, a hunk of rock - and a brick. One of the bottles had lodged in such a way as to prove fatal.

The original Cleopatra, Queen of the Nile is said to have drunk a toast with a priceless pearl dissolved in vinegar. A strange sort of diet - but Cleopatra of Cincinnati went her one better.

Now, from Cleo - to you, Nelson.