

EISENHOWER

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General Eisenhower has landed at Guam; in the Marianas - on his homeward flight. Flying there directly from Korea - a hop of more than two thousand miles over the Pacific.

At Guam he descended from his plane and boarded a cruiser, U.S.S. Helena. The cruiser will carry him from Guam to Hawaii, a voyage of some 6 days - to Hawaii. From there to the mainland - we don't know.

News about our President-Elect's broke this morning and the stories about it are still pouring in. As soon as he was safely on his way home, the veil of censorship was lifted. And now comes an avalanche of information - the word for which the whole country has been waiting - much of the rest of the world waiting for it also.

Gen. Ike made the trip accompanied by Charles E. Wilson, who is to be his Defense Secretary, - also by General Omar Bradley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

After seeing the situation at first hand, the President-elect makes two declarations on future policy:- In the first place, he believes that America should increase her aid to Korea. Secondly, wants and he is determined to keep the war from spreading.

General Eisenhower warns that there is no easy way to victory. He has, -here are his own words, "no panaceas, no trick ways of settling any problems." But he feels that much more can be done, and he promises to see that it is done.

The General obviously thinks that the trip was worth while. He now has, he told reporters, "a better understanding of many factors that will be important to my associates and myself, and to everybody here during the months to come."

EISENHOWER TRIP

Although the Eisenhower trip was top-secret, it was fully covered by reporters-press, radio and newsreel. Merriman Smith, of the United Press, today got out his own reporter's diary which reveals the main facts.

According to his diary, it was November Thirteenth -22 days ago - that Jim Hagerty, General Eisenhower's Secretary, advised reporters to have inoculations - get ready for Korea. Then on November Twenty-Ninth, Hagerty and a Secret Service agent accompanied the reporters to an Air Force base, Mitchel Field, Long Island. There the pressmen filed up the steps and into a Constellation. Alongside they saw the Eisenhower plane, although no sign of the General himself.

Off they went -non-stop to Travis Air Base in California, landing about a half hour behind the General's plane. From Travis Air Base, they flew on to Honolulu. Their plane already littered with typewriters, shoes,

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sweaters, and other articles which they decided to take along, says Merriman Smith, winging on West from Honolulu, next stop Midway Island - and still no sign of General Eisenhower says the U.P. correspondent, but both planes refuelled, and took off again. This time they became separated, temporarily, for the press Constellation developed engine trouble and had to put down at Wake Island for repairs.

Meanwhile, General Eisenhower-yes he was in the other plane - went on to Iwo Jima, where the reporters caught up with him some five hours later. On Iwo, the visited famous Mout Suribachi with its volcanic fires still smoking. From Suribachi Gen. Eisenhower looked down on the scene of the Marines great victory in World War Two. He went up the mountain twice, the second time at the request of the press photographers.-with the General Charlee Wilson and General Bradley.

After the jeep ride up Suribachi, the new Defence Secretary said he wanted to swim. So a swimming party was arranged, with General Ike remarking: "You energetic fellows do what you want. I'm going to loaf."

From Iwo, in the Bonines, they flew direct to Korea to an airport near Seoul. Merriman Smith says that neither General Mark Clark nor General Van Fleet was on hand. That for security reasons, Eisenhower came out of his plane wearing the tan camel's hair topcoat and khaki muffler which became so famous during the political campaign. He was driven directly to the quarters of General Van Fleet. There he and his party met with Van Fleet and Mark Clark, for preliminary discussions on the situation in Korea.

The next three days were the period of the President's tour of Korea, during which he visited American, British, and South Korean troops, reviewed battalions

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representing fifteen nations, watched our planes as they blasted enemy positions only five miles away. He saw the wounded just back from the front, and he looked over the South Korean trainees preparing to go to the front.

One of the high spots for our next President was when he met his son, Major John Eisenhower, who is serving with the U.S. Third Division.

The General of course was welcomed by South Korean President-Syngman Rhee, and members of his government. But most of the time he was on the move seeing as much as possible, in the time scheduled for the Korean journey that has been the talk of the nation since before the election-since he said he was going. On the last day, he held a press conference and talked about his impressions of Korea. But at this session it was stipulated that there would be no questions asked. After his call on President Syngman Rhee secrecy descended again, to conceal his departure, as it had concealed his arrival.

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So ends Merriman Smith's dairy of the trip, as it came in over my press wire - giving us a brief running account of one of the number one hush-hush trips of our time - or since World War Two.

KOREAN TROOPS follow EISENHOWER TRIP

During the political campaign, General Eisenhower asserted that more South Korean soldiers should be defending their own soil. This remark caused much discussion. So there is a particular interest in what ^{he} ~~the~~ saw of the ^{local} ~~ROK~~ ^{there} forces, ~~on~~ ^{at} the spot, in Korea.

The South Koreans put on a special display for him - a simulated attack on an enemy stronghold. ^{The General} ~~He~~ watched from an observation post as they ~~ROK troops~~ blasted the target with mortars, machine guns, and rifles. Then they worked their way forward until the objective was taken.

^{The President-Elect told} ~~Eisenhower told~~ Syngman Rhee that the behavior of the troops was fine. To their commanding general he said, "Don't be afraid to take that division anywhere."

(^{Sen. E.} The indications are that ~~he~~ stands by what he said ^{and that he} during the campaign. ~~He~~ regards the South Koreans as good soldiers, who should be given a greater role in the fighting.)

KOREAN PEOPLE follow KOREAN TROOPS

The only real disappointment in ^{connection with the} Eisenhower's trip —
concerns the Korean people. ^{The Gen. saw} ~~He saw very~~ little of the South
Korean man-in-the-street. He was continually on the move,
and he made no public appearance in Seoul. So all the
preparations ^{of} ~~made by~~ the people of South Korea's capital city
went to waste - the flags, and banners, the placards and
triumphal arches. No doubt ^{the visiting party} ~~he~~ saw some of this brave
^{as they} ~~spectacle as he~~ passed through. But ^{Gen. Mac} ~~he~~ had no time to ^{visit} ~~repat~~
^{with} the inhabitants of Seoul as ^{no doubt would have liked} ~~he might have wished.~~

However, they know that he understands their
problems better now. And they can take heart from his words, —
^{words:} "With respect to the economic situation, as you go around it
looks almost marvelous that these people can keep up their
determination and their health. It means, ^{he added,} of course, "that help
is going to have to come from the outside for a long time."

~~A striking tribute from our President elect to the
common people of a war-stricken land.~~

The fighting in Korea has slowed down following General Eisenhower's visit. But a dispatch tells us that two American soldiers have been awarded the Medal of Honor for their part in earlier battles. The tragedy is that both awards are posthumous, as is ~~almost always~~ ^{so often} the case with the Medal of Honor. The two men: Army private Mack Jordan of Collins, Mississippi, and Marine ~~Private~~ Corporal Jack Davenport of Kansas City, Missouri.

Corporal Davenport sacrificed his life for his comrades. An enemy grenade was hurled into their position during the night. Locating the grenade too late to throw it out, Davenport fell on it and the explosion killed him.

Private Mack Jordan was with his platoon when it launched a night attack near Kumsong. Heavy enemy resistance caused the platoon to retire. But Private Jordan went ahead by himself, ~~he~~ crept forward unnoticed toward a Communist machine-gun emplacement. Then hurling three grenades into the

position, he rushed forward firing his rifle. He knocked out the machine gun, killed five Reds, and drove the rest to cover.

But the enemy - Reds above him - rolled explosives down the hill at him, and he was critically wounded. He continued to fire his rifle, until his platoon came up. His comrades found a number of enemy dead in the trench beside Private Mack Jordan.

General ~~Douglas~~ MacArthur has a plan for ending the Korean War. Our former Commander in the Far East, refuses to reveal details of his plan. But ^{not a plan} ~~he indicates that it is not~~ identical with the ^{one} ~~plan~~ he drew up when he was in Tokyo.

In MacArthur's words, "the solution then available, and capable of success, is not now entirely applicable. A present solution," he goes on, "involves basic decisions which I recognize as improper for public disclosure or discussion, but which in my opinion can be executed without either unduly heavy price in ~~friendly~~ casualties, or any increased danger of provoking universal conflict."

(~~The implications of MacArthur's remarks are that he would be willing to discuss the matter with General Eisenhower. ^{Gen.} Which would be in line with Eisenhower's policy, of accepting advice, from any authoritative quarter.~~)

TUNISIA

In Tunisia, violence has reached a new high with one of the most atrocious murders so far. A dispatch from Tunis discloses that the body of a top Nationalist leader was found in a ditch, riddled with machine-gun slugs, and battered beyond recognition. He was Ferhat Hached, Secretary of the Workers Union. He also headed the Independence Party, which has long been demanding independence from France.

When the facts of the murder became known, the Workers Union called a general strike for three days. The French authorities replied with a dusk-to-dawn curfew, and placed heavily armed patrols at vital control points to prevent violence and sabotage.

The entire Tunisian police force is mobilized to find the assassins. A French spokesman suggests that they may be dissatisfied members of the Independence Party. But some Tunisians claim that the crime was committed by agents of the French in order to silence a spokesman for Tunisian independence. The victim had been invited to attend the U.N. debates on

~~Tonight the nation extends its sympathy to President and Mrs. Truman for the death of~~ the President's mother-in-law, Mrs. David Wallace died ^{today -} at the White House, [^] with her daughter and son-in-law at the bedside.

~~It has often been said that~~ Mrs. Wallace originally disapproved of her daughter's choice of a husband. That was back in Independence, Missouri, at a time when Mr. Truman was finding it hard to keep his head above water financially. Some citizens of Independence add, that Mrs. Wallace was the force that drove Mr. Truman to seek a place in the Senate, which led him eventually to the White House.

When Mr. Truman became President, Mrs. Wallace was a frequent visitor ^{and} to the White House, ~~where~~ a bedroom ~~suite~~ was always kept ready for her. ^{Her} ~~she had a~~ white frame house in Independence, ~~and~~ which was known as "the summer White House", because the Trumans visited there so often.

~~So passes Mrs. David Wallace, who saw her son-in-law rise from small time politics, in Missouri, to the office of President of the United States.~~

ITALIAN DEPUTIES

We all know that the Italians have fiery tempers,

And ~~that they~~ take politics ~~very~~ seriously. Put the two together

and you have the makings of a ~~fine riot~~ ^{rumpus,} ~~This is what happened~~

In the Italian Chamber of Deputies, ~~when~~ the Reds tried to shout down other speakers.

It started after the leader of the Communist Party insulted the Christian Democrats. A member of the Christian Democrats, a former Alpine ~~trooper~~ ⁱ, promptly charged the Communist benches, ~~the former Alpine~~ ^{trooper} ~~trooper~~ ^{floored} one Communist, and attacked another.

In a moment, other deputies were in the fray, turning the Chamber into a battleground. A United Press dispatch ~~says:~~ ^{says:} ~~describes the scene in these words:~~ "Inkwells started flying. The ornamental clock was hurled against the wall and shattered. Deputies picked up the pieces, and used them for ammunition." ~~The Chamber ushers tried to break it up, but they were overwhelmed."~~

Finally the presiding officer rang the siren which

~~is usually reserved for clearing the public out of the chamber.~~

~~And that stopped the fighting.~~ At least ten deputies and

ushers were injured during the riot. ~~One usher suffered a~~

~~possible concussion, and one deputy was hospitalized.~~ The

whole thing ~~is~~ described as the worst brawl in Italian

Parliamentary history. ~~Perhaps we should add that~~ ^{with} the session

~~was~~ suspended for the day - to allow those Italian tempers to

cool off. ~~before going ahead with the debate.~~

AIRLINER

A second Scandinavian airliner has taken off from Los Angeles, bound for Europe - by way of the Northern route which cuts the Arctic Circle. Two weeks ago the first plane made the trip. This flight is following the same route, by way of Edmonton, Canada, and the air base at Thule, in Greenland. And the plane is under the control of the same pilot. But this time only the crew ~~is~~ aboard. The ~~members of the crew~~ are studying ~~the~~ conditions of polar flying, adding more facts to what is already known.

The era of commercial flying ~~close to~~ ^{over} the North Pole ~~is here,~~ ^{draws nearer,} with officials of Scandinavian Airlines announcing ~~that~~ ^{Nelson, that} they have ~~already~~ ordered fourteen planes for ~~their~~ ^{trans polar} passenger service.

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