

L.T.-K. Tuesday, Aug. 11, 1953. (Tray, 7. 4.)

PRISONERS

The first troopship with ex-prisoners aboard, leaves Inchon for the United States. The "General Nelson M Walker" carrying over three hundred ex-prisoners; ^{also} ~~and~~ about one thousand troops being rotated after their tour of duty in the Far East. The ex-prisoners, all healthy enough for the sea voyage, four officers, and the rest enlisted men.

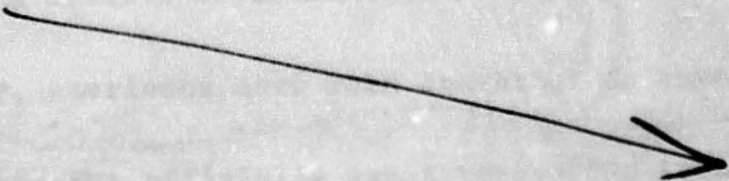
Among them are a few "progressive" - a contemptuous term that G.I.'s apply to americans who swallowed the Red propaganda line while they were prisoners. No word of how many "progressives" are on the troopship. And the army authorities say it would be unjust to call any of them "communist." However, the group is described as tense and frightened - ostracized by the other americans. Some of the "progressives" acted as informers, to win the favor of the Reds. The loyal G.I.'s resented this, as who wouldn't? We hear that there have been many threats against the "progressives" - patriotic soldiers anxious to avenge themselves on these traitors. The authorities are watching the situation to prevent violence.

sheet two-PRISONERS.

Returning prisoners say that most of the "progressives" remained with the Reds. But some were handed over in the exchange.

And now a few of them are bound for home aboard the General

Nelson M. Walker.



ADD PRISONERS

Last paragraph.

However, Washington warns us not to exaggerate the case of the "progressives". A defense department official says that very few, if any, Americans have been converted to communism. They are - here are the official's exact words - "So infinitesimal in number as to pose no problem."

The defense department admits that some soldiers weakened by the ~~harsh~~ harsh conditions of the red prison camps, may have been swayed by propaganda. But the general feeling in Washington is, that communist leanings will disappear when the GI's return to their families. According to one spokesman, the plan is to - here's how he puts it - "Let the American way of life speak for itself."

The defense department emphasizes that the whole problem is still vague. Because prisoners might have agreed with the red just to save their lives. We do not know yet if any are really believing - communist⁵, and the department asks us to keep an open mind with all the prisoners who return - because of the extreme hardships they have all been through.

RUSSIAN PLANE

Russia demands full compensation for that transport plane which american pilots shot down. The Soviets, claiming that the plane was on a routine flight from port Arthur to the Soviet Union. It carried fifteen passengers and a crew of six - and the Kremlin wants compensation for lives as well as for the plane.

Our ambassador to Moscow, Charles Bohlen, has replied to the Soviet note. He states that the plane was over Korea - in the war zone. Therefore, responsibility lies with the Russians. This leaves the question at the same stage as the American protest over our bomber that was shot down on July twenty - ninth, a B-50, hit by Russian fighters off Japan. Washington is demanding full compensation. But Russia states that the bomber was over Soviet territory at the time. So Washington and Moscow exchange identical demands. Compensation for a lost plane - and each denies the other's claim.

INDO-CHINA

The French army abandons the "verdun of indo-china." Troops pulling out of Nasam, high up in the mountains, a little over one hundred miles from Hanoi. The action, a military maneuver. The french high command emphasizes that the forces are being moved elsewhere for action, ~~not~~ retreating from the enemy.

It's all part of general henri navarre's new strategy—to hook out the Reds and to destroy them. So the french mounted a giant airlift. Within two days, a-hundred-and-fifty transport planes landed at Nasam. They picked up ten battalions, and flew them out. The Reds were taken completely by surprise. A unit of crack paratroopers had been prepared to meet any attack during the operation, but the airborne withdrawal was completely unopposed.

The evacuated troops will be used to spearhead further attacks against the enemy. General Navarre to use the ten battalions to attack by plane, tank and jeep, hitting the Reds unexpectedly and keeping them off balance.

So that's the end of Nasam, as a french fortress—for the time being at least. *And we hear that* →

Sheet two- INDO-CHINA.

Before the French troops withdrew, they destroyed the Verduan
of Indo-China."

AMERICAN FOOD.

American food is a ^{mighty} strong propaganda weapon in East Germany.

^{we are told} So stated by Hugh Baillie, president of the United Press.

~~In a radio interview,~~ ^{He says} Baillie stated that free food in

Berlin has caused excitement and unrest behind the Iron Curtain-

more than anything that has occurred since the Soviets occupied

their zone.

Hugh Baillie is just back from a ten-week tour of Europe, and in a telephone interview with Virgil Pinchley, ed. of the L.A. Times, ^{he} ~~said~~ ^{thinks} that his propaganda campaign is going well-the free food,

the radio broadcasts like the Voice of America, and the freedom

balloons aimed at Czechoslovakia. But he points out, that a

real revolution in eastern Europe would be very difficult, because

the government controls the army, the police, and all communications.

He remarks : "If there is any major upheaval behind the Iron

Curtain, it probably will result from a fight within ^{the Kremlin} ~~some~~ government

itself-with possibly the army on one side, and the police on the

other," or within the government of a satellite.

What about the Malenkov regime ? according to Hugh Baillie, Western

Europe feels that the Soviet leader is trying out various party

Sheet two--AMERICAN FOOD

lines. This, to find which is the best to follow. Thus, first of all we had the peace offensive. Apparently, "Malenkov was'nt satisfied with it. So he became tough, and mentioned the H-Bomb, which he claims russia has developed. And, the soviets shot down one of our planes off the Siberian coast.

Which sounds as if it may be some time before Malenkov adopts a definite policy. From what Hugh Billie ^{has to say, - if he reads} says, we'll just have to wait and see which one the soviet leader decides on.

the signs right

SOVIET

The soviet union is reported to be buying great quantities of food, especially butter. Already, over thirty thousand tons from Denmark, Holland, Australia, and New Zealand. And Australia reports that negotiations for two thousand tons more are under way.

This action of the kremlin, appears to follow from Malenkov's speech before the supreme soviet. ~~That~~ ^{He} ~~he~~ ^{promises} the russians more consumer goods. And so now he is trying to get the butter that can't be produced by the russians in sufficient quantities.

The soviets are also buying beef and lamb from New Zealand. Experts there note that the malenkov speech pointed out a shortage of livestock within the soviet union. So the soviet leader has to go abroad for meat as well as for butter.

Observers also state that Malenkov is being pressed by conditions in East Europe. Russia has promised to provide East Germany and Czechoslovakia with butter. Obviously he wants to prevent unrest as far as he can - by obtaining what he needs from abroad.

As we all know, the Communist regime has always minimized consumer goods in favor of heavy industry. But it seems that the people behind the Iron Curtain are demanding more now - and Malenkov is trying to give it to them.

FRANCE

Today, more than one million French workers went on strike.

And millions more are preparing to walk out in protest against the government of Premier Laniel.

The strike threat has been growing every since Laniel announced his financial reforms. There were various minor walkouts in recent days. But now the workers are dropping their tools in

^{en}
A mass - and ~~massive~~ we hear that union leaders are considering a general strike. Already the rail, postal, telegraph, and telephone systems are paralyzed. Moreover, the communists have *now* joined in the movement. The reds, fomenting labor trouble wherever ~~ever~~ they can.

The premier has protested. But, the strike continues to grow in magnitude. However, Laniel has not withdrawn his economic reforms, even though the fall of his government might lead to a more leftist regime.

One significant point - the ^{French} public is described as sympathetic toward the strike. The ordinary citizen feeling that the workers have a right to demand more in the face of a perpetual rising cost of living.

EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower calls for more economy in government.

The president, sending a letter to all departments, and to most a-gency heads. The letter asks for a reduction of expenditures in each case, and smaller requests for appropriations.

These economies, to take effect next year.

In his letter, the president states : "It is absolutely essential that you begin immediately to take every possible step - progressively to reduce the expenditures of your department during the fiscal year nineteen fifty-four."

According to press secretary James Haggerty, the president is trying to avoid a special session of congress. Such a session would be asked to raise the debt limit. The eisenhower letter might make the special session unnecessary - if it could bring about enough reduction of expenditures. But Haggerty added, that the president is not at all certain that the letter will be enough. If he can't achieve the economy he wants in this way, then the president will be forced to call that special session of congress.

STEVENSON

How does Adlai Stevenson stand with the Democratic party?

The question arises because the former candidate for the presidency will return to this country on September second.

Thus concluding his round-the-world tour. And party leaders are preparing a big reception for him. Adlai will make a

radio-television speech about his tour, ^{- of course,} The party will hold a fund-raising-at one hundred dollars a plate. And the Democratic National Committee will meet.

The reception for Stevenson, appropriate enough, since he is still titular head of the Democratic party. But a U.P. dispatch from Washington reminds us that he has rivals within the party-who would like to take the leadership from him.

According to the dispatch, one rival frequently mentioned in Washington is Senator Kefauver, the famous crime-buster from Tennessee. ~~But~~ we all know ^{how} Kefauver ^{hard} tried for the nomination that went to Stevenson in 1952.

So Adlai's backers want him to come forward as leader right away. They want him to speak on national issues, *and they want him*

August 11th, 1953.

^{to}
~~and~~ campaign for Congressional candidates. ^{Also} ~~and~~ address fund-raising
^{Then too}
dinners. They want him to stay in the public eye as the chief
spokesman for the Democratic party. Also, to establish contacts
with Democrats who may be delegates to the nineteen fifty
six convention.

Thus, Stevenson's arrival will be an important event for
the Democrats. So far Adlai hasn't said anything about the
plans his backers are making. It seems that he'll have to
declare himself very soon after arriving home - or else face
the danger that some one else may take his place as head of
the party. That's the issue that will face him when he comes
ashore ^{next} month to lead the Democratic party, or ~~not~~ ^{lead it -}
that is the question.

GROUSE

A dispatch from Edinburgh reveals that Scottish Grouse will appear in American restaurants - within twenty-four hours of the shooting. The season begins tomorrow. And, as they always have, Scottish hunters will be on the moors of Inverness-shire in their kilts and with their shot guns. Some of the earliest grouse taken, will be prepared at once, sent to Prestwick airport, near Glasgow, and flown to New York. Some of the grouse are expected to be on tables here in less than one full day. Jet planes, carrying one of the great delicacies of the gourmet from Scotland to New York - and quicker Mike, than many grouse will appear on the menu in Scotland itself.