

KOREA WAR LT. P. G. Thuro. Oct. 11-51.

The final battle for Heartbreak Ridge takes the form of a combined helicopter-tank operation. A fleet of helicopters carried a force of Marines to a strategic position for attack, while armored columns cut around the Red defenses, slashing at the Communists from the rear - as they did yesterday.

Twelve big helicopters did the transportation job, each carrying six fully equipped Marines on each trip. They made many trips today, running a shuttle service from a base at the rear to a point east of Mundung valley. Thus a thousand Marines were flown, seizing a strategic point. A helicopter trip took less than an hour - while to have transported the Marines in trucks would have required two or three days, that ^{Korean} mountain country being what it is.

While this was going on, the tanks, attacking the Reds from the rear, were hurling shellfire into their fortified positions -- preparing the way for an attack by the Leathernecks. This, it is hoped, will bring about the capture of the last Red positions in

the sector of Heartbreak Ridge. The final blow - a
helicopter-tank operation.

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FOLLOW KOREA

The latest, a dispatch stating that ^(American) ~~Hearts~~ and French troops have captured the last summit of Heartbreak Ridge - ending the bitterest battle of the Korean war.

... of armistice negotiations. But there was one point at which they could not agree - and that concerned the size of the ^(neutral) ~~area~~ for the parley. The Reds want it large, Supreme Commander ~~Midway~~ wants it small -- to minimize the possibility of incidents.

The Communist liaison officers propose that the question be put off, and left for the armistice negotiators themselves to settle - when they gather in formal meeting. But our liaison officers argued that the decision on the size of the neutral zone must be made before the truce talks, proper, could be resumed. The point must be settled in advance. No agreement. Result -- the liaison officers are meeting again tonight, about this time. None later.

KOREA TRUCE

(Once again the truce talks are tangled -- in a last minute snarl.) The meeting of the liaison officers yesterday was to have paved the way, finally, for a resumption of armistice negotiations. But there was one small point on which they could not agree -- and that concerned (the ~~size~~ size of the ^(neutral) ~~area~~ area for the parley. The Reds want it large, Supreme Commander Ridgway wants it small -- to minimize the possibility of incidents.)

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ATOMIC

In Congress -- a call for the use of atomic weapons in Korea. This, today, was urged by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, who presented arguments in favor of employing tactical atomic weapons - if these are now practical. That is, atom warfare on the battlefield. He said, likewise, there were strong reasons for using the atomic bomb, itself, in Korea.

All this developed as the Senate voted to share a certain amount of atomic information with friendly nations - but only such as does not pertain to atomic weapons. No atomic information of a military character - to be given. The purpose - an international exchange of atom data, according to the usual ways of science. Which would be of benefit to ourselves.

MANEUVERS

The war is over in Europe -- the sham battle, that is. General Eisenhower's West European army staged extensive military maneuvers, defending against a mythical invasion from the East. So, today, the result was announced.

The top command finds that the Eisenhower defense Army could not now stop a Red Army attack east of the Rhine. In the war games, the defense forces, a hundred and sixty thousand French, British and Americans, were spread dangerously thin. But, on the other hand, the Eisenhower Army has been gaining strength rapidly, and put up a much better defense than would have been possible in the past.

FOREIGN AID

(The House of Representatives passed the Foreign Aid Bill tonight -- putting in up seven and a half billion dollars for armament and economic support. The Senate now gets the measure providing all that help for the free nations in the face of the Communist menace.)

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MANPOWER

More men for the armed forces - so stated in Washington today. Half a million more needed - the total figure raised from three and a half million to four million. That many men are now required in the army, Navy and Air Force -- largely because of the new increase of the Air Force voted by Congress.

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APPROPRIATION

Congress today passed an appropriation for a huge total of Four and a Half Billions. Which, at the same time, came ⁱⁿ answer to a charge that one item in the bill would enrich the family and friends of President Truman.

The appropriation is mostly for building or expanding air bases throughout the anti-Communist world - both at home and ~~eg~~ abroad. One projected base is at Grandview, Missouri, near the President's home town of Independence. Which incited Congressman Gross of Iowa to point out that the Trumans and their friends own a lot of property near ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Grandview.

Actually, the President's boyhood home was at Grandview, not Independence - and his brother Vivian, and sister Mary Jane, still live there, owning property. We are told, moreover, that land near the site of the projected air base has been purchased by Enos Axtell, a Truman friend, who backed the President in the "purge" of former ~~Eng~~ Congressman slaughter of Missouri. Axtell, says Congressman Gross, plans - a housing project.

at ^{which} Grandview would increase the value of the property of the presidential family and friends. So the Congressman demanded the cancellation of nearly Thirteen Million Dollars appropriated for Grandview.

The answer was that the Air Force plans to build fighter interceptor bases near most of our large industrial cities - to guard against possible air attack. One vital area is the great railroad yards at Kansas City, a number one hub of communications. To protect this, the best site for an air base is Grandview - Trumans or no Trumans. Such is the verdict of the Air Force.

So the appropriations bill, passed by Congress today, includes money for big air base doings at the old home ground of the Trumans.

THIEVES

A huge scandal broke today, with the announcement of the arrest of thirty persons in the last twenty-four hours. In the last two months, one hundred and twenty have been arrested. This was disclosed by J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the F.B.I., who told of widespread thefts of government property. These have been occurring at army and navy and air force bases, and most of the prisoners are military personnel and civilian employees of the armed forces.

At Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, sixteen have been arrested - in the stealing of more than forty thousand dollars worth of army bedsheets. Truckloads of sheets were taken from army warehouses and driven to the gates of the camp, with the assistance of army military police -- so states J. Edgar Hoover.

At the Mare Island Naval Shipyard in California, the thefts included everything from lumber to bathroom fixtures, from guns to deep freeze units. Twenty-two arrested - including the chief, the Assistant Chief, and an inspector of the civilian

police department at Mare Island.

Dayton, Ohio, Wright Field -- ten thousand dollars worth of raw rubber taken from a government stockpile. Later - ~~xxxx~~ recovered in a Brooklyn garage - three locked up.

The ~~xxxx~~ largest robbery, according to J. Edgar Hoover, was at an Air Force base at Macon, Georgia. Half a million dollars' worth of electronic and radio equipment was ^{pilfered there,} ~~taken~~ together with quantities of nylon and pure silver. The F B I says that, on Monday, an Air Force sergeant, eleven civilian employees, and the operators of two supply firms at Macon will be put on trial.

These are examples of a long series of cases in a number of states - with one hundred and twenty persons under arrest.

TRUMAN

(President Truman came out today in disapproval of tax collectors who have outside jobs. This would apply, pointedly to the case of James P. Finnegan, former collector of St. Louis -- who is charged with granting tax favors to law clients. Finnegan admits he did have a law practice, along with his internal revenue job - but denies that, as tax collector, he was influenced in favor of people he represented as a lawyer.)

TAX

A joint committee of the House and Senate agree on income tax increase. Personal taxes to be hiked by eleven and three quarters percent. The rates ~~would~~^{to} go as high as ninety-two percent on incomes of two hundred thousand dollars and up. Which, however will not make matters much different for the lucky ones with top incomes -- or are they so lucky? Right now, they pay as high as ninety-one percent.

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MacArthur for Jeff.

MACARTHUR

(Milwaukee gives us a statement that General MacArthur favors - Taft for President. And - will ask his adherents in Wisconsin to support the Ohio Senator at the G O P national convention.) All this is on the authority of the Milwaukee Journal, which states the information comes from Lansing Hoyt, Chairman of a MacArthur-for-President Club. He talked with the General in New York on Tuesday, and is supposed to have relayed back the information:—
MacArthur out of the Presidential race, definitely -
MacArthur for Taft.

PERON

(Tonight the Argentine Chamber of Deputies granted President Peron a leave of absence until April Thirtieth - to do "whatever he sees fit") This is an astonishing move, ^{and} there is no explanation. It is only two weeks since there was a revolt against Peron, quickly suppressed. Argentine elections are a month away - and Peron's leave of absence will extend until five months after (that. Perhaps it is some gesture to advertise freedom of the election -- Peron in retirement when the voters go to the poll. But - nobody knows.)

NICE LADIES

From France, the story of the two nice ladies, wealthy, middle-aged, they lived in an aristocratic chateau, near the old city of Toulouse. Proper, dignified, kind and benevolent, they contributed generously to local charities, and the servants at the chateau said - they were ideal employers.

Today, the two nice ladies were sentenced to severe prison terms, after having been convicted of leading a ~~and~~ Jekel and Hyde existence. At the chateau near Toulouse, they were the height of gentility. Otherwise they were two of the cleverest of thieves. Both - with long ~~in~~ prison records.

The story tells how they first met in jail, half a dozen years ago, and formed a partnership, concocting as clever a scheme as crooks have ever thought up. Which they put into practice ^{upon} being released.

They pooled money they had left from previous roguery, and went to live at the stately chateau where they resided in appropriate style and middle-aged respectability - the two nice ladies.

From time to time, they'd go km off to Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, and change character completely - getting jobs as domestic servants in wealthy homes. Then it wouldn't be long - they'd vanish, and so would quantities of jewelry, money, silverware, and other valuables. The police hunted high and low for the two thieving servants, but who would suspect those nice ladies at the chateau near Toulouse?

They came to grief km only when a victim of robbery recognized a picture of one of them in the Roguss Gallery of the French police. The movements of the former women con^{sta} were traced, and the trail led ~~to~~ to the old chateau, ^{to} and the two nice ladies.

PRINCESS

The royal visit to Canada produces a sour note - but not because of any lack of ~~xxx~~ popular enthusiasm for Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh. It's the other way around. At Ottawa, people complain - the officials are monopolizing the show. Crowds can't see the heiress to the crown and her husband - so many officials crowd around them.

Today the newspaper, Ottawa Citizen, put it in these words: "The gay spontaneity of the tour was smothered before it began. The public slipped progressively into the background. Meanwhile, ~~officialdom~~ officialdom is having its field day."

Well, I don't know what they can do about it - unless they send a few thousand officials on a trip to Hudson's Bay or Baffinland, with ~~with~~ Arctic Commander Donald Mac Millan going along to show 'em how to ~~make~~ ^{make} igloos, Nelson, out of blocks of snow.