

LONDON L.T.P.G. Tues. Dec. 16 - '52.

In London - an announcement of the settlement of the great question. Not such a headline over here, but big news for the British, with their long pride in tradition of the Royal Navy. (The Mediterranean Commander for the Naval and Air Forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will be a British Admiral - Earl Mountbatten. Though - with a qualification. He won't have command of the American Sixth Fleet, stationed in the Mediterranean.)

This was announced in the House of Commons today - by Prime Minister Winston Churchill. He's our staunch friend, but he sure was against us in the argument over the Mediterranean command; Churchill, one time First Lord of the Admiralty. All the time - the personification of British pride in the Queen's Navee.

It was a blow to Churchill, almost jolting him out from behind his big cigar, when an American Admiral was named Commander of the Western power naval

forces in the North Atlantic. ^{Then - an} American Admiral was proposed for the Mediterranean, too. Churchill wouldn't have that - not by the memory of Blenheim Castle and the First Duke of Marlborough. But he had to accept a compromise. Lord Mountbatten to be the ^{Mediterranean} Sea Lord - but not over the American Sixth Fleet.

~~At the Nato Conference in Paris, meanwhile, it looks as if they'll slash the program for air base building - which Commander-in-Chief Ridgway called "rock bottom." He told the Ministers of the Treaty Powers that the plan, at a cost of four hundred and forty million dollars, should not be reduced. But the indications are that the final figure will be something like two hundred and thirty-five million. A little more than half of what Ridgway called - "rock bottom."~~

CHURCHILL

The Churchill government won a vote of confidence in the House of Commons tonight on the subject of Kenya and the Mau Mau. The point at issue was odd. The Labor Party ~~denounced~~ denounced punitive measures taken in East Africa - against whole native communities. That is, when people of a village collaborate with terrorists of the Mau Mau, the whole village may be punished. With - a "collective" penalty.

Colonial Secretary Oliver Lyttleton agreed that the idea of "collective" punishment was, in his words, "abhorrent". But he said it was necessary for the suppression of terrorist murder. Necessary - to save lives. This position was thereupon supported by the House of Commons.

~~Note to Mr. Thomas~~

~~The best story to drop would be NEWSPAPER and the last paragraph of LONDON may be dropped.~~

WINDSOR

The Duke and Duchess of Windsor will not attend the Coronation. So announced in Paris today. The Duke gives an explanation in the following words: "It would not be in accordance with constitutional usage for the coronation of a King or Queen of England to be attended by the sovereign or former sovereign of any state." So he won't attend, because he's a former King.

In London, experts on protocol agree - that no king ~~or former king~~ or former king has ever ^(attended) ~~attended~~ a British coronation. Foreign sovereigns do send representatives - but that's all. But the London ~~is~~ belief is that the protocol is more or less of an excuse - and that the real reason is the Duchess, for whom Edward the Eighth gave up his throne. ~~As a result of this he~~

We hear the Duke would not ~~would not~~ attend as a member of the royal family, unless his American wife were accorded the same rank and precedence as himself. Which would have placed her before the wives of his brothers, the Duchesses of Gloucester and Kent, and other royalty. ~~The Duchess of Windsor~~ ^{She} could be promoted to her

husband's rank, but the royal family, headed by the Queen,
is not willing. That's a London interpretation of today's
announcement. Which is all the more striking - because the Duke
says he'll be in London at Coronation time. But not - in
Westminster Abbey. ^{I suppose that means he'll} ~~he'll probably~~ watch it on television.

SHIP

At the Italian port of Leghorn, today, huge crowds were gathered - and they broke into thundering cheers. Thousands of voices shouting - "Bravo!" They might have been at a circus, or rather - an Italian opera.

That thriller of rescue came to a triumphant conclusion today - when American helicopters took off the last of thirty-nine sailors aboard a wreck. The U.S.S. Grommet Reefer, with a cargo of turkeys for American troops in Austria - blown by a violent Mediterranean storm, hurled onto a reef, where it broke in two. The stern of the vessel impaled on the reef, right in the harbor of Leghorn - only ^{one} hundred yards from shore. The tempest so violent, no boat could navigate that mere one hundred yards. A breeches buoy thrown over - three taken off safely. But then the breeches buoy snarled in the gale - and that was the situation, as we had it last night.

Today the storm was blowing still - though not with such fury. A launch of the Italian Navy was able to drive through the boiling sea, and reach the wreck. Fourteen sailors jumped

off into the cold, lashing waves. All - fished out of the water by the launch.

That left sixteen men on the wreck - which brought the climax. Overhead - a whirring sound of blades. Helicopters - dispatched from an American air station, ~~nearly~~ Four of the eggbeaters were coming over.

On the shore, six thousand people were gathered - watching. It looked as if all Leghorn was out - for this thriller of real life. The spectators could see ~~the~~ clearly - the stern of the American freighter wrecked on the rocks, just across the harbor. So now they were breathless, as the helicopters appeared.

They saw the first eggbeater swing out over the wreck, and come hovering down. A sight of supreme grace, lower and lower - until men began climbing a ladder lowered from the helicopter. That was when the crowd broke into a roar of cheering. A thundering chorus of Bravo for the exploit - as the first helicopter took off four men, and carried them

away. The other eggbeaters did the same, until the last man was removed. The last of the ship's crew to be taken off, according to old tradition, was the skipper - Captain Henry Saukant of Brooklyn.

Then the crowd went home, after having seen a show - better than any opera.

TITO FOLLOW SHIP

(Tito of Yugoslavia denounces the naming of Archbishop Stepinac as a Cardinal.) The Dictator of the anti-Soviet Communist country describes the action of Pope Pius the Twelfth as a "hostile gesture" toward Yugoslavia.

(Archbishop Stepinac is, of course, the prelate who served five years in a Communist prison. Released last year - ~~XXXXXX~~ but confined to a Yugoslav village ever since.)

The Tito government insists that it will never recognize the newly named Cardinal as the Archbishop of Zagreb - which is his ecclesiastical post.

KOREA

(Air battle ^{again} blazed on high in Korea. ~~again today.~~

The Reds came down from the Manchurian sanctuary in force - for the second day. American Sabrejets met them in a series of engagements) at altitudes up to forty thousand feet. Six enemy jets destroyed or damaged - with American pilots claiming other victories, still to be verified.

On the ground - prison camp news. Vicious fighting among prisoners-of-war on Pongam Island, where a frenzied Red mutiny was put down yesterday, with gunfire - eighty-four rebel prisoners killed.

Today, the Communists, in the camp, turned their fury on prisoners who failed to join in the maddened outbreak.

~~many~~. Atrocities committed by the Reds on fellow captives.

Fights in the prison camp - following the mass insanity reported yesterday.

LATTIMORE

(A federal grand jury, today, indicted Owen Lattimore. Charged - with perjury, on seven counts. This, as a result of his testimony ^{Concerning Communism} before the Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee.)

The indictment includes accusations that the Far Eastern expert ~~was~~ lied when he denied that he knew various persons were Communists, when he denied a meeting with the Soviet Ambassador, when he said he had never handled ^{the} ~~correspondence~~ of a ~~one~~ time assistant to the late President Roosevelt. Also that he testified falsely when he said he had not been a promoter of Communism and Communist interests.

(Owen Lattimore ^{for some years} ~~is~~ now a professor at Johns Hopkins University, ~~he~~ was connected with the Institute of Pacific Relations, an organization charged with pro-Communism. At one time he was a consultant to the State Department on Far Eastern affairs,) and was deputy chief of the Office of War Information in World War Two.

Charges against him were first brought by Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin - after which Lattimore was cleared

by a Congressional Committee. But there was another investigation, and now a federal grand jury indicts him on charges of perjury in connection with Communism.

This follows a verdict announced last night - against John Carter Vincent, a State Department official also named by Senator Mc Carthy. The President's Loyalty Committee declared that the diplomat was not a good security risk, and the State Department immediately suspended him.

ARMY

The Army has ~~reprimanded~~ ^{admonished} Lieutenant General Lewis

Pick - in the case of those North African air bases. General Pick was in charge of construction, and the Army says he supervised the job improperly. At the same time, the General is

"admonished" for having testified improperly before a Senate Sub-Committee. That group accused him of trying to cover up

waste and extravagance in the building of five U.S. air bases in

North Africa. This comes as ^{of World War II fame} General Pick retires as chief of

Army Engineers. — ^{one of the great road builders} of all time!

EISENHOWER

President-elect Eisenhower will take no part in the selection of a Republican floor leader in the Senate. So stated, today, by Senator Frank Carlson of Kansas - after a conference with the General. He says that Eisenhower will not play any part in the reorganization of the new Senate - under Republican leadership.

All of which bears on the question of Senator Taft. Will he be chosen Senate leader? Senator Carlson, after his talk with General Eisenhower, stated: "If Senator Taft wants to be Senate leader, I assume he will be - and, personally, I would be for him."

(Meanwhile, there's no new word about the meeting between the President-elect and General Douglas MacArthur.

~~Jim Haggerty, Eisenhower Press Secretary, was asked - had they already had their conference? He said - No. And - left the time of the meeting in doubt, when General MacArthur is to present his plan for ending the Korean War.)~~

CHILE

The news wire, today, revives an old argument - about the origin of chile con carne. Who invented that spicy, peppery dish of the Southwest?

The question comes up, following the death of a Texas newspaperman, Joe Cooper, known as - the apostle of chile con carne. He wrote a book about it. Like all Texans, of course, he spurned the concoction you'll find in California, called - chile. ~~But~~ really - a beef stew, flavored with ~~that~~ Mexican pepper. The authentic brand is - Texas chile.

The commonest version is that the fiery dish was invented in the cattle country of Southwest Texas - where the cow-hands lived out of a chuck wagon, and learned to cook up chopped beef with chile pepper and beans, those Mexican frijoles.

A more exotic story relates that chile originated among Canary Islanders - in Texas. It seems that, in times gone by, there was a colony of natives of the Canaries out near San Antonio, and they had the inspiration to cook chile con carne. That's one theory.

In all the dispute, however, there's one thing on which everybody agrees - you don't find chile in Mexico, *just as you don't* ~~any more than you can~~ find chop suey in China.

Will Grant, a Texas newspaperman, tells ^a ~~the~~ story of disillusion - on that subject. "Once," he relates, "we went ~~down~~ ^{down} into Mexico - thinking that here we were in the home of real chile. So we'd be able to get the best. We went to a restaurant," he goes on, "and asked for chile. They looked at us in amazement. Finally, we found a place that had some. ^{- packed} ~~Know~~ where it came from? Out of a can ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ Austin, Texas."

All Texans are of the unanimous opinion that the best of all chile is found in Texas. Not fixed up by a ^{- Nelson -} Texas-Mexican cook either. The true Texan, is likely to sigh for ~~some~~ - the chile mother used to make - ^{via the Canary} *Islands.*

NEWSPAPER

In Washington, today, political dignitaries paid homage to a newspaper. The Washington Evening Star - which celebrates its One Hundredth Birthday. ~~The~~Star

Oldest newspaper in the national capital, the Star was founded back in Eighteen Fifty-Two - the year Franklin Pierce was elected President. In the days - when the great controversy over slavery was mounting to the crisis of the Civil War.

(Today President Truman sent his congratulations to the newspaper - and his message recalls that H.S.T. has often been a severe critic of the press. To Publisher Samuel Kaufmann he wrote : "I sometimes disagree with Star editorials. Nevertheless, I've always felt that the Star is one of this country's great newspapers."

I don't exactly remember, but I think that in the recent election the Star supported General Ike. Who, by the way, added his own voice to the chorus of congratulations today.

The President-elect hailed the newspaper's "long and honorable history."

The Army chimed in, presenting a "Certificate of Appreciation". The ceremony at the Pentagon was, actually, a double-barrel affair. The Army presented the Certificate of Appreciation, likewise, to Lyle Wilson, Washington Manager of the United Press. Lyle Wilson - who has covered the national capital news for twenty-five years.