

CHINA.

July 16, 1954

Reports are - that Mao Tse Tung is having trouble with his army. Word at Fernesa tells of the arrest and the dismissal of top-ranking generals. First on the list - General Lin Pian, Commander of the Fourth Field Army. Said - to have got in a quarrel with Mao Tse Tung, who had him put under arrest.

5 Another Field Army Commander - fired. Still another - said to have been dismissed.

The news dispatch states: "Mao has tried to keep a tight grip on Army leadership - to avoid the danger of building up a Chinese Napoleon, and to prevent the emergency of a lot of War Lords." All of which is in line with Communist theory - and the old ways of China.

The Communists have always reckoned with possible - "Napoleonism." Noting - how the French Revolution produced its Bonaparte, the Revolutionary

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General who made himself Emperor. Stalin, as we recall, was wary of his military Commanders. Making sure - they didn't rise too high.

Mao Tse Tung must consider an added Chinese angle. The tradition of the War Lords - military Commanders, who made themselves independent rulers in their own districts. So the Communist Big Boss must reckon, not only with a possible "Red Napoleon." But also - with a danger of Communist War Lords.

## McCARTHY.

The McCarthy Hearings in Boston, scheduled for tomorrow, have been cancelled. The Wisconsin Senator yielding to an objection made by Knowland of California, Republican Leader in the Senate. McCarthy was to have begun hearings on Communist infiltration of Defense plants - a subject that raised ructions in these McCarthy Hearings. But now there's a delay.

In the Senate, today, Flanders of Vermont was renewing his attack on McCarthy, and said - he'd raise an objection to the Hearings in Boston. Which was to the point - because the unanimous consent of the Senate is ~~needed~~ needed when an investigation is taken out of town. Senator Flanders But ~~McCarthy~~ was promptly interrupted by Knowland of California. Who said - he, too, would object. In fact, he had already talked with Senator McCarthy, and asked him to cancel the Boston Hearing. McCarthy - agreeing.

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The word is that McCarthy may go ahead with the investigation - by transferring it to Washington on Tuesday.

**ADD MCCARTHY**

A later dispatch indicates that Senator Flanders has abandoned his effort to strip Senator McCarthy of his investigating authority. Instead, he'll offer a resolution merely censuring McCarthy.

## ARMY - COMMUNISM

The Army announces that four employees at Fort Monmouth have been fired -- as security risks. Two -- reinstated.

Fort Monmouth was, of course, the cause of the row between the Army and Senator McCarthy. And, at the big television show, McCarthy repeated over and over -- that his investigation had resulted in the suspension of thirty-five alleged subversives.

So now the Army reports on the suspensions. Four dismissals -- two reinstatements. Sixteen cases are still under investigation. Still other employees charged with Communist associations have been put on "non-sensitive" jobs at the secret laboratories of the Signal Corps.

## **AIRBASE**

From Randolph Air Base, in Texas, comes a remarkable statement about what they're calling -- a "furlough ring." Which sold furloughs, and got overseas orders cancelled -- for a price. A sergeant and an airman second-class have been taken into custody.

We're not told just how the game was worked, except that it was possible because of the "looseness of procedure." It went so far, we hear, as to sell "special arrangements" to keep airmen overseas. At the behest of enemies. Apparently, if somebody didn't want somebody to come home right away -- a bribe would fix that.

It remains to be seen how much of a scandal there is in the ~~sketchy~~ sketchy brief report, issued at the Randolph Air Base.

## EXPLOSION.

At Chestertown, Maryland, a plant blew up, today. A plant - manufacturing fireworks and munitions. The latter - detonators for the Army. A dozen buildings blown to bits in a series of blasts. Ten persons killed. Twelve missing - and it's a wonder the death list is not greater. There were two to three hundred workers in the plant - when the explosions began.

The whole place engulfed in flame - the heat from the burning powder so intense, the firemen were unable to get near the blaze. For a while it looked as if the whole town of Chestertown would be destroyed, <sup>and</sup> there was a flight of panicky people - jamming streets and bridges. However, the fire department was able to check the sweeping flames, before they set the whole town on fire.

The people of Chestertown say - it looked like an atomic attack.



## PANAMA CANAL

9 Down in the Canal Zone, they've begun a dynamite operation on a huge cliff. Called - "as delicate as cutting a fine diamond." Blasting - enormous masses of rock. But a small mistake might spell disaster for the Panama Canal.

When they dug that mighty ditch, half a century ago, one of the great problems was at the place we now call - "Culebra Cut." Where the engineers - had to slice through a massive ridge. Today "Culebra Cut" is a canyon. One side of which is "Contractor's Hill." That's where the operation is now being performed. To keep - a million cubic yards of rock from sliding down into the canal.

Long ago, it was noticed that a fissure had appeared in "Contractor's Hill." A split in the rock - which was growing wider. Four months ago, the fissure looked so bad - U. S. geologists were flown to the Canal

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to make a study. They found - the split in the rock extends down for seven hundred feet. Tropical rains fill it with water, and this widens the crack. So that now the entire face of "Contractor's Hill" threatens to split off - and go tumbling into the Canal.

The geologists recommended - a "hill-shaving operation." That is - remove more than two million cubic yards of rock. The surgical instrument - dynamite. The estimate being - that a million pounds of dynamite will be used.

One mis-placed blast could start a rock slide, that would block the Canal for fifteen months.

## RAFT.

It looks as if the raft "Lehi" will just go drifting around in the Pacific. The Coast Guard refuses to make a search for the contraption. Aboard which ~~xxx~~ five men set <sup>sail</sup> ~~xxxx~~ ~~that~~ ~~to~~ bound for Hawaii. They didn't get far from the California Coast, and the Radio Operator in the party expresses no admiration for his companions, ~~who are~~ in charge of navigation. He says, "They could <sup>not</sup> navigate their way out of a garage with the door open." They, in turn, say the Radio Operator was no lion of courage. *Sea lion*

Devere Baker, leader of the luckless expedition, wants to get his raft back. But the Coast Guard says - a search would be just a waste of money.

IRVING BERLIN.

Irving Berlin had a talk with President Eisenhower, today. But you'll have to ask the President - what was said. The songwriter was invited to the White House, where the President signed a bill passed by Congress - awarding a special gold medal to the sixty-six year old veteran who wrote, "God Bless America."

Later, Irving Berlin was asked - what had he and the President talked about. He replied - he didn't know. "I was so emotionally filled up, I don't remember," said Irving Berlin.

I was emotionally filled up —  
from — passed Chamorro's — the  
Chamorro's cause then  
the jugs singing Mr Berlin's  
God Bless America