
Soviet Russia offers to return to the
United States one hundred Emsxict and six naval vessels

- lend-lease handed over to them during the war. This comes in a surprise move - the whole business of Russian lend-lease having been deadlocked ever since the conflict ended.
(We turned over to them six hundred and seventy-one vessels, andnow the Reds explain that thirty-six were lost in the war. Twenty others - in the last several years. Ninety unfit for service. Another one hundred and seventy-one, called simply -unfit. So they say they will hand back -- one hundred and eighty-six.

> All this transpired at a meeting today,
which followed a Soviet message - resuming negotiations.
They also repeated an offer to settle the money side
of lend-lease -- with a payment of three hundred million dollars. Which comes to less than three percent of the eleven billion dollars worth the Russians got in the war. ExEtER We've been demanding little enough,

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eight hundred million dolbr, less than ten percent But, in today's meeting the Reds showed little sign of increasing their offer.

II
(Today Moscow delegate to the UN called a
security council meeting to discuss - germ warfare.
Sounds like more Red propaganda - which it is.
Russian delegate Malik takes action - as
presiding officer of the council. That post is
rotated, and his for in came this morning. So Kalif is in
the chair, and uses that place for his own propaganda
purpose.
He made the move in a quiet way today - with a mild resolution. This connected with a Geneva protocol antiontawing bacteriological weapons - signed by the United States, but not ratified. So, with an innocent air, Haik summons the Security Council to consider the protocol. slick device to get some Red propaganda going.

## KORT-NRUCE

In the truce tents at Pan Mun Som, the charge was made that the Red authorities, while talking truce, deliberately fomented the prisoner matinees on tin mojo Island.) U.S. negotiator General William K. Harrison, today told the Red delegates: "You have chosen to direct your captured personnel at Koje to endanger their lives to further your nefarious schemes." He said they did it for propaganda - and to drag out the Korean war.

## KORT-PRISONERS

The moving job is being completed on Kopje
Island- the Reds ordered out of three more compounds.

Ho resistance expected. Commander General Boatner says
he will send the Chinese prisoners-of-war off the
island altogether, transferring them to the mainland.
On the war front, the Reds are still trying
to knock the Oklahoman off three hills west of Chorwon. Masses of Chinese have been trying for a week - and this time were able to break the contact between two regiment of the forty-fifth division. But, just the same, they were beaten back - and, at last reports, the Oklahoman were still on top of the the three hills.

## FORM- EXPLOSION

> three Pepetper The big ire in Korea, weal
still burning - at the largest American ammunition dump. This morning, huge masses of shells, rockets and bombs erupted in a mEEting series of explosions, one American soldier killed, two missing, twenty-eight injured. The explosion hurled shells as far as two miles, while rockets went zooming skyward in ec crazy patterns.

Eighth Army Commander General Van Fleet says the blast was probably caused by an accidental fire;
-- but therg's an investigation for possible sabotage,
any how the necuet ca the ax me! Troops were mobilized to battle the blaze, but it wasn't much use, officicers declared it was almost impossible to bring the mass of exploding ammunition under control -- and the fire would have to burn itself out.

Sweden summoned the Soviet Ambassador to his office, and protested - against Red espionage. This, as a spy trial began, the biggest in the history of sweden. seven-facing the court. The chief defendant, a swedish newspaperman, who fiat pleads guilty of a whole series of charges. All - connected with military secrets transmitted to Soviet Russia.
At the same time, (Sweden also protests
the shooting down of an Ex unarmed plane by Russian
jet lighters. An American-made Catalina flying boat, hunting over the Baltic for possible survivors of still another plane) missing since Friday. Russian jets attacked, and shot down the search plane. Crew of seven aboard - and a later dispatch states f hat Two Sweden all have been picked up. gate injured by gun pile.

## ADD Byf. 5 R

A late dispatch from Stockholm tells of a
wave of anti-Soviet indignation, because of the shooting down of the plane. Crowds jeering or hooting at the Moscov Ambassador, when he appeared on the street.

## Things were quiet in Rome to day - just

another morning and afternoon of sunshine in tine Eternal City. Ho Communist insurrection, no howling, riot of screaming Reds. Yet, (General Mathew Ridgway was in R one.

The Communist party in Italy had threatened a wild outbreak against the new commander for the Atlantic Treaty organization. To which the Italian government responded by mobilizing fifty thousand soldiers and police.) (Today, as the American General drove from the airport into the city, the route was lined with soldiers. Communist agitators - conspicuous by their absence. Deterred by the strong attitude of the government. And recalling - the crackdown on the communist party in France, following the antiRidgway demonstrations in Paris.)

## ADD STALE

Here's the latest. After nightfall, the
Reds tried to stage a surprise - two hundred appearing oz the Piazza Colonna, center of political life ty in Rome. They massed for a demonstration, but the Roman cops came swarming, and the outbreak lasted less than fifteen minutes. (scores of Reds arrested- the others chased away.)

Hew York City tonight is having a traffic
jam repetition of the frantic snarl this morning caused by the strike of locomotive engineers on the Long island railraod. Which line, of course, does an enormous commuting business - serving densely populated Long Island. This morning, tens of thousands had to find the other ways it to get to work, buses, private cars and subways. The same thing, getting home at night - same traffic jan.

The Federal government sent urgent appeals to the Union to call off the strike, but the head of the brotherhood of locomotive engineers declares the walkout might spread to sixty-three other railroads. He claims that these lines have not yet signed contracts according to terms agreed upon, recently, for a settlement of railroad wage tempt disputes.

## MARK AIRPORT

> The newark airport reopened today - but not much. The great fifty-four million dollarpflying 1901d, with its miles of runways, was at available for business -- butfonly five small private planes landed and took off.

Officials declare that they don't expect mol activity until the airilnes have had a chance to make out new schedules - which will have to conform With new strict flying rules designed for safety of nearby conaunities, like Mowark and Elisabeth.

## Inti

Here's one for the book of -- courage.
There's an endless fascination in the many forms assumed - by the quality of valor. So here's a new one.

At North Luffenham, England, a squadron of
Jet planes landed today. sabre Jets of the Royal
Canadian Air Force - headed by Squadron Leader Cal
Bicker of Grenfell, saskatchewan. still in command that's the courageous part of it.

Cal Bricker organized the light. Obvious
tor the job -- because he was the only Canadian who had ever before 1 down the ocean in a jet plane.

 voyage, he got violent pains in the abdomen. At the first stop, a plight surgeon looked him over and saidappendicitis; And ordered hin - to a hospital for an operation.
"Not on your iffe", said Bricker. "I've been sty ti planning this operation for five months, and

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appendicitis is not going to stop me."
He made one concession. He turned his own
sabre Jet over to another pilot, and flew in a
transport that accompanied the flight. All the while -
giving directions to the jets. Which turned out to be most important - because they ran into bad weather all the way across.

At every stop, Labrador, Greenland, Iceland, they took the light commander to a hospital, where the doctors did what they could to reduce those aches and cramps.

So today they landed in England, where
Bicker was taken to a hospital - for an overdue operation.

## CRUM-LOTDOR

London has a sensational crime - with a Et z
story as dramatic and strange as you'll find in any
book. A thirty-six year old woman stabbed on a stairway
of the hotel in which she lived. Mrs. Christine ex te
Granville, a stewardess on ocean liners. she returned,
last FrIday, from a voyage to south Africa, aboard the
steamship Winchester Castle. The murderer - a jealous
lover, who was caught red-handed and confessed
immediately.
(Such were the superficial facts that
confronted scotland Yard detectives. But, soon, their
Investigation unraveled the identity of the victim who
turns out to have been a brillIant member of the
European aristocracy and a heroine of the second World var.)

She was the Countess skarber of Poland,
highly educated, a member of the International set,
In nineteen Ihirty-rine an was in East Afriog, on an adventurous jaunt - when the war broke out $\lambda^{\text {her }}$ wax
alive country ${ }^{\text {Invaded by Nazi Germany. Countess }}$

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skarbek offered her services to the British government -- and was sent to conquered Poland as a secret agent. The Nazi Gestapo caught her twice - but she escaped. she was assigned to the resistance movement in occupied France. Dropped by parachute, setting up radio conmuníqeation between the French underground and London.

Today, a former leader of the resistance declared: "I owe my life to her. One day, three of us vire arrested by the Maris, and condemned to be shot, that evening, an hour before the execution, she walked into the prison camp, and told the sergeant in charge: 'If you shoot them I will see that you are shot when the Americans get here." The sergeant, intimidated, called off the execution.

After the war, the Countess Skarbek was awarded the King George medal and the order of the British Empire. Both re presented to her, by King George the sixth. The French decorated her with the Groin de Glare.

Thereafter, she drifted around. Maybe 1110 vas too humdrum for the Polish Countess who had been a daredevil in war. She had married, but her husband vanished - and she became a stewardess on ocean liners. Hov - to meet her fate on the stairway of a London hotel.

But who is the assassin i That completes the strangeness of the affair. thanet $\Delta$ porter - at the The Ra form ia Reform Club in Pall Mall. (Gee of the most aristocratic Clubs in London, dating back to the great reform movenonf In the nineteenth Century. One of those unbelievably sedate and exclusive clubs - that you'il ind only in London. The porter - at the Reform Club - the jealous lover in the murder of the Countess skarbekp-hatine heroine of the Second World Var.

A new record is announced - and I shouldn't want to have heard it. In Germany, marathon piano playing. Some of us might find a two-hour recital at a concert hall - a bit long. But $\varepsilon$ German key thumper, Heinz Arntz, played the piano, continuously, for two hundred and twenty -four hours.

The details of the record-breaking music-
making are not given - only the fact that, without stopping, Heinz Arntz tickled the ivories for nearly ten days, at a restaurant. I vouldn't even want to hear Paderewski play the piano that long. Why I vouldn't even want to hear President Truman tickle the ivories that long -

Ivories - Irony - hum that item was made to order for passing the ball to you, Nelson.

