

RUSSIA

L. J. - Sunoco. Monday, March 18, 1946.

✓ The dispute between the Soviets and Iran will be laid before the Security Council of the United Nations, whether the Russians like it or not. Although the Russians said they would consider ^{this} ~~it~~ an unfriendly act, the Iranian government still is determined to bring it up at the next meeting of the Council. And if Moscow succeeds in intimidating Teheran, Britain and the U.S.A. will ask to have the matter considered ~~XXXX~~

The British delegate to next week's meeting of the Council in New York will bring a formal accusation against Russia of ^{treaty} ~~violation. ~~the treaty~~~~ The British Foreign Office holds that so long as this breach of the treaty continues, the tension will continue in Persia.

All this we heard last week, but, a story from London tonight makes it more emphatic, and the British Foreign Office continues to demand that Moscow explain why Soviet troops are still in Iran. Furthermore, on

March Ninth, Downing Street protested to the Kremlin against the removal of Japanese machinery and equipment from Manchuria.

Radio Moscow today repeated last night's broadcast, in which the Soviet government declared it had no intention of either seizing foreign territory or of enslaving other people. ^{That} The Soviet Union has all it can do to tend to its Five Year Plan. ^{Which,} admittedly, ~~this~~ is in essence a military plan, ^{with a large part} ~~for at least a part of~~ its purpose ^{the} ~~to~~ strengthen ^{ing of} the fighting forces of the Union to consolidate peace and security, and to create conditions which will prevent the resurrection of aggressive forces. The Russians were supposed to have withdrawn their troops from Manchuria on February First. But the British Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs told the House of Commons today that they have delayed in this also for what he called, "obscure reasons"

At the same time, some people think it is significant that the Soviets are finally withdrawing their troops from the Danish island of Bornholm in the Baltic Sea. The presence of those forces there has made the adjoining Scandinavian people exceedingly nervous. There is a probability that the Russians will make capital out of this withdrawal, by demanding that Uncle Sam remove his troops & from Iceland. A Swedish newspaper in an editorial asked the question: "If the Americans consider they need Iceland, the question arises why and against whom?"

ADD RUSSIA

In Washington today there was unofficial confirmation of this morning's story from London, the story that oil concessions are the nub of the whole affair. Before Stalin withdraws his troops, he wants petroleum. And it is on that basis that the United States will bring the/matter up before the Council next week. Evidently, John Bull and Uncle Sam agree that before the Soviets are given access to the Iranian oilfields, they must remove their troops from the country, ^{and} not exact concessions as a price for keeping their word.

SPAIN

★ Francisco Franco today published a booklet in his own defense. In it he denies he ever helped the Axis, and claims that his government had proof that Spain had been loyally neutral and that the charges in the American White Book, released by the State Department a few weeks ago, were false.

DRAFT

President Truman is worried lest Congress allows the Draft Act to expire. He held a meeting of party leaders in Congress today and told them it was highly necessary, in fact essential, for selective service to continue for at least another year. Without it, the government cannot insure the security of the nation nor instrument its foreign policy. And for these reasons Mr. Truman ^{also} wants universal military training.

~~1950~~

Experienced Washington observers report that the President will have to make the fight of his life to get Congress to go along with him on universal military training. In fact, some Senators are saying the best they ^{are} willing to give the President is an extension of the draft for six more weeks. ^{The other night} ~~the night before~~ ~~last~~ ~~night~~ ~~before~~ yesterday, Secretary Byrnes told us that the possibility of ~~the~~ armed forces falling below strength is ~~quite~~

UNRRA

The food crisis in Europe and elsewhere has come about partly because rationing and food controls were lifted too soon in the U.S.A. That's the opinion of former Governor ~~Herbert~~ Lehman of New York, ~~who now~~ ^{ing} retired as Director General of Unrra. ^{TP} In his farewell report, ^{Gov. Lehman} ~~he~~ told the Council that to save millions from starvation, the government may have to take strong measures, which will be politically unpleasant. It is to the interest of all countries concerned, ~~he~~ said ~~he~~, that they realize ^{how} ~~that~~ the failure to provide food for the starving cannot help ^{but} ~~lead~~ to widespread political instability.

In his report, Lehman said that some nations have already paid ^{out some} ~~in~~ ^{dollars} three billion for the relief work of Unrra. But many ^{nations} ~~of them~~ have not paid up ^{at all,} among them ~~is~~ Russia, ^{in spite of the fact that Russia} ~~which~~ has received help for its distressed subjects in wide areas of the Soviet Union.

BARUCH

There is one man in Washington to whom all people look up with respect, regardless of party. No fewer than six presidents of the United States have consulted him. And he is the man whom President Truman has chosen to be Uncle Sam's representative on the Atomic Energy Commission of the United Nations. His name? Bernard Baruch.

~~SECRET~~

The story from Washington reports that ^{Baruch,} the elder statesman, was ~~was~~ reluctant to undertake this task. He is seventy-five years old, and always has shunned public office, although always willing to render public service. He consented only at the urgent persuasion of Secretary Byrnes.

The appointment is exceedingly important the world over. All the other nations were waiting upon Uncle Sam to see what kind of a man would represent him on the Atomic Energy Commission. Baruch will be a criterion for all other governments. //

MAROONED

For years Mr. and Mrs. Roy Brown and ^{Roy's} ~~his~~ brother John ~~Brown~~ of Van Nuys, California, made their living fishing. Two weeks ago, they set out from Santa Monica in their forty foot vessel to fish in the waters off the Santa Cruz Islands, due west of Santa Monica. March Third a gale blew up. At half past nine in the morning, said Mrs. Brown, "all hell broke loose." In telling her experience, she hesitates to say how tall the waves were, they seemed fifty feet. One flooded the motor, another swamped the vessel.

The two men and woman got into the skiff. Forty feet away the skiff capsized. Mrs. Brown's husband and brother-in-law were drowned. She would have drowned too, but she saw a floating gasoline drum and grabbed it, though it cut her hand to the bone. She swam about seven miles, hanging onto that drum. ~~and~~

Finally she
~~was~~ was thrown ashore, wearing only a jacket;

thrown ashore on the

~~was~~ [^] rocky island, ~~of~~ [^] Anacapa, twenty-five miles west of Santa Monica.

When dawn broke, she tried to climb the cliff; but it was too steep. Then, the gale having subsided, she swam along the shore for four hours and saw four cabins up on the cliff. It was not quite so steep there, so she climbed up and found canned rations, tea, coffee, water, clothing, [^] medical supplies, even two packages of cigarettes. *On these* ~~there~~ [^] she lived for two weeks. As she grew stronger, she built [^] signal fires.

~~only yesterday~~ [^] Coast Guard boat saw her *has just* [^] signal and rescued her. ~~She was brought back to the~~ [^] mainland, with ~~her~~ [^] *The* husband and brother-in-law still missing.

ARMY

A board of six soldiers will investigate a complaint made by many thousands of enlisted men, what they call the caste system in Uncle Sam's army. Secretary of War Patterson took the initiative and appointed the board himself, and at the head of it is none other than Lieutenant General James H. Doolittle.

This board, ^{Sec.} said Patterson, will meet late this month. It will hear testimony about the difference between the treatment of officers and the treatment of men. It will hear testimony from both officers and enlisted men about housing, clothing, living conditions and the promotion system.

Besides Jimmy Doolittle, ^{on the board will be} former Lieutenant General Roy ^{who} Middleton ~~will sit on the board. He~~ commanded the Forty-Fifth Division in North Africa and Sicily. ^{also} Among the members will be Jack Lindsay of Lucedale, Mississippi, the hundredth man in the infantry

to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor, for killing
twenty Germans in one engagement ^{and} ~~besides~~ capturing others,
and taking four machine guns. ^{And} Lieutenant Colonel Robert
Melville, former editor of the STARS AND STRIPES in
Italy and once on the staff of YANK MAGAZINE, will ~~also~~
sit on the ~~the~~ board, which is instructed to recommend any
changes that it considers necessary. Said Secretary
Patterson, "The time to take stock is now while we are
planning for the future army."

COMMANDO KELLY

~~A~~ I wonder if you have been wondering, as I have, about what has happened to the men we heard so much about during the war, air aces, congressional Medal of Honor Men, and others? This weekend, at the Farm, *- and reading a pile of magazines* in going through my mail, I suddenly came upon the answer so far as one chap is concerned, the answer to the question: What has become of Commando Kelly of Pittsburgh? ^{TR} Commando Kelly has traded his Garand rifle, machine gun or whatever it was that he used to kill those forty Germans single handed in twenty minutes. ~~He~~'s turned in that gun for a grease gun. Kelly is running a filling station, in his home town. At the intersection of Allegheny and Western Avenues, in a section called the North Side, in Pittsburgh. *There* Kelly has what he calls his "post-war theater of operation". ^{TR} And business is booming for the sharp-shooter, keeping him and his brother Gene and several

other full time attendants on the run. In addition to his neighbors, who naturally patronize him, many motorists passing through Pittsburgh have discovered where he is and are dropping around to see what sort of a guy Commando Kelly is. ^P They find him a lad of twenty three, weighing just over ~~one~~^{two} hundred and fifty pounds; and, the report I get is, ~~that~~ he 's modest and unaffected. What does he talk to folks about? No not about his book~~s~~ entitled "One Man's War"; not about his ~~times~~ war-time adventures, and all the medals he won. ~~He~~ talks about the same thing Hugh James here has on his mind, These days -- Dynafuel. Commando Kelly is a Sunoco dealer, running a Sunoco filling station in Pittsburgh.

And my sponsors didn't ask me to mention *this* either. They never even told me ~~that~~ he was a Sun dealer. I found it out by accident. ^P I was interested ^{in this.} And I thought you might be too. Now,

Hugh, let's help Commando "Chuck" Kelly, with his post-war project. How about it?

MURDERER

The people of Paris today began the enjoyment of a court trial which the chief prosecutor described as "the greatest criminal case in all French history."

The defendant, Dr. Marcel Petiot, a stocky, swarthy, magnetic little fellow, ^{who} admitted ^{to having} ~~that he~~ killed sixty-three people. However, he is going on trial for only twenty-three of them. The reason he is so unblushing about it ^{all} is that he claims he removed his sixty-three victims from this mortal sphere for ~~statistic~~ patriotic reasons; ~~he~~ administered death, so he says, only to Germans and collaborators.

The hard headed ^d French Department of Justice declines to believe ^{this.} ~~it~~ The ^{or} prosecution declares that he committed those murders, not for glory, but just for ~~self-interest~~ ^{self-loot, robbery.} ~~plain common policy~~ Fourteen of them, says the procurator, were Jewish refugees who had paid Petiot handsomely to help them escape to Argentina. Then they disappeared.

In that Parisian courtroom are thirty-nine trunks and suit cases full of tangible evidence. Against the wall are also the wheel of a bicycle and a block and tackle, plus a glass case full of exhibits. No fewer than eighty witnesses are ~~present~~ ^{on hand} to testify.

As the trial opened in a jammed courtroom, Petiot, with the handcuffs off his wrists, ~~was completely~~ ^{seemed} at ease, chatting ~~easily~~ with his counsel, and full of a fine unctuous pride that he was the central actor at one of the most celebrated of criminal cases.

While the clerk of the court read the indictment, Petiot grinned ^{from} from time to time. ~~However,~~ ^{say, however, that} Reporters ~~noticed that occasionally~~ his legs trembled.

In accordance with French custom, the trial began with the presiding judge questioning the prisoner, ~~and in no friendly tones. He even went~~ ^{going} back to Petiot's record as a medical student. ~~At one time Petiot declared~~

in a loud voice that eight out of ten ~~statements~~
statements in the indictment were false. The presiding
judge told him to speak more quietly or he would be
excluded from the courtroom. Said Petiot: "I'll speak
more ~~quietly~~ softly, but I don't want to look like a
guilty man." At which the audience laughed.

Later, the judge criticized a prospectus
that Petiot put out when he began practicing medicine.
Said the judge: "That was the act of a quack."

Replied Petiot: "Thank you for the kind words!"

The court even went so far as to question
the prisoner about a book he had taken from a
book stall
~~book stall~~ on the street. Petiot explained that he
took it absent-mindedly because he was thinking about
a stomach pump he had invented. Then said the judge:
"How about your confinement for insanity?"

"Oh", replied Petiot, "insanity is a matter

of comparison; you're only insane if you look that way to somebody else."

The court finally got around to questioning the prisoner about the ~~corpse~~ ^{many bodies} the police ~~had~~ found in the cellar of Petiot's house, in a fashionable Parisian quarter. Petiot replied that he didn't know who put the ~~bodies~~ there.

When Petiot claimed that he had been in the resistance movement from the beginning, the judge

remarked: "Nonsense, there was no resistance at the

beginning of the German occupation." ~~Petiot was not~~

~~able to give the name of any of his associates in the~~

~~resistance movement. He explained that if he gave~~

~~the names of any of his companions, the government~~

~~would prosecute them. To which the prosecutor replied~~

~~that if Petiot would name just one, he would get his~~

~~decorated with a medal.~~

A strange and weird murder trial about which we will hear a great deal more.