

MARSHALL PLAN

L.J. Sumner and P. G. Monday, June 30, 1947

*Mr. Thomas interviewed round the world
prisoners at La Guardia Field during Sumner*
Soviet Russia will have nothing to do *show*.

with Secretary Marshall's plan for bringing the European Countries out of their condition of want and hardship. At Paris today, Molotov announced that ~~his~~ government categorically declines to take any part in a rehabilitation plan which comprises all Europe.) His reason? These are his words: "The Anglo-French proposal would enable foreign powers to impose their will on other states and constitute an interference with their Sovereignty".

If it were not tragic, it would ~~be~~ ^{be} funny.

Soviet Russia, of course, has not imposed its will on Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, has not interfered with their Sovereignty or the sovereignty of Hungary. *oh no!*

The grim Soviet Commissar is not entirely without an alternative. He would consent, ~~he~~ said he, if the countries of ~~Europe~~ Europe were considered one by

one, thus preventing any far-sighted planning and if the United States made no political stipulations, such as being unwilling to help countries where the liberty of the individual is suppressed.

BIG THREE

(Follow MARSHALL PLAN.)

The latest ~~reports~~ from Paris: British Foreign Secretary Bevin and French Foreign Minister Bidault are preparing to go ahead with the Marshall Plan, with or without Russia. But Russia's obstinate refusal to cooperate seems to make complete the dangerous political gulf between East and West.

This evening, Ernest Bevin demanded an immediate show-down on Russia's intentions, he introduced a six-point proposal at the Paris Conference. A proposal to get European countries started at once on the road to recovery.

First, Bevin wants a Steering Committee formed to draft a four-year reconstruction plan. The Committee would also determine the amount of aid needed by each individual nation. Members of that Steering Committee would consist of the Big Three and four other nations -- not including Spain.

In this case, by the Big Three, we do not mean the United States - just France, Great Britain, and Russia. But the friendly advice of the United States ~~will be~~ ^{will be} solicited at every point of the program.

The Steering Committee would set up sub-committees on food and agriculture; coal and other fuels; iron and steel and transport. All of ~~this~~ this gigantic task to be completed by August Fifteenth.

Molotov, as is his wont, turned down this proposal also.

This angered Bevin. Red-faced, he replied: "You are asking the United States for a blank check. How would the Soviet Union like to be asked for a blank check?"

Out at Lake Success today, the United Nations delegates got around to the concrete job of discussing the make-up of the International police force. Uncle Sam's representatives suggested twenty divisions of ground troops, three-thousand, eight-hundred aircraft, a ~~thousand~~ hundred and ninety-eight ~~xxx~~ warships. These ~~to~~ to include three battle ships, six aircraft carriers. This establishment should be supplemented by enough landing gear to put ~~it~~ ashore/six divisions.

The British and/the French also came up with/suggestions; the former suggesting eight to twelve ground divisions, only twelve hundred aircraft, and ~~thousand~~ a hundred and twenty warships. The French proposed sixteen divisions of ground troops, twelve-hundred-and-seventy-five aircraft, a hundred-and-fourteen warships. ~~It~~ The Russians refused to talk

figures, said the Big Five could not even consider such details until they agreed on the basic principles to govern the use of that international police force.

FRANCE

The latest about the military plot in France pictures a conspiracy well organized, well financed, well led and wide-spread. The purpose ~~is~~ to establish a military ~~in~~ dictatorship. Dispatches describe the scheme as a Right Wing extremist affair, Fascist.

The military conspirators had a plan, a so-called "blue plan", for a march on Paris. They intended to seize the telephone exchanges, telegraph offices, radio stations, and then government headquarters. It was to be a stroke of lightning speed, timed to coincide with the rising National Crisis. The military phase of the plot ~~is~~ based on ^{To BE} Brittany and the French occupation zone in Germany, where many of the troops are discontent. The conspirators consisted of Monarchists, wartime collaborationists of the Vichy regime, ~~and~~ admirers

of Petain, members of the so-called Cagoulards, that French Fascist ~~group~~^{crowd} of which we heard ~~so~~ much before the war. Marshal Petain, if not a member, was at least associated with them. So we hear from Paris.

The French Minister of the Interior, making the announcement, gives General Charles DeGaulle a clean bill of health. In fact, the police let it be known that at least one of the conspirators tried to infiltrate into DeGaulle's organization, the union of French people, and was rejected.

The conspirators called themselves the Black Maquis, and figured on next Sunday as the day when the troubles of the ~~the~~ Fourth Republic, brought on by the Communist-led strikes, would come to a head. They planned to start their uprising on the pretext that they were fighting to save the country from a Communist plot. The police found at the headquarters

of the conspiracy, a number of forged Communist documents and manifestoes.

The discovery of this conspiracy testifies to the efficiency of the French police. They had inklings of the plot for months, and just a week ago they had in their hands proof on which they started making raids in Paris, ~~in~~ in southern France and in Brittany, which has been a center of Monarchist discontent since the days of the original French Revolution. However, the most trustworthy agents of the French police were ~~put~~ ^{put} to work in Brittany, and arrested people by the hundreds.

Among the leaders ~~who~~ now in prison is ~~_____~~ an Inspector-General of the National Gendarmerie, who had his headquarters in the war office. Another is a multi-millionaire aristocrat, Count De Vulpian, newspaper publisher and President

of the Association of war veterans. Still another is a millionaire wine merchant. Among the women, is a seventy-year-old leader of the highest social circles in Paris. The conspirators held their meetings in her drawing room, with a portrait of Benito Mussolini on the wall.

The first inkling of the plot came to the Government last December. A man walked into the police station in a provincial town and asked to be protected. He explained that he belonged to the secret movement against Communists, that he had been indiscreet, and that his comrades wanted to kill him. The police arrested two of these comrades, and questioned them exhaustively. After several days, they released the prisoners, and from ~~that~~ that time on crack operators shadowed them. They found a trail which led to the great chateau owned by the Count

De Vulpian in Brittany. Last Tuesday, a strong force of police with submachine guns surrounded the place. Two went to the front entrance, [redacted] and the gate was opened by the Count himself with a pistol in hand. He took one look at the tommy^gguns, and surrendered.

PALESTINE

(In the Holy Land there was a secret meeting between members of the United Nations Palestine Commission and leaders of the Irgun, ^{AND A PROMISE} that there would be no more terrorism so long as the commission was on its job of investigation.) But later it turned out that there was a string to that promise. A spokesman for the Irgun said they had agreed to stop attacking the British, but that held good only so long as the British did not provoke them.

REORGANIZATION

Congress will have none of President Truman's scheme for re-organizing the United States Department of Labor. The White House wanted to give the Secretary of Labor control of the United States employment service, also the administration of the Wage-hour Law.

The Democrats tried to save the plan~~x~~. Senator Barkley, the minority leader, warned his colleagues that if they rejected the President's proposal, they would leave the Secretary of Labor with not much to do but collect statistics. Senator Ball of Minnesota pointed out that the Children's Bureau has already been taken away from the Department of Labor, and the Federal Conciliation Service will shortly follow the same path.

Democratic Senator Byrd of Virginia lined up with the Republicans. He said he was against the plan because it would not get rid of one single employee from the Labor Department's payrolls, would not save a dollar. The Senators, in a close vote, forty-two to forty, turned down the Presidential plan.

MAY

There was a dramatic interruption to the trial of Andrew May and Murray Garsson at Washington today. The Government prosecutors had poured a volume of withering scorn on the defendants, described ~~them~~ them as cheap war profiteers. Perry Howard, Negro counsel for Murray Garsson, made a passionate speech in his defense. He said that, to begin with, Ordnance officers of the Army had discriminated against the Garssons, would not let them bid on war materials ~~because~~ because they were Jews. It was for that reason, said the lawyer, that they appealed to May for help, and the chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee was generous enough to intervene and stop the discrimination.

Howard ~~talked~~ ^{TALKED} along these lines for half an hour of his allotted time, when he suddenly collapsed and fainted in court. The Judge adjourned the trial until

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tomorrow, and Howard said his breakdown was the result of emotional strain, and he would be able to continue tomorrow.

G I BONDS

A sub-committee of the House today approved the bill to ~~allow~~ ^{allow} veterans to turn in their terminal leave pay bonds after September first. The House will probably act on the report next week, and Republican leaders are confident that it will pass both houses of Congress next month. The Treasury does not care for the bill, says it's inflationary.

The law, as it stands now, provides that the service men must hold onto their bonds for five years from the time they are discharged. If they are able to redeem them this fall, the process will release one billion, eight hundred millions for spending money. That, says the Treasury, is bound to result in further increases in prices.

EARTHQUAKE

In those middlewest floods, (the Mississippi at St. Louis soared yesterday above its critical high mark of Nineteen thirty-six and rose to the highest level in a-hundred-and-three years.) It dropped slightly today. But, now comes word of another crest rushing down from the Missouri river. Just to complete the misbehaviour of the elements an earthquake shook the ~~terrain~~^{region} around St. Louis area last night, one of the worst in the history of the city.

It happened ~~at~~ while thousands of soldiers and civilians, men and women, were working with might and main to save the levees. Fortunately the quake didn't open any seams in the levees, not so far as the ~~engineers~~ engineers have been able to discover. But they are checking again.

The number of homeless people in ~~the~~^{FIVE} states now reaches a total of thirty thousand.

HAWAII

For months Joseph R. Farrington of Honolulu, delegate from the ~~territory~~ Hawaiian Islands, has been trying to get the House of Representatives to consider an act admitting Hawaii as the forty-ninth state of the Union. Farrington is the Hawaiian delegate. Today he finally succeeded. The House ~~is~~ not only considered the bill, but passed it, and now it ~~goes~~ to the Senate.

~~As you know,~~ Farrington as a delegate from a territory, has no vote in the House, but may speak whenever the Speaker will let him. He made an eloquent plea for his territory, eloquent and effective. But it is doubtful whether the Senate will get around to considering the bill because there is so much else to be done before Congress adjourns next month.

But, at any rate, this vote makes history

because it's the first time Congress has even considered accepting a non-continental territory into the Union.

DEATH

In Price, Utah, a recluse who claims to be more than a hundred years old was sentenced to death today. He'll die before a firing squad at sunrise, August Eleventh.

The doomed man is Hyrum Beebee, leader of a mysterious religious cult. He was ordered shot by the District Judge for slaying a town marshal last October.

Beebee claims to be over a hundred years old, how much over he doesn't know.

So, unless Utah's Governor intervenes, a man who has supposedly passed the century mark in years will die before the firing squad on August Eleventh for killing a fellow human being.