

At Panmunjom, bulldozers were at work today - leveling the ground for additional truce tents. The airstrip was being lengthened - to accommodate more planes. The turn off the main road from the south was being widened - to accommodate heavy traffic. Numbers of U.S. Army men were arriving - ambulance drivers, military policemen, clerks - personnel needed for the exchange of thousands of prisoners. The truce negotiators -- in a series of rapid fire meetings, suggesting the approach of the zero hour. (The whole picture - giving all the impression that the signing of an armistice is at hand. Within the next few days, probably. Of course, there may be a hitch. But you'd never guess it from the look of things at Panmunjom.

(~~The word there is that our command is going to sign the armistice - in spite of all South Korean opposition. Moreover, the belief is that Syngman Rhee will accept the terms, much as he dislikes them.~~)

Today, ~~that~~ South Korean ~~opposition~~ seemed to be dying out. Officials in the government of Syngman Rhee were

talking in a more moderate voice.

Meanwhile the huge Red offensive continues more violently than ever. But a U.S. Intelligence officer states that Chinese troops have been told by their political officers - that they were attacking to back up the Red negotiators in the truce talks. The belief is that the Communists are bidding for some final "victories" - to be used as propaganda.

And, they are scoring successes. Today's news telling of a major break-through by the Reds on the east central front. As many as thirty-two thousand Chinese hit the South Koreans, and drove them back two miles, slashing gaps in the defense line, and pouring through. Heavy losses on both sides - with several South Korean units cut off.

The geography at this point of the battlefield is such that, if the Communists are able to break through on a wide front, the whole Allied line might have to pull back twenty-five miles. Which would take them - back to the Thirty-Eighth Parallel.

ROLLOW KOREA

Here's later news, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles declaring -- that the Communist ~~and~~ offensive is an obstacle to the truce negotiations, **A**nd could delay an Armistice.

YUGOSLAVIA

Moscow has named a new Ambassador. Interesting - because of the capital to which this envoy is assigned. Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Over the weekend, the news told how diplomatic relations were being resumed between Soviet Russia and the one-time satellite state. Today, an official Yugoslav statement explains that the proposal was made on June Sixth, by Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov.

The new Russian Ambassador is - Valjkov, who has had plenty of experience in the West. Serving - in London, then in the Netherlands. Belgrade announces immediately - that the newly named Ambassador is - acceptable. ^{It} It was an event of number one importance in the cold war, when Red Marshal Tito broke with Stalin and lined up with the West. He got military aid from the United States - and was anathema behind the Iron Curtain. But, following the death of Stalin, there was a change. Tito declares - that he's not turning away from the West, - but there's plenty of wonder.

BERMUDA CONFERENCE

A dispatch from London indicates that the Bermuda Conference may open on June Twenty-Eighth, that headline meeting of Churchill, Eisenhower, and Monsieur X. The French Premier will attend, of course, but we can't guess who he may be. In Paris, the political crisis drags on and on, and France remains without a premier. He's the X-quantity.

~~The London report is based on the significant order, said to have been issued today - directing the Security~~
have been instructed
officers at the London airport, to take the usual measures of precaution, when the Prime Minister is off on an air journey.

Date - June Twenty-Seventh. The only flight Sir Winston Churchill is likely to make would be - to Bermuda. He'd arrive there the next day, the Twenty-Eighth, for that famous Churchill-Eisenhower-Monsieur X conference.

(~~It is known that the Prime Minister ~~XXXXXXXX~~ and the President want the meeting to be held as quickly as possible - and there's exasperation in London - because ~~XXXX~~ of the way the French National Assembly has not been able to get itself a premier.~~)

COLOMBIA

Here's irony:- Over the weekend, there was a bloodless coup d'etat in Bogata. Power seized by Lieutenant General Rojas Pinilla. President Laureano Gomez reported - on his way to exile.

The revolt happened just before the gathering of the constituent assembly - which Gomez had called for the purpose of establishing a new constitution. The opposition said it would be along Fascist lines - like the Franco regime in Spain. But now that same assembly will do another job altogether - will confirm the authority of General Rojas Pinilla, who tossed Gomez out. That - to happen tonight.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

The House of Representatives overwhelmingly okays the reciprocal trade agreements, as asked by President Eisenhower. Three hundred and sixty-three to thirty-five, both parties for it.

POSTAL

Get ready, folks - for the four cent stamp.

Postal rates will soon be raised. So announced by the Administration today - Congress to be asked to hike the price on every kind of mail. ~~This, of course, would include ordinary letters which now take the familiar three-cent stamp.~~

~~The new increases were discussed by President Eisenhower and Republican leaders at their weekly meeting in the White House.~~ The purpose - to cut the annual deficit of the Post Office - which has been a red ink nuisance for years. So - get ready for the four-cent stamp.

SUPREME COURT

The Supreme Court has thrown out the perjury charges against Harry Bridges, the West Coast Union leader. The Australian born Bridges, together with two of his aides, was convicted three years ago of perjury in ~~the~~^a denial of Communist connections. Bridges - sentenced to five years in prison. His American citizenship - revoked. ~~He~~^{He} appealed all the way up to the Supreme Court - which now quashes the charges against him, tosses out the prison sentence, and orders the citizenship of Harry Bridges to be restored.

This ruling does not deny the perjury charges against Bridges - or clear him of Communist connections. ~~The ruling~~^{It} is based on the ground that Bridges was protected by the Statute of Limitations. The alleged perjury was committed more than three years before the prosecution - the time limit for bringing up an accusation of that sort.

Substitute ROSENBERGS

The lawyers for the Rosenbergs declare that Supreme Court Justice Douglas has agreed to consider - still another plea for the convicted atomic spies. This followed a rejection, by the high tribunal of two other pleas - asking for a stay of execution. One of these was unusual - asking a writ of habeas corpus.

But, after the Supreme Court had refused what seemed to be the last legal hope for Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, ^{their} ~~her~~ attorneys went to Justice Douglas. ~~But~~ According to law, he could, personally, grant a delay - to permit a reconsideration of the entire case. But the lawyers for the government could ask the court, itself, to reverse the action. And the court could do that.

All this - in a final, desperate effort to save the Rosenbergs from the electric chair.

PRISON RIOT

The ^{NEW} Mexico prison riot was broken this afternoon - in a wild melee. This morning, rioters seized one section of the prison - and held twenty guards and one Deputy Warden as hostages. This afternoon - guards made a storming attack. ~~One~~ One hostage was able to snatch a rifle, and shot down the leader of the revolting convicts. Another rioter was killed in ^{the} outbreak of shooting. All the hostages released - the riot suppressed.

EVEREST

The details of the conquest of Mt. Everest are coming in bit by bit. Today, we are told of the ⁺Technique they used, in the final, critical climb to the ultimate summit, Sir Edmund Hillary led the way - the New Zealander bee-keeper who has been knighted ~~by Queen Elizabeth~~ for the exploit. He cut the foot holes in the icy 'slope. ~~Tensing, the Sherpa, guide,~~ held the safety rope - in case Hillary should slip for a plunge. That was the routine for the treacherous ~~last half a mile to the summit of Everest.~~

This account is given by Colonel Sir John Hunt, at Katmandu, the capital of Nepal. He denies reports, printed in Indian newspapers - that Tensing was first on the summit, and had to pull Hillary to the top. The Sherpa did hold the rope, but that was the usual mountaineering precaution - as the New Zealander led the way, cutting the foot holes.

Colonel Hunt says that the newspapers in India have been over-playing Tensing's part, and that this is harmful to the Sherpa, ~~guide,~~ putting him in a false position.

(Today's dispatch repeats that they found no trace of George Mallory and Andrew Irvine, the two British climbers who disappeared near the top of Everest in Nineteen Twenty-Five - ^{- Four} and never came back. Hillary and Tensing found nothing of any human sort - only the eternal ice of Everest, ~~(and a stupendous view of other peaks of the Himalayas.~~

On the top of the world, Tensing threw his arms around Hillary - in jubilation of the supreme achievement in mountaineering. The "third pole", as mountaineers call it.)

QUEEN

The final aftermath of the Coronation was held today, and a spectacular affair it was. The Spithead Review.

Queen Elizabeth the Second, aboard a British naval vessel, passed along the line of a thousand warships - from twenty-two nations. Nine lines of warships - each seven miles long.

Britain's great battleship, H.M.S. Vanguard, was to have been the first to cheer Her Majesty. The Vanguard at the head of the vast naval array. But there was a trick of chance. A brisk wind blew another vessel into the forefront, swinging it at anchor - the U.S. cruiser Baltimore. Which, therefore, was first to cheer the Queen.

The Russians on the Soviet cruiser Sverdlov, made a mistake. They cheered the wrong ship, a vessel on which Winston Churchill was riding. But they rectified the error. The Queen came next, and they Red sailors cheered her too.

URANIUM

Another uranium rush in Canada - swarms of miners and prospectors jamming the Recorder's Office at Saulte Ste Marie, ^{Ontario} This following a report of "sensational" finds of uranium on the north shore of Lake Huron. The third uranium rush in Eastern Canada in recent months.

ATOMIC

From Washington, a report that one of the giant explosions at Eniwetok Atoll, in the Far Pacific - ^{actually} touched off a typhoon. The Atomic Energy Commission will neither confirm nor deny. Those Eniwetok experiments being kept - a profound secret. But, the report is - atomic typhoon.

This follows all that argument about the possible effect of the Nevada tests - on the weather in this country. Recently, a member of the Congressional Joint Atomic Committee hinted, in a guarded way, that at Eniwetok there had been evidence of atomic effect on weather. Which may connect with the story we now have.

It concerns that climax out there - the Hydrogen Bomb. We heard, at the time, that the hydrogen blast annihilated a small island. Other descriptions tell of an enormous fire ball, which rose fifteen miles high, a whirl of atomic flame, that lasted for a long while, rising to the stratosphere.

Which meant, of course, an enormous up-draft of hot

air, causing violent winds in that immediate area. One eyewitness tells how an airplane hangar, thirty-five miles away, was wrecked by the wind from Eniwetok.

But that local disturbance was not all. The scientists explain that Eniwetok is in the ~~impixat~~ tropical Pacific belt, where typhoons are spawned. One was in the making anyway - and the great fire ball of the Hydrogen explosion was like pulling the trigger.

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A couple of months ago, a member of the Atomic Energy Commission said the following about those Eniwetok tests: "Man," he declared, "can generate hurricanes, earthquakes, and consuming fire."

Which might, perhaps, apply to the H-Bomb explosion - which, says the report, generated a hurricane of the Pacific, a typhoon.

Here's one that President Eisenhower, no doubt, will tell on himself - for a long time to come. But it could have been embarrassing.

At Minneapolis, on his Western trip, the President ^{making his} ~~made an~~ address before ^{the} ~~a~~ convention of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. United Press Correspondent, Merriman Smith, tells how, standing in the wings, offstage, the chief executive was waiting for his turn to go on. When he heard the master of ceremonies announce:

"And, now, I give you the greatest President we ~~we~~ ever had....."

The President started out onto the stage. But he was checked, fortunately. Because that introduction actually meant:

"I give you the greatest President we ~~we~~ ever had - Horace Henderson, President of ~~the~~ Junior Chamber of Commerce!"

Well, almost anything can happen - when you go around making speeches. You may get a big build-up like -

"the greatest President we ever had." Ike may have blushed, momentarily. But you can also get introductions-less flattering.

I recall a time at Nelson Hall in Halifax, when I was introduced by an Englishman - very British, very. He said: "Our speaker, this evening, is the author of a book. In fact as I came in a moment ago, I met a man who had read the book. And I understand it is interesting - in fact I might say quite!

Which really brought my hat size down to - the size it always should be.

And now here's my modest colleague Nelson Case, whose hat size is always as it should be.