

L.T. - P&G. MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1951

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Malik, Russian U.N. delegate, is too ill to discuss his cease-fire proposal with United Nations Assembly President Entezam. Malik, who suffers from a chronic heart ailment, is at his estate on Long Island. A note to the Iranian diplomat said Malik would call him tomorrow to arrange a meeting.

PEACE

official

From Europe we have the first [^]reaction to Jakob Malik's peace proposal broadcast. In Paris today, Foreign Minister Schuman said that France would "spare no effort to end the fighting in the shortest time. We consider Mr. Malik's declaration a positive element," ^{*was the way he put it.*} In London, Britain's Foreign Minister, Herbert Morrison, told the House of Commons that Britain was "already actively studying ways and means of following up this peace opening, provided the Soviets' cease-fire proposal was sincere."

The Norwegian Government announces that a military plane is ready to carry U.N. Secretary Trygve Lie back to New York for peace negotiations.

TRUMAN

President Truman was in Tullahoma, Tennessee, today, to dedicate the new Air Force Research Center. In his speech, Mr. Truman said the West is ready for a Korean settlement.

"But it must be a real settlement, which fully ends the aggression and restores peace and security to the area."

He warned, however, [“]that we must avoid like the plague, rash actions which take unnecessary risks of world war, or weak actions which would award aggression."

Peiping Radio, official spokesman for the Government of Mae Tse-Tung, today broadcast its first word on Jakob Malik's armistice feeler. This came in the form of an editorial taken from the official Chinese Government newspaper, "The Peoples' Daily," - mouthpiece for the Chinese Reds. ^{The way the Red paper put it,} ~~The Chinese said~~ ^{will} ~~that~~ the United States ^{will} ~~would~~ have to accept the Chinese and Russian proposals for a solution of the Korean problem. These ^{are} ~~were~~ their ^{if} actual words: "If the United States is willing to stop the war, she should fall in at once with the just and reasonable measures for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question repeatedly proposed by the Peoples' Republic of China, the Soviet Union and other countries which desire peace." The only solution, they said, would be the withdrawal of foreign troops from Korea.

The Peiping broadcast did not make it clear whether China was insisting on acceptance of all Chinese and Soviet offers which previously included demands on Formosa, also a seat for the Peking Government in the United Nations. ~~Jakob~~

Malik's original proposal had no strings attached. But now we have the word from Peking, which states that all foreign troops must be withdrawn from Korea. Another baffling Chinese puzzle for the diplomats in Western Foreign Offices, for the broadcast also said that "the Chinese people fully support the Malik offer."

Wonder what ~~do~~ the Chinese and Russians mean? Is their proposal unconditional, or is it full of conditions? Do they really want peace, or is this just another propaganda move ~~to~~ *to try and throw us off balance?*

KOREA

(Bitter hand-to-hand fighting marked the opening of the second year of the Korean War today. All along the front, Communist attacks were beaten back, with rifle butts and bayonets. Reports are of a steadily mounting tempo along the battlefield, with the battleline swaying back and forth, - in attack and counter-attack.

In the central sector, U.N. forces today surrounded a mountain northeast of Kumhwa, trapping the Reds atop the high mountain, which commands the central highway. Along the eastern slopes of the mountains about Inje, the Reds loosed half a dozen attacks today, all of which were driven off.

An Allied officer warns that the Reds are now strong enough to launch a major attack on the eastern front at any time.

In the air, the Red Air Force sallied south across the Yalu again today. Twenty-seven American Sabre Jets tackled ~~the~~ thirty M.I.G's, with one Red jet shot down in flames.

INVESTIGATION

(In Washington today, the Senate Investigating Committee rang down the curtain on its long inquiry into the dismissal of General MacArthur.)
The last witness called, the fourteenth, was Major General Emmett "Rosie" O'Donnell, former Commander of our Strategic Air in Korea. In his testimony, he said the nation's military chiefs should be careful in the future about assigning heavy and medium bombers to the support of troops in the field. He admitted "they were the only available weapons," but he added: "They are the New York Yankees of the Air Force, and in future must not be sent against unworthy targets."

Chairman Senator Russell of Georgia, commenting on O'Donnell's testimony, pointed out that using B-29a to bomb enemy culberts, as was done in Korea, was "like using a shotgun to kill a flea." A case of using the New York Yankees to massacre the softball team of my Nine Old Men.

A report on air losses in Korea lists one particular enemy casualty -- and maybe there is a bit of regret in the U.S. Air Force. We are told that last week our own side lost nine planes, including three Sabre Jets, downed in aerial combat. The Reds lost twelve, including eight MIG-15 jets. But attention focusses on -- "Bedcheck Charlie," an odd curiosity of the Korean war.

"Bedcheck Charlie" was a Red pilot in an ancient biplane, canvas frame and wire struts, vintage of World War One. In that old crate he ran a series of nuisance raids that had the U.S. Airforce in a daze -- with all its mighty network of radar screen and Jet fighters. Bedcheck Charlie would fly in and unload forty-four-pound mortar bombs, - by hand, apparently, just dropping them out of the cockpit. In the old crate, a rear gunner would blaze away with a burp gun.

Coming in for an attack at night, Bedcheck

would cut his engine, and listen for the sound of American night fighters. When they chased him, he would dodge so near the ground that radar couldn't pick him up.

Some thought him a Chinese or North Korean pilot. But, according to one report, he was Japanese. Rumor went so far as to say that "he" was a woman, whose long hair had been seen streaming in the wind. But the alleged long hair was probably a scarf, such as the German ace von Richthofen wore in World War One.

But now Bedcheck Charlie has been shot down, caught ~~was~~ at last by an American light bomber. Our forces over there are well rid of the nuisance -- but there is a sneaking feeling of admiration and regret for Bedcheck Charlie.

In Tokyo, General and Mrs. Ridgway were treated to some remarkable entertainment - a song and dance by the wife of a chief of the Hairy-Ainu. Strange people, the aborigines of Japan - a different race, mysterious, with sunken eyes, the men with huge beards, unlike any oriental.

The American occupation appears to have made a hit with the Hairy-Ainu. Because in a village on the island of Hokkaido, they decided to send a gift to Supreme Commander General Ridgway, and commissioned the wife of the local chief to take it to Tokyo. So today she appeared at the General's home, and the Ridgways must have been surprised.

Her mouth was a dark disk - not like a mouth at all. Through an interpreter she explained: "It's a tribal custom. AT the age of ten or eleven, all girls cut away the skin from around the mouth, and keep rubbing in charcoal, to make a black circle. Those who don't," she explained, "are considered lazy - and won't get husbands."

She said her husband, the chief, hasn't a great deal

of authority any more. He has to eke out a living by working as an interpreter, translating from the Ainu language into Japanese, while she helps along by raising vegetables.

The gift she brought was a small bear carved in wood - some sort of totem, I suppose, among the Hairy-Ainu. Presenting that, she sang a song called - Kuma-Matsuri. Which is chanted by the tribe on the Festival of the Bear. As she sang, she danced - what seemed to be a kind of Ainu jitterbug dedicated to the bear.

General and Mrs. Ridgway looked and listened with amazement - pleased, no doubt, by this evidence that the American occupation is okay with the Hairy-Ainu.

IRAN

(Iran stepped up the pressure on the British Anglo-Iranian Oil Company today. Word ^{from} ~~from~~ Teheran, ~~is that~~ ERic Drake, manager of the world's greatest oil refinery at Abadan, ^{is being} ~~has been~~ accused of sabotage.) Another executive, Derrick Hobson, manager of the plant at Kermanshah, has been fired, charged by the Iranians with being "uncooperative."

Meanwhile, in London, bitter exception is being taken to the anti-sabotage law now before the Iranian Parliament. One spokesman describes the new act as, "medieval and mystical in its phraseology - the sort of legislation that might have been expected from the Germany of Adolf Hitler." The new law carries with it penalties of imprisonment, even death.

The Deputy Chairman of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company in London stated today that the days of the British managers in Iran are numbered - "a week, or at the most ten days, before we are forced out," was how he put it. The Chairman says the new anti-sabotage bill will be the tip-off for the British to leave. "It places our staff in jeopardy of being arrested on

trumped-up charges," he said.

The great oil port of Abadan is reported clogged up with shipping tonight. More than twenty-five tankers at the docks, or waiting to come into port. The crews uncertain what

authority they must receive before taking oil from the **great**

From old officials or from
refinery, Anglo-Iranian **or** Iranian National, *as the Persians*
now call the company.

BUDAPEST

In Budapest today, the trial of Archbishop Groesz took a strange twist. Earlier, the prosecution had called twenty-four witnesses, to testify against the Archbishop and his eight co-defendants. Following the end of their testimony today, the court prosecutor turned on the witnesses he had called. By the time the court recessed, all the prosecution witnesses had admitted their own guilt. The charges were varied, but for the most part were connected with distributing secret pamphlets for the Royalist cause - propagandizing for the return of the Hapsburgs to the throne.

Several other witnesses admitted being members of what they called "the Russian hunting gang." This group was described as a murder gang, which hunted down Russian soldiers. One of the original nine defendants, a member of a religious order, had confessed to being organizer of this gang, and pleaded guilty to killing thirty-one Russians.

Two other witnesses, clerks of the national bank, admitted turning over financial data to a Hungarian employee

of the United States Information Service in Budapest.

Following this strange twister, twenty-three of the twenty-four prosecution witnesses are now under arrest. Will, we suppose, face trial, after Archbishop Groesz and his eight co-defendants are sentenced on Thursday. ^{Another} A case of Russian ~~poetic~~ justice - reminiscent of the Moscow purge trials in the 'Thirties.

CONTROLS

The administration has opened a battle to retain the roll-backs on the price of beef. The new control law in Congress would ~~xx~~ eliminate the rollbacks. So now the White House enters the fray -- backed by the C I O with all sorts of pressure put on legislators.

COLOR TELEVISION

Today made history in the realm of television.

(At four thirty this afternoon, the first color television program put on the air. C.B.S. began televising in all the hues of the rainbow - the program lasting from four thirty to five thirty.) ~~Special receivers were needed for color, and transformers to get it in black and white,~~ The beginning - of a new era in T.V. history.

MINNEAPOLIS

Minneapolis had a wild chase and gun battle today - when police cars went after a bandit automobile, and there was shooting all the way. The excitement began in northern Minneapolis when four bandits robbed a gasoline station. Police cars came speeding, with a rip-snorting, gun blazing pursuit all the way across Minneapolis. Finally the bandits abandoned their car and two were caught -- two escaped.

JOKE

I wish I could tell you the joke, which is the point of this next bit of news. It must have been side-splitting, if not head-breaking -- to judge by what happened to a newspaper editor at Dunkirk, New York.

Editor Wallace Brennan has a fine sense of humor, with a loud hearty laugh. He was at a luncheon, when the joke was told. So funny - that Editor Brennan was convulsed in mirth. Ha, Ha, ho, ho.

He laughed so hard, he blacked out and fell off his chair. The next thing you know, he was in the hospital having the damage to his head repaired - side-splitting and ~~heart~~ head-breaking.

One of his reporters, covering the story, asked him - what was the joke? But the Editor only looked sad - he couldn't remember. The joke was on him - and he has forgotten

it. Judging from some of recent out-of-control laughter, Nelson, I may fall off my chair some night.