

KOREA

L. J. P. H. Mon Dec. 11, 1950.

For four days a security blackout has veiled the movements of the U.S. 8th Army <sup>-- the position of</sup> General MacArthur's new defence line in Korea. But tonight we have the answer -- south of the thirty-eighth parallel The 8th Army has fallen back fifty miles down the west coast -- has dug in just north of Seoul.

This leaves a 50-mile no-man's land <sup>between</sup> the 8th Army and the Chinese Forces south of Pyongyang. But the new defence line is not complete -- only reaches half way across the peninsula. Speculation is that the 10th Corps in its perimeter at Hamhung may be pulled back to fill that gap in the east -- complete the new line.

Only scattered reports have filtered back so far about that epic drive from the Chosin Reservoirs to Hamhung. -- the drive made by the 1st Marine Division, the combat team of the 7th Infantry and Britain's Royal Marine Commandoes. But though details of the actual fighting are few and far between, there is news of the tremendous casualties inflicted on the enemy. One report says more than twenty thousand Chinese died in those

KOREA\_\_\_-2

thirteen days; in the retreat described today by General Almond as "one of the outstanding operations in military annals."

## LAKE SUCCESS

Behind the scenes at Lake Success a proposal is on foot - calling for a cease-fire in Korea. Led by India, <sup>twelve</sup> ~~thirteen~~ Asian and Arab countries have now prepared a ~~resolution~~ resolution. It was these countries that last week asked Peking to call a halt to the Chinese Reds at the thirty-eighth parallel.

The resolution we hear is in three parts: - Firstly, a call for a cease fire. Then - a cease-fire line -- like that successfully drawn up in Palestine. Finally a seven power conference to discuss all Far Eastern questions - as the resolution says: - "in accordance with the purposes and principals of the United Nations." Those to take part: - the Big Five, Red China, India and Egypt.

The Asian-Arab block will formally put forward the twin resolutions in the main Political Committee tomorrow morning.

- 0 -

Following last week's Russian proposal that all foreign troops leave Korea -- came news today that

LAKE SUCCESS -2

Russia guarantees the withdrawal of Chinese forces -  
on one condition - Red China to have an equal voice in  
the future of Formosa!

MacARTHUR

The nation's eyes <sup>tonight</sup> are on the MacArthur statement - given by the General, after a flying visit to the war fronts. The tone is high, and confident. To many of us it <sup>comes as a</sup> ~~comes as a~~ tonic, ~~statement~~ with a new rise of ~~hope~~ hope - after a period of pessimism and bad news. <sup>Of course</sup> ~~Some~~ some others may be inclined to jeer, and refer back to that MacArthur remark about getting the boys home for Christmas. That, however, occurred in a bit of chatty talk, between MacArthur and one of his generals, and was picked up by newsmen - and relayed along as a headline at the beginning of the advance, which turned into a lot of retreating. While - today's declaration is a formal report on battlefield conditions. So it's worth looking at carefully - to get MacArthur's formal military view.

MacArthur describes our forces in Korea as - undefeated. Which may sound odd, after the recent <sup>retreats.</sup> ~~retreats.~~ But MacArthur calls the retreats - "tactical withdrawals." These were forced by a Chinese Communist attempt - "to encompass our destruction by one massive stroke," as MacArthur phrases it.

He notes that the retreats were made, in good order - no breaking up of American forces. Although gravely threatened with disaster, all units came out intact. "We are being forced to give ground," says MacArthur, "but our fighting capacity has suffered little impairment." Which leads <sup>his</sup> MacArthur to say: "The enemy plan has failed." Hence his description of the army as - "undefeated."

He points to the vast losses incurred by the Chinese Reds, in their mass attacks, careless of human life. He says we are vastly outnumbered, but the troops are self confident, with high morale. Then, summarizing it all, the General gives his military judgment of the war situation in Korea - and

it's well to note his exact words. He says the U.N. army, ~~is~~

the exact

~~his~~ words: - "for the time being is relatively secure." That

is the ~~language~~ language of caution: "for the time being -

relatively."

## SINGAPORE

The case of the Jungle Girl today touched off the worst race riot in the history of Singapore. At last word more than five thousand Moslems were surging through the streets of the city -- five people were dead and more than thirty Americans and British in *the* hospital. Communist agitators are believed responsible for today's riots. The trouble started outside a Singapore court where an appeal against the return of the Jungle Girl to her Dutch parents was being heard.

Police armed with bamboo shields and truncheons and reinforced by Ghuerka troops were unable to control the seething crowds.

The situation is still described as "ugly" -- and at dusk tonight two more battalions of Ghuerka troops with thirty armored cars were called in.

## MOUNT EVEREST

In the middle of all the world peril, men still have the hardihood to go into another kind of danger -- nothing less than another expedition to Mount Everest. That loftiest peak in the world exerts an unending magic -- challenging mountaineers to scale the topmost pinnacle of our planet. Word comes through of the first American party ever to brave the slopes of Everest. They have just returned to India - and our story is sent along by Robert Trumbull, correspondent of the New York Times, who scores another scoop.

Actually, this American Everest expedition was in the nature of research - an investigation of a route never attempted heretofore. Mount Everest is on the border between Nepal and Forbidden Tibet -- both Nepal and Tibet closed countries. All previous climbing parties have gone up the Tibetan side, the north side. The south side never even explored. There have been four full scale Everest expeditions - but never has a human being, so far as is known, set foot on the topmost pinnacle of Everest, nearly thirty thousand feet high.

The nearest was in the expedition of Nineteen Twenty-four, when two of the climbers - Mallory and Irvine -- struck out for the final summit, and were never seen again. I know this, from long time acquaintance with Captain Noel, who was on three of the expeditions.

He told me how, from a lower level, he watched the two British mountaineers - the veteran Mallory -- the youngster Irvine -- disappear in a dense mist, after which a blizzard closed down on Everest, and there was no hope of saving them.

The Lhasa Government allowed those climbing parties in just far enough over the frontier for the Mount Everest climb - and, after that, refused permission to others. So now we find an American party taking a try at the other side of the loftiest peak on earth, from the south, the Nepal side. It was always supposed this would be the more difficult way, if not impossible. But no one really knew. So this newest expedition set out to investigate.

The leader, Oscar R Houston of New York, a veteran mountaineer; accompanied by his son, Dr. Charles

Houston, an ace among climbers. Which brings us to an oddity. The summer just passed, Lowell, Junior, wanted to go back to Tibet, retracing the journey we made to Lhasa last year. As it turned out, he couldn't get permission from the government of the Dalai Lama. With the Red menace hanging over the roof of the world, it was considered unwise to let any American in.

But, anyway, Lowell, Junior, had invited a doctor along - the wisdom of that having been illustrated on our previous trip. What was needed was a mountaineering physician, and that pointed to young Dr. Charles Houston - already world famous as a mountain climber. He had already performed exploits in the Himalayas, and welcomed the chance to go. When permission was refused, his father already was in India; and today's news tells the rest of the story. The father sent for him, and he phoned me one day that he was off by Pan. American clipper to Mount Everest; his father having procured permission from the government of Nepal.

The others in the party, Anderson Bakewell,

MOUNT EVEREST -4-

attached to St. Mary's College in West Bengal. Also a British mountaineer, veteran of two of the previous Everest expeditions - Major H.W. Tilman. And a woman - Mrs. E.S. Cowles of Colorado Springs, a noted Alpinist. They proceeded to the foot of Everest, established a camp, and then started to climb.

An ascent was made to a height of more than eighteen thousand feet - the climb to that altitude being made by only two - Dr. Houston and Major Tilman. There they learned what they wanted to know, and today we have their report.

To reach the summit that way -- impossible! They say: "We could see no practicable climbing route."

There were some advantages. The north side of Everest, the Tibetan side, is in the shadow - so the cold is greater, the icy temperatures of lofty altitudes. Climbing the south side can be done in sunlight -- much warmer. But, also steeper -- too sheer. They found no snow, Everest on that side too steep to hold snow - except way up near the top, where at the summit the snow

MOUNT EVEREST -5

is blown by the wind, and streams out, in an eternal plume - the famous Everest plume.

The story filed by Trumbull of the Times leaves us with one memorable picture of what the expedition saw in a close-up of Mount Everest: "As the sun went down, and left other great peaks in darkness, Everest continued to stand out in a glorious blaze of light, with its immense plume of snow sparkling like a crystal mist." Still unconquered.

## HOLLYWOOD KILLING

Hollywood gives us a picture of unrelenting murder -- in the shooting of Lawyer Sam Rummel, who represented ~~represented~~ Mickey Cohen, alleged big shot of the Los Angeles underworld. The crime was committed early this morning, and today's investigation discloses the deadly patience and persistence of the gunman. <sup>R</sup>The home of Lawyer Sam Rummel is one of those Spanish style bungalows in the Hollywood Hills, swanky, luxurious. Across the street from the front door are some trees, and there the killer waited, with a shotgun propped in the crotch of a tree. <sup>R</sup>He waited for hours. Lawyer Rummel was not home. As the night wore on, the family went to bed -- turning on the floodlight, and for illumination when he arrived in his car. He didn't arrive until one-thirty a.m., in his big automobile -- and got out. <sup>R</sup>The killer, waiting with his ~~shotgun~~ shotgun propped in the crotch of a tree, had only

to shift the barrel a little to take aim. One blast, and the lawyer fell. The murderer fled -- leaving the shotgun wedged there in the tree. Looks like another gangland killing of a spectacular sort -- Rummel having been a lawyer not only for Mickey Cohen, but also for other ~~big~~ big-time gamblers.

## AFRICAN TOM-TOMS

Radio Moscow today launched its latest and surely its most fantastic claim. In darkest Africa, so Moscow says, medicine men are beating on their tom-toms -- beating out Red propaganda messages across the mountains and thru the jungle. The tom-tom calling tribesmen from outlying villages to come and sign the Red peace petition -- the one "to ban the atom bomb." So Moscow Radio proclaims. The tall men and the pygmies crying out against the Atom Bomb and zizthezbest -- of which of course they've never even heard.

How will the Zulus, the Ubangis and all the rest sign their names, even if they answer the tom-toms? Well, Radio Moscow claims to have the answer to that too. It says signatures are pouring in, but not by pen and pencil. No -- by thumbprints; by the head of each family! Fingerprints by wives and children.

It sounds as though Radio Moscow must have been reading some of Rider Haggard's fantasies -- King Solomon's Mines or the Witches Head, perhaps. To think up this latest flight of fantasy -- tom-tom peace petitions from the Congo, ~~the Congo, Congo,~~ Uganda, and

the Kamerons; the Ivory Coast,

And now, <sup>Look what</sup> here, ~~the~~ blonde chief from the American

Ivory Coast -

## PLEVEN

From Paris tonight comes word that French Premier Pleven may follow Prime Minister Attlee's footsteps to Washington, after all -- in about four weeks. So far France has been left out of Big Power talks on Far Eastern questions since France was never at war with Japan. When he comes to Washington, Premier Pleven presumably will seek a voice in all major discussions with Red China, because of French interests in Indo-China.

While here of course, he would also discuss Western European re-armament questions.

The French Premier will fly to London late this week to hear direct from Prime Minister Attlee all about his Washington trip.