

L.P. & M.M. Nov. 6 - '50

At Lake Success ^{today} ~~this afternoon~~ American

delegate Warren Austin read General MacArthur's message formally announcing that the Chinese Communists have entered the Korean War. Warren Austin then summoned an urgent meeting of the Security Council for Wednesday to consider possible action.

General MacArthur's words were:- "It is apparent to our fighting forces - and our Intelligence agencies have confirmed the fact - that the U.N. are presently in hostile attack with Chinese Communist military units, deployed for action against the forces of the unified command." After giving twelve instances of Peking's intervention, the MacArthur note concluded: "The continued employment of Chinese Communist forces in Korea and the hostile attitude assumed by such forces are matters which is incumbent upon me to bring at once to the attention of the U. N."

American delegates at Lake Success this afternoon opened private talks with other council members on what U. N. action might be taken against the

Peking government.

A spokesman for the American delegation said that the Russians might be included in these behind-the-scene talks, if they wish. Then he added: -"But it would be inappropriate to pre-judge or speculate upon the action likely to be taken or requested at Wednesday's meeting."

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Acheson talked with President Truman, out in Missouri, by long distance telephone today, preliminary to further conferences regarding Chinese Red intervention in Korea.

KOREA - AIR

Here's the first official word that the Reds are using air bases across the Manchurian border. One of Russia's newest jet fighters, an "M I G Fifteen" they call it - this afternoon flashed across the Yalu River, made a pass at four propellor-driven American Mustangs - then turned and flew back into Manchuria. The first time an enemy plane had been seen crossing the border from what General MacArthur calls "The privileged"sanctuary.

Four other American Mustang fighters ran into four new Russian M I G Fifteen jets// today, eight miles south of the Yalu River. The Mustangs attacked and one of the Russian jets ~~heavily hit~~ was "probably destroyed".

Today's orders were for American fighters to shoot up anything crossing that border - either by air or by land. This morning four yaks attacked three American B-Twenty Sixes. They turned tail and fled without damaging the bombers - smoke pouring from one of the yaks.

KOREA

In northwest Korea today, for the first time since the Chinese Reds went into action, there was no contact with the enemy along the ^{new} defense perimeter. Americans, British and South Koreans took advantage of this ominous lull - digging new positions along the Chongchong River - our last natural defence line before the North Korean capital - Pyongyang. ^R Only in the northeastern sector was there any fighting - U. S. Marines engaged in vicious hand to hand combat on the road to the Chosin Reservoir. No advances by either side. In the fear that North Korean and Chinese troops may try to drive south through the little-defended mountains down the center of Korea - a solid line is being thrown across the peninsula. From Sinanju on the west coast to Hungnam and Wonsan on the east.

~~Today enemy planes made three strafing runs against U. N. forces - now alerted for enemy planes for the first time.~~

ADD KOREA

Air reconnaissance tonight ^{reports} ~~says they~~ Chinese Communist troops and supplies ~~are~~ still pouring across the Yalu River, massing north of the U N Defense line. As soon as Red reinforcements are across the Yalu they come under heavy and continuous attack by U.N. fighters and bombers.

Rear Admiral Ewen's powerful carrier task force seventy-seven is back in action - carrier-borne fighter bombers roaring out to attack new Communist supply columns heading for the battlefront south of the Chosen and Fusen hydro-electric dams.

CHINA

From Hongkong we learn tonight that the Reds are putting China on a war basis - full scale mobilization orders are expected tomorrow. In Manchuria, steel, coal, machine tools and railway workers are being ~~xxxxxx~~ organized behind the slogan, "our factory is our battlefield - our machines are our weapons." Reports reaching Hongkong from all parts of China tell of great troop movements - northwards. ^RChinese Red vituperation against the U.S. is expected to reach a crescendo tomorrow - the thirty-third anniversary of the Soviet revolution. In a special message today China's Red propaganda chief said: "American intervention in Korea signalizes an intention to invade China - which must be defeated." ^{Radio} Peking ~~radio~~ claims that thousands of volunteer students, workers, many girls are clamoring for service on the Korean front. As a conservative estimate, Chinese armies are today believed to number five million men, a million of whom are already in Manchuria. The raising of a new armed militia - five-and-a-half million strong - was recently announced by Peking.

The addition of this force would bring Chinese armed strength to more than ~~xx~~ ten million.

The Russian proposal was made to the U. N. Political Committee in a lengthy document dated 1950. It stated that the Soviet Union was not in a position to declare war on any state. It also stated that the Soviet Union was not in a position to justify an attack on any state.

We are sure to know a lot more about that one!

U.N.

At Lake Success today the Soviets proposed that any nation invading the territory of another be branded as an aggressor. This -- "Even without a declaration of war."

The Russian proposal was made to the U. N. Political Committee in a lengthy document entitled - "Duties of states in the event of the outbreak of hostilities." It attempts to define aggression - and also lists fifteen situations ~~as~~ "Not sufficient to justify an attack."

We are sure to hear a lot more about that one!

SCIENTIST

In London the House of Commons learned today that "without doubt" Professor Bruno Pontecorvo, Britain's cosmic ray specialist, is now in the Soviet Union. Announcing this, Britain's supply minister said that, so far as is known, Pontecorvo has no vital documents with him. Pontecorvo disappeared in the Finnish capital of Helsinki in September. During the war he worked in Canada with Dr. Allan May and Dr. Fuchs - both of whom gave atomic secrets to Russia.

CRASH

High in the French Alps twenty mountain soldiers are tonight climbing the treacherous ^{Day} Des Bossons Glacier. Still have seven thousand feet to go - before they can reach the wreckage of the French Constellation Malabar Princess, sighted yesterday near the summit of Mont Blanc - the plane from India with forty-eight ~~x~~ on board. Planes that have circled the wreckage - high up on the highest mountain of Europe - so far report "absolutely no sign of life." The rescue party, equipped with snowshoes, ropes and radios, is moving in groups of four, roped together.

Fine, dry powdery snow in waist deep drifts on the glacier, has greatly increased the avalanche danger.

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The latest - a veteran alpine climber, leader of the trail-breaking party fighting up Mont Blanc, was killed today. Swept away by an avalanche.

As night fell attempts to reach the wrecked plane were abandoned until tomorrow.

POLITICS

President Truman today issued an appeal to the voters, both Democrats and Republicans. He was in his home town, Independence, Missouri, and his plea was - vote, go to the polls tomorrow, no matter which way you cast your ballot. The occasion was the dedication of a liberty bell presented to the people of Independence^e_f by the Town of Annecy in France. A liberty bell for Independence, - ~~It~~ sounds appropriate. The President added a warning to the free world - to build greater defenses against Communist aggression. Today all over the country the candidates were in a whirlwind of activity, last-minute electioneering for tomorrow. In New York, a record-breaking performance was put on by Governor Dewey - who, right now, is a little more than two-thirds of the way through an eighteen-hour stretch of continuous radio and television appeal. From six o'clock this morning, until midnight -- touring New York City, with radio and television equipment, and answering all questions. Anybody ^{who} ~~that~~ wants to ask him a question, in person, by telephoning, any way - ^{gets} ~~has~~ an answer; Broadcast and televised. In this campaign Governor

Dewey has appeared as a television star - and is capping the climax with that eighteen-hour stint today. *Right* *thru* the campaign he has used television in this informal, off-the-cuff way - developing a new campaign technique.

The book sections of newspapers and magazines are headlining a literary event of the day -- and I can't ignore it, because this program has been in on the story as it developed. At one time or another, I've told of closely guarded boxes of papers coming into this country -- and received by an old friend, Colonel ^{Ralph} Isham of New York. Literary treasures -- the fruit of a quest of twenty-five years.

Back in the early Twenties, it was learned that, in an ancient Norman Castle in Ireland, there existed a huge collection of papers left by James Boswell biographer of Dr. Samuel Johnson - the Boswell-Johnson legend. These were in the possession of Lord Talbot de Malahyde of Malahyde Castle, a descendant of Boswell.

In New York, a top ranking dealer in rare manuscripts cabled an offer of two hundred thousand dollars for the Boswell papers - sight unseen. Which offer of a fortune was ignored by Lord Talbot de Malahyde, a most reserved aristocrat. Whereupon, Colonel Ralph ^{an American and} Isham, a fancier of the rare things of

literature, tried his hand at it. He went to Ireland, and, at Malahyde Castle, performed an exploit of diplomacy. Ralph ^{Isham} was an officer, ^{a Colonel} on the British staff ^{General} in the First World War; and he persuaded Lord and Lady Talbot de Malahyde to sell him their share of the ~~I~~ literary legacy of James Boswell.

Then, as the years went by, more Boswell papers were discovered, some in an old croquet box, others in a cow-barn at Malahyde. Finally, still more were found in an ancient country house in Scotland. A long drawn out Scottish law suit was necessary, and then came the oddest twist of all - the inside story:-

The Scottish authorities, those canny Scots, ruled that the American purchasers would have to pay death dues, reaching back to the demise of James Boswell in Seventeen Ninety-Five -- death dues for every time the papers were inherited during a period of one-hundred-and-fifty years! This inheritance tax - to be calculated at the present huge value of the papers. Which would just about bankrupt Ralph Isham, who had

already invested a large part of his fortune.

Quite a dilemma -- until solved by a friend from Australia. This friend, a highly placed Australian advised Isham: "Tell the Scots they can have the papers, and say you will have the question raised in the American Congress." Of course an appeal to Congress was too absurd to think of. But the threat was enough. The Scots did not want an international incident with the U.S.A., not with all that Marshall Plan money in prospect.

So the final batch of Boswell papers arrived, as I related last year -- and Colonel Isham sold the entire collection to Yale. More than five thousand items -- filling two huge steamer trunks and three cases.

One item: ~~the~~ Boswell's own intimate journal, with material he used later in his life of Dr. Samuel Johnson. This ^{intimate journal} has now been published, coming out today - for the literary event of the season.

BRANCH RICKEY

In the world of baseball, Branch Rickey becomes executive vice-president and general manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates. It was rumored insistently that Rickey, leaving Brooklyn, would take over the Pirates, tailenders last season. So that is it - Branch Rickey, for the third time, assuming the task of re-constructing a ball club and turning out a pennant winner - at 69.

He did it first in St. Louis (where he invented the farm club system and made the Cardinals the terror of the National League.) Then in Brooklyn - (where, all over again, he built a farm system and won pennants.) Now, attempting the same thing in Pittsburgh - Branch Rickey signing a five year contract, with an agreement for a second term of five years. Ten years - ~~in all~~ - beginning anew at the age of sixty-nine.

BRITISH BIRDS

The members of the British Ornithological Trust -- experts on our feathered friends-- are all a twitter - and no wonder.

It all started this way. A few months ago twenty blue tits flew in through the windows of Britain's famous Winchester College Chapel. There they went to work tearing up all the paper in sight - hymn books, prayer books, and Bibles. Soon after from Yorkshire came a report: a blue tit - shredding a bulky timetable, full of those train schedules and all that.

Then word from all over Britain - jackdaws, bullfinches, magpies, partridges, and blue tits - tearing up paper in a way hitherto unheard of. So no wonder British ornithologists are all a twitter.

And Nelson, who is the young lady with you who seems to be all a twitter?