

KOREA

P.T. - P. & G. Thursday, May 17, 1951.

(Fisher, J. H.)

(In Korea the huge Red offensive has failed to collapse the U N line) has failed thus far. Last night we heard of a Communist break-through at the eastern end of the Central mountain front - where the Chinese "human sea" smashed the South Korean division. (Today's dispatch says the South Koreans were still retreating, in flight, and the dangerous gap exposed the flanks of American divisions.

But, units of U S infantry moved in and sealed up the break - through.) At last reports, the front there had been restored, was firm. It is emphasized that the Red smash at the South Koreans did not score anything like the success the enemy had in a similar drive weeks ago, when the first enemy spring offensive was launched -- and beaten off with savage losses.

Another critical area was to the north of Seoul, where the Communists hurled masses of troops in an all-out drive for the Korean capital. They failed completely - repelled with huge casualties.

as the Red wave broke against a stone-wall defense.

An artillery captain, Gerald Thompson of Fort Scott,

Kansas, ^{says:} declares "the bodies piled up, and they kept coming. I never heard of anything to equal it."

Today the weather was better, and air power was in devastating action all along the front. Fleets of planes added a rain of bombs to the hail of artillery fire - blasting the charging hordes of Communists. The air support included B- 29 Superforts, which hit the enemy within a thousand yards of the American front line; - ^{such} ~~which was~~ close-up work for ~~the~~ ^{aircraft} ~~monsters of the sky.~~

That, on the east central front alone, ten thousand Chinese communists were killed yesterday.

FOLLOW KOREA

The latest is a dispatch tonight stating that the Reds have renewed their assault on the American lines in front of Seoul. The dispatch says that wave after wave of cannon-fodder Chinese infantrymen were thrown from dusk until midnight into a death trap. At two thirty A.M. Korea time, United Press Correspondent Richard Applegate telephoned from a front line position saying: "The flash of battle is like throwing matches into a drum of gasoline." That is how violent the fight is. The total of enemy troops is said to be mounting to the five hundred thousand figure. One American field officer estimates that, on the east central front alone, ten thousand Chinese Communists were killed yesterday.

EMBARGO_

(The U N votes a total arms embargo against Communist China. Action taken by the top political committee today - with a final passage assured by tomorrow or Saturday.) Only the Iron curtain countries objected, and they will ignore the embargo, which is expected to stop a certain amount of war material still going from the West to the far Eastern reds.

GERMAN TRADE TRADE

4
Word from abroad confirms charges that Western Germany is shipping a surprising amount of strategic material to Red China. At Frankfurt figures show that strategic exports from Western Germany to China increased more than twenty-six hundred percent after the beginning of the Korean war. Moreover, the biggest boost occurred after Red China intervened in the conflict. These exports vary all the way from chemicals to optical instruments, drugs, heavy machinery -- all of military value.

On the other hand, strategic materials from China to Western Germany decreased sharply, such things as rare metals for alloys. The West Germans now receive from China such imports as -- fats, oilseeds, dried eggs, feathers.

FOLLOW GERMAN TRADE

~~In the Senate this afternoon, O'Connor~~
~~of Maryland demanded that the government "clamp~~
~~down" on the West Germans by denying them economic~~
~~aid. But the complication of the problem is seen in~~
Q ~~dispatch from Indonesia,~~ [^] where political leaders
declared that an embargo on war materials, such as
rubber, might ruin Indonesia - a rubber-producing
area. The statement is made that the islands out
there might be forced into the "anti-American camp."

TRUMAN

(President Truman, today) gave ^{an inside} ~~some highly~~ *version of events leading to* ~~interesting information about~~ the removal of General Douglas MacArthur. He (said he had considered dismissing MacArthur for more than a year. That is, as early as last spring, or earlier. Meaning - before the Korean war began, months before.)

Which sounds surprising. What had MacArthur done - before Korea? (The President said that, even then, the Supreme Commander in Tokyo was not giving his whole-hearted support to the policies of the government in Washington) policies concerning the Far East. Then the Korean conflict only added to the disagreements. ^{TR} He said he was reluctant to dismiss the victor of the Pacific in World War Two - and hoped all along that it would not be necessary. He pointed out that he had supported legislation to give Five Star Generals their rank for life, and his impulse was to favor them. The country was grateful to these high officers, and still is grateful. That, added the President, included Five Star General Douglas MacArthur.

But the idea of removing the Supreme Commander kept on recurring -- especially after the MacArthur letter to the Veterans of Foreign Wars last summer. In this, (the General was critical of the administration policy toward Formosa and the Chinese nationalists.) The White House instructed him to withdraw the letter - but, by that time, it had already been published.

Today President Truman said that he was angry about it, but he went to the Wake Island conference last October, hoping to reach an understanding with the Supreme Commander - and thought he had. But it didn't turn out that way.

His final decision was made when MacArthur issued his famous declaration - offering to negotiate with the Communist Commander in the field, which amounted to an ultimatum to the Chinese. This is ~~xxx~~ said to have disrupted peace proposals that the western powers were prepared to offer. That made up the Truman mind - and then, shortly afterward, came

the MacArthur letter to Congressman Joe Martin, Republican leader in the House. But that only added a final touch to a decision already made.

The President said the removal of MacArthur was his own idea, and he placed it before the top level conference at the White House on April Sixth. Secretary of State Acheson advised caution - warning that the dismissal of MacArthur would raise an uproar. Today the Truman comment was -- it did. Acheson was right, Actually three meetings were held on the subject - the President emphasizing that the whole thing was given most careful consideration.

Latest. General MacArthur's comment on the Truman statement that the dismissal of the Supreme Commander was considered a year before it happened. MacArthur says that his reaction to the Truman statement is, in his words:- "Astonishment bordering onto incredulity!" There will be more on this tomorrow.

BRADLEY

In the vote on General Bradley, party lines were split today. In the Senate Committee investigating the dismissal of General MacArthur, the majority of eighteen to eight - upholding the refusal of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to tell about conversations with President Truman in the ousting of MacArthur. Twelve Democrats and six Republicans voted to support Bradley. The minority consisted of two Democrats and six Republicans - the G O P split half and half on this issue.

TAXES

The Ways and Means Committee of the House has voted to abolish the amusement tax for non-profit organizations. This would apply to many types of entertainment- staged by religious, charitable and educational institutions. The tax would be taken ~~from~~ ^{off} tickets to non-profit shows given by communities, veterans' groups, police and fire departments. Also - symphony orchestras and opera companies working on a non-profit basis. Which might include the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York. The bill would exempt athletic contests, put on by elementary and secondary schools - but not those run by colleges. Apparently, ~~the~~ College athletics, such as football, are not considered -- non-profit.

JUROR

There is likely to be public indignation over the case of a woman at Waterloo, Ohio, sentenced to six months in the reformatory today. Mrs. Jeannette Watson, attractive wife of a prominent industrial designer. Her offense -- she refused to serve as a juror in ~~an~~ a murder ~~trial~~ trial. When called upon to take the oath she said: "I have to have someone to take care of my children before I can take the oath. I am sorry Judge, but I don't know what ~~to~~ to do with my children." Mrs. Watson has two small sons.

Her husband denounces the jail sentence as unjust and declares: "She told the Judge she had no one to take care of our children and it seemed to me ~~in~~ that they could have let her off. I cannot take care of them. I guess I could quit my job for the duration of the trial, but it is an awful situation." ^P It was an intensely human situation, the mother and her children -- but that seemed to mean little to His Honor, the Judge, who sentenced Mrs. Watson to six months in the reformatory.

IRAN

(The British note to Iran was delivered today) a modified version toned down on advice from the United States. The note is conciliatory in tone but firm in what it states. (It rejects all idea that Iran has the right to cancel the treaty which granted oil concessions to the Anglo-Persian company. It proposes that Britain send a mission to Teheran to negotiate ~~xxx~~ a settlement.) Also- suggests the possibility that a new oil company might be formed, with Iranian representatives, as well as British.

The note warns that, if the Iranian government goes ahead and nationalizes the properties of the Anglo-Persian oil company, serious consequences may ensue. Those consequences are not stated - but, in London, there is little further talk of landing British paratroopers in the oil fields.

At Teheran today, parliamentary deputies of Iran shouted in defiance - and the statement was made that any landing of paratroopers would be resisted by the Iranian army and the oil fields would set on fire, if necessary.

RED POSTERS

In Vienna, the faces of Communist big-shots, are RED. They've been putting out blasts of Titoist propaganda -- Titoist being the arch heresy. They didn't know they were doing it.

The Reds pasted up fifty thousand posters all over Vienna - placards booming the Soviet - sponsored peace ~~movement~~ movement. Each line was a powerful slogan -- against the American imperialists. Today the painful fact was noticed. If you take the second letter of each line -- and spell downwards -- it reads: "Long Live Tito." Which is known among devotees of puzzles as an -- acrostic. The author who wrote the Red peace propaganda blast was a secret anti-Communist -- and he worked in an acrostic hailing Tito.

So today in Vienna, the faces of the big-shot Communists were the same color as their politics -- Red.

COMMUNIST MEETINGS

In the Soviet sector of Berlin, the Reds have ordered powerful propaganda among the factory workers - indoctrination meetings after the days work is done. So Fritz and Adolf are called upon to attend, and hear the party line expounded, according to the gospel of Stalin. But the old dame, called human nature is taking a hand in the game - and there's a protest from wives of the factory workers. They say that whenever Fritz and Adolph want to stay out late, straying from the domestic hearth, they now have a new excuse - kept late at a party meeting! Communist version of the old American excuse -- kept late at the office. ^H The situation is all the more critical, because the Commies have put a lot of women workers in the factories, and the wives at home suspect that these are the real party line. Parties -- of another sort. So today a decree was issued by Red unions. Hereafter when factory workers attend propaganda meetings, the wives must also be invited - Gretchen and Frieda. *And somehow, I don't know why, N., that makes me think of you.*