

KOREA IS THE PRETEXT

Police state peril

THE RAIN-SOAKED MEDICS LIFTED the dead GI from a jeep sticky with the muck of the South Korean roads, and carried him in. Another GI, wrote Marguerite Higgins, covering the war at the front for the N. Y. Herald Tribune, looked at the lifeless form shrouded in a blanket and said bitterly: "What a place to die!"

What a place to die, indeed! As this is written more and more American soldiers are being landed in Korea to support a "free democratic regime" which in fact no longer exists—a regime which when it did exist was as corrupt and hated as that of Chiang Kai-shek in China.

As though Korea were not enough, we are committed by our mad policy to "save" equally corrupt and hated regimes throughout Asia.

FOR ALL WHO HAVE THE FACTS the Korean fiasco has proven what the GUARDIAN has been saying almost since its inception:

- That the government the American people elected in 1948 is riddled with corruption and utterly incompetent even to carry through its own morally indefensible policy.

- That Truman's over-fed brass hats have built their cold-war policy on arrogant illusions and on wholly false premises as to the world balance of forces.

- That this policy, being militarily and politically hopeless, must end by plunging the U. S. into disaster.

The crisis of U. S. policy has become so acute that, in our opinion, it may develop into the supreme crisis of this country's history. It may also be the supreme crisis for progressives who understand what is happening and see what may be coming—both abroad and at home.

TO SHROUD THE SPECTACLE of American blood flowing in this insane adventure abroad, a total police state is being prepared at home.

On June 28, three days after U. S. planes began bombing Korea, Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio announced that the Republican Policy Committee had voted to demand that a "Communist registration" bill be added to the "must list."

On June 30, the day President Truman ordered the first American ground troops into Korea, Senator Karl Mundt (R-S.D.) moved that his infamous "subversive control" bill be taken up. There was no quorum. On July 1 the Senate met again and voted to adjourn for four days. Thus the bill was kept off the floor by the anxiety of the Senate to have a holiday. But the Senate is back in session and the danger, in the face of U. S. reverses in Korea, is great.

IF YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN what this bill would do, let us remind you:

- It would outlaw the First Amendment, which says the "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press . . . or the right . . . peaceably to assemble and to . . . petition the government. . . ."

- It would suppress the efforts of all organizations, such as the Quakers, to work for peace and to outlaw the use of atomic weapons.

- It would put you in jail if you belonged to a group campaigning for rent control, or against anti-semitism or jimerow, by labeling such groups subversive fronts.

- It would smash labor unions by appointing a Subversive Activities Control Board with unlimited powers; it would compel unions to surrender membership lists which, when published in the press, would pave the way for blacklists and mass firings.

- It would impose severe fines and jail sentences on leaders of unions, fraternal groups, religious institutions and peace societies refusing to tag themselves "subversive."

We have rallied you to action before, and you have responded. This time we ask you to rally as never before to stem the tide of fascism that threatens to engulf us all. You must write or wire Senate Majority Leader Lucas to defeat any effort to bring up the Mundt bill. You must tell your own senators and get every friend you have to do the same. There is no time to lose.

If this legislative monstrosity is crushed now it will be an inescapable demonstration to the madmen of Washington that America is waking up to the sickening disregard for human life and liberty that is rampant today.

Will you raise your voice to cry, "Enough?" Or will you have it stilled?

THE EDITORS OF THE GUARDIAN

NATIONAL GUARDIAN

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"Dear Ma, by the time you get this . . ."

A GI sits on parachute packs under the wings of a B-29 as he writes his last letter home before quitting "stateside" for the war in Korea. In the editorial on this page (left) one of his buddies sums up the feeling of the boys fighting there. Will this one return to tell how he felt?

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Will this happen again?

THE loud little handful, as usual will shout for war. The pulpit will warily and cautiously object, at first.

The great big mass of the Nation will rub its sleepy eyes and try to make out why there should be a war and will say, earnestly and indignantly, "It's unjust and dishonorable and there is no necessity for it."

Then the handful will shout louder. A few fair men on the other side will argue and reason against the war with speech and pen, and at first will have a hearing and be applauded.

But it will not last long. Those others will outshout them and presently the anti-war audiences will thin out and lose popularity.

Before long, you will see this curious thing: the speakers stoned from the platform and free speech strangled by hordes of furious men who in their secret hearts are still at one with the stoned speakers, as earlier, but do not dare to say so now.

And the whole Nation, pulpit and all, will take up the war cry and shout itself hoarse, and mob any honest man who ventures to open his mouth. And presently such mouths will cease to open.

Next the statesmen will invent cheap lies, putting the blame on the nation that is attacked, and every man will be glad of those conscience-soothing falsities and will diligently study them.

And thus he will, by and by, convince himself that the war is just and will thank God for the better sleep he enjoys after this process of grotesque self-deception.

—MARK TWAIN.

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JULY 12, 1950

THE MAILBAG



Korea: Parallel with Spain

BOSTON, MASS.
With reference to the situation in Korea, I believe large numbers of thinking people are aware of certain parallels between U.S. intervention in Korea and Franco's action in Spain.

Ralph G. Beane
Including, for example, U.S. NEWS Far Eastern editor Joseph Fromm, who in the July 7 issue of that paper says the Korean war "looks more and more (like) another civil war like Spain." It will be recalled that "non-intervention" was U.S. policy when Hitler and Mussolini poured troops into Spain to help Franco overturn the government. We believe thinking people are asking today: What would be U.S. policy if the Spanish democrats revolted against Franco? Is there any country in the world where civil revolt against right-wing tyranny would not be regarded in Washington as "Russian-inspired"—and hence, as "naked aggression"? Ed.

A Bunche mission?

MANHATTAN, BEACH, CALIF.
Here is an idea that deserves wide publicity and adoption for bringing about peace in Korea:

Dr. Ralph Bunche has demonstrated that wars can be brought to an end by diplomacy and that he knows how to employ it for such an end. The idea is to withdraw Gen. MacArthur and his command from the scene of action and send Dr. Bunche at the head of a corps of peace-loving diplomats to the area to do the kind of job he did in Palestine. This would save mothers, relatives and friends of soldiers, sailors and marines, whoever and wherever they may be, untold misery—and the lives of tens of thousands of these soldiers, sailors and marines.

Humanity cries out for PEACE by peaceful methods and not by war, the method of the jungle.

G. E. Boyd

The real danger

BALTIMORE, MD.

There seems little left of the Bill of Rights after the spy trials. Now the President, who in his inauguration oath swore to defend the Constitution, has flagrantly violated it by declaring war without the consent of the Senate. And he did it because he was instigated by the military. Clearly our Republic is in greater danger from the military than it is from the Communists.

Lewis Bayard Robinson

Take profits out of war

NEW YORK, N. Y.

This is a copy of a letter sent to President Truman:

You have sent American soldiers to Korea. Many of them will die. You are approving the spending of billions of dollars of the American people's money for war materials. The deaths and wounds are bringing pain and suffering to many Americans. But the government contracts for war materials are bringing profits and encouragement to other Americans.

Is the U.S. a land where patriotism means death for the many and great profits for the few? Is it patriotic to profit from war? It is not patriotic. It is cynical selfishness. It is immoral and criminal.

Government contracts for war materials should allow not a single penny for profits! Not a single American should die while others profit from his death. We say—take the profits out of war and then we will have peace!

We urge that legislation to take the profits out of war be passed. We are urging this upon the ma-

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and lecture in a rented hall. We have advertised widely and are inviting each new subscriber to attend. Prizes will be awarded for high sub-getting. Mrs. K. Pattison

Write for Howard Fast

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Everything Howard Fast has written has celebrated democratic America. Yet he is locked in an American jail.

He has fought for the liberties of all Americans from Georgia to Peekskill, and now his liberty is taken from him.

He has spoken, written, labored for peace. His crime is peace, his crime is democracy, his place a cell.

What happens to a country which imprisons its good, penalizes its generous, punishes its patriots? Unless that course is reversed, war happens and death comes to millions. This is as certain as gravity. Nazi Germany proved it, as did Mussolini's Italy and Tojo's Japan. Acquiesce in the jailing of those who speak for peace, and you have invited the unspeakable catastrophe of atomic war and collaborated in the murder of your children.

FREE HOWARD FAST and you have moved for the safety of your children. Give him liberty and you have increased the liberty of all Americans everywhere.

It can be done and you who read this can begin to do it. Write President Harry S. Truman, the White House, Washington D. C., demanding immediate pardon and commutation of sentence for Howard Fast. Tell the President that Fast is a political prisoner, a victim of the drive for war.

Howard Fast wrote for you.

Now you write for him—yet not for him but for yourself and your children, for your country and for peace.

Richard O. Boyer

One hundred and one

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Enclosed please find a check for \$101. One dollar covers renewal subscription, the balance is my contribution to your paper.

M. Rosen

Friends on the Coast

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

I'm enclosing a check for \$25 which several of us raised at a little affair. The GUARDIAN is doing a fine job in bringing the truth to the people. You have many friends on the West Coast in your fight for peace and civil rights.

Conrad (Kenny) Rosenbaum

and minority leaders of Congress by sending them copies of this letter. Morally, you cannot but agree. We expect your courage to be no smaller than that of those you have sent to Korea.

Ideas for Action
114 W. 109th St.



Waterloo for Truman?

FARMERSVILLE, TEX.

The President is determined to have a toe-hold on the mainland of Asia. He proposes to hold in check the Chinese Communists, lest they take over Formosa. Then Chiang Kai-shek would no longer have a voice in the UN.

Cong. Marcantonio charges Mr. Truman with usurping the right to declare war. Well, the President had good reasons to believe that Marc was the only one likely to impeach him. He knew there had already been a coalition ticket framed to keep Marc out hereafter.

It must be remembered that Mr. Truman ordered A-bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to "save" a lot of lives. The Korea affair very likely will result in a Truman and a "Cold War" Waterloo.

T. L. Huggins

For a unified Korea

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Here is a telegram I have sent to UN Secy. Gen. Trygve Lie, with copies to Attlee, Churchill, Einstein, Nehru, Stalin and Truman:

FACILITATE NORTH KOREAN WITHDRAWAL NOW PROCLAIM PEACE PROGRAM THAT UNIFIED KOREA WON'T BECOME SINGLE POWERS MILITARY BASIS BUT UNTIL FULL INDEPENDENCE TEMPORARY UN PROTECTORATE ADMINISTERED BY ASIAN NATIONS UNITED TO USA OR USSR.

Bodo C. Ohly

We commend reader Ohly's aim but ask: (1) Could the UN in its present form produce a non-partisan Asiatic protectorate? (2) Which Asian nations would under any circumstances be accepted by both the great powers as "untied" to either? Ed.

How Minnesota does it

DULUTH, MINN.

In our Bootstrap operation we are using our mailing list for contacts. I sorted the names on the list in five districts to completely cover Duluth. We have a captain in charge of each district, and each captain has a team of people to cover that territory. The team members report to their captains every Saturday and the captains in turn report to their chairmen every Sunday so that I (the chairman) can mail out the subs to you. The teams are not restricted to the list names, however. They may pick up any subscription that they are able to get.

We set our time limit for July 25 at which time we are having Elmer Benson at a buffet dinner

Report to readers

Now's the time for a million Guardian readers

RIGHT now, in this Korean crisis, the GUARDIAN happens to be the one and only independent publication available throughout the country to offset the hypocrisy, jingoism and outright lying of fully 99% of our press and radio.

The June 28 and July 5 issues of NATIONAL GUARDIAN, covering the outbreak of the Korean affair, have been just about the biggest best-sellers in our career. Telegrams, letters, phone calls and in-person visits to our office have demanded dozens, hundreds, even thousands of extra copies. The June 28 issue has been completely sold out, including a modest extra run and our returned newsstand copies. The July 5 issue is already fully spoken for and we will not be able to meet all the requests.

THE crying need throughout the whole country for reliable, unpoisoned, peace-seeking information is palpably apparent.

Through the above-mentioned fire-brigade demands for extra copies, and because many GUARDIAN readers pass their copies on to others, our issues covering the news and backgrounds of the Korean situation have now reached 250,000 Americans.

Think of what a dent we could make in the war crowd's armor of misinformation if that figure could be boosted to 1,000,000 or more every week!

THE time has never been more urgent for us to place the GUARDIAN in a million hands every week—and together we can do it, NOW!

Don't bet on any of these Aladdin's Lamp systems for winning the peace by conjuring up some political genie from far-off Indy to soothe the troubled countenance of the world.

BET on yourself: you alone can win peace; and you can win it fastest and most securely by placing the most and best information you can find in the hands of as many as you can.

The GUARDIAN is in business wholly and solely to help you with this job. You send us the names, we'll send them the paper. But do it NOW, today—time's a-wasting at a faster clip than ever before.—THE EDITORS.

The frozen river has thawed for them

SHANGHAI

In Peking former prostitutes have written and are acting a play telling their own story to packed audiences twice a day. The play, according to a New China News Agency dispatch from Peking, is an extremely moving description of the lives of these women in Peking and what has happened to them since Peking's liberation.

IN "The Frozen River Has Thawed," there is no plot. The play tries only to bring home the unbelievable hell of brothel life and the equally incredible story of the re-education of

Peking's prostitutes after the government closed all brothels and arrested all their keepers last November.

One of the leading actresses, in real life, is 17-year-old Wu Yuling, whose peasant family had to sell her to a landlord during a famine year. Later he sold her for a few ounces of gold to a Peking brothel keeper named Hwang Hsuehing, who is known to have killed five girls for various reasons—two of whom he buried alive. A livid scar on Wu Yu-ling's forehead and others on her body bear witness to some of the brutalities she has suffered.

As the play unfolds, the utter hopelessness of these girls is borne home. Every man is their enemy. The Kuomintang police are all in the racket; medical inspectors claim their share of pelf for letting the girls rot with disease instead of reporting them; they become useless and are strangled, buried alive, tortured to death by sub-human sadists who own them. Even the lover who helps a girl to escape in order to marry her turns out to be only another slave dealer.



IT was no easy matter to get these girls to talk, as their play makes clear. After years in the absolute power of such monsters as Hwang and Black Peony, with police and government officials all in the business and the whole law lined up against them, they trusted no one. They feared that if they whispered a word against their ex-owners they would be murdered outright. They did not believe that the government really meant to wipe out prostitution; they did not know they could live except by prostitution; they had no hope—only fear.

At the Production and Education Institute, these former prostitutes found books to read, good food and comfortable beds, medical workers were freed from other work to concentrate on curing them of venereal disease, regardless of cost to the government. Softened by kindness, one would agree to talk, then another, until the government had enough witnesses to call an "accusation meeting."

Once the girls saw some of their ex-colleagues boldly accusing their old procurers and felt that the law could really protect them, the trickle of denunciation became a flood and one after another, the former brothel keepers went from the "accusation meetings" to face the people's court. And one after another the ex-prostitutes sighed with relief and settled down to think about what sort of work they would like to go in for. The institute could then at last begin serious training.

THIS play was written by some of the former prostitutes to help others understand their lives, problems and the changes liberation had brought them. Its impact was so great that they were asked to stage it in public to help the public understand what was happening to them. The play will end its run soon and the actresses will leave to take up work they have selected.

But the brothel keepers accused of inhuman acts by these former prostitutes will have to stay and wait the decision of the people's courts on how they will expiate their crimes.

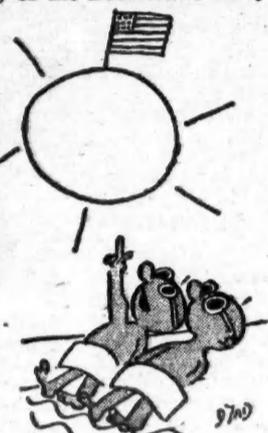
—From "The China Weekly Review"

MAX WERNER on Korea: The long-range view of the crisis

The prediction of GUARDIAN's military analyst, Max Werner, at the outbreak of war that South Korean resistance would crumble, is only the latest in a long history of brilliantly correct forecasts. In 1938 Werner said that the U.S.S.R. would fight on the Allied side and amaze everyone with her military strength. The same year he foresaw the collapse of the French army. In October, 1941, he said, "The Red Army cannot be beaten," while top "experts" predicted its defeat within weeks. Werner's forecasts are not drawn out of thin air. He says: "To make military predictions it is necessary to know the military and political history, the national psychology, the economics, the organizations of each belligerent. This I know."

THE drama in South Korea is only a part in the sudden change in U.S. foreign policy and strategy. The Atlantic-first policy of the Democratic Party and the Joint Chiefs of Staff has been overridden by the Pacific-first policy of the Republican Party and Gen MacArthur. The foreign policy of Secy. Acheson has been rejected; accepted has been the foreign policy of Taft-Knowland-Bridges. The strategy of Gens. Marshall and Bradley has been rejected; accepted has been the strategy of Gens. MacArthur, Chenault and Wedemeyer.

In this change-over the old style Republican isolationists and Asia-firsters and the streamlined global interventionists joined hands. The shift to the Pacific has brought as an immediate result a deep split in our military strategy.



Daily Worker, London
"Look, Alfie, defense against aggression."

WORLD IS TOO BIG: For years the Army's and the entire fighting services' arguments against U.S. Pacific-Asiatic entanglements were overwhelmingly strong. It has been said time and again that the U.S. cannot be equally strong in the Atlantic and the Pacific; and that therefore an active U.S. strategy all over the globe, a combined strong Atlantic-Pacific strategy, is unfeasible.

The argument has now become even stronger: if operations against small North Korea may demand an engagement of at least a half of the U.S. peacetime army, how many U.S. troops would be needed to oppose the combined Chinese-Soviet forces in the Far East? And if billions were to be poured into the Pacific expanses, with very limited U.S. land forces marshalled against the impregnable Asiatic continent—what would be left for the defense of Western Europe?

This Pacific strategy is on trial today. The trial will be hard. The military realities of that gigantic Pacific-Far Eastern area are unmistakable:

- Sea and air power cannot be a decisive weapon against the strongly-armed Soviet-Chinese Asiatic continental bloc.

- The off-shore bases in the Pacific—whether Japan, Formosa, or the Philippines—are partly strongly-exposed, and partly indefensible.

- Bringing the U.S. land forces to any point of the Asiatic continent must be an operation burdened with tremendous risks, as the development of fighting in South Korea shows.

ASIA'S GROWING POWER: Any U.S. strategic planning for the Pacific and the Far East has to consider the overwhelmingly important fact that Asia is going through a military revolution and is growing rapidly into a great military power.

The Chinese army emerged from the civil war as a military force of high fighting skill, eager for thorough modernization. In the early thirties Japanese pressure brought about the building up of the first-rate Soviet land force in the Far East. There is no doubt that with tension in the Pacific mounting,

the Soviet Union and China will do their utmost to build up air and sea forces along the Pacific coasts.

Thus Gen. MacArthur's strategy will undoubtedly unleash very strong counter-forces within Asia.

EUROPE ON A LIMB: Meantime the crisis in the Pacific has spontaneously annulled our Atlantic strategy. Anyhow, the Atlantic Pact with its very frail and uncertain construction was literally hanging on a single thread. The campaign in Korea has thoroughly cut off this thread. Now, with U.S. strategy shift to the Pacific and Asia, the Pact has become a museum piece.

At first, the West European diplomats and politicians who insisted on fast U.S. intervention in South Korea did not grasp that they are channeling American power in a direction in which it can only be bogged down, being definitely diverted from West Europe. They now become aware of their grave miscalculation. Anne O'Hare McCormick reports in the New York Times:

... As the days pass and it becomes evident to everyone that the defense of South Korea is not a mere police action, but involves a substantial and perhaps prolonged deployment of American force, another question... takes first place in the minds of the Europeans. How will this new and incalculable American commitment affect us, they ask. Will the battle for Korea deflect Washington from the policy of giving priority to defense of Europe?

TOPPLING STRATEGY: Miss McCormick gives a penetrating description of why the Korean campaign makes French politicians shudder. They have their own experience with the campaign in Indo-China. And they are afraid that

the Americans are drawn into a fight in which Russia has chosen the battlefield, dictated the terms and is in a position to determine the length of the operation and the amount of force we have to throw into it.

The apprehensions of these French politicians are justified, they are realistic, they are correct. The flimsy balance our strategy has erected between Western Europe and the Pacific has toppled. The defeat of the South Koreans and our ordeal in the blood-soaked peninsula have not solved the strategic problem of the Pacific. But they spell strategic and political weakening of Western Europe.

U.S. mobilizing for a long pull as North Koreans thrust deeper

BY last Friday "hopes of a quick and decisive end to the Korean fighting had gone," as military commentator Hanson Baldwin wrote in the New York Times. But President Truman was cheerful. He told Washington correspondents on Thursday that everything would work out all right. He denied there was any present need or intention to mobilize reserves or the National Guard or to ask Congress for additional war funds.

Twenty-four hours later the Pentagon announced reactivation of the draft for 19- to 26-year-olds, with a preliminary call going out for reservists and volunteers. The lid was officially taken off the arms budget: Defense Secretary Johnson asked for a blank check. The President demanded \$260,000,000 more for the Hydrogen bomb.

ONE BIG PACKAGE: Stories of imminent "total mobilization" were planted in the press. The N.Y. Herald Tribune said the Administration was working on a "single package" omnibus war powers bill which would include "censorship of press and radio." Congress approved W. Stuart Symington as chairman of the National Security Resources Board—a kind of "Assistant President" in charge of war mobilization. Symington scheduled a meeting with CIO and AFL labor leaders for July 10 to discuss labor's war role. There were hints of a labor draft and a wage freeze.

The Senate Armed Services Committee, stung by early U.S. reverses in

Korea, announced it would demand from the nation's military chiefs a complete explanation. The Wall St. Journal's Washington correspondent reported "diplomats and soldiers sweating in the morning after," because there had been "no careful calculation of all the risks."

POT-SHOTS: In the first week of the U.S.'s Korean adventure this much was being admitted: South Koreans not only refused to fight against their countrymen from the North—some were fighting against U.S. troops, some were apparently sabotaging U.S. efforts.

The South Korean army was out of the war by July 3. The Times' Baldwin reported July 1 that "a large percentage of the South Korean army has disappeared—some wounded, some dead, many surrendered, but most of them just plain deserters." United Press, July 4, said South Korean units which offered no opposition to Northern troops "have taken many a pot-shot at U.S. bombers in the sky" and fired at U.S. jeeps. On July 7 UP reported:

U.S. Army officers, bitter at the failure of American-trained South Korean troops to stand up and fight the Communists, said today they suspected deliberate sabotage of republican weapons. Members of the Advisory Group, which spent two years whipping into shape what they had believed to be a crack anti-invasion army, also were mystified by unorderly retreats carried out without permission and in many cases without even making contact with the enemy. . . .

U.S. officers suspected that sabotage had played a large part in the South Korean failures so far. Many weapons would not work. . . . It was with great disappointment that the Americans watched the virtual rout of this army, an army they had thought one of the best in Asia. The South Koreans, trained to meet exactly this kind of invasion which occurred June 25, had learned to handle modern weapons. . . . Then came the test. . . . When the first Communist breakthrough occurred north of Seoul, the South Korean general in charge refused to move his troops, while the unit on his flank was counter-attacking successfully. . . .

During the fighting south of Seoul, American advisers. . . . on three different occasions saw units move forward to defense positions, only to return two hours later with the explanation: "We were ordered to withdraw." It was impossible to learn where the orders came from.



WOMEN ARRESTED IN SOUTH KOREA AS GUERRILLAS
Just before the war broke, these women were arrested as "trouble-makers" by the South Korean forces and put in a stockade. What their fate was nobody knows. But judging by previous treatment of dissidents, it is certain it was not light.

THEY HAD ARMS: A House Foreign Affairs Committee report, published July 5, revealing that \$110,000,000 worth of U.S. arms (including many anti-tank guns) had been sent to South Korea in the past year, gave the lie to charges that the defeat was due to inadequate armament. So did ECA testimony in the Senate 12 days before the outbreak. ECA officials said South Korea was "prepared to meet any challenge."

VANISHING ASSEMBLY: UN sources said elements in the South Korean government were suing for surrender to the North Korean government. They cited a cable from the South Korean Foreign Minister to Trygve Lie denouncing "illegal negotiations" with the North. UN officials were trying to learn what had become of the South Korean legislature, which since the May 30 elections has been overwhelmingly anti-Rhee. Thirteen Assembly delegates were in jail at the time of the outbreak. Some sources feared other delegates might have been executed in view of the Rhee government's admission that it executed more than 100 "pro-communist politicians" the day before it fled Seoul.

South Korea's Minister of the Interior turned up in the Northern capi-

tal, from whence he broadcast an appeal to his compatriots to join the Northern People's Republic. The South Korean trade union federation called on its members to disrupt communications and railways and to strike in order to help the People's Republic of the North.

Israel Epstein, Allied Labor News expert on the Far East, wrote:

Like the Chinese people with regard to Chiang, all Koreans seem divided in their attitude to Rhee, into two parts: those fighting against him and those who refuse to fight for him. As in China, the Korean conflict is a war in outer form; a popular revolution inside.

The Times' Hanson Baldwin noted the "stout morale, high spirit, good training and sound tactics" of the North Koreans. Max Werner called them "formidable fighters." The Times even found a "ring of passion" in the North Korean protest to the UN, denouncing the U.S.'s "barbarous bombing of peaceful towns and villages" in North Korea, calling U.S. intervention "barefaced aggression."

NOT THERE: Russia refused to be provoked into intervention in Korea. Throughout the U.S.S.R., U.S. bombings were denounced at meetings calling for "Hands Off Korea." The Wall St. Jour-

(Continued on following page)



(Continued from preceding page)

nal reported from Washington June 30: We went into this shooting war to wage a political fight against the Russians. Today it looks like the shrewd Russians may simply ignore the challenge, neither backing down nor openly fighting. . . . Thus we may be drawn deeper into a war against a little man who wasn't there.

But the Russians did have harsh words for UN Secretary General Lie. Moscow's Literary Gazette called Lie "an abettor of American aggression," who had abandoned his principles in the hope of being re-elected Secretary General.

China was un-intimidated by the U.S. move to hold Formosa for Chiang Kai-shek. In a note to the UN the Chinese government declared it was determined to liberate Formosa "despite any military steps of obstruction" taken by the U.S. The message said the Security Council and the UN Secy. General in not opposing the U.S. move had "foregone their functions and duties of upholding world peace, and thereby become pliant instruments" of U.S. policy.

In Formosa, Chiang Kai-shek called on the UN to accuse Russia of war. His explosive offer to send 30,000 troops to South Korea was turned down by the U.S. Robert Allen wrote in the N.Y. Post:

Chiang is a lot stronger in Washington than anywhere else in the world, including Formosa. Formosans hate him and his 400,000 refugee troops as venomously as he claims to dislike the Communists.

CHIANG BESIDE HIMSELF: Chiang quickly defied the U.S. order to cease attacks on China. He resumed the search and seizure of ships flying the Chinese or the Kuomintang flag and reconnaissance flights along the China coast. Over the week-end Vice Adm. Struble, Commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet, conferred with Chiang's officials on "Sino-American cooperation in defense of Formosa Strait" (N.Y. Times). Chiang's officials were "delighted" with the result.

THE UNDIPLOMAT: U.S. officials were pushing "with a sense of urgency" to "strengthen the link" between the UN and the U.S.'s action in Korea. James Reston in the Times of July 9 reflected some worry in official circles on MacArthur as a UN Commander. He said MacArthur lacked the qualities of diplomacy and concern for the opinions of others needed for his new assignment:

Even in the present developing crisis he has demonstrated his old habit of doing things in his own way, without too much concern about waiting for orders from Washington. His instructions in the first few days of the Korean operation were to restrict his attacks to the area in Korea south of the 38th Parallel, but despite official denials, responsible officials here still insist that his planes attacked the North Korean capital before President Truman authorized any such action.

The question raised by Reston was whether MacArthur would obey present instructions to keep his planes and ships away from Russia and China.

A PACIFIC DUNKIRK: On the fighting front the North Korean of-

fensive advanced throughout the week from Suwon, just south of Seoul, beyond Chonan, 50 miles to the South. In their first battle with the North Koreans GI's were thrown back. Casualties were reported heavy. Some correspondents said the GI's had been thrown into the line inadequately armed and inadequately prepared.

By the week-end a U.S. plane was flying every minute from Japan to pound Korean troops and towns with bombs and gasoline jelly. The U.S. claimed North Korea's offensive was blunted, its planes driven from the air. But Max Werner in the N.Y. Daily Compass said U.S. troops faced a triple threat with the Koreans aiming at simultaneous encirclements—not only on the major front around U.S. headquarters at Taejon, but to the east where there is a virtual no-man's land. There guerrillas are moving in to cut U.S. supply lines from the rear. The North Korean aim, said Werner, was a "Pacific Dunkirk."

UNITED NATIONS

Eastern world just won't play

THE corridors, cafeteria and delegates' lounge at Lake Success rang throughout last week with angry Western voices, denouncing "feudal and corrupt Egypt" for its refusal to back U.S. intervention in Korea. Egypt had said in the Council chamber what all secretly knew: that the fighting was a consequence of the cold war, and that UN's speed to apply sanctions was in striking contrast to its inaction in other cases.

The shock was terrific: it took a day before the real meaning of Egypt's abstention sank in—that the Arab world wanted no part of the cold war. It had brought into the open the clash between the concepts of the East and those of Western colonial powers who won't recognize the right of an Eastern country, even if "independent," to follow its own policy.



NO OSTRICHES, PLEASE: Washington was so furious that it sent U.S. Ambassador Jefferson Caffery twice in two days to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry in Cairo. He told Egypt plainly that if it needed some help in the future—to get British troops out, for instance—it wouldn't get any. The New York Times blustered editorially on July 6:

This is no time to bury one's head in the sands of the Sahara Desert and ignore the fact that the world is at a crossroads. . . . It seems as if Egypt must reconsider and make the same fateful and satisfying decision [as India].

Thus the fact that there are people in Egypt, as in Korea, was ignored. If the Wafdist (mass-supported nationalist party) Egyptian government of Nahas Pasha, elected by a landslide vote, had voted "yes" instead of abstaining, it would probably have fallen or the Premier might have been murdered—an old Egyptian custom. For Egypt, the facts were simple. The people's will is to get British troops out of their country; therefore the government could not approve sending English-speaking troops to Korea.

WORRIED NEHRU: Satisfaction at India's "support" of the U.S. resolution was short-lived. Uneasiness grew among countries in the U.S. camp as the South Koreans collapsed and the U.S. began openly talking of an "anti-Communist" war (in such a war the UN by definition has no business, having been organized to bring the two camps together).

That none was more uneasy than India was shown when Premier Nehru

Kumar Goshal

How U.S. intervention looks

(Born and educated in India, now a U.S. citizen, Kumar Goshal is a specialist and lecturer on colonial problems and author of The People of India and People in Colonies. He spent several months in the Far East during a world tour in 1948).

WHEN the U.S. decided to send its armed forces to restore the Syngman Rhee government in South Korea, it did not stop there but announced a new military policy of force throughout Asia. It committed itself to do these four things by force:

- Preserve Formosa for Chiang Kai-shek;
- Return Indo-China to the French via the Bao Dai regime;
- Bolster British control of Malaya;
- Maintain the Quirino government in the Philippines.

If the facts were known, Americans would be better able to understand how Asians will interpret this display of military might.

Formosa

The people of Formosa (pop. 7,000,000) rose up two years ago against the graft-ridden Chiang government with which they have been saddled. They were suppressed with utmost brutality by Chiang's troops, with more than 5,000 killed. Writes Tillman Durdin in the N.Y. Times:

A large proportion of [Chiang's] troops . . . clutter Formosa's cities and engage in robberies, depredations to property and other lawless acts. . . . An estimated 5,000 secret servicemen police political opinions and activities of the populace. Formosans who express anti-government sentiments are known to have disappeared without trace.

The Times has reported that underground Formosan groups are still working for freedom from Chiang.

Viet Nam (Indo-China)

Five years of bitter warfare have been unable to win back for the French their profitable colony. With a 150,000-man army (including many thousands of former German Nazis) equipped with modern U.S. weapons, with an expenditure of \$1,000,000 a day and estimated casualties of 1,000 a month, the French have gained only shaky control over about 20% of the territory. Popular sentiment overwhelmingly favors the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam—the Viet Minh forces of Ho Chi Minh—and these forces numbering less than half of the French control 80% of the land.

The Ho Chi Minh government enjoys popular support because, among other democratic measures, it has seriously undertaken the distribution of land to the landless peasants. In their section of Indo-China the French government, with prior U.S. approval, put in power the playboy emperor Bao Dai. The regime is corrupt from top to bottom. "There is little doubt," writes C. L. Sulzberger of the Times, "that Bao Dai and his supporters are viewed as the American Revolution's Tories."

Malaya

For the last two years more than 100,000 British troops, including thousands of Gurkhas from India, have



been unsuccessful in defeating a small guerrilla army of revolutionaries. In the House of Commons debate on Malaya last April 6, Tory member L. D. Gammans said: "The facts of the situation show that there are between 3,000 and 4,000 ill-armed bandits challenging with impunity" the British armed forces.

Obviously such forces could not maintain such a challenge without immense popular support. There is no pretense of popular rule in Malaya; the country is, practically, under military rule, while Malayan rubber continues to be the biggest dollar-earner for Britain.

Philippines

On July 4, 1946, the Filipinos received what Business Week magazine called "nominal independence." Business Week commented on the first Presidential elections thus:

The election of President Roxas was a political farce. . . . Roxas' party purged opposition senators and representatives in summary fashion.

The 1949 elections were even worse. On Negros island, special police beat up those campaigning for opposition candidates; former Vice President Sergio Osmena accused the Quirino government of vote fraud in his province; the returns from some municipalities exceeded the population; in Batangas, near Manila, vote fraud by government officials led to bloodshed. Filipinos wisecracked that "even the birds and the bees voted in some precincts." Blake Clark writes in the June Readers Digest:

The Philippines today are a China in embryo. The downfall of the Chinese nationalists started with a corrupt government. Many high officials of President Quirino's Philippine administration are not only astonishingly dishonest—they even admit it.

Through the Philippines Trade Act, the economy of the country is in effective control of Americans. Land is controlled by giant landlords. There has

called a press conference on Friday, to re-emphasize India's "dynamic neutrality." India would act as mediator only if asked by "the two sides involved," he said; but prerequisites to a settlement were admission of China and return of Russia to the UN. He also said atomic weapons must be outlawed.

FAST-MOVING COMEDY: Setting a new speed record, the Security Council on Friday adopted by 7 to 0 (three abstentions) a British-French resolution requesting the U.S. to "designate an overall commander" in Korea and send reports "when appropriate," and authorizing use of the blue UN flag "at discretion of the command." The commander would obviously be Gen. MacArthur, who at Lake Success has now won the nickname "Secretary-Generalissimo." The resolution was seen as an

attempt to plug the last hole in the position of the U.S. as the only power in Korea with ground forces. India, beginning to hedge, abstained with Egypt and Yugoslavia.



The UN was taking on more and more of the flavor of comic opera. When, in the last General Assembly sessions, it was voted by a substantial majority that all UN "trust powers" fly the UN flag, Britain (which sponsored Friday's resolution) and the other colonial powers said they would not do it.

The only glory

(An ode to MacArthur)

THE man with the stove-in military cap, the iconic man of arms and the military mentality
Now repeats his "finest hour." Five long years he stood like Canute, fending Honshu's tides and rough seas,
Eyes unflinching, the visage stern in the eagle face, eagle with no love, with no homing instinct.
A man of many phases; a "democrat" of few words quick to impose banishment on those who use words for democracy.
Inscrutable still in his crusty age, he now launches forth from the seat of a once-hated Empire.
He will have his wars over again, ruling on heaps of new ruins and fresh springs of tears,
Taking to his bosom the only glory he knows.
Thus will the spring uncoil a little, the canker of wise public indifference be repulsed.

Sid Bernard

looks to the people of Asia



THE PEOPLE OF ASIA WANT A NEW LIFE

In Formosa (left) the women squat beside an irrigation ditch to do the Sunday laundry. In Siam (above) the peasants don't have the means to buy animals, so they do animals' work.

been no industrial development. The Hukbalahap revolutionary army, whose leadership includes Communists, is now spreading its influence wider from its former tiny base in Central Luzon. It has attacked Montalban and San Mateo, only 15 miles from Manila, and its influence has spread to the islands of Mindanao and Iloilo.

Why are the Hukbalahaps so popular? Blake Clark writes:

In each province where they are organized the Huks have indoctrination schools complete with books and supplies where tenant farmers learn to read, write and grow better crops. Experts instruct special groups of young men in politics, economics and tactics of guerrilla warfare. As in the early days of the Communists in China, propaganda teams slip from area to area, lecturing and putting on plays dramatizing the conflict of landlord and peasant.

All Asia

The Philippine social organization, writes Durdin in the Times,

fits an agrarian pattern—the big family; the small upper layer of wealthy people, many of them big rural estate owners; the large mass of peasants and laborers below, and, in between, a weak, small middle class. This structure, with its low-income pressures from the rural areas and city slums, is responsible for the many stresses and strains of Filipino life.

This description fits all other Far Eastern countries except China equally well—including India, Indonesia, Burma, Siam and Pakistan. In all these countries the governments are corrupt, work for the welfare of foreign investors and for themselves, and are maintained in power by direct or indirect foreign support. In Korea, the first act of the new government installed last week in Seoul was a land reform program, effective at once.

"FREEDOM" FALLACY: Everywhere the theory that imperialist powers can train their colonial peoples in self-government, and then set them free, is shown to be a fallacy. As the UN's Ralph Bunche once wrote:

The native is given subaltern positions in the European administration, in which

positions, however, he often gains experience, not in the art of self-government, but in the European methods of administering a subject people.

In all these countries, therefore, the people have come to the conclusion that only a successful revolution can bring about the basic political, economic and social changes needed to better conditions. That conclusion has been strengthened by the success of the Chinese People's Republic. By the very nature of the opposition, this revolution is bound to be violent.

THEY LIKE IT: Why are Communists playing a leading role in this revolutionary upsurge? Because they alone have the program the people need, and in areas they control they have put it into practice. Asians simply do not share the American total antipathy towards communism. Looking at it soberly, the Quaker Peace Proposals said:

A large part of the world is likely to continue to be Communist-controlled for a considerable time to come... The present advances of Communist movements in Asia would indicate that among peoples who have been subjected, in one form or another, to western imperialism, the Communist pattern for political and industrial revolution, with its emphasis on equality of economic opportunity regardless of racial or national differences, is likely to have considerable appeal... and perhaps spread further.

Any and all U.S. efforts to prop up tottering feudalism and imperialism will inevitably be resented by the more than 1,000,000,000 people in the Far East. Indications of Asian reactions even to the parade of U.S. might near their homelands were already seen in March when a U.S. aircraft-carrier displayed itself near Saigon, Bao Dai's capital in Indo-China. More than 4,000 students and professional people marched in protest and fought a bloody battle with French troops, using the slogan: "Hands off Indo-China."

For a change, as Keyes Beech of the Chicago Daily News puts it, one would like to see the U.S. "back a revolution instead of buck one."

The Richmond, Va., News-Leader asked: "Over how many Koreas do we spread our wings?"

The Detroit News said editorially: "South Korea, from the viewpoint of world strategy, is a deadend for the U.S."

The Portland Oregonian's editors talked by telephone with ECA labor adviser Stanley W. Earl in Seoul two days before the South Korean troops began their retreat. He said the people were "apathetic." That one word, the paper said editorially, had

far more significance than all the statements that are coming out of the UN and the State Dept. at Washington... The people are living under corrupt and ineffectual governments—ancient tyrannies masquerading as democracies... All over the globe history has tricked us into the position of supporting rotten regimes and all together, there is the question of

whether—against the wishes of every sane person—we are not in the position of being compelled to undertake something approaching political imperialism.

NEGRO PRESS: Ralph Matthews, editor of the Baltimore Afro-American, wrote of "that prince of peace, Gen. MacArthur... aided by that other great democrat, Chiang Kai-Shek, currently on the lam in Formosa." Matthews described us as heirs of Japan, receiving Korea from those who stole it originally... "a fence who accepts stolen goods, but our hands are quite guiltless." Of how we brought Syngman Rhee to South Korea, Matthews wrote: "We have even spared them the trouble of electing a president."

The St. Louis Argus, another influential Negro paper, called the U.S. intervention "a senseless adventure in an evil cause." Asians, it said,

have had enough of the White Man's rule... In short, the U.S. has answered the desire of the world's peoples for a better world with the cry of "communism," just as the Rankins and Bilbos cried "treason" when Negroes sought enforcement of the Constitution.

The Pittsburgh Courier featured a story of Negro troops in action in Korea and editorially supported the U.S. position.

At Lake Success a Negro youth, one of a group of four pacifists who distributed leaflets to UN delegates, said after one of his companions was carried away by guards: "All Negroes have a stake in this because they're shooting colored people in Korea with a jimcrow army."

GALLERY "SPIES": While security measures were clamped down on the capital, Rep. Chester Gorski (D-N.Y.) introduced a resolution that would ban from the press gallery as "spies" reporters for the Daily Worker, New York Compass, Federated Press, and Tass (U.S.S.R. news agency).

What stumping congressmen might meet at home was foreseen in the continuing peace drive (see PEACE) and in these reactions already on the record:

F. W. Stover, president of the Iowa Farmers' Union, wrote the GUARDIAN:

My first reaction to our government's decision on Korea was to wonder why we can get such quick and decisive action for war and no action at all in the direction of peace. The special emphasis they give to supporting the UN, of course, is phony... I think the answer of progressives and the answer of all peace-loving people should be an intensified campaign for peace including the signing of the World Peace Appeal.

PROGRESSIVE PARTY: Progressive Party people were taking these actions locally. In Los Angeles Reuben W. Borough, vice-chairman of the Independent PP state executive committee, gave a mass meeting this program:

Call for withdrawal of U.S. troops from Korea, restore the UN to full authority by admitting the government of New China; press for U.S.-Soviet talks; outlaw atomic weapons.

The PP of Massachusetts condemned the intervention as a tragic effort "to keep the past upon the throne" and warned that every reactionary would use the war as a pretext to kill progressive legislation.

The County Committee of the Philadelphia PP denounced U.S. intervention, announced that it would campaign for its candidates on a peace program.

In New Jersey chairman James Imbrie denounced the Rhee regime, but supported U.S. intervention.

BALKING IN BRITAIN: The British Labor Party's unofficial Sunday paper The People (circulation, 4,500,000) said no proof was produced of Russian investigation or participation in the war, and called the UN's actions too hasty. The Cooperative Party's Reynolds News criticized the "corrupt and inefficient" South Korean government, called on India to mediate and on the U.S. to retract its action regarding Formosa.

On the Tory side, the Observer criticized the U.S. Formosa action; Lord Beaverbrook's Sunday Express said "deep and grave troubles could result" from it.

In Montreal, Canada, the independent French-language paper Le Devoir asked: "Have phantoms the right to vote in the UN?... The intervention of Washington in Formosa has not even the appearance of legality." It suggested that Canada supported the U.S.

only "because we are the liege-nation of Washington, something between friend and satellite." Twenty-one small French Canadian Catholic towns in Quebec had signed the Stockholm petition as municipalities.

PEACE

The peacemakers 'breach the peace'

A YOUNG woman jumped from a car outside the Capitol in Washington. She ran into the Senate wing and demanded to see the President. When police approached, she ran through the corridors. She was barefooted. Questioned, she explained a simple mission: she wanted to plead with Truman "to stop the war." Her husband is a veteran and she has a nine-month-old baby. She wept; police sent her to a hospital "for observation."

Her impetuous act—and the police reaction to it—were symptoms of the July 4 week in the U.S. of 1950. For Americans in every corner of the country stunned by developments in the Far East, peace was the overriding concern. There were few places where petitions bearing the Stockholm peace pledge were not being circulated.



Newspapers and officials called the peace campaign subversive. In Philadelphia nine persons were arrested over the week-end for circulating the petitions. The charge against them: "breach of the peace." In California sentiment was so strong the State Dept. rushed an emissary to a City Hall meeting of regional representatives of the American Association for the United Nations. "Actually," she told the meeting, "this is only a Soviet trick."

POURING IN: But the people were taking it seriously. The legend, "Your hand can stop atomic war," appealed to them. In Brooklyn N.Y., the Labor Conference for Peace announced before the week-end that 145,000 signatures had been collected in two weeks; a goal of 400,000 was set for Sept. 15. On Thursday night the N.Y. State Labor Conference for Peace received petitions bearing more than 400,000 names. The Youth Provisional Committee for the World Peace Appeal said it had secured 100,000 names since Truman announced U.S. intervention in Korea on June 26; earlier it had obtained another 100,000. In New Jersey 5,000 names were obtained over the July 4 week-end.

A peace delegation of New York women was set to invade UN headquarters at Lake Success on Thursday, leaving at 12:30 p.m. from the Long Island platform at Pennsylvania Station. Many unorganized housewives were planning to join the delegation, sponsored by the Harlem Trade Union Council, Harlem Children's Recreation Center, Women's Division ASP, American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, Emma Lazarus Division IWO, Congress of American Women and others.

West Coast unionists backed the drive. Voting unanimously, the leading representatives of the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union, United Furniture Workers, Marine Cooks and Stewards, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, United Public Workers, United Office and Professional Workers, United Electrical Workers and Fur and Leather Workers urged all their members to sign petitions.

THE REACTION

A long war seen; press changes tune

Never had the nation's prestige risen so high in the part of the world still free to admire courageous knight-errantry. "Newsweek," July 10

WHILE "knight-errants" strafed Koreans north and south, the nation's press tripped over its own language. Headlines and editorials continued to beat the drum but late in the week, as U.S. troops retreated, the tone changed. The Wall St. Journal said:

A long war in Korea seems sure. No one knows what will end it... It's now clear U.S. troops must do all the fighting.

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FREEDOMS

MUNDT-NIXON FIGHT

Lucas sneak play on bill expected

ALL over the country the alert was on last week. Liberal and progressive organizations everywhere were rallying their members and supporters for swift action to prevent passage in Congress of the Mundt-Nixon police state bill.

Trickery and treachery were the means being used to ram the measure through the Senate while the current official war fever was at its peak. GUARDIAN's Washington correspondent John B. Stone wrote:

Sen. Scott Lucas (D-Ill.), majority leader, issued an angry newspaper blast last Friday after Sen. Karl Mundt (R-S.D.) pulled his sneak play in an attempt to rush the bill onto the immediate Senate agenda. But he directed his blast at Mundt, not the Mundt bill. He was angry because Mundt had broken the gentlemen's agreement and tried to pull a fast one with only three senators on the floor. Never has Lucas denounced the bill in straightforward terms.

PSST! BEAT IT: Palmer Webber, Progressive leader who has actively fought all the Mundt bills, spelled out the treachery. He said:

I have a feeling that Sen. Lucas may quietly tip off Sen. Myers (D-Pa.) and Sen. McMahon (D-Conn.) and others who would be embarrassed by having to vote for the bill. He will arrange for them to be out of town when the proper time has come. Then he will allow the Republicans to bring the bill up for consideration.

Against this clear and present danger only one thing could prevail: protests from coast to coast. The National Committee to Defeat the Mundt Bill issued an urgent appeal: "Organize all possible public pressure against hasty action on the bill."

Willie McGee

Two more weeks

ALONE in a death cell in Mississippi sat Willie McGee, watching nights

follow days as July 27—the day set for his execution—came nearer. Four times he had been tried for an alleged rape, each time with no Negro on the jury and a lynch mob storming at the courthouse doors. No evidence was produced. The woman in the case failed to identify McGee. The verdict was always guilty, the sentence always death.

McGee is one of 27 Negroes who face death on unproven charges in ten states. The Civil Rights Congress is leading the fight for the fair trial none of them has had. Messages of support in the crucial fight for McGee were coming in from far corners: from Arizona, from Toronto, from an NAACP branch in Easton, Pa. McGee wrote to CRC from his cell:

I can't place it in words just how uplifted I felt to know that the great American people have come to my rescue. . . . May the grace of God rule your heart. The Jackson (Miss.) Daily News wrote editorially:

No more flimsy technicalities should be allowed to interfere with that sadly-overdue event [McGee's electrocution]. . . . Nevertheless the Civil Rights Congress, an organization much mixed up with Communism, is making another effort to save Willie McGee. . . .

McGee can only be saved by letters and wires from thousands to Gov. Fielding Wright, Jackson, Miss., asking for executive clemency and a new trial.

THE AWFUL PEOPLE: On Friday the CRC in New York received this telegram from Mrs. Rosalee McGee:

Awful people here keep telling my children their father is going to die on the hot seat. Could you help get my children out of Mississippi right away? I don't want them to stay here any longer. I want them up North. I still have faith and pray that all will be well for Willie.

William Patterson, CRC director, has made arrangements to send the children to camp for the summer and is raising funds to pay for the stay. Those who wish to help can send a contribution to the CRC, 205 E. 42d St., Suite 1613, New York, N. Y.

MORFORD GUILTY: Rev. Richard Morford, executive director of the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship, heard his verdict and his sentence on Friday:

Guilty of contempt of Congress,

sentenced to three months in jail and fined \$250 by Federal Judge James W. Morris of the District Court of Washington, D. C. Bail was denied pending appeal, but a stay of sentence for two weeks was granted during which bail may be sought in a higher court.

LABOR

Striking switchmen forced back

IN 1946, President Truman broke the strike of the railroad brotherhoods by threatening to draft the strikers into the army. Last week five railroads in the west and midwest were again tied up, this time by the AFL Switchmen's Union of North America.

Reduction from a 40-hour to a 40-week, with no cut in pay, was demanded. Many had been working as many as 56 hours a week with no overtime. The switchmen had gone through all the cooling-off periods, the mediation, the hearings prescribed by the Railway Labor Act. Uncooled, they struck.

SURRENDER: President Truman again threatened "drastic action." The switchmen gave in, as bitterly as the brotherhoods had in 1946. They continued the strike on the smallest of the affected lines, the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific R.R., as a test case. This was the way Union President Arthur J. Glover announced the surrender:

In this way we learn whether free men in a free country can still bargain with their employers over their living conditions without fear that big government will team up with obdurate employers. There has been no true collective bargaining in the railroad industry for years. . . . Railroad management has made no move to settle this dispute. Railroad management merely has said, "Go on strike; we don't care. The government will come in on our side and knock the hell out of the switchmen's union." Well, now we'll just find out whether a legal strike against a railroad is possible in this "free" country.

WHAT ABOUT PROFITS? On Saturday they found out. Under Truman's orders, the Army seized the Rock Island, ordered the men back to work. The

union refused on these grounds:

We . . . will restore full and complete service on the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Co. when and if the government seizes the profits of that railroad as well as the labor of free men. The President has said the U. S. is not at war. Is the democratic President of a democratic country saying that no railroad union can conduct a legal strike in peace time?

The answer came quickly. Federal Judge John Knight of the District Court in Buffalo, N. Y., signed a temporary injunction. By Sunday night the switchmen had no choice. They ended the strike, started back to work Monday. But 250 chairmen of the trainmen's and conductors' unions were gathered at a strategy meeting in Chicago on Monday to plan further action for the demands of U. S. railroad labor.

NEW YORK

ALP forces Dems to name a Negro

ON May 13 this year Rep. Vito Marcantonio, chairman of the American Labor Party, called a city-wide conference to demand that the old parties nominate a Negro for the important 14-year, \$20,000 General Sessions judgeship. If they refused the ALP would name its own candidate and enter him in the Democratic primary.

On July 5, the Democrats, after vowing they would not be "bullied" by the ALP, named Negro Assemblyman Harold A. Stevens as their candidate for General Sessions judge, the first such nomination in New York's political history.

LEAVE IT TO TAMMANY: "We made them do it," Marcantonio said. "But we couldn't prevent them from pulling a typically shabby Tammany trick."

The "shabby trick" was the Democrats' naming of a white candidate to replace Stevens in the predominantly Negro 13th Assembly District.

The next day, to counter the Democratic move, the Republicans named Lassen Walsh, a Negro, for justice of the City Court. Francis E. Rivers, a Negro Republican, already is a judge in that court.

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The Soviet position: 'U.S. in open war against the Korean people.'

Generally suppressed or dismissed in a few lines by U.S. newspapers was this important document on the Korean war: the official statement of the Soviet position by Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko, without which it is impossible for the U.S. public to form intelligent opinions.

The following is excerpted from the last part of the statement, as published by the N. Y. Times. Space limitations prevent us from giving more. In the first part of the statement, Gromyko quotes warlike statements by top South Koreans and Americans to back up the Soviet case that the war resulted from South Korean attacks on border areas; accuses the U.S. of "hypocrisy" for claiming its action was UN-sponsored when it began before the UN discussed the matter. He calls UN's resolution "illegal" because it was taken by six instead of seven votes (the seventh was Kuomintang "China") including only three of the Big Five, and because the Charter directly forbids intervention in any "internal conflict between two groups in a state."

At a press conference on June 20, President Truman denied that the United States, having started military action in Korea, was in a state of war. He stated that that was just a police action, in support of the United Nations, and that allegedly that action was directed against a group of bandits from northern Korea.

It is easy to see that such an assertion is unwarranted.

The illegal resolution of June 27, adopted by the Security Council under pressure from the U.S. Government... represents a hostile act against peace.

Had the Security Council valued the cause of peace, it should have attempted to reconcile the fighting sides in Korea before it adopted such a scandalous resolution.

Only the Security Council and the UN Secretary General could have done this. They failed to make that attempt, however, being obviously aware that such an action is contrary to the aggressors' plans.

MACARTHUR NO POLICEMAN: The military action of General MacArthur, started in Korea by order of the U.S. Government, can be considered a "police action" to support UN just as much as the war started in 1937 against China by the Japanese militarists could be considered an "incident to maintain peace in the East."

Who will believe that MacArthur's armed forces, which include air forces up to "Flying Fortresses" and jet aircraft attacking the civil population and the peaceful towns of Korea, which include the Navy with its cruisers and aircraft carriers and also ground forces, have been called for a "police action



THE CAPTION SAID: KOREANS WATCHING YANKS GET INTO THE FIGHT In Taejon, a temporary South Korean capital, the Koreans don't exactly look overjoyed to see the Americans.

against a group of bandits?"

The intrusion of the American forces into Korea represents an open war against the Korean people.

The aim is to deprive Korea of national independence, to prevent the creation of a single democratic Korean state, and to establish by violence in Korea an anti-national regime which would allow the ruling circles of the U.S. to transform that country into their colony and to use Korean territory as a military base in the Far East.

AGGRESSION IN CHINA: Ordering the armed forces of the U.S. to attack Korea, President Truman at the same time announced that he has given the American Navy orders to "prevent an attack on Formosa," which means the occupation by American armed forces of that territory belonging to China.

That step of the U.S. Government is a direct aggression against China... [and] moreover a gross infringement of the international agreements of Cairo and of Potsdam on Formosa as belonging to China, signed by the U.S.

President Truman has announced that he ordered reinforcement of the American armed forces on the Philippine Islands, which was aimed at interfering in the internal affairs of the Philippine state and at kindling internal strife. That act of the U.S. Government shows that it continues to consider the Philippines as its colony and not as an independent state which, furthermore, is a member of the UN.

President Truman also stated that he had ordered acceleration of the so-called military aid to France in Indo-China. That statement of Truman shows that the U.S. Government has adopted the policy

of kindling war against the Viet-Nameese people for the sake of supporting the colonial regime in Indo-China.

VIOLATING PEACE: President Truman's statement of June 27 means thus that the Government of the U.S. has violated peace and has passed from a policy of preparation for aggression to direct act of aggression, and above that at the same time in a number of countries of Asia.

In doing so the U.S. Government has trampled underfoot its obligations toward the United Nations organization for the consolidation of peace in the whole world and has appeared as a violator of peace.

SAME RIGHT TO UNITY: The Soviet Government considers that the Koreans have the same right to organize according to their wishes their internal national affairs in the matter of unification of the South and the North of Korea into one state as that right which belonged to and was used by the North Americans in the Sixties of the last century, when they united the South and the North of America into one national state.

From all that it is to be deduced that the U.S. Government has committed an act of hostility against peace, and responsibility for the results of the armed aggression committed by that Government is falling on it.

The UN will accomplish its obligations concerning the maintenance of peace only if the Security Council will demand the absolute cessation of the American military intervention and the immediate evacuation of the American armed forces from Korea.

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DOLLAR STRETCHER

Beware patent remedies for athlete's foot

ATHLETE'S foot and other foot infections, which can be extremely painful if neglected, strike most frequently during the summer months. There are many patent remedies on the market. Some may only waste your money, but others may aggravate the inflammation and rawness of the infection. Iodine, too, is highly irritating.

In the magazine *Industrial Medicine*, Dr. Louis Schwartz, retired medical director of the U.S. Public Health Service, recommends this treatment as effective: first bathe the feet thoroughly in a foot bath made of a powder containing aluminum-sulfate and calcium acetate, sold by drug stores as domeboro powder packets or tablet. Then apply a stainless solution used by dermatologists and podiatrists and sold at drug stores as fungi-treat solution. This solution consists of salicylanilide and hyamine 3258 in alcohol.

Some authorities also recommend a foot bath made of five grains of potassium permanganate dissolved in a quart of cool water.

Care against such infection is vital during hot weather. Athlete's foot may be picked up by the bare feet on any walking surface. It's best to keep your feet dry, and change socks or hosiery daily, or immediately after exercise. Particularly in public showers, wear disposable paper slippers to protect your feet and stand on a dry, clean mat or towel while drying. It's also wise to powder the feet frequently with fungicide in powder form mixed into talcum powder.

Easy-to-sew clothes

You can make summer apparel yourself easily with two new items in the stores. One is elasticized tubular material that can be made into such garments as a strapless blouse, a halter or bathing suit. Another is ready-cut peasant-type skirts of Bates fabrics. All you have to do is gather the top of the skirt, attach it to the belt that comes in the package, insert the zipper and turn up the hem.

Have you wondered whether the horde of house-to-house salesmen around these days charge the same prices as stores for their aluminumware and other goods? The trade paper *Retailing* reports that while stores generally take a markup of 80 to 100% on the wholesale price of home furnishings, the canvassers work on a margin of 150%.

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The Fur and Leather Workers Union

Thugs and clubs couldn't break it

By Elmer Bendiner

THERE can be few better vantage points from which to view the current vast upheavals in labor—the jarrings of militants, the thugs, the betrayals by boss-collaborating leaders—than the pages of Philip Foner's *The Fur and Leather Workers Union*.

Are the fur workers now denounced by Philip Murray? They were even more violently denounced by Matthew Woll when they were part of his AFL. In the 'twenties Woll called upon Mayor Walker and Police Commissioner Grover Whalen to break fur workers' picket lines with their clubs and jail the strikers. (His language brought protests even from "King" Joe Ryan, boss of the longshoremen.)

Does gunfire now rage at the Enka plant where textile workers are picketing? Read this paragraph dealing with the big 1912 strike of the fur workers:

By the end of July the fur district resembled a battlefield, and the strike headquarters a hospital. A newspaperman at the strike hall reported strikers being brought in whose "clothes were hanging in tatters on them, the skin cut and bruised horribly

from the bottles and iron bars with which they were attacked.

THE DERBIES: Goons like those who blinded Maurice Travis of Mine-Mill came and went among the fur workers. They were the men of the "Welfare Club" and the "Educational Committee," earlier called the Derbies. (Standard uniform was a derby, felt-colored topcoat and a cigar.) Goons flourished in Fur for some years—when the union offered rich pickings for the celebrated gunmen of Lepke and Gurrah.

Always behind the gunmen were the labor fakers like the one whose maxim was: "A union must have gangsters to survive." One arch-faker asked progressives in the union not to prosecute a gangster who had cracked workers' skulls, because it would not be proper to take a labor matter "into a capitalist court."

GUNS AND JIMCROW: Significantly, the men who relied on guns and blackjacks were the same who scorned to organize Greek or Negro fur workers; who tried to set up a separate "Gentile local"; who accepted lower rates for wo-

men; who cried: "Red."

Denounced as "red" in 1886 by the open shoppers, the fur workers were called "red" every time they struck: 1912, 1917, 1920, 1926, right on up to the present. They were called "red" every time they threw out a labor faker. (In at least two instances the ousted leaders went into the fur business and ran union-busting open shops.) They were called "red" by bosses and gangsters, press and police. They went on organizing.

Their victories reached way beyond their industry. They broke all industry's resistance when they first won the 5-day, 40-hour week. They fought for unemployed rights in the midst of the depression, while police cracked skulls and "frail girls leaped up fearlessly and returned blows squarely in the policemen's faces."

Foner's book is wonderfully heartening reading these days. It's a story of great guts triumphant over skulduggery, terror, betrayal.

THE FUR AND LEATHER WORKERS UNION, by Philip S. Foner. Nordan Press. 685 pp.

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