

EDITORIAL PAGE

La Grande Evening Observer

Frank Schiro, Publisher

FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 29, 1945

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David and Goliath



Washington Merry-Go-Round

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—When assistant secretary of state Will Clayton startled a senate committee by telling how German companies were still operating in South America, one of the most sensational parts of the story was omitted.

This was the fact that certain American business groups have been angling with German companies to cooperate with them again—even despite the bitter experiences of the recent war.

What some U. S. companies don't seem to realize is that with the war still on, all cables and letters are subject to censorship. Therefore, U. S. officials know almost every move they have made to get together with German agents.

For instance, certain U. S. wood-pulp interests have been under the impression that they have been extremely clever in staging meetings with the Germans. But their movements are known. Also certain U. S. rayon and steel groups have been sending agents to meet with the Germans in Spain and Argentina.

The other day a representative of the German Schering corporation, biggest drug company in Germany, brazenly walked into the American embassy in Madrid with a proposition that the Spanish subsidiary of Schering merge with the American Schering corporation of Bloomfield, N. J. In this case the proposition was turned down.

The minutes of the Dupont company's executive committee for Feb. 9, 1940 (after the war had broken out in Germany), contained this notation:

"The Dupont company informed I. G. M. (I. G. Farbenindustrie, the great German cartel) that they intended to use their good offices after the war to have the I. G. participation restored."

There is no indication that Dupont has taken any step to carry out this goal since the war with Germany ended. But the above illustrates a point of view which prevailed among seven business groups before the war and apparently has still not been abandoned by all of them.

King Leopold Wants Lift

Allied diplomats aren't talking about it, but King Leopold of the Belgians has been angling desperately for British and American help in returning from Salzburg, Austria, to Brussels. He had especially asked that one of the allies furnish him an airplane.

This put the British in a hot position. Once before they did not hesitate about interfer-

ing in Belgian politics, even surrounded the Belgian parliament with tanks in order to influence an important vote. But this time, faced with the threat of a general strike if Leopold returns, the British passed the buck.

They told the king of the Belgians that all airplanes are under SHAEF (supreme headquarters, allied expeditionary force) which of course is commanded by General Eisenhower. However, the British and American commanders under Eisenhower (he has been in the U. S. A.) then got together backstage and worked out a joint plan—namely to give Leopold transportation only to the Belgian border.

From the Belgian border to Brussels, he will have to take a Belgian plane, train or thumb his way.

Note—Maj. Gen. George W. E. J. Erskine, British commander in Brussels, has informed Belgian officials that SHAEF would not take sides in any demonstrations, street battles or brawls precipitated by Leopold's return, but would confine itself to protecting allied installations.

A debate has been raging inside the government over the price of coffee, which this time may be boosted.

Chief problem is that Brazil, our biggest coffee shipper and our best friend in Latin America, is finding it so uneconomical to grow coffee that she is turning to cotton. In that case she would be our chief competitor instead of our chief customer.

Labor costs in Brazil have risen to such an extent that Brazilian coffee growers can't produce at the OPA ceiling price which averages around 13 cents a pound. They want the price boosted to an average of 18 cents a pound. This would increase the cost of a cup of coffee one-eighth of a cent.

The state department favors such a price rise. The OPA, anxious to hold the line, is opposed.

Merry-go-round

Senator Carl Hatch of New Mexico has been sitting on the anti-poll tax bill until the San Francisco United Nations charter is out of the way. He does not want a poll-tax filibuster to upset ratification of the charter. . . . Forthright Fred Vinson, the war mobilizer, is going to be put on the spot soon by the surplus war property board. It is about to hatch a ruling whereby \$11,000,000 of government-owned war plants and machinery would be sold merely on the basis of price, not on the basis of where they could stimulate business and competition.

WE, THE WOMEN

By RUTH MILLETT

The wife of a soldier, sweating it out in Europe while he waited for passage home, was plenty burned up over a recent newspaper picture showing 62 British brides and their 19 young children arriving in New York with a shipload of GI's.

With shipping space to the United States at a premium she couldn't help but see that every one of those British brides was displacing some American soldier waiting to go home, and keeping some American woman from seeing her husband as soon as she might.

Furthermore, she thought, "Most of those British wives have probably seen their husbands much more recently than we American wives who have been sitting here alone for two or three years."

You can't really blame her for feeling

that way. Shouldn't we get our men home to their wives before we start bringing foreign wives over to this country?

American wives have in the majority of cases been pretty good sports during the war. They have uncomplainingly put up with loneliness, lived with fear, tried their best to be both mother and father to their children.

But they shouldn't have their good nature imposed upon. They should not have to see foreign brides being shipped to this country, while their husbands wait impatiently for a sight of home.

As far as they are concerned, American soldiers should have the first sight of America. Their wives have a right to expect them to be shipped home before any foreign wives take up shipping space.

Behind Scenes in Washington

By PETER EDSON, La Grande Evening Observer Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON—Soon to be released—possibly as a presidential report to Congress—is a document which will give the low-down on U. S. plans to "delouse" Germany. Delouse, of course, means "denazify."

Tentatively known as "ten sixty seven slash six," meaning that it is the sixth draft of memorandum 1067, this document consists of the detailed orders given to General of the Armies Dwight D. Eisenhower as commander in chief of the U. S. army of occupation in Germany. General Eisenhower has been carrying these top secret orders "in his hip pocket" for some weeks. They were prepared in Washington under the direction of an outfit known as "IPCOG"—the interdepartmental policy committee of Germany whose top men are Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, and assistant secretaries, Will Clayton of state, John J. McCleary of war, Ralph Bard of navy, Bard, resigning, will presumably be replaced by Artemus L. Gates.

If there is any doubt about how tough the U. S. military government in Germany is going to be, as compared with how tough the Russian Government is going to be, it is expected to be removed when IPCOG's first orders can be released. Their publication has been held up pending clearance by the American-British-French-Russian European advisory commission on which ambassador to London, John G. Winant, sits as U. S. member. A number of Washington officials are anxious to have IPCOG-ONE made public as soon as possible, however, to stop criticism of U. S. military government policies in Germany already beginning.

Specifically, it has been charged that in some instances the anti-Nazis have not been given their proper place, that known Nazis have been put back in office to re-establish local government, that German industries have been turned back to old Hitlerite masters.

In many ways, these are familiar complaints. They were heard and in general disproved after U. S. forces moved successively into North Africa, Italy and France. In North Africa, the criticism was making a "deal" with Darlan; in Italy, it

was for a deal with the king and Badoglio. In France the criticism took the reverse line of failure to cooperate properly with De Gaulle. Now, the stories are beginning to appear that deliberately or inadvertently, U. S. military government is compromising with old order Germans, paving the way for rebirth of Nazism. In Washington, all such charges are emphatically denied by Major General John H. Hildring, commanding the civil affairs division of the war department general staff. If it is happening at all, says General Hildring, such appeasement is not in compliance with orders which are to completely delouse Nazi Germany so that it will never become a threat to the peace of the world, disbanding all German armed forces, breaking up the general staff, eliminating all industry that might be used for military production, bringing all war criminals to trial, wiping out the Nazi party and all its influence.

Ten thousand trained military government officers and enlisted men have now taken over this job in the American zone of southern Germany. They work in teams, with city manager and director of public utilities, health, public safety and other departments trying to get local government back on its feet.

Nearly all these officers and men have had experience in previous U. S. zones of occupation. They did a tremendous job in France, for which they never got credit because they functioned smoothly and without incidents which might have called attention to what they were doing. Now, moving in on Germany, they may make individual, initial mistakes in the period of adjustment, because it would be impossible to get perfection in local government in any comparable area in the world.

In Italy, there was some latitude in selecting personnel for local government because of military expediency. If a known Fascist was best man for the job, he got it until a successor could be trained. In Germany, that latitude does not exist. The orders are clear to wipe out every vestige of Nazism.

This will be shown when IPCOG-ONE can be put on the record.

Side Glances



"But why can't I use rouge, lipstick and powder, Mom? How old do I have to be before I can go around like a genuine human being?"

McKENNEY ON BRIDGE

By WM. E. MCKENNEY, America's Card Authority

DEUCELY CLEVER. THESE BRIDGE ACES.

I doubt if we have ever had a closer match than the recent eastern states mixed team-of-four championship event. I told you two teams were tied for first place with 34½ matches, and one-half point behind were two other tying teams. One of the latter teams consisted of Charles H. Goren, Mrs. Peggy Golder, Charles Solomon and Helen Sobel. The other team was Ruth

deuce, he would have informed West that he was out of diamonds and wanted to ruff. By playing the deuce and seven, he could have trapped a careless declarer into allowing the diamond to ride around to his jack. However, the correct play was to trump in dummy and, while South would overtrump with the ace so as to be able to lead a spade, it did not work, as West had only one spade. In discussing the hand, Fishbein said it did not always pay to play down and out with only two.

♠ K 8 4	♠ J 9 7 5 3
♥ 8 6	♥ 2
♦ A K 8 5 3	♦ J 9
♣ 7 4	♣ 10 6
♠ A	♠ 10 6
♥ K Q 10 5	♥ 4 3
♦ Q J 9 4	♦ Dealer
♣ A Q	♣ 10 6 5 3 2
South Pass 1♥	West Pass 2♠
Pass 3♥	Pass 4♥
Pass Pass	Pass
Opening—♦ K	30

IN FORMER YEARS

30 Years Ago

The month's rainfall was unusually light, being only a little more than one fourth the amount for the previous June. The greatest amount falling in 24 hours was .21 inch. The greatest precipitation recorded a year earlier was .80 inch. For the entire month of June, 1915, precipitation totalled .46 inch, as compared to 1.65 for June, 1914.

J. A. Russell, president of the city commission, was a business visitor in Elgin.

15 Years Ago

Fourteen boys registered to attend the Boy Scout camp at Anthony lake.

Mrs. Harry Turner and daughter, Harriet, visited friends and relatives in Portland.

Mrs. C. S. Moore returned from Portland where she visited several days.

Mrs. Frances Menger, clerk at the O-W offices, was on a two-week vacation trip to Seattle.

10 Years Ago

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Nibler and Mrs. Howard Skeen returned recently from Seattle, accompanied by Alice True, Mrs. Nibler's daughter, who will spend two weeks here visiting relatives and friends.

Miss Alice Inlow left for a Camp Fire Girls' camp on Mt. Hood where she gave swimming and dramatic instruction.

Questions & Answers

Q—How many aircraft were produced in the United States last year and how does the number compare with previous production?

A—According to the aviation authority, 96,700 aircraft were produced in 1944, comparing with 99,477 in 1940.

This Curious World



ANSWER: Originally the constellation Cynosure or Ursa Minor, containing the pole star toward which all mariners turned their eyes.

NEXT: How many species of elephants are there?

EVENING OBSERVER'S PROGRESS PROGRAM
IRRIGATION—Complete the Grande Ronde Valley irrigation project.
L.A. GRANDE—A city of 10,000—Extend the city limits.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY
 I think, am sure, a brother's love exceeds all the world's love in its unworldliness.—Robert Browning.

Is This One on Us?
 It costs money to be a congressman. Of course, the job pays pretty well, too. But by the time the legislator has paid the overhead, his \$10,000 a year, while still not bad, has shrunk considerably.

There's the matter of housing, for one thing. Even when he finds a place to live in Washington he has to pay for it. And he has to keep a residence in his home city for return visits and for the dark day when the fickle electorate may vote him out of a job.

He has to dress up in store-bought clothes, and do a good bit of entertaining. Frequently he needs more secretarial help than his clerical allowance will buy. And then there are telephone and telegraph charges and many other incidentals of that sort.

But probably the biggest item on the congressman's budget is the business of trying to get re-elected. This requires frequent shuttling between Washington and home, besides the many ordinary campaign expenses. It's particularly tough on members of the house, who must go through this every two years as long as they seek to hold office.

It isn't hard to believe, then, that expenses take a healthy bite out of that ten grand per annum that the congressman receives. And it isn't particularly

surprising that the boys and girls of the house should have voted themselves an extra \$2500 a year by way of expense money.

We need able men for the important job that congress has to do. We may not get them if they must bear a financial loss to perform this service. And we certainly shan't get a representative group if congress attracts only those with ample outside incomes.

The law on expense accounts says reimbursements from employers (in the representatives' case, the United States government) must be entered as part of income. Later the actual expenses paid through these reimbursements may be deducted in arriving at what all readers of Form 1040 will fondly remember as "adjusted gross income."

Exploded Fables

Comes now the disillusioning report from a Holland-born professor at the University of Minnesota that the story of the brave little Dutch boy who plugged the leak in the dyke with his finger is a story unknown in the land where it is supposed to have happened.

Now we know how those nazi war prisoners must have felt when they got over here and discovered that Americans had never heard that fine old fable about the luftwaffe bombing New York to rubble.

Unpaid Balance

We were delighted to read that Hitler, at the time of his departure to parts unknown (in this world or the next), owed his thousand-year reich 400,000 marks in back taxes.

Someday the news served to emphasize how much better Americans are handling murderous gangsters now than in the days when we couldn't hang anything on them except a rap for evasion of income taxes.

Funny Business



SO THEY SAY

I never rate political candidates like horses, even though I think some of them ought to be scratched.
 —Mayor F. H. LaGuardia of New York City

He (the good public official) need not be timid or obsequious, but unless he really serves, he is not a good servant.
 —Byron Price, national director of censorship.

Business failures which stood at 22,900 in 1929 and 13,619 in 1934, fell to a mere 1222 in 1944 and today are running at a rate of less than 1000 per year.
 —Report by house banking and currency committee.

We are going to make the German people realize that they brought this suffering on themselves and the world by their own actions.
 —Lt. Gen. Lucius D. Gray, deputy U. S. military governor in Germany.

"Mr. 398470 to you!"

53 Goddess of discord
 54 He commands