



GENERAL MUD IN KOREA



FOOTPOWER—Muck and slime slow but do not stop the infantry. GIs fight on from water-filled foxholes, repelling Red attacks.



HORSEPOWER—Spring thaws affect the heavily mechanized United Nations forces much more than the Chinese Communists.



PAIN—This GI, shot in the mud, is treated in the mud. He probably won't be really clean until flown to a base hospital in Japan.



DEATH—The dirty end of a dirty war came to this U. S. Marine in a roadside ditch near Hoensong on the central Korean front.

The WORLD This WEEK

Labor & Defense

PARIS: An 11th Hour Attempt

Dates

Monday, March 12
 Birthday (39th), Girl Scouts Anniversary (63rd), Blizzard of 1888.
Tuesday, March 13
 Anniversary (67th), Standard Time.
Thursday, March 15
 Deadline, Federal Income Tax.
Saturday, March 17
 St. Patrick's Day.
Sunday, March 18
 Palm Sunday.
 National Wild Life Week starts.

Korea

Sitting Ducks

The United Nations forces in Korea, says an AP correspondent, are openly contemptuous of enemy air power despite the fact that Red China is believed to have up to 3,000 combat planes, including fighters and medium bombers.

His dispatch, cleared by MacArthur censors, points out that World War II lessons learned at Pearl Harbor and elsewhere have been forgotten by American air and ground forces in Korea.

Spotted From the Air

These are some of the things he noted on a flight over the front lines: Allied units camped brazenly along river bottoms and in exposed valleys—sitting-duck targets for air attacks. Airfields jammed with fighter, bomber and transport planes, lined up row on row, with no attempt at dispersal.

American supply dumps, motor pools and ammunition depots show little or no camouflage and inadequate anti-aircraft defenses.

U.N. transport convoys often travel bumper to bumper on highways.

Headquarters units cluster their tents in open fields with no attempts at camouflage.

Blackouts, except at the front, are not enforced.

U.N. troops encamped in rest areas often with no attempt at dispersal or camouflage.

Chinese Precautions

The correspondent reported the Allied side a beehive of obvious activity while across the front lines there was no sign of the foe.

Chinese and North Korean Reds camouflage everything, including trucks and troops. Guns are placed in hidden ditches, or covered with straw and tree limbs to conceal them from strafing.

Surveys show American GIs at the actual front do conceal themselves and their equipment because there it is a life and death matter.

But in the rear areas, he found a strange apathy toward camouflage and dispersal techniques. He said it was enough to make veterans of World War II shake with apprehension.

Gift

White Elephant

There's a weighty problem at the White House and State Department in connection with the offer of a sacred elephant to President Truman.

The gift has been proffered by the King of Cambodia, one of three Indo-Chinese states which on January 1 received grants of substantial independence from France.

The President is sunning himself at Key West, Fla., so White House aides and Secretary Acheson's advisers are sweating it out alone.

They are searching for a diplomatic way of saying "No" without hurting royal feelings. That may be difficult if not impossible to do.

Republicans, of course, are of no help. They would like to see an elephant in the White House, even a real one.

If the diplomats decide they can't say "No," an even more weighty problem arises. The White House has garage facilities but no stables—and you can't send a sacred white elephant to the bone yard.

Nothing of course is ever new, as the historians say. A study of history shows Indian Prime Minister Nehru once sent an elephant to Washington school children. It wound up in the capital zoo.

Sidelights

● In Pittsfield, Mass., police stopped a motorist for speeding and discovered the number on his license did not agree with the number "611-969" on his car plate. They finally came up with the solution. The plate was on upside down; it should have read "969-119."

● In Pearl River, N. Y., a hunter took a shot at a crow and blew up a small fireworks plant, rocking communities in two states. Fire departments and ambulances responded from six neighboring communities but had nothing to do. Six frame buildings were blown to kindling but the blast put the fire out. Plant workers had quit for the day a half hour earlier so no one was injured.

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THE Paris conference of Big Four foreign minister deputies is an 11th hour attempt of Russia and the western powers to settle their differences by diplomacy. These differences, which began even before the end of World War II, have become known as the cold war.

Almost a year ago, Korea suddenly became a hot spot in the cold war and history may yet record it as the real start of World War III.

But if that struggle can be isolated and kept to the status of a local incident—no matter how sordid or tragic—full scale war may be averted or at least pushed back in time. East-west flare-ups over Trieste and the Berlin blockade, diplomats say, were handled in this fashion.

May Open a Door

The Paris talks, of course, will not decide anything important. Actually they are nothing but a meeting to try and agree on an agenda for a later conference in Washington of the foreign ministers.

But Paris may afford the opportunity of opening another door to negotiation on the crucial problem of Europe in the east-west tug of peace. As long as diplomats can keep opening new doors, they have reason to hope the differences may eventually be settled with words not bullets.

Western sources say the real issue at Paris is whether Russia actually means to seek a diplomatic settlement of cold war problems.

Andrei A. Gromyko, head of the 20-man Soviet delegation at Paris, proposed that the German treaty question be discussed in line with principles of the Potsdam Agreement. The western position has been that

FAIR SHAKE—The Big Four foreign minister deputies meet in Paris. Left to right are Ernest Davies, Britain; Philip Jessup, United States; Andrei Gromyko, Russia; and Alexandre Parodi, France.

the Potsdam pact is a useless basis for negotiation because the Russians have consistently violated it.

Parallel to Korea

In line with his suggestion to discuss demilitarization of Germany by the Potsdam yardstick, Gromyko also proposed discussion of Four Power disarmament and withdrawal of occupation forces from Germany.

That is one issue the west will examine very closely. Withdrawal of occupation forces from Germany could create an identical vacuum to the one in Korea when American garrisons pulled out.

American sources insist that if Big Four talks are to be renewed all causes of European tension must be examined. These include a peace treaty for Austria and a study of rearmament in Soviet satellite states

that were German allies in World War II.

Russia, in a recent diplomatic note to Britain, claimed its armed forces were no more than 2,500,000 men while it put the combined western strength at more than 5,000,000. Western intelligence reports place Soviet armed strength at 4,000,000 men with better than 1,000,000 more in the Red satellite states, not including Communist China.

Another Red Boycott

Washington reported last week that Russia had broken off talks on terms for a Japanese peace treaty because of its demands for veto power. The State Department declared in a statement: "The United States will persist in seeking an over-all peace for Japan but it concedes to no one the right to veto peace."

Quotes

British Field Marshal Viscount Bernard L. Montgomery: "I would as soon think of going into battle without my artillery as without my chaplains."

Investor, Soviet government newspaper: "Since the first day of American occupation, Gen. MacArthur busied himself with the transformation of Japan into a base of aggression by the United States against Asia."

SCIENCE: Hope of the Free

Atomic Umbrella

Dr. Vannevar Bush, wartime head of the Office of Scientific Research and Development which coordinated the work of 30,000 scientists in atomic research, believes continued American development of the A-Bomb should avert World War III.

He saw no danger of immediate war because if Russia were to open hostilities now she would be destroyed "without question" by American atomic bombs.

Dr. Bush, president of the Carnegie Institution, was the first of a series of speakers sponsored by the Committee on the Present Danger, a nonpartisan group formed to support a strong defense for this nation in cooperation with other free countries.

Nevada Tests

Dr. Bush said the recent atomic tests on Frenchman's Flat near Las Vegas, Nev., presumably were of new types of atomic bombs.

He pointed out that the free world's problem was to maintain the military stalemate now possible because of U. S. superiority in atomic development.

He noted that defenses against strategic bombing had been improved since the war and predicted that eventually Russia could be able to protect her key points with radar, jet interceptors, anti-aircraft artillery and perhaps guided missiles.

Dr. Bush discussed tactical possibilities of the atomic bomb and related

them to the current problem of defense of western Europe.

Tactical Weapon

In the event of war three to five years from now, he said, the Russians might be confronted by a line held in depth by outnumbered but well-disciplined and well-armed divisions.

The Red Army could break such a line, he declared, only by a huge concentration of men, artillery and tanks.

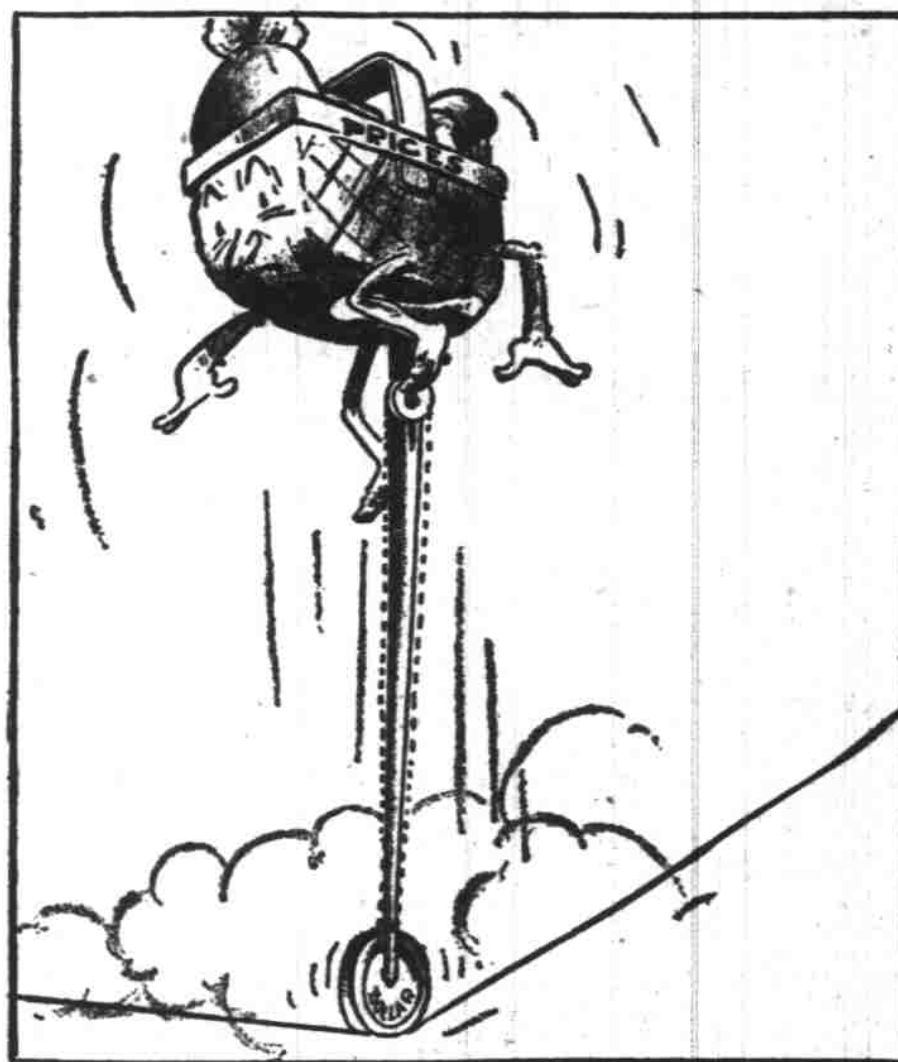
Because of the atomic bomb, he said, such concentration would not be feasible. For example, an A-Bomb delivered on a massive group of forces such as the Germans gathered to make their breakthrough in the Battle of the Bulge would be devastating.

Tanks as Traps

Dr. Bush foresaw the heavy tank as a liability rather than an asset in due time because of the development of recoilless weapons. He said a new type of recoilless anti-tank gun, manned by four men, was more than a match for the heaviest tanks yet developed. Tanks and massed artillery have long been a strong point around which Soviet military thinking revolved.

The scientific leader backed the idea of sending American troops to Europe to join those of the Atlantic Pact allies. He suggested the training of 18-year-olds for two years and keeping them available for service in the reserve branches.

Dr. Bush predicted that young men trained now would not see any fighting for several years at least.



STILL ON THE HIGH WIRE

Crime

Probe Deadline

The Senate committee investigating organized crime throughout the United States will open what may prove to be climax hearings Monday in New York.

The committee, headed by Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) says there are two major crime syndicates in the nation. One, directed by the Fischetti brothers, Rocco and Charles who are heirs of the old Capone mob, operates from Chicago through the south, according to investigators.

The committee says the other, headed by Frank Costello and Joe Adonis, had headquarters in New York and operates down the east coast to Florida.

March 31 Deadline

The New York hearings may last two weeks but by then the life span of the Senate committee will have just about run out. It is scheduled to expire March 31 and chairman Kefauver has said repeatedly he will not ask for an extension. Other committee members, however, have urged that it stay on the job and be given FBI men to speed effective inquiries.

In a preliminary report recently, the committee said: "The most shocking revelation is the extent of official corruption and connivance in facilitating and promoting organized crime." It found corruption extending to all levels of government—federal, state and local.

Incidents cited by the committee in its report:

Two state governors received campaign contributions from organized criminals.

One sheriff had a bookmaking business in his office.

The report said gangsters and gamblers brazenly faked income tax returns and charged there was serious doubt that the Internal Revenue Bureau made a real effort to check.

In Short . . .

Halted: By the U. S., stockpiling of tin until such allies as Britain, Holland, Belgium and Bolivia cut prices now more than 150 per cent higher than when the Korean war started.

Granted: By the Carnegie Fund, \$22,500 for a study of techniques to aid native leaders desiring to revolt against communist domination.

Proposed: By the U.S., that the United Nations recruit a volunteer international army to combat aggression anywhere in the world.

Charged: By Pakistan in the U.N. Security Council, that "Indian aggression is on the march."



CRACK—The baseball season does not open until April 16 but all over the South players are getting into condition. Here Stan Musial of the St. Louis Cardinals hits a long one to the fence.