

Capital Journal

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Salem, Oregon, Saturday, July 29, 1950

What Happened on June 25 in Seoul

Ever since the surprise invasion of South Korea on Sun-
day, June 25, there has been constant speculation on how
American intelligence and Americans in Seoul missed
knowing what was coming.

One of the best descriptions of what happened that Sun-
day in the capital of South Korea is in the latest issue of
Editor and Publisher, trade magazine for newspapermen.
The story is told by Jack James, United Press correspond-
ent who scooped his fellow correspondents by hours on the
start of the invasion. The invasion spoiled a picnic date
he had for that day.

"I had heard rumored invasion dates at least a dozen times
during my 11 months in Seoul," he wrote Editor and Publisher.
"There was a threatened invasion on the morning of election
day, May 30. It never came off. There had been another rumor
on June 2. The day passed entirely without incident all along
the border."

"There was an intelligence report that June 25 would be
D-day. I had checked that with a G-2 friend early Sunday
morning and had gotten a negative reply. We had all heard the
North Koreans cry wolf so many times that none of us took it
really seriously when we heard the real one. It was on my desk
pad to check again Sunday morning. However, I did not have
to check."

Then James, whose stories have been appearing regu-
larly in the Capital Journal, told how a little after 8 o'clock
Sunday morning he drove his jeep to the front of the
United States embassy in Seoul. It was raining. He had
left his raincoat in the embassy press room the night be-
fore.

"As I ran through the rain toward the door of the embassy,
an intelligence officer who is a friend of mine, came out hastily
looking for his car driver. He thought I was on the story."

"What do you hear from the border?" he asked me.
"Not very much yet. What do you hear," I said.
"Hell, they're supposed to have crossed everywhere except
in the Eighth division area," he told me.

Then James explained how first reports were spotty and
difficult to pin down. "Most of them were police reports
which usually are extremely exaggerated," he noted. He
sat on his story for an hour and a half "rather than start
a war where there was not one." In cabling the story, he
cautioned United Press "to handle carefully."

Despite knowledge by the American colony in Seoul
that June 25 was one of the prospective D-days, Ambassa-
dor Muccio was not aroused until about the time James
sent his cable which was 9:50 a. m. and then Muccio did
not believe the invasion story. The ambassador was in-
formed by the state department of James' story.

There is no reason to question the truth of James' ac-
count of what happened that fateful Sunday. What is
difficult to understand is that the United States ambassa-
dor had not alerted his staff to the possibility of an in-
vasion. Had he forgotten Pearl Harbor?

Musgrave Resigns Council Seat

Salem's city council has lost a good man with the resig-
nation of Walter Musgrave.

Typical of his attitude toward good city government
was the thought that prompted his resignation. He had
bought a sand and gravel business and planned to de-
velop it. He could not bid on any municipal jobs if he ran
the gravel business and held a council seat at the same
time, so he resigned.

Also to his credit has been his intense interest in civic
government. In the three and one-half years service on
the West Salem and then Salem councils, he never missed
a meeting.

He became interested in politics when he started a move
many years ago to improve West Salem. His efforts to
build the community got him on the council and in the
mayor's job. He made enemies because of his drive and
his crusading spirit, but he helped the community across
the river move ahead and bring new people and business
there.

Then he sensed the community of interest of both West
Salem and Salem. He worked himself out of being mayor
of West Salem by leading the effort on his side of the
river to merge the two cities. West Salem voted to go
along with his idea. So did Salem. He was the obvious
choice to represent the new ward of West Salem on the
Salem council.

Musgrave has been a constructive force for a better
Salem. It is assumed that he will continue to work for the
betterment of the area, as he has in the past.

Indifference on Two Fronts

In a Tokyo broadcast this morning, Bill Costello of the
Columbia Broadcasting System described how indifferent
the South Korean people were to the war. This indifference
puzzled and bothered the American soldiers.

What would those same GIs think of the indifference
to their efforts by people on the home-front who are
hoarding?

As Mrs. Roberts of Sacramento, Calif., whose husband
is missing in action in Korea, says in a short story on this
page: "I wonder if stuffed stomachs and nylon clad legs
will win this war? ... Can you trade a pound of sugar or
coffee or a pair of nylons for a life?"

What would Costello's report be on the indifference on
the home-front?

Never Too Old to Fight

Washington, July 29 (AP)—The White House today reported
receiving letters from two Philadelphiaans, one 85, the
other 84, wanting to join the army for the war in Korea.

Samuel Barsumian, 85, a native of Turkey and a long time
resident of Armenia, wrote in Armeno-Turkish:

"My eyesight is good, my arms and legs are strong. My
blood is clear. My internal organs are sound. My entire body
is without fault."

"Yes, I want to be a soldier. I beg to accept me."

The other letter came from 84-year-old Samuel Deemer
Gilpin, an old-time Indian fighter. It said:

"I'm a former regular army man in company A, 13th in-
fantry, and an Indian war veteran of the Geronimo Indian
campaign, southwest, ended in September, 1886, in New
Mexico territory in Arizona."

"My object in writing you, Dear Mr. Truman, is to achieve
induction into the armed forces again."

The White House said that President Truman has not re-
plied to the two offers but undoubtedly will express his
thanks.

By H. T. WEBSTER

Thrill That Comes Once in a Lifetime



THOSE CONTEMPTIBLE HORSE
AND BUGGY DAYS WHEN THERE
WERE NO COMMUNIST PLOTS,
ATOM BOMBS, STRIKES AND
INCOME TAXES, AND ALL A BOY
HAD TO WORRY ABOUT WAS
WHETHER AT SUPPER HE WOULD
HAVE WATERMELON OR BLUEBERRY
PIE FOR DESSERT

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THE FIRESIDE PULPIT

There's a Place for Stockpiling In Religion, as Well as in War

BY REV. GEORGE H. SWIFT

Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church

There is something in a name.
The right name sometimes determines the success or failure
of a business.

Some men have been handicapped by the name given them
by fond parents at birth.

There recently appeared an article in one of our newspapers
severely condemning "hoard-
ers." In the same paper the
farmers were advised to
"stockpile" feed and
machinery.

In other words, if you are afraid
of running out of certain foods
or appliances, it is criminal to
hoard but commendable to stock-
pile them. In a fact, a "stock-
piler" is considered to be a
smart, farseeing, forward-look-
ing man.

We have the example of Joseph
in Biblical history, who ad-
vised Pharaoh to stockpile en-
ough for seven years. He was
considered so smart that he
made him prime minister of
Egypt. Joseph's foresight not
only kept Egypt alive during
the seven years of famine, but his
own brethren also.

In religion there is a place
for stockpiling too.

There should be a day-by-day
storing up of spiritual values in
order to sustain one during times



Rev. George H. Swift

of discouragement and depres-
sion.

The average person has proba-
bly enough religion to sustain
him during normal times. He has
no sickness in the family, he
has a large income sufficient to
take care of the monthly bills.
He feels very self-sufficient. But
when sickness strikes him down
or he loses his position, he can-
not find work, the creditors
hound him, his conscience both-
ers him, he is in a general state
of depression, it is then he will
come to realize the importance
of a stockpile.

He will then wish he had a
stockpile of insurance, and
credit at the bank; and a spiri-
tual stockpile of trust in God,
courage, strength of character,
indomitable will, faith, hope,
love.

The great Creator was the
first "stockpiler."

He stored in the earth sup-
plies of coal, oil, gas, and metals.

We are today the beneficiaries
of God's long-range plan. He
has stored up inexhaustible sup-
plies of spiritual goods too, but
like the material stores of earth,
the spiritual stores must also be
dug out if they are to become
available to us.

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

'When in Doubt, Attack,' Says Cavalry General Hobart Gay

By HAL BOYLE

An Advanced Command Post in Korea, (AP)—The pulling back
of the American line in Korea this week under intense com-
munist pressure galled many a young United States soldier.
But it galled none more than the two-star commander of the
first cavalry division, which took the heaviest blows.

Over the 35
years he has
spent in army
service and ac-
tions on four
continents, Maj.
Gen. Hobart R.
Gay never had
to fight a de-
fensive battle
until a few days
ago.

"And I don't
like it at all,"
he said grimly.

Gay is an apostle of attack.
He spark-plugged some of the
great offensives made by Ameri-
can arms in the second world
war. As chief of staff for Gen.
Patton, Gay coordinated success-
ful drives in North Africa and
Sicily and the famous Third
army sweep across France and
Germany.

Memories of those days must
have been much in the mind
of this lean, balding, hard-bit-
ten veteran as he meticulously
plotted on a big command post
map a slow and stubborn with-
drawal of his division. It was-
n't the fact that he faced be-
tween two and three enemy
divisions on his front that wor-
ried him so much as the fact
the American forces have been
spread so thin that flank pro-
tection is difficult.

Gay, son of a Northport, Ill.,
farmer, still speaks with a dry
midwestern twang.

"We have been heavily en-
gaged," he said. "I know we
have hurt them—and they've
hurt us some. We have had a
knockdown drag out fight and
we are going on and fight it all
the way out. So far the men
have fought beautifully. They
have fought like veterans."

Gay said he felt "the whole
situation is summed up by
refugees." Thousands cross the
American line daily and amidst
this mass of terror-stricken
humanity are armed North Kor-
ean guerrillas seeking to get



Hal Boyle

through in order to disrupt
United States positions from
the rear. So far, no way has
been found to cope with this situa-
tion.

"The American soldier—thank
God—doesn't want to kill people
ruthlessly," said Gay soberly.
"But we must find a means to
hold these refugees in place.
They are endangering our men's
lives."

Hunting bandits is nothing
new to the general, although he
never took part in a "police ac-
tion" on this scale before.

"I once commanded a troop
in the old Seventh cavalry when
we were chasing bandits along
the Mexican border," he said.
He was a lieutenant then and
later served in France during
the first world war.

Gay is known as one of the
most methodical planners in the
army. He makes daily tours of
advanced frontline positions to
check his operations. The other
day when he found vehicles
massing on one battlefield road
—making a perfect target for
any enemy aircraft—he dis-
mounted from his jeep and per-
sonally broke up the traffic
jam.

He is anxious to open an
offensive as soon as the Ameri-
can battle line has firmed.

"Marshal Poch once made
the statement that there comes
a time in every battle when
both commanders think they
have lost—and he who at-
tacks wins," said Gay. "I am
going to attack."

He praised the performance
of the new 3.5 super-bazookas
and said they are powerful
enough to blow up a building.

"There is a report going
around here that I promised
the bazooka men a bottle of
whiskey for each enemy tank
they knock out," Gay said with
a grin. "That isn't true. I prom-
ised them a bottle of cham-
pagne for each one."

"And I hope it costs me \$500."

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Korean 'Police Action' Recalls Some Past Peace Maneuvers

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—The other day I suggested that President Truman,
who is not exactly the persuasive leader Franklin Roosevelt was,
needed a lot of support from the rest of us in the current crisis,
which is a lot worse than most people have realized.

One thing he needs is some help in making the country under-
stand what the Korean war is all about.

As my own
contribution, I
should like to
set down a few
reminders re-
garding other
international ef-
forts to stop
war, which I
have watched
during some
years as a newspaperman.

The Korean war is basically
an international gamble aimed
at heading off a greater war;
and, while it may fail, you have
to look back twenty-five years
to understand what progress the
world has made in the painfully
difficult job of making men and
nations work together to set
up international machinery for
peace.

AS A YOUNG NEWSPAPER-
MAN in 1928, I went down to
Havana with Calvin Collidge,
his secretary of state, Frank B.
Kellogg, and Charles Evans
Hughes, all republicans in good
standing with the party.

At Havana, they put forward
to the Pan American nations a
policy of keeping the peace by
international arbitration.

This was not a revolutionary
plan. When trouble occurred be-
tween nations, they proposed
the common-sense idea of going
to court. But when the treaty
later got back to the U. S. sen-
ate, the sparks flew. And some
republican isolationists called
Coolidge, Hughes and Kellogg
just as vitriolic names as Mc-
Carthy has called the state de-
partment.

Two years later, I accompa-
nied a new republican secretary
of state, Henry L. Stimson, to
the London Naval conference.

There Stimson did his best to
put across a consultative pact—
again not a revolutionary pro-
posal.

It merely provided that, if
war threatened, the United
States would agree to "consult"
with other nations of the world
regarding ways of stopping war.

Stimson made absolutely no
promise that we would merely
sit down and talk.

Compared with the United
Nations of today, the Stimson
proposal sounds almost juvenile.
But when he proposed it privi-
ately at London in 1930—just
twenty years ago—Herbert
Hoover, then president of the
United States, nearly had kit-
tens. He was so agitated that he
called a press conference and
emphatically informed the world
that "no consultative pact has
been considered at any time
during the course of the Lon-
don conference."

Simultaneously in London,
Secretary Stimson, not knowing
the rock-ribbed republicans
were scared stiff over even a
tiny bit of international coopera-
tion, was holding his own press
conference stating exactly the
opposite of his chief in the White
House. A consultative pact was
killed; and with it the entire
naval treaty.

ONE YEAR LATER—1931—
The Japanese invaded Manchuria
and Secretary Stimson once
again tried to secure interna-
tional cooperation to head off what
he knew to be the beginning of
a world war. And in an effort
to prod and encourage the
League of Nations into a co-
operative move to stop war,
Stimson took the relatively mild
step of ordering the U. S. con-
sul in Geneva to sit in on coun-
cil sessions—only as an observer.

An immediate howl of protest
went up from members of Stim-
son's own republican party.
They were so vigorous, and his
chief Herbert Hoover got so
nervous, that the U. S. consul
was finally replaced by Charles
G. Dawes, whom the GOP iso-
lationists trusted.

Even more important, how-
ever, was the negative reaction
of European members of the
League of Nations. The French
press screamed that they did
not want the United States but-
ting into league affairs. The
British foreign office, long in
sympathy with Japan, deftly
undercut Stimson's crackdown
on Tokyo. Mussolini, fearing his
turn would be next, was dis-
tinctly cool to American co-
operation.

And Jap diplomats, foreseeing
the day when they would go on
to further aggressions, took di-
abolical pleasure in ridiculing
Stimson, and slowly breaking
down the peace machinery of
the world.

For months, the league de-
bated. But instead of the 48-
hour decision made by the Uni-
ted Nations in the Korean crisis,
it took one solid year for the
league to get a report from an
international commission on the
Manchurian incident.

BY THAT TIME, it was too
late. The Jap warlords were
firmly entrenched. The seeds of
World War II were well planted.



Drew Pearson

And, most important of all,
every other would-be aggressor
realized that he could thumb
his nose at international law,
and the league would do nothing.

An age was dying; and age of
international optimism, iso-
lationalism, and Harding normalcy.
An age was dying almost alone
to give it renewed life.

Leaving a sickbed in the
spring of 1932, he sailed for
Paris determined to warn the
statesmen of Europe that they
were sealing their own doom.
Renting a villa at Geneva, he
called in prime ministers of
western Europe and argued that
Japan's far-away aggression
against China could be a greater
threat to them than any men-
ace in Europe.

He urged that they take a
firm stand to bolster the world's
peace machinery in order to head
off war in the future.

But he failed.

THOSE WERE DARK DAYS
in Stimson's villa besing on
Lake Geneva.

His room looked out on an
old garden sheltered by high
trees, in which roosted flocks of
birds. And sometimes, when he
could not sleep and work drag-
ged endlessly, Stimson stood at
his window looking out upon the
trees and the moon and the
shadows they cast upon the
garden, and remembered the
world war days when he was
a colonel of artillery in France.

Out among the poplars he saw
again that line of men from the
fields, the factories, the sea, go-
ing forward; and the line of
women, wounded men, exhausted
men, going back.

A panorama of his life lay
before him then, the latter years
having been given to rebuilding
equity and understanding among
the peoples of the world.

And he had failed.

THE IMPORTANCE OF KOR-
EA is that in exactly the same
part of the world, a few miles
from the spot where the Jap
warlords invaded Manchuria,
Russia, twenty years later, has
launched her first move in
World War III.

But this time, the newly for-
med peace machinery of the world
functioned overnight. This time
republican senators, previously
isolationist, supported the Uni-
ted Nations. Perhaps it was be-
cause Taft, Knowland, and GOP
colleagues had been shouting
about Truman's failure in the
Far East that caused them to
reverse their previous isolation.

Whatever the reason, this time
both the United Nations and the
United States senate acted in
unison. That's why Korea may
be a milestone in the path of a
war-weary world toward a day
when we can prevent wars al-
together.

It'll Call for Siamese-Twin Act
Grants Pass, Oregon, July 29 (AP)—Two Grants Pass busi-
nessmen are going to have to act like Siamese twins. They
tied for first prize in the chamber of commerce mem-
bership drive. The prize. . . One Stetson hat.

Bradley Tells Why U. S. in War
When No War Is Declared

By EDWIN B. HAAKINSON

Washington, July 29 (AP)—Some members of congress and
many citizens appear puzzled as to why U. S. forces are engaged
in an all-out fight in Korea without the usual formalities of
declaring a national emergency or a war.

General Omar Bradley and W. Stuart Symington, chairman
of the National Security Re-
sources board, have given mem-
bers of congress a belated ex-
planation, it was learned today.

Usually reliable sources said
these are the reasons:

1. There has been no usual
declaration of a national emer-
gency by President Truman be-
cause U. S. forces are carrying
out orders of the United Nations
to stop the communist invasion
by North Koreans of the Re-
public of South Korea. (This
was stated at the outset of the
fighting.)

2. Congress already has ex-
tended presidential powers for
drafting manpower and industry
and is expected to approve a
system of economic controls
without need of such a declara-
tion by the president or con-
gress.

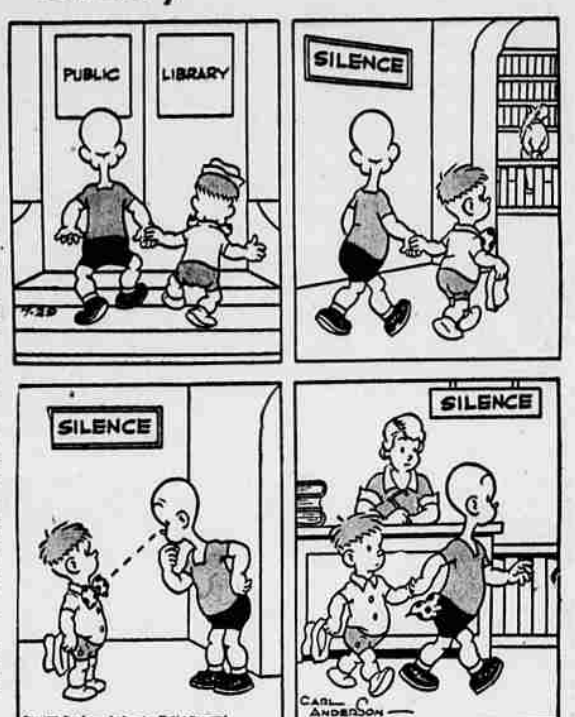
3. Many leaders here believe
that any formal declaration of
an emergency by the president
or of war by congress would be
used as an excuse by Soviet Rus-
sia for other communist aggres-
sion.

4. Many of the emergency
presidential powers extending
back to a declaration of emer-
gency on May 27, 1941 are in
operation because formal World
War II peace treaties have been
blocked by Russia.

Public references to all this
closed-door discussion have
cropped out in both the senate
and house as committees worked
on the emergency legislation now
being pushed through.

BY CARL ANDERSON

Henry



MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

U. S. Troops in Korea Rate Gen. MacArthur's Confidence

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

(AP Foreign Affairs Analyst)

General MacArthur, after another visit to the Korean war
front, has declared he never was more confident of ultimate
victory. This statement has set me to pondering the term
"victory."

We should, I think, emphasize the qualification "ultimate,"
especially since the U. N. com-
mander warned that "we will
have new heart-
aches and new
setbacks."

Also it should
be noted that
back of this pre-
diction lies a
long string of
grief.

American sol-
diers and their South Korean
comrades have battled against
tremendous odds since the first
gun blazed. Enemy numerical
superiority of ten to one has
been commonplace, and it has
run to twenty to one.

As my colleague Hal Boyle
reported the other day from
Korea:

"The basic problem of the
generals has been to spread a
small number of troops too thin
and to ask too much of them—
because that was all that could
be done under emergency cir-
cumstances."

At times the G.I.s have had to
fight tanks with carbines. And
they have been up against a
fanatical, primitive enemy which
hasn't hesitated to resort to
placing women and children a-

All right, let's take it from
there—a favorable termination
of anything attempted. What has
been attempted?

Well, the United States, be-
ing first in the field in answer
to the U. N. call for help, was
faced with the task of fighting
a delaying action with wholly
inadequate forces and equip-
ment, pending the arrival of
reinforcements. In short, the
strategy was to trade space for
time—Time to bring up rein-
forcements, many of which must
come from half-way around the
world.

That was the G.I. assignment
in the mind of the high com-
mand, the thing which was to
be attempted—to fight a delay-
ing action. That wasn't the way
it was put to the troops, of
course. Their job was to fight
like hell and ask no questions,
but their officers were well a-
ware of the nature of this grim
task.

So from the outset G.I. Joe
has been doing a magnificent
job of holding against overwhelm-
ing odds. He has given ground
inch by inch, meanwhile in-
flicting severe punishment on
the enemy.

One of the amazing features
of the withdrawals has been that
they apparently have been
achieved without disorder. Re-
treat is one of the most diffi-
cult of military operations. It is
doubly dangerous in that it not
only may easily involve the loss
of men and material but may
have devastating effect on mor-
ale.

Thus far all the reports have
indicated that our withdrawals
have been achieved without disas-
ter. Some contingents have
been cut off and have lost equip-
ment, but they appear for the
most part to have fought their
way back through the wilds.
There have been no Dunkerques.

All this being true, your col-
umnist suggests that our men
have been successful in carry-
ing out their assignment.

And success is victory. Q.E.D.

A Pound of Sugar for a Life?

Sacramento, Calif., July 29 (AP)—Mrs. Randall C. Roberts
wrote a letter to her newspaper.

"From time to time since this war broke out," she began,
"The hoarders have made the headlines."

"I wonder if stuffed stomachs and nylon clad legs will
win this war. Have the people of this nation forgotten World
War II so soon? Can you trade a pound of sugar or coffee or
a pair of nylons for a life?"

"Do you know what it is to have a loved one lost? Do
you know what it is not to be able to sleep for a gnawing
anxiety as to whether he is even alive