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Salem, Oregon, Wednesday, February 18, 1953

LEGISLATORS as Seen by Murray Wade

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Ridgway Among Least Envied, Most Efficient

BY DREW PEARSON



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

Korean War Orphans Cared For on Island

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—A little more than two years ago the heart of America was touched by one of the most unusual military operations of the dreary Korean war.

As Red Chinese massed for their successful assault against Seoul, a fleet of big U.S. transport planes landed on a field outside the city.

They were quickly loaded with nearly 1,000 frightened, bewildered Korean orphans—war waifs picked from the city streets—and flown to Cheju, an island off South Korea's coast.

"Operation Kiddie Kar" or "The Great Kidlift"—it was known by both names—dramatically saved hundreds of innocent small lives. Gifts for the children flooded to Korea from all parts of the United States, thanks largely to Lt. Col. Russell L. Blaisdell, an air force chaplain who had conceived the rescue project.

But what has happened to the kids since then? How are they faring two years later?

I am indebted to Nancy

Low Gray, a Far Eastern reporter, for bringing the picture up to date, as follows:

Cheju is now nicknamed "Orphan's Island." It is a refuge for 2,000 homeless children, housed in 14 orphanages. Other youngsters still arrive by fishing boats and other small craft.

The first group flown over from Seoul are learning to become self-sufficient. Instructors are teaching them arts and crafts. Small girls eagerly knit and embroider with the skill of old women. They also make colorful dolls from native clay, print them and sell them for souvenirs.

Most of the children were ragged, vermin-ridden, ill and half-starved. But today they are clean and regularly fed.

A United Nations welfare agency is helping rehabilitate them.

This last Christmas Chaplain Blaisdell and Mrs. Peggy Harris of New York City, director of service clubs for the Japan air defense force, organized a

drive for funds and clothing for the orphans.

The heart-warming result was a "Christmas airlift" of four tons of supplies, ranging from bubble gum and rattles to sewing machines, blankets, shoes, clothing and toys.

"The orphans love a United Nations uniform," said Mrs. Harris. "We had to hold back the tears as small arms and smiles reached out to greet us in every orphanage."

"The only kindnesses these children have ever known has come from military personnel. Most of them were picked up from the streets, where they lay either wounded or dying from starvation."

"All this happiness was made possible because GIs, officers and dependents alike gave time and money so unselfishly."

Mrs. Harris and the chaplain now plan an "Easterlift" for the children. Hundreds of American soldiers in the service clubs of the Far East theater are collecting old clothing, repairing broken toys.

Many of the salvaged children of "Orphan's Island" had been mascots of U.S. military outfits. It is pleasant to chronicle that many American GIs, who often felt lonely and forgotten in Korea, still after two years have not themselves forgotten to remember the lost waifs they originally befriended.

It gives us on the home front a reason to search our own hearts, too. Are we ourselves measuring up to our troops?

Salem 21 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

February 18, 1932

R. H. Baldock, present assistant state highway engineer, is expected to soon replace Roy Klein, present engineer.

A large and appreciative audience of both men and women greeted Frank Branch Riley when he appeared before the Woodburn Chamber of Commerce Wednesday night.

Salem dugout of Trench Rats, national fun order of Disabled American Veterans, initiated 16 candidates Wednesday night.

Dr. Carl Gregg Doney, president of Willamette university, now recommends a budget for physical training and athletics at the University and disapproves of the desire for winning teams and conference championships.

Lumber dealers from nine western states are meeting in Spokane to determine what, if anything, is wrong with their industry and what to do about it.

The 1931 crops of onions in Western Oregon will amount to 1100 carloads and is the largest in history.

A big surplus of milk diverted out of regular channels is depressing milk, cheese and butter prices. Oregon dairy interests have been informed.

Loganberry growers in the Willamette valley are now training their patches and some are reported to be cutting back their vines drastically aiming to obtain larger berries and a reduced yield. Canners report a surplus of berries and a lower price as likely for the coming season.

George Edward Stewart, sole member of the Whip party, will continue to roll his own cigarettes, appoint Will Rogers to a cabinet post and fight all political hokey if he is elected president of the United States. George halls from the higher reaches of the Cascades in Southern Oregon.

D. G. Drager today filed his application for re-election as Marion county treasurer.

Midget Market, 351 State street, today advertised pork roast for 8c a pound, pork steak for 10c, choice sirloin steak for 12 1/2c, beef roast for 10c, fresh ground beef for 10c and sausage for 12 1/2c

Anti-prohibition blocs in congress today approved a bill to legalize the manufacture of beer

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Washington — According to the customary rules of journalism, this column should be written under a European dateline. However, a newspaperman travels so fast in these modern days of airplanes and collects so much material that you can't write it all before you find yourself home.

This column therefore is to report on one of the least envied, but most efficient men in Europe, Gen. Matthew Ridgway. To some extent he is also one of the most unpopular because he has inherited the disagreeable job of pulling the North Atlantic pact organization together and making it meet its 50-division military goal.

Here are some of the things Ridgway is up against:  
1. Too many ambassadors spoil the broth—so many diplomatic cooks are stirring the European defense soup that the Europeans play them off against each other. If they don't like the arms demands made by General Ridgway, they go over his head to roving NATO Ambassador William Draper.

If they don't like what Draper says they've been able to go to Deputy Ambassador, Frederick Anderson; or to Ambassador Livingston Merchant, in charge of NATO political problems; or until recently to Ambassador Paul Porter, in charge of economic problems. Also, there is Luke Finlay, ambassador for coordinating military assistance and economic problems, and finally our regular U. S. Ambassador to France, James C. Dunn.

As gentle Gen. Omar Bradley suggested to Secretary Dulles in a briefing recently, "there are getting to be more Americans in Paris than Frenchmen."

2. Divided French Army—the French Army is split in loyalty between General de Gaulle, who is not in command, and the French government, which is in command. Thus, when the U. S. joint chiefs of staff asked the late Marshal de Lattre de Tassigny, commander in Indo-China, to accept a U. S. military aide, Tassigny hemmed and hawed, complained privately that it would put him under the command of "young Ridgway." Finally he asked advice, not from the French war ministry in Paris, but from General de Gaulle. This was the equivalent of having Gen. Mark Clark in Tokyo ask ex-president Harry Truman in Independence, Mo., how he should operate in Korea. De Gaulle incidentally advised accepting the U. S. military aide.

3. Civilian meddling — allied representatives on the NATO council, especially the British, are constantly muddying up the defense waters. Lord Ismay, the British representative, is a third-rate would-be statesman who hinders more than he helps. When General Ridgway made a speech before the council urging greater speed in building air bases, barracks, radar installations, etc., Lord Ismay and other civilian chiefs refused to let him publish it. They didn't want European populations to know how drastically they were cutting Ridgway's proposed budget.

These permanent installations originally were estimated at 400,000,000 pounds, then cut to 176,000,000 pounds, then arbitrarily cut by civilian NATO chiefs by another 83,000,000 pounds. Yet these permanent installations are all-essential to the defense of Europe. Building them now will save money in the long run.

Difficult Inheritance

Twice General Ridgway has taken over jobs from headline-famous predecessors. He succeeded MacArthur in Tokyo and Eisenhower in Paris. Both have been difficult inheritances. In Paris, Ridgway's tough and realistic policy has been rather a sudden change from Eisenhower's charm and diplomacy. Actually it took a man like Eisenhower to bring the European nations together on the same team, but now a little of Ridgway's realism is necessary to

Washington and asked: "Do you want me to resign?"

The answer was "no."  
The above, of course, is the blacker side of the European defense picture—the side that needs to be remedied. However, the most important fact is that 14 nations are definitely working together in an effort to pool their armies and are stationing foreign troops on their soil. This is an effort unprecedented in time of peace. And despite all the hitches and headaches it can lead to better all-round cooperation both for peace and—if it must happen—war.

European Merry-Go-Round

Gen. Al Gruenther, who was Eisenhower's chief of staff in NATO, is giving 100 per cent cooperation to Ridgway, despite the fact that Ridgway was appointed over his head. Unlike some prima donna brass hats, the two men get along perfectly. Both are doing A-1 jobs. All Europe was intrigued at the news Eisenhower was baptized—the French particularly so. One French paper showed Ike as a cherub in christening robes, a halo round his head, with the caption: "And he said we were 50 per cent atheist!" Reason why the joint chiefs of staff wanted to attach a U. S. military aide to Marshal Tassigny was because so many American trucks sent to Indo-China have been disappearing. . . . U. S. central intelligence is making the mistake of bribing certain French newsmen to become double agents for the United States. Sooner or later, this leaks out and backfires.

Boys to Spend Year Paying for Prank

Tacoma, Wash., (AP)—Two teen-age boys who opened a fire hose in Lincoln High School here last month and caused \$5,000 damage were ordered today by Juvenile Judge Bertil Johnson to send the next year working to pay for it.

The judge also disclosed that the boys' families each have mortgaged their homes for \$1,000 and turned the money over as part payment for the loss.

In placing the boys on probation, Johnson ordered them to work for one hour each school day, eight hours each Saturday and school holiday, and during all vacations. Their earnings are to be turned over to the school.

Ladies Leave Panties In His Garbage Can

Albuquerque (AP)—Will the young lady or ladies who have been leaving their panties in Floyd Miller's garbage can kindly lay off?

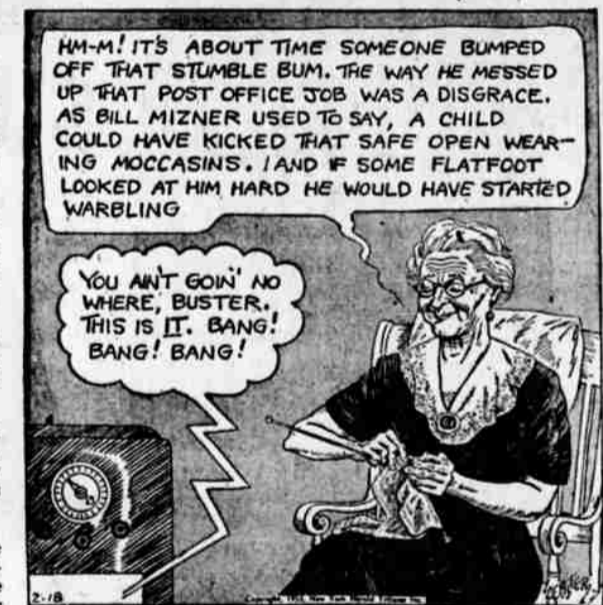
A patient man, Miller made no complaint all last week when every day there would be a new pair of unmentionables in his garbage can.

He called police yesterday. Nine new pairs.

The panties were taken to the police station and tagged as evidence.

BY H. T. WEBSTER

The Unseen Audience



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GETTING THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE

Republicans have long prided themselves upon being the party of sound finance. Literally millions of Republican eyebrows have been raised and millions of Republican tongues have protested loose fiscal policies of the new deal-fair deal through its 20 giddy years.

Now the Republicans are in the driver's seat at Washington and instead of carrying out the sound fiscal principles for which they contended while in opposition they are showing disquieting signs of adopting the attitudes they condemned in their opponents for so long.

This is said after the action of the house ways and means committee in voting for a 10 per cent cut in individual income tax payments effective with the new fiscal year which will start July 1. By a straight party vote the Reulicican majority overrode a solid protest of the Democratic minority, which pointed out that to vote a tax cut without even hearing from the treasury or the administration was virtually without precedent.

Just about everyone will welcome an income tax cut, whether he pays a few dollars or hundreds of thousands. This is one thing the entire American people have in common. They are more heavily taxed than they have ever been before, and more heavily taxed than almost any other people on earth, in ratio to income. Most people find the taxes a serious drag on their living standards and the few who do not suffer in this manner find themselves without capital to expand their business operations, which prevents the creation of new jobs. So we all want taxes reduced.

But the time to do this is after and not before the budget is balanced. It is far out of balance at present and it is doubtful if it will be brought into balance during the 1954 fiscal year. Republican budget makers are running into plenty of difficulties as they seek to implement their economy pledges.

At the very least, a balanced budget should be assured before a tax cut. Actually there should be a fairly good sized item in the next year's budget for debt retirement. It is little short of a national disgrace that the federal debt has been allowed to increase in the nearly eight years since the end of the war, the most prosperous period the American people have ever known. In the decade after World War I, that debt was reduced nearly 40 per cent.

Republican house members are playing politics with the long range national interest in their hurry to cut taxes regardless of effect on national solvency. Fortunately the committee's act must still run the gauntlet of a vote in the house, and if approved there must face the even more critical fire of a senate which is usually more responsible than the house on budget matters.

IKE'S FIRST PRESS CONFERENCE

Washington correspondents, most of whom opposed President Eisenhower during the campaign and have been predicting that he would abolish the weekly press conferences started by FDR and continued by his successor, must have been disappointed at the failure of their forecasts when the president staged his first meeting with newsmen Tuesday.

Ike showed that he was master of the situation, talked freely on subjects of his own choosing, but limited the give and take after his prepared announcement to about 15 minutes, though he was pleasant and serious throughout and didn't take refuge in the familiar "no comment" once.

Eisenhower himself decided what he would say, said it at some length, entertained a comparatively small number of questions, and then bade correspondents a cordial farewell—at a time he selected himself. The general reaction left no doubt that he was master of the situation throughout. Some liked it, some didn't.

The president himself said it need not serve as a fixed pattern for the future, that he is apt to change habits at any time and welcomed suggestions. White House officials assured reporters that he has no intention of dictating the subject matter of his future news conference, and will allow more time for questioning.

Eisenhower's debut left reporters with the distinct impression that he wanted firmer control over the course, duration and subject matter of his news conferences than was exercised by his two democratic predecessors. This was indicated chiefly by the manner in which the president laid down the basic topics for discussion, and then ended the conference on his own initiative instead of waiting for a reporter to say "Thank you, Mr. President," the traditional signal that questioning is through.

A close associate says Mr. Eisenhower felt he could devote only half an hour to the conference, hence decided to open with a voluntary discussion of five vital subjects—taxes, price controls, farm program, secret agreements (Yalta) and the Russian atomic bomb. He had no intention of avoiding embarrassing questions, and set no pattern for the future.

Presidential Secretary James C. Hagerty defined the White House policy in these words: "Tell the truth, put out no trial balloons, answer all questions as fully as possible, and refrain from talking off the record."  
The people will look forward to future conferences with intense interest—and we predict will like them even if they lack the peppery flippancy and name calling of his predecessors.

Advertisement for Greyhound buses featuring the slogan 'there's One Sure Way' and listing bus routes and fares.