

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

by DREW PEARSON

DIPLOMACY AT SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO. — By all odds the most skillful diplomacy game at this conference has been played by dapper, dignified Anthony Eden of Great Britain. He has managed to come out as the friend of all sides, and most important of all, the mediator between Russia and the United States.

In other words, Eden has completely reversed the previous role of President Roosevelt, who up until his death had acted as the mediator between Churchill and Stalin.

The Churchill-Stalin rivalry was not merely personal. It was historic. It was based not only on the fact that Churchill just after the last war, urged the sending of Allied troops into Russia to help the White Russian generals overthrow the embryo Bolshevik regime, but that he flirited with the Cliveden set which in 1939 advocated war between Russia and Germany while England sat on the side lines.

This was the basis for the personal suspicion between him and Stalin. But historically, Churchill was carrying out a century-old British policy of isolating Russia. For 100 years, the country with the greatest land mass in the world, Russia, had been kept without a warm-water seaport by Britain, the country with the greatest navy in the world.

That rivalry was the reason for the Anglo-Japanese alliance, whereby the British, working through Japan, helped to stop Russia from getting Manchuria and a warm-water port on the Pacific.

That rivalry was behind Britain's sphere of influence in Persia (now Iran) to prevent Russian use of the gulf of Persia. That rivalry was also the cause of the Crimean war in which the British fleet and British troops actually landed on the same spot where Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt later held their Yalta conference and waged a bloody battle to prevent the Czar from coming down to the Dardanelles and getting an outlet through the Mediterranean.

Finally this 100-years-old Russo-British rivalry was behind Britain's taking Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Finland away from Russia after the last war to block her outlet to the Baltic sea.

Roosevelt Sits in Middle.

That rivalry continued during the Teheran-Yalta conferences, with Stalin and Churchill both trading against each other and Franklin Roosevelt sitting in the middle.

At Teheran the argument was over a second front through the Balkans which Churchill favored, or through France, which Stalin favored. Churchill wanted the Allied armies to get into the Balkans—Russia's sphere of influence—and thereby keep the Russians out. He didn't want Allied armies ruining factories and alienating the population of western Europe—which was to be Britain's sphere of influence.

In the end Roosevelt tipped the scales in favor of Stalin—toward a second front through France.

Once at Teheran, Churchill trying to poke a little fun at Stalin, said: "Marshal, I have noticed that whenever anyone comes into contact with you they become slightly pink." To which Stalin replied: "And Mr. Prime Minister, any good doctor will tell you that pink is the healthiest of all colors."

And Roosevelt, wanting to pour oil on the troubled waters, said: "Gentlemen, let me remind you that there is nothing more beautiful than all the colors of the rainbow."

But at the end, as Churchill bade farewell to Stalin, there was still tension between them.

"Well, goodbye, marshal," said the prime minister. "I'll see you in Berlin."

"Yes," shot back Stalin, "I in a tank and you in a pullman car."

Stettinius Loses Out.

Roosevelt was shrewd enough to continue as middle man even at Yalta, despite the fact that he was slipping physically.

He kept both Russia and Great Britain in the position of playing up to the United States.

The loss of that strategic bargaining power is the most important development of this conference. Stettinius has lost what Roosevelt had and Anthony Eden has cleverly stepped into his place.

The United States has now slipped into the position of being the chief rival and potential opponent of Russia, while Eden has maneuvered so that England sits in the middle, able to throw its weight to one side or the other.

Conference Cross Currents

Greek Foreign Minister Sophianopoulos at first was considered a British puppet but surprised everyone by voting against the British on Argentina. He sides with Russia, against Argentina's admission into the San Francisco conference. . . . He also helped to pass the Greek eight-hour child labor laws, later was condemned to life imprisonment under King George. . . . Real expert on peace machinery is Dutch Foreign Minister Van Kieffens.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

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RUSSIAN DELEGATES SHOW AMIABLE WORLD RELATIONS

SAN FRANCISCO. — Definite and positive assertions as to what this conference and the world will do are being flung rather freely around.

A commonly popular one in the news is that the conference—as one exceptionally able writer has put it — has proceeded to the point where a new era is assured.

Behind this line of current thought running through the news and comment is the idea that the Russians have been brought around to acceptance of democratic methods. They gave in on the Argentine question and Molotov afterward called on State Secretary Stettinius and made certain other gestures creating a new amiable and friendly spirit. It is thus true enough that the attitude with which Mr. Molotov, if not Russia herself, came into this conference, is being altered.

But down deep inside everyone here knows peace and the settlement of world problems will be a long process. The millennium is nowhere here yet visible to my eyes. The precise degree of progress that has been made is that Russia has shown a willingness to cooperate and that this has put the delegates naturally in a better frame of mind.

Now is this new spirit can be carried forward to the application of all problems, then the new era will truly have arrived. But to keep a proper perspective of the actual condition, it must be reported that the problems still remain — all of them — many grave, deep problems of every economic, financial and political nature. What has been done here so far has been merely to get an agreement on the organization of the conference. Therefore it should be plain future hopes here can not be based on "the receptivity" of this government's attitude toward Russia, but upon the receptivity of the Russian attitude toward democratic processes.

Action Taken Slowly.

The questions I hear asked by men here who have given earnest thought to the matter all run down to that single, focal proposition.

It took this world peace meeting exactly a week to get down to the business of naming its committees and commissions to do the actual work for which it was assembled. During that week the loud speakers of the opera house recorded speeches from all the interested parties and the organizational disputes of the major powers.

The speeches set forth largely the pleas of the small powers for "mutual respect of nations," "recognition of human values," "Principles of justice" — not far from the line which Mr. Truman laid down at the outset in his appeal for "simple justice." I would say that as far as words are concerned most of the nations are not far apart, but some of them were not represented in all these expressions.

It may be reported, also, that the smaller nations will win concessions in the Dumbarton formula, the extent and nature of which will be ironed out by bargaining—and this represents progress also.

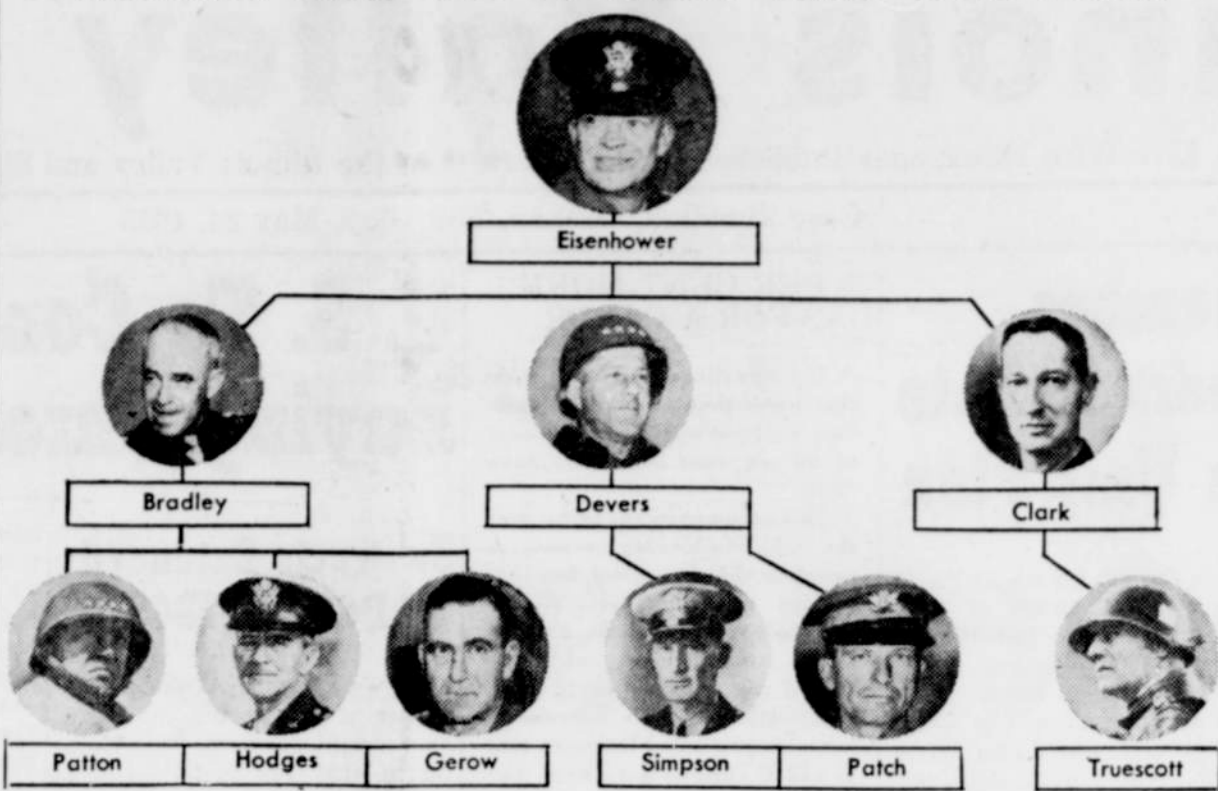
Behind all these developments however, the nations were sounding each other out. From their experiences they have a more complete knowledge of just how much each one wants.

To that extent, great progress has been made. But it would be safer to report progress here—not victory.

The nine point program of Dumbarton Oaks amendments adopted by the American delegation represented quite a personal victory for Senator Vandenberg. It was the Michigan Republican who first demanded the main points such as inclusion of the word and ideal of "Justice" through the charter and opportunity for future peaceful change of the world setup as well as the charter. Other forces prescribed what seemed in general to me to be basic changes of theory from Dumbarton Oaks along the same lines such as specific inclusion of the Atlantic charter ideals, return to international law, world court, safeguarding human rights, etc.

From a political standpoint the doctrines of international law and world court have a Republican origin, while the Atlantic charter and human rights lines were developed by Mr. Roosevelt. The improvements devised by Americans here therefore represent a genuine compromise and exhibit what I think is an outstanding development of this meeting, namely a return to a spirit of cooperation among American political interests which is so vitally essential. Most of the inside voting in the delegation has been unanimous.

Nation's Hats Off to Hard Task Well Done



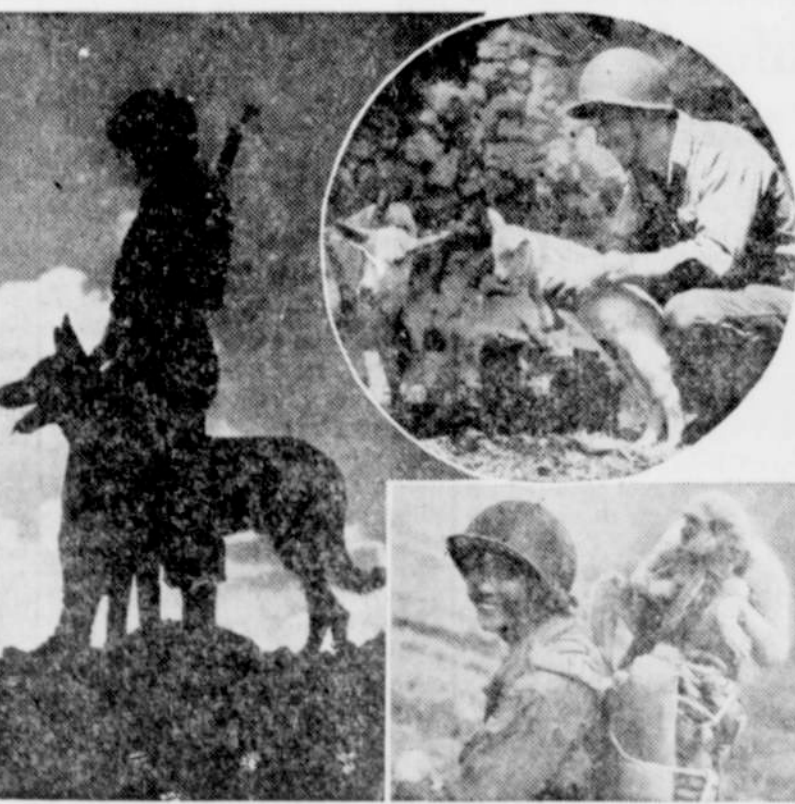
The organization of the American forces in Europe which brought about the complete collapse and unconditional surrender of the once-unbeatable German forces which set out to rule the world. To Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, his army group commanders, Bradley, Devers and Clark, we render thanks. To General Patton, General Hodges and General Gerow, under Bradley; General Simpson and General Patch under Devers and to General Truescott, under Clark in Italy, the credit of directing the world's finest army is due. A job well done, by the finest staff ever assembled in the history of any war.

Germany's Nazi Down—Japan Soon to Follow



Left: President Harry S. Truman, officially ending the war in Europe. Gathered around him are members of his cabinet, family and officials. Right: Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander, makes announcement of German unconditional surrender at SHAEF, France. At left is Sir Arthur Tedder, deputy supreme commander. The world's greatest war was thus brought to a successful conclusion.

Pacific G.I.s Tame and Use Pets



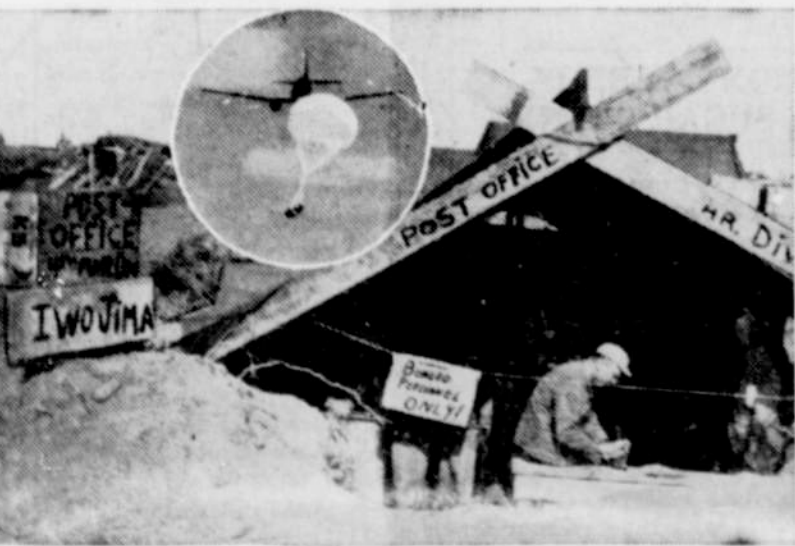
Dogs, goats or monkeys, regardless of nationality, the American expeditionary forces in the Pacific have tamed, adopted as pets and put to use to hunt out the Japs, locate poison gas, gun emplacements, or furnish milk to sick buddies. Thousands of rare and unusual pets will be brought into the United States when Tokyo falls.

Pity the S-VE-Eper



Michael Parrotta, New York sanitation department sweeper, is one man who thinks that Victory is not all it's cracked up to be. His was the job of cleaning up the paper blizzard aftermath that covered 45th street, New York City.

War-Born Lessons Dropped From Air



The accelerated educational schedule developed in the wartime emergency, which put the student through a normal four-year college course in from 28 to 36 months, will be discontinued as soon as possible by most colleges, but the government will see that substitute courses are furnished to G.I.s by air mail wherever desired. Returned soldiers may still secure training desired.

New Diving Record



Jack Browne, 28 years old, is shown through the porthole of the decompression chamber as he was slowly released from the peak pressure to set record of 550 feet dive.

SNAPPY FACTS about RUBBER

It is difficult to detect the ordinary "slow leak" in time to prevent destructive "roadside flats." The Office of Defense Transportation recommends an effective cure for stealthy leaks: (1) Make sure valve caps have been screwed on finger tight. (2) Before adding air be sure to test pressure in each tire. (3) Check variations in tire pressure—a marked difference in pressure indicates a slow leak, which should be repaired immediately.

To help relieve the critical need for military tires, men who work in a large rubber plant in Los Angeles (B. F. Goodrich) have sworn not to miss a day's work, and, like submarine crews, not to shave for 120 days.

Press Manning

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WNU-13 20-45

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