

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW PEARSON

MUNITIONS TO JAPAN

WASHINGTON.—The Pearl Harbor investigating committee has now spent nearly three months digging into military - naval - political reasons why we were caught asleep on December 7, 1941. While this is important, all the facts show that Japan would have attacked anyway; if not at Pearl Harbor, at some other place, and if not on December 7, at some other time.

Meanwhile, we have seized various documents from the Japs, showing that this war was carefully built up over a period of years and that certain American munitions makers were either unsuspecting or deliberate Jap co-partners.

If we are to prevent war in the future—and that presumably is one motive of the Pearl Harbor committee—the manner in which American business aided the Japs to prepare for Pearl Harbor is important. We must build up machinery so this doesn't happen again.

MUNITIONS LOBBIES

One thing the Pearl Harbor committee might well investigate is the way lobbies developed in Washington to put pressure on the government to sell war goods to Japan. These lobbies, representing oil, gasoline, scrap iron, airplanes, machine tools, made a lot of headway with the army and navy, sometimes with the state department.

One man they never affected was Harold Ickes. As secretary of the interior he controls the export of helium gas, and at exactly the same month the above report was written, the Germans were trying to buy helium from the U. S. A. for their zeppelins.

The army, the navy and Secretary of State Hull gave their okay. But Ickes said no—unless American inspectors were stationed in Germany to see how the helium was used. Finally the question came up in cabinet meeting. Secretary Hull gave a long speech telling why it was perfectly safe to sell helium to Germany without inspection. As the vote went round the table, every cabinet member voted against Ickes.

But Ickes still said no. Under the law, the secretary of the interior has absolute control over the export of helium. No one can overrule him. So finally FDR turned to Ickes and said:

"Well, Harold, you're the boss. You win."

VETERANS' PROBLEMS

Lt. Col. R. P. Bronson, chief of the contact and service branch of the Veterans' administration, blinked when he was handed a telegram from a distressed veteran the other day. It read:

"Assistance needed stop brother murdered here December 26 stop reply by wire."

Colonel Bronson instructed an aide to phone the veteran's home city and see that he was given immediate help. Then he continued to leaf through the daily file of pleas that come to his desk.

"It's all in a day's work," he said. "But I'll admit that one had me stumped for a while."

Wide and varied are the SOS appeals the Veterans' administration receives from men wearing the discharge insignia. They range from vets wanting to get traffic tickets "fixed" to those who want to adopt children, purchase new automobiles or get liquor licenses.

"We're the 'Little Mother' agency of the government," said the colonel, a two-listed overseas veteran with a sense of humor and four battle stars on his campaign ribbons. "We do our best, but of course we can't please everybody. It would make it a lot easier on us if some of our correspondents realized that their off-the-track problems hinder the handling of thousands of legitimate requests from men seeking benefits under the G.I. Bill of Rights and so on. When they ask us to find them wives, that sort of stumps us."

The love interest is uppermost in unusual V.A. mail. However, a Maryland vet recently wanted help in getting his water main connected.

A West Virginian posed the following \$64 question:

"Do you know of or can you find out about some government agency which can assist me in finding a wife? I am a veteran of two years and nine months service—age 39—and so far, for some unknown reason, I am unsuccessful in finding a bride. Hope to receive a favorable reply very soon."

CAPITAL CHAFF

Members of congress were not pleased by General Eisenhower's quick departure from the Library of Congress auditorium after he addressed them on demobilization. Admiral Nimitz had aides on hand to answer questions after he spoke, but Eisenhower ducked out right after reading his speech, leaving no one from the army to answer questions. . . . Al Marano, secretary to Congresswoman Clare Boothe Luce of Connecticut, has a new daughter. Her name—Clare.



TRY BICYCLE POLO FOR EXCITEMENT . . . Co-eds of the University of Miami have a crackerjack bicycle polo team, with glamour and skill combined. In above photograph, practically the entire membership of both teams are pursuing Nanette Verhoef, as she dribbles the ball towards the Zeta goal. Note her technique of coasting with one foot on a pedal while the other is used to kick the ball along.



STRIKES ALSO HIT JAPAN . . . While the United States is blanketed by strikes in many industries, natives of Japan decided to follow suit. Shown above is strike held by thousands of municipal workers in which they emphasized their demands for at least three times their present wage and for better living conditions. They stormed the Tokyo city hall, where they are shown making their demands. Strikers claim that the inflation has made it impossible for them to live on present wage scales.



WHAT RUSSIA WANTS . . . Among the major problems that will cause headaches for the United Nations assembly is the easing of Russo-Turkish relations. The map above shows what Russia wants from Turkey. It also shows what the situation is in Iran. Many observers of international chess-playing believe that Russia's biggest want at the moment is freedom of the Dardanelles and access to warm water outlets. Russia has wanted such outlets for centuries and believes that she is now, as a member of UNO, entitled to have these demands met in full.



NOT ALL TEEN-AGERS ARE DELINQUENT . . . A welcome change from recent publicity given to teen-age delinquents, is the story of the eleven members of the "Astoria Trojans," New York football team, who were sworn into the navy in a body. The 17-year-olds are pictured at New York City navy recruiting office, as they took the oath, administered by Comdr. W. T. Vrooman. The boys will be sent to school in Norfolk, Va.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

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BYRNES-RUSSIAN PLAN FOR WORLD ORGANIZATION

WASHINGTON.—The least noticed or discussed major news of these days is the permanent new world establishment organized by Mr. Byrnes at Moscow and implemented at the London UNO meeting.

Neither congressmen nor people are talking much about it, although the effects upon people everywhere will be greater, perhaps, and last longer than the effects of current strikes and demobilization (the

two topics absorbing the popular mind).

The unfolding facts disclose the basic deal, which the American state secretary made for renewed cooperation of Russia in the world organization, is founded upon a validation of Russian conquests in eastern Europe and American co-operation to secure the most valued posts in the UNO for Russia.

Chairmanship of the "political and social committee," which will handle such affairs throughout the world, went to Dr. Manuilsky of the Ukraine, one of the many Soviet socialist republics (a geographical Russian state) which Stalin caused Mr. Roosevelt to recognize as an independent new nation at Yalta.

"The economic and financial committee" chairmanship went to Konderski of Russian-dominated Poland. (The Byrnes-Molotov candidate for president of the assembly earlier narrowly failed of election.)

BIG THREE DIVIDE POWER AMONG SELVES

But Byrnes was careful to keep almost equally divided between the Big Three the more important "economic and social council," dealing with the same delicate world problems now obviously involved in revolutionary changes.

This council is a little autonomous UNO in itself, being literally empowered to go into practically any subject in any nation, and even the top security council of UNO only has authority over its general appropriations. This restriction on its funds is the only practical restraint upon its scope.

On this council the British, United States and Russia each have about equal representations, each able to control five votes in all reasonable expectations, while France has two and China one.

For the United States we can no doubt count on Chile, Colombia, Cuba and Peru in a pinch, while the British might be expected to sway Belgium (?), Canada, Greece (?), and India. The Russians own the Ukraine, control Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia, and seem to be able to count on Norway (?).

Thus the council, which was contrived at San Francisco to bring the New Deal to the world, starts out with equal power of American democracy, British socialism and Russian communism. These are the brass tacks of the matter.

But underneath this new tacking is the new American foreign policy of rapprochement with Russia, as against Britain, which has never been explained. The Byrnes speeches at UNO are as unrevealing as his post-Moscow statements here, as to point and purpose. The reasoning behind our new policy has never been presented, even unofficially.

RUSSIAN SUPPORT USED TO GET UNO STARTED

My inquiries have developed the following understanding of many a Byrnes friend as to what changed him from his adamant stand for the Atlantic Charter, and Roosevelt freedoms for small European nations at the foreign ministers break-up, in London last summer, to this new policy (read no more into this, than their statement):

The British, who are our natural world allies, being similarly democratic, had proved no more co-operative inside than out in all postwar dealings. Their socialist government was rather plainly trying to move us as its pawn, just as the Russians would like to use us.

Apparently Byrnes figured he could do as well siding with the Russians as he had been doing while siding with the British.

As this is the formative period of the new world, the price in principles proved rather high. The Russian conquests have been validated in perpetuity throughout Europe, with a corresponding decline in the chances of any of those nations ever getting the Atlantic Charter.

Atomic concessions were made to an extent which is not even yet clear, although it is quite clear the atom bomb is to be used to guarantee this new-formed world forever, in addition to armies and airplanes (Byrnes speech at London).

FOOLISH TO NEGLECT SNIFFLES, SNEEZES OF Head Colds

A bottle of Vicks Va-tro-nol is mighty handy to have around the house because this double-duty nose drops... Quickly Relieves sneezy, sniffly, stuffy distress of head colds. Makes breathing easier. Helps prevent many colds from developing if used at the first warning sniffle or sneeze. This Double-Duty Nose Drops should save you much misery. Works fine! Follow directions in the package.

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Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

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WNU-13 06-4f

Watch Your Kidneys!

Help Them Cleanse the Blood of Harmful Body Waste

Your kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as Nature intended—fail to remove impurities that, if retained, may poison the system and upset the whole body machinery.

Symptoms may be nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of pep and strength.

Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.

There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. Doan's have been winning new friends for more than forty years. They have a nation-wide reputation. Are recommended by grateful people the country over. Ask your neighbor!

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