

The Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

Washington, D. C.
DELAYS TO RUSSIA

There were two inside reasons for the slowness of the U. S. mission to Moscow in sitting down at the conference table with Joe Stalin. One was the technical difficulty of the flight across Germany. The other was China.

The flight from London to Moscow is not the easiest thing in the world, since about a thousand miles is across enemy territory. The British bombers which make the flight use as much of the night as possible over German territory and also go up to tremendous altitudes.

The U. S. mission to Moscow also had to fly in sections—three different planes, flown on different days, with the time of departure kept a dark secret. And the last sections were delayed in London.

The Chinese delay of the mission to Moscow occurred before Averill Harriman left Washington, when it was proposed that China, nearest friendly neighbor to Russia, should sit in with Harriman, Stalin and the others.

But the state department objected—and for a highly unexpected reason. Appeasement-minded diplomats inside the state department claimed that a Chinese mission to Moscow would offend Japan. The United States was trying to woo Japan away from the Axis, they argued, and so nothing must be done to rub the Japanese fur the wrong way.

In the end, Japan reaffirmed its partnership in the Axis; but only after the U. S. mission to Moscow already had started, also after Nazi victories in Russia seemed on the upgrade once again. So the appeasement policy of the state department got nowhere.

NOTE—Key to Japanese policy of friendship for the United States or allegiance to Germany always is the barometer of Nazi military success. If Hitler is winning, Japan will stick by him; and if the U.S.A. looks stronger, it is vice versa.

U. S. MILITARY ATTACHE

Gen. John Magruder was recently appointed head of the U. S. military mission to China in order to heal the slight to Chiang Kai-shek when he was not permitted to send an envoy to the Harriman conference in Moscow. But General Magruder is more famous for another chapter in his life.

When he was U. S. military attache to Switzerland in 1938, Magruder sent a report to the war department on the march of Hitler's mechanized forces to conquer Austria. In this report he said that Nazi tanks and trucks were of poor quality and that many of them had broken down en route to Vienna.

This U. S. military report was immediately picked up by the British who placed great confidence in the word of a U. S. military attache. Today, Hitler's tanks and armored cars are the model for modern warfare.

MRS. ROOSEVELT'S JOB

A friend of Mrs. Roosevelt came to see her at the White House, to talk about the First Lady's new job in the Office of Civilian Defense. She was much impressed at Mrs. Roosevelt's grasp of the problems, but a little disturbed at the boldness of some of her plans.

So thinking of Director LaGuardia, the friend remonstrated: "If you introduce such bold ideas, what will the mayor say?"

The First Lady smiled. "My dear," she said, "I don't think the mayor will say 'No' to me."

NOTE—Mrs. Roosevelt cannot spend full time at her desk in the O.C.D., and during her absences, the job will be held down by her good friend Mrs. Henry Morgenthau, wife of the secretary of the treasury.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

What the army needs for men in southern areas is shorts pants. The long trousers are too hot and difficult to keep clean. British officers observing the maneuvers wear shorts and looked cool and swaggy.

Observed one second army witant the fact that the war games were held in the "Cajun" (Arcadian) section of Louisiana, "450,000 soldiers and all looking for Evangeline."

Attention, Mr. Tom Dewey: The U.S.O. did not show up very helpfully in the maneuver area. In some of the towns the local organizations did make an effort to provide the soldiers with bathing and laundry facilities, but in general the U.S.O. fell down on the job. It should have made special arrangements for the men in this backwoods region.

The Newport News Shipbuilding company recently painted the army transport West Point in the amazing time of exactly eight hours.

J. H. Crutchfield of Pittsburgh has devised an auto sticker reading: "Give a lift to every man in uniform."

Carlos Davila, popular ex-President of Chile, has been appointed special ambassador to five Central American countries. With European markets closed, Chile has asked Davila to make the most of trade possibilities inside the Western hemisphere.

The Once Over by H.I. Phillips

THE PAPERS OF PRIVATE PURKEY

Dear Ma.—

I am inclosing a clipping with has gave me the biggest lift since I was drafted. It is from Camp Stewart down in Georgia and it says that a colonel named Ralph Tobin of the 207th Coast Artillery came out against potato peeling in the army. He said he didn't think a soldier should ever wash a dish neither as both take time that could be used in learning how to fight. Well this man Tobin is my choice for top general in the U. S. A. If this clipping gets read much he will be the hero of the army in no time.

This colonel says the German army used a separate organization of kitchen workers to peel potatus and wash dishes and, ma, that is the key to the way them Nazis fight I gess. With a guaranty that they won't never never have to do no work as kitchen canaries no wonder there morale is so good. He gave a hint that the American army wood organize a trained division of kitchen help soon and I hope he is right. It wood improve the spirit of the whole army and me so much that you wood never no we was the same fellows.

I do not no if there is anything except talk behind this idea but I wish you wood mention it in your prayers every night as I am sure the army wood be in better shape to win a war if it could get potatoes, dishes, cooking and general house-work off its mind.

I also wish ma that the army wood organize a division of street cleaners and bath room attendants two on account of that is no work for a soldier neither. It is awful hard for me to feel like a 100 per cent fighting man when I am walking up and down a camp spearing old papers and picking up general rubbish. And I certainly do not feel like no important cog in the arsenal of the democrats when I am in a scrub bucket brigade in the men's room.

They call this fatigue duty in the army and the man who first thought up this name for it had a great sense of word values. It fatigues me to even think of army house-work. I do not get half so tired on an all day hike as I do just thinking of peeling another barrel of potatus or washing dishes.

If I was not a private I wood write a letter to Colonel Tobin saying he is the first smart general the army ever had and that I was for him for President, Secretary of War and the hero of the next Sergeant York picture, but it might get me into trouble like most of my letters do I wish you and pop wood write him and get all the neighbors to do it. Believe me it has puzzled me how the Heinies could take all those Maggient lines and forts so quick but the hole secret is out. They could concentrate on it instead of on potato peeling.

Well, this will half to be all for now now.

Lots of love,

Oscar.

P.S.—Could you find out the address of Myrtle Atwood for me.

GOOD-BY FOREVER

Vacation friendships warm the heart So much that, when you come to part

With people you have known a day, "Be sure to look us up," you say, And they in turn insist that you Look them up when you're passing through.

They wring your hand, and you wring theirs, No other parting's pang compares. So great your joy in having met them,

It's strange how soon you can forget them.

—Richard Armour.

SONG FOR A GAS SHORTAGE

Just a song for twilight, When the gas is low; Fill your tank to brimful As you watch it flow.

Though your tank be heavy, With a heart that's light Comes the call at sunset, "Fill 'er up tonight!"

—Milton Mohr.

'ALL RIOT ALONG THE POTOMAC'

Hi—There was a serious accident in Washington yesterday. Six loads of eastbound co-ordinators collided with four buses full of westbound federal administrators. Six trucks carrying defense program allocators, priorities fixers, etc., following the eastbound buses then crashed into the wreckage. It is believed the defense program will be greatly speeded up, due to the crash.

—K. L. M

Principals in Panama's Coup d'Etat



Dr. Arnulfo Arias, ousted from the presidency of Panama in a coup which placed a regime more favorable to the U. S. in power, is shown at left. Right: Dr. Ernesto de LaGuardia, former Panamanian minister to Mexico, who has assumed the presidency of Panama following the bloodless coup d'etat which overthrew President Arias.

Held on \$20,000 Bail



George Sylvester Viereck, shown in New York federal court after arrest by federal agents, Viereck, poet propagandist and journalist, was arrested on charge of failing to set forth "divers facts" regarding his activities when registering as an agent of the Nazi government. He was held on \$20,000 bail.

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Depot Gets in Way of Freight Train



The Grand Trunk & Western railway's passenger depot at Lansing, Mich., was wrecked when a freight train jumped the track and crashed into it, killing one person and injuring several. Photo shows general view of wrecked train and depot. It is believed a wheel on a freight car broke. The train was traveling 60 miles per hour.

Lost Babe Found



Surviving eight days of wandering through New Hampshire wilderness without food and protection from rain and cold, five-year-old Pamela Hollingworth of Dunstable, Mass., (above) was found by a CCC corps. "Fammy" lost eight pounds.

Ton of Scrap Iron

According to an estimate by army ordnance officers, a ton of scrap iron collected in this country could be made into: One 75-millimeter field-gun, or the carriage for such a gun, or 12 machine guns, or nine 500-pound demolition bombs, or one 2,000-pound, 16-inch battleship-piercing shell.

If you have a relative or friend in the service and have any doubts about what to send him as gifts, your problems are over. The service men have solved it for you by naming tobacco as their first choice in gifts. Actual sales records show the favorite cigarette with men in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard is Camel. Prince Albert is the popular smoking tobacco. With these preferences in mind, local tobacco dealers feature Camels by the carton and Prince Albert in the pound tin as ideal gifts to the men in the service from the folks back home.—Adv.

Germans Start New Russ Offensive



This radiophoto transmitted from Berlin shows German infantrymen crossing river in rubber boats at beginning of the new offensive in the east. Moscow's armies were retreating and the Soviet capital was in peril, dispatches from both Russia and Germany indicated. The Red press urged British action against the Nazi divisions and air force.

Governor Weds



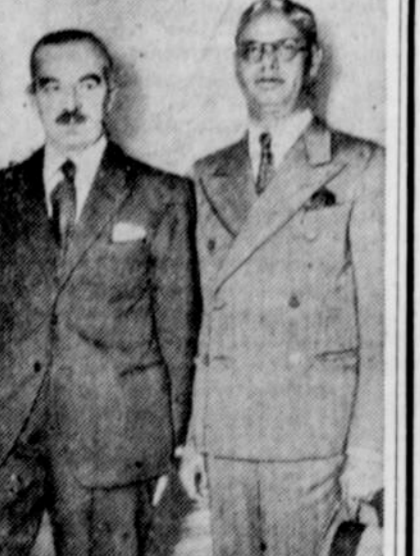
Arthur H. James, 58-year-old governor of Pennsylvania, is shown with his bride, the former Mrs. Emily Radcliffe Case, 48, widow of a member of the Cornell university staff, after their marriage in Doylestown, Pa. Only 150 guests attended, in line with the governor's desire for a quiet, unpretentious ceremony. The Rev. William Steckel of New Ipswich, N. H., married them.

Navy Secretary Visits Bermuda Outpost



Secretary of the United States Navy Frank Knox recently visited Bermuda, an important U. S. naval base in the Atlantic. This official navy photo shows the secretary reviewing the sailors aboard the U. S. S. Augusta.

Confer With F. D. R.



Sir Ronald Campbell, left, acting British ambassador, and Sir Shanmukham Chetty, head of purchasing commission of India, pictured as they called on the President.

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Worst Plague
War—a plague of mankind which should be banished from the earth.—Washington.

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