

Truman Tells of Attempted Doublecross By Byrnes for Vice President Selection

Editor's note: The following dispatch is based on the third installment of former President Truman's memoirs published in Life magazine.

Washington (U.P.)—Former President Truman struck a new blow in his bitter feud with James F. Byrnes today by telling his "inside story" of their rivalry for the 1944 Democratic vice-presidential nomination.

He said that although he (Mr. Truman) was the late President Roosevelt's choice for the No. 2 spot on the Democratic ticket, Byrnes telephoned just before the convention and "told me that President Roosevelt had decided on him as the new nominee for vice-president, and asked me if I would nominate him at the convention."

Byrnes Silent
"I believe," Mr. Truman said, "that Byrnes knew that the President had named me at the time he called me."

Byrnes told the United Press at Columbia, S. C., that he had no comment "at this time . . . about a statement Mr. Truman makes about me . . ."

Mr. Truman's version of one of the most sharply-disputed chapters in American politics was contained in the third installment of his memoirs published by Life magazine.

Byrnes, who was to become Mr. Truman's secretary of state and later governor of South Carolina, was the late President Roosevelt's top White House assistant in 1944. Mr. Truman was a Missouri senator who had won national renown as head of the Senate War Investigating Committee.

With Vice-President Henry A. Wallace and Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, they were leading prospects for the second spot on FDR's fourth-term ticket—a job that was fated to lead to the presidency upon Roosevelt's death in 1945.

Mr. Truman Preferred
Mr. Truman said that unbeknownst to him, FDR met with Democratic party leaders "far in advance" of the 1944 party convention, and told them that "he preferred Truman over Wallace, Douglas or Byrnes."

At the meeting, Mr. Truman said, the President wrote a longhand note to Democratic national chairman Robert Hannegan saying "Bob, it's Truman, FDR."

"At the same meeting," Mr. Truman said, "he (FDR) instructed Postmaster General Frank Walker to notify Byrnes of the decision."

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No Idea of Choice
Mr. Truman said he had no idea at that time that FDR had tapped him, and on the basis of Byrnes' phone call he "took it for granted" that Byrnes was the choice.

Mr. Truman said he told Byrnes he would be glad to place his name in nomination "if the President wanted him for a running mate." He said he stuck by his pledge and tried to line up support for Byrnes at the convention, even after Hannegan, labor union leaders and others "put pressure on me," to seek the post.

He said he "continued to resist" until FDR, in a telephone call to Hannegan which Mr. Truman could overhear, asserted that Mr. Truman would "break up the Democratic party in the

Truman's Mother Refused To Sleep In Lincoln's Bed

Washington (U.P.)—Former President Truman's mother was an "unreconstructed rebel" who refused to sleep in a White House room with Lincoln's bed in it.

In the third installment of his memoirs, published in Life magazine, Mr. Truman recalled that his mother came to Washington to visit him shortly after he became President. His brother, Vivian, had told her the only available room in the White House was the Lincoln room, and she would have to sleep in a bed in which the famed Republican Civil War President slept.

"My mother said to Vivian, 'You tell Harry if he puts me in the room with Lincoln's bed in it, I'll sleep on the floor,'" the former President recounted.

Actually the President's mother was assigned to the Rose Room, a guest room in which "all the queens who had ever visited the White House had slept," Mr. Truman said.

middle of a war" if he turned down the nomination.

"I was completely stunned," said Mr. Truman. "I sat for a minute or two and then got up and began walking around the room. 'Well, I said finally, 'if that is the situation, I'll have to say yes, but why the hell didn't he tell me in the first place?'"

Other highlights of the third installment of the Truman memoirs:

1. In May, 1945, soon after he became President, he sent Harry Hopkins to Moscow with instructions to use "a baseball bat" if necessary to persuade Soviet Premier Josef Stalin to bring Russian forces into the war against Japan at "as early a date as possible."

2. He estimates that the Senate War Investigating Committee, which he headed, saved the American taxpayers \$15,000,000,000 and saved countless lives in the armed forces by exposing waste, inefficiency and "cheating" on specifications in production of arms.

3. The important functions of congressional investigating committees have "suffered violence" at some hands since his day as an investigator, and "too often, in recent times, the committees have been used for publicity."

4. In a letter to his mother, telling of a forthcoming social engagement with the general who then commanded Allied forces in Europe, Mr. Truman said: "Monday I entertain Eisenhower, a real man."

Red China, Burmese Friendship Established
Tokyo (U.P.)—Peiping radio today quoted a Burmese military leader as saying "foundations of friendship" had been established between Red Chinese and Burmese military forces.

The Chinese Communist broadcast said the statement was made by Burmese Lt. Gen. Ne Win, head of a goodwill military mission now visiting Peiping.

Three Cars Involved In Highway Accident

Three cars were involved in an accident at about 7:35 a.m. today on Highway 99 north of Talent, according to state police. There were no injuries.

Drivers of the vehicles were Gerald Leon Pawlowski, 23, of route 1, box 6, Jacksonville; Donald Dean Babbitt, 19, of 156½ Ashland st., Ashland, and Sturmon E. Peterson, Ft. Lewis, Wash.

Investigating officers said Pawlowski and Peterson were southbound. Pawlowski swerved to miss a car which stopped suddenly in front of him, and Peterson was forced to swerve to miss Pawlowski's car.

The Peterson car sideswiped Babbitt's vehicle, which was northbound, and bounced into Pawlowski's car, police said. The Babbitt car was towed away by a wrecker, and damage to the other two vehicles was listed as minor.

PUBLISHER BURIED

Burlingame, Calif. (U.P.)—Funeral services were held today for George T. Cameron, industrialist and publisher of the San Francisco Chronicle, who died Monday of a heart attack at the age of 82.

ROAD CLOSED

Portland (U.P.)—The Breitenbush road over the Mt. Hood Loop highway was closed today until Sunday while bridge repairs are completed.

Van Fleet Heads Home After Visit in Korea

Seoul, Korea (U.P.)—Retired Gen. James A. Van Fleet, wartime commander of the U.S. 8th Army, left for New York today after a two-week visit in Korea.

Van Fleet, now honorary chairman of the America-Korea foundation, conferred with President Syngman Rhee, inspected the foundation's housing projects for Koreans and delivered the major address Tuesday at the graduation of Korea's first military academy class.

SCHOOL BOND LOSES

Boise (U.P.)—A \$2,100,000 bond issue for a new high school in Boise failed to get the required two-thirds majority in yesterday's special election. The final unofficial count showed 4525 in favor of the proposal and 3172 against—about 606 votes short. It was the heaviest vote ever recorded in a Boise school bond election.

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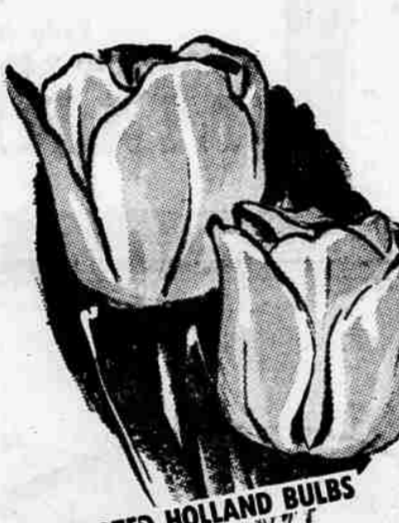
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