



**MEET WITH IKE**—GOP congressional leaders, Representative Joseph Martin (left) and Senator William Knowland talk with reporters outside the White House following their first conference with President Eisenhower after his return from his Augusta, Ga. vacation. Knowland said the President may make a nationwide broadcast to present his side of the budget-foreign aid controversy to the people.

**Private Americans Target Of Much Criticism in Asia**

Tokyo—(U.P.)—Private American citizens living in Asia these days need to have thick skins or supplies of tranquilizing pills.

They are the natural target of all critics. They always are dodging verbal darts thrown by friends, allies, Communists—and even American officials.

They get blamed for what they do or do not do as private individuals. And they also get lambasted for the signs of omission and commission of their government.

"Observing my fellow Americans in Asia has proved one thing to me," a U.S. businessman in Manila remarked to me. "The rugged American pioneer spirit and ability to stand up in the face of adversity are not dead."

Right now Americans in Japan are getting the "cold stare" treatment because an American-built plane, given the Japanese under an aid program, crashed with a Japanese air force pilot at the controls.

The Americans are being accused of palming off obsolete equipment on the Japanese—with the not-so-veiled suggestion from many quarters that Americans do not care whether Japanese get killed or not.

This affair followed not too far behind one involving a jet plane which the Americans had turned over to Japan. After a Japanese pilot crashed it, there was a fuss because the plane was not equipped with an ejecting seat.

**The "Fast Buck"**  
It was suggested in some newspapers that while the Americans always equip their own planes with the latest safety devices to protect themselves they strip down the planes before they give them to the Japanese because they don't care about Japanese lives. No mention was made of earlier criticism of American jets as being too lavish and expensive, and containing a lot of unnecessary fancy equipment.

The private American living in Asia is blamed for inflation, the blackmarket, high rent, and a lack of understanding of "broad American objectives."

The other day a man who is in the American army and who tracks down law violators spoke to me about a matter involving some private American businessmen. He said many of them were in Japan to make a "fast buck" and made it clear that he figured they didn't care how they did it.

He did not mention the fact that most of the items available on the blackmarket in Japan came out of military post exchanges—sold to the Japanese by military personnel in what must have been an effort to make a "fast buck."

Diplomats and military people can bring cars into Japan duty-free. Mr. Private American Citizen, if he is lucky enough to get an import permit, can bring in a car and pay additionally up to 110 per cent of its cost as import and commodity tax.

The private U.S. citizen in Asia always is looking for a place to live—a place he can afford. There are not too many "western style" houses available, and the demands far exceed the supply.

**The "Rich" Americans**  
His troubles are not made lighter when he attends a cocktail party and hears one of his embassy friends bemoan the fact that he can't find a house big enough and expensive enough to use up all his government living allowance.

Neither is he happy when he finds out some U.S. Army officer has paid three times the going rate as rent on a house which he will use only for two or three months—until he moves into low-cost government provided quarters.

The amount of cooperation that the private American businessman gets from the U.S. embassies depends upon what country in Asia he happens to be in.

In some places businessmen praise their embassy staffs. In others, they shake their heads sadly.

A Japanese vice-minister of foreign affairs once told me that American businessmen in Japan would have much smoother sailing if the Americans in the Tokyo embassy negotiated as hard on behalf of private American interests as they do on what they consider their own diplomatic privileges.

Many Asians can't tell the difference between private American citizens and U.S. officials. They don't seem to realize that every American does not have direct access to the gold at Fort Knox. When buying, there is a tendency to expect private American firms to sell below cost—"because America is a rich country and we are so poor."

If the private American citizen in Asia has so many problems, why does he stay in Asia?

The fascination of Asia attracts private Americans, a great many of whom live under conditions far below the standards they would enjoy back home. The area offers opportunities, and the challenges appeal to the spirit of private American enterprise.

**McLoughlin Slates Annual Concert**

McLoughlin Junior High school will present its annual spring concert Friday, May 10, in the school gymnasium starting at 7:30 p.m. The program will consist of number by the all-school orchestra, girl's Triple Trio, cadet band, and the seventh grade chorus and band.

Elmer Ayres is director of the orchestra, Ray Lewis directs the girls' Triple Trio, and the cadet band is directed by Ayres. Margaret Brown is director of the seventh grade chorus, and Albert Huntemann is director of the junior high school band.

The program will include several popular numbers as well as marches and overtures.

**HEADS RESERVE GROUP**

Bend—(U.P.)—Lt. Col. Roy C. Edgerton, U.S. Army reserve, Salem, Sunday was named president of the Oregon department of the Reserve Officers Association. Edgerton is a resident engineer with the State Highway Commission.

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