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ACCESSORY AFTER THE FACT

MOST thoughtful Americans will view with some dismay the failure of the United Nations General Assembly to authorize the crossing of the 38th Parallel before U. N. troops reached that mythical line.

There are valid reasons why the General Assembly did not act before two South Korean divisions plunged across the boundary. The speedy and complete collapse of the North Korean forces was not anticipated, even after the first news of the bold Inchon landings. No one at Lake Success thought the issue would have to be met so quickly. Furthermore, the U. S. delegation was understandably reluctant to try to "railroad" a resolution through the Assembly in the first days of its current session, especially after India showed itself cool to the idea of pursuing the invaders to their home territory.

It would have been better from every standpoint had General MacArthur been in a position to send U. N. troops across the border under specific General Assembly instructions to seek out the enemy, destroy his army, and reunite the torn and troubled land of Korea. But the moment came for a decision, and the decision was made with the same forthrightness and courage of other MacArthur actions. We do not see how he could have done otherwise.

There are calculated risks in this new undertaking. The most immediate one is the possibility that Communist China might back up its blustering warnings by sending its own troops into North Korea. The longer range risk is that the new found strength and unity of the United Nations might be weakened by what appears to be unilateral American action.

They are risks that have to be taken. We accepted the challenge of Communism —Russian or Chinese style—when we sent our troops into South Korea. The risks that come with continued bold action are no greater than the risks we have faced all along. The greater risk—to the United Nations and to our own morale—would come from a weakening of purpose and determination in this crucial hour.

Before the General Assembly this week is a resolution sponsored by Great Britain, Australia, Norway, The Netherlands, the Philippines, Cuba, Brazil and Pakistan. The resolution, by inference, approves the crossing of the 38th Parallel when it says:

> "The General Assembly recommends . . . that all appropriate steps be taken to ensure conditions of stability through the whole of Korea."

It also lays out this plan for Korea's future:

> "(The Assembly recommends) that all constituent acts be taken, including the holding of elections under the auspices of the United Nations for the establishment of a unified, independent and democratic government in the sovereign state of Korea."

Adoption of this resolution by the General Assembly will give legal and moral backing to the current military operations beyond the parallel. If the U. N. is to retain the new respect it has gained all over the world, the eight-nation resolution, or some variation thereof, must be adopted without further delay.

THE BANK ACCOUNT LOOKS BETTER

ALTHOUGH economists differ in their exact figures, a number of them have come to the conclusion that Uncle Sam will probably balance his budget in the 1950-51 fiscal year, and that there may even be a surplus.

This is a rather dramatic reversal of opinion about the impact of the Korean War on our national economy. The impression has prevailed that heavy Government expenditures would throw the U. S. budget far into the red in the current fiscal year, lending even more impetus to the inflationary spiral.

One of the more reliable investment consulting firms has explained it this way:

The first quarter of 1951 will produce a whopping cash surplus of between $4 billion and $4.5 billion. The surplus will be caused by great increases in receipts from excise taxes, Social Security taxes, customs receipts, individual income payments, and the earlier payment of regular corporation taxes. Meanwhile, the full impact of defense spending will not be felt until the middle of 1951 because of the time lag between authorization and spending. Furthermore, there will be some economies from smaller farm price support costs, a reduction in unemployment insurance payments, and the like.

This company, in its optimistic view of the next six months, sees a strong deflationary effect from the Federal budget cash surplus, and believes it will act as a brake on the inflation spiral, and might even throw it into reverse.

This, of course, is a short term view. Over the longer term, after the defense program moves into high gear, bigger deficits are still in prospect.

The significant thing about the immediate improvement in Uncle Sam's bank account is that it gives the Administration and the Congress time to do a little soul-searching in an atmosphere free of Congressional election politics. In the interval between November and March of next year, there will be a breathing space, a time for taking inventory and formulating a more complete pay-as-you-fight program than we now have.

We have already enumerated some steps we consider essential to a realistic war budget: (1) fry all the fat out of domestic Federal appropriations. (2) Eliminate farm subsidies during this time of inflated farm prices; (3) hike the tax rate on individuals and corporations enough to pay for the remaining costs of government; (4) adopt a hands-off policy in all strikes except those materially affecting national security, and then resort to seizure and the freezing of wages and profits in the struck industry at normal levels.

This breathing spell was not anticipated, either by the Administration or by the Congress. How they take advantage of it to put our war budget in balance will be a test of their wisdom and their political courage.

IN TOUCH WITH THE WORLD

IT MAY SOUND naive to say that the "live" television seen in this area the last few days is downright miraculous but, naivete or no, the debut of network TV in Charlotte on Saturday hasn't been matched since the first days of the automobile and the radio.

This is the reality of it: you can sit in your living room, watch something happening in New York or Chicago or South Bend, and see it better than if you were there.

The reality was demonstrated to local televiewers Saturday afternoon when WBTV screened the Carolina-Notre Dame football game. Until then few people had actually realized the immense new world of sight and sound that television offers.

The new industry has not yet achieved a great deal in the way of spreading culture. Perhaps, falling into the old radio pattern of catering to the lowest common denominator in the audience, it never will. But the networks have demonstrated—in their recent coverage of the United Nations and, two years ago, the political conventions—that television can bring worthwhile events to the national audience in a way that no other medium can.

We have high hopes that television will serve not only to entertain but to educate and uplift its viewers.

From The Asheville Citizen

NOTHING ON THE SLY

THAT bunch of busybodies in Washington known as the Board on Geographic Names is at work again upsetting place names all across the map. For instance, it has changed Grave Creek, Rte. 9, to Sunny Valley. And in South Carolina it has made Tecapau into Startex.

We trust that the Board will keep its big hands off the other, or major, Carolina.

That is because we don't want anybody trying to scrape off Toast, in Surry County, or fixing at Salem in Dare. It wouldn't be you-know-what to interfere with Cricket, in Wilkes, or to stretch it with Luck, in Madison.

Furthermore, we, will take Ether, in Montgomery County and we think here is something in Method, in Wake. Who cares a fig for Fig, in Ashe? Lots of folk all over the Globe (Caldwell). We accept with candor (Haywood) the Speed (Edgecombe) of Calypso (Duplin).

You would have a strange literary combination if you got Ivanhoe, Kipling and Othello together, yet you will find them respectively in Sampson, Harnett and Ashe. We think that Bandana, in Mitchell, is colorful and Tarheel, in Bladen, is patriotic. No one dares change the name of I'll Abner, in Moore County, or try to enlarge on Micro (Johnston) and Spot (Currituck).

As for the ladies (didn't someone mention them?) we stand by Bertha, Blanch, Elizabeth, Faith, Inez, Lola, Mabel, Mamie, Olivia, Stella, Thelma and, of course, Maggie in (respectively) Currituck, Caswell, Mecklenburg, Rowan, Warren, Cartaret, Watauga, Currituck, Harnett, Cartaret, Halifax and Heywood. To all of these, if Wayne County pleases, we say Eureka!

So, stay away, Board on Geographic Names. Before you tamper with North Carolina's place names consider that a word to the Wise (Warren) is sufficient. You're Welcome (Davidson), of course.

Additional proof that the West is still wild as ever although its citizens are not up to it, anymore: Frank Fitch of Las Vegas broke his leg while trying to swing his partner during a square dance at Wagon Mound last Saturday night.—*Carlsbad (N. M.) Current-Argus.*

Odysseus And The Sirens

U. S. Must Not Succumb To Complacency After Victory

By JOSEPH ALSOP

TOKYO

THE SCENE AT Seoul, whence this reporter has just returned, was at once moving and slightly ridiculous. General MacArthur was suitably emotional in a way that hinted a little of tearing a passion to tatters. The aged President Syngman Rhee expressed appropriate sentiments in a reedy voice. From time to time, bits of glass vaguely clattered down upon the luxuriantly bestarred assemblage from the shattered roof of the Korean legislative palace, a building so hideous it would have been better totally destroyed.

Barring a colonel or two, there was no one at the celebration of the liberation of Seoul who had done the front-line job of getting Seoul back. It was a trifle hard to remember that this curious gathering at a minimum marked the successful end of one phase of a great world drama, if not its happy final climax. But this was nonetheless the case. The time has come, therefore, to begin to ask what is the meaning of the victory in Korea.

WHAT TYPE UNITY

It is already a very real victory. As these words are written, it is not yet clear precisely how Korea is to be unified — whether by diplomatic or military action — and if there is to be more fighting, it may not be cheap. There is still the risk that the Kremlin will intervene at this last moment, directly or indirectly, just as there is always a risk in crossing a busy street. There is also the far greater risk that the Western powers will lack courage to finish the job and thus cast away many of this victory's fruits.

To be blunt: the really great gain will be the gain of the timid boy who is driven to meet the challenge of the bully. The whole world will re-estimate the value of plain guts in the present vast international crisis, just as the timid boy does. The appeasers everywhere will shrink in size, the saber-rattling bandwagon jumpers, from Manila to Paris and back again, will think a little longer before they leap. The whole climate of world politics will alter. And it may well prove, in five years time or so, that this change of climate, produced by the salvation of Korea, will lead to the salvation of Asia.

Such can be the fruits of the Korean victory, if we do not falter in gathering them, and if there is no hidden flaw in the mass of evidence that the Kremlin wants no new great war at this time. But even if these two central assumptions prove to be correct, and the Korean victory is complete, anyone who has watched this fighting knows that there is also another method of casting the fruits of victory away.

This method is all too simple. It is for Americans to take this success in Korea as the signal for sinking back into the blind, suicidal complacency from which the Kremlin's power play so brusquely aroused us. No one can blame the masters of the Kremlin for deducing, from the evidence of the United States in the Louis Johnson era, that the power play would go off without a hitch. We in America offered the temptation to which the Kremlin yielded.

But every American is now fortunately on warning of the Kremlin's intentions. And every American will be personally to blame if this same sort of temptation is offered to the Kremlin again.

Besides being a time for celebration, this is also a time to remember how narrowly we escaped disaster. The heavy sacrifices of our men in the line would not have been enough, without Lt. Gen. Walton H. Walker's tough, cool-headed generalship, and the brilliant strategic planning of General MacArthur, and, above all, the recurrent stupidity of the North Korean leadership.

Most of the forces of the richest nation in the world were eventually committed in Korea, where we were also importantly assisted by the Koreans themselves. Yet the richest nation in the world only avoided shameful defeat by one of the Soviet Union's poorest satellites, because our generals were good and the enemy generals were bad.

That is an extremely sobering thought. If we are not sobered by it, and if we now shrink from the effort to build a smaller, quicker weapon of strength, it is easy to predict the outcome. Sooner or later, the Kremlin will once more be tempted to try another, far more ambitious power-play. And if that time comes, we shall pay for the new lesson at ten thousand times the rate of the lesson of Korea, which has cost only some tens of thousands of young Americans, wounded or missing or dead.

People's Platform

Court Reform Urged

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

IN a morning newspaper of recent date there appeared a quotation from the president of the American Bar Association as follows: "It is wrong to appoint men to the bench merely because they have rendered service to the party in power."

It is wrong because it gives to a part of the people the power to select judges who sit in judgment over all of the people, and the basic principle of law, equity, is violated thereby. Equity is the state of being equal, or fair, and is the basis and essence of law. Our American concept holds to the principle of equality of all individuals under the law and accepts and establishes the theory of equity in all its purity. There is no monarch here except the people: there is no class under the law in America. If, in its essentials, the procedure by which a judge obtains office is the negative of equity, according to which all proceedings in the courts of this country are based, then the judge becomes, in his official person, a paradox.

Here we have this principle stated factually and clearly by the president of the American Bar Association in the words "It is wrong—". It is stated by inference and intent by the Constitution of North Carolina, which says in Article 4 Section 21—"The General Assembly may, from time to time, provide by law that the judges of Superior Courts, chosen at succeeding elections, instead of being elected by the voters of the whole state, as is herein provided for, shall be elected by the voters of their respective districts." However, this stipulation in the Constitution is merely a compromise with principle. The present system of electing Superior Court judges has the purpose of keeping the selection of these judges within the Democratic Party. Distributing selection over the state in districts gives to the dominant faction in the Democratic Party the selection of the judge in that district. It has the additional purpose to give to the system the superficial appearance of fairness.

My opinion is that the selection of Superior Court judges should be taken out of politics, and in order to do away with the medieval and feudalistic method, born of political motives, which now prevails, I advocate the selection of the Superior Court judges of North Carolina by the Supreme Court of the State, subject to approval by the Governor and State Senate, to serve for life or good behavior, which is the same thing, with the requirement that the judges shall be selected from the two political parties, Republican and Democratic respectively, in proportion to the votes cast by each party in the previous state election. The Governor is elected by a state vote and has jurisdiction over the whole state, so with the judges of the State Supreme Court. What logic, or equity, is there in naming judges, who are state officers as much as the Governor, by district; or, if we put it that way, what logic is there in electing a man from the district including Perquimans to preside over the people of Wilkes, who never heard of him? Why should a man selected by Wilkes be elected by Perquimans to preside over the whole state?

—HOYT H. EAVES.

Interlude In The Senate

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. Mr. President, a parliamentary inquiry.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Senator will state it.

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. What is the unfinished business, if any?

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The previous unfinished business has been disposed of. There is no unfinished business at the moment.

Mr. O'MAHONEY. Mr. President, the motion for reconsideration of Senate Resolution 238 is the unfinished business. I have just called up the motion.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Senator from Wyoming is correct.

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. That is what I wished to ascertain.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Let the motion be stated.

The CHIEF CLERK. A motion by Mr. Thomas of Oklahoma to reconsider the vote by which Senate Resolution 238 was agreed to.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. As many as favor the motion to reconsider—

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. Mr. President, I have not called up the motion. I wish to say to the Vice-President and to the Senate.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Any Senator has a right to call up the motion.

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. Has a motion been made to call up the motion to reconsider?

The VICE-PRESIDENT. The Senator from Wyoming made a motion to call it up.

Mr. WHERRY. Mr. President, will the Senator yield for a parliamentary inquiry?

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. I yield.

Mr. WHERRY. I do not quite understand the situation. I understood that the distinguished Senator from Oklahoma filed a motion to reconsider the vote by which Senate Resolution 238 was agreed to.

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. I entered a motion to reconsider, but I have not called it up.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Under the rule, any Senator may move to reconsider. Any Senator may move to reconsider; the right to make such a motion is not limited to the mover of the motion to reconsider.

Mr. WHERRY. Except he has to be on the affirmative side; does he not?

The VICE-PRESIDENT. However, there was no yea-and-nay vote on that proposition.

Mr. WHERRY. I beg your pardon; that is what I wished to ascertain.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. In this case there was no yea-and-nay vote.

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. Mr. President, had there been any unfinished business, a motion to take up the motion to reconsider would, of necessity, have replaced the unfinished business, if the motion had been agreed to. Is not that correct?

The VICE-PRESIDENT. That is correct.

Mr. THOMAS of Oklahoma. There having been no unfinished business, the motion was in order, of course.

The VICE-PRESIDENT. Yes; and it would have been in order, in any event, and would have displaced any unfinished business, if the motion had been carried.

Police Must Be Fired, Not Demoted, In Bookie Probe

By ROBERT C. RUARK

NEW YORK

WE HAVE BEEN making a big political thing here of a shake-up in an evidently graft-ridden police department, with bookmakers singing merrily, cops being called on the carpet, a new police commissioner being appointed, and even Gov. Dewey sliding into the act for whatever political benefits may be gleaned thereby.

It is the kind of circus that the city loves — dramatic headlines daily, new developments every hour on the hour, and finally, the kind of robust hassel which builds potential governors, mayors, and even Presidents. Dewey got his shot at immortality from a sensational prosecution, as did ex-Mayor William O'Dwyer, now South of the border.

NO SCAPEGOAT

But the current big breast beating has no lucky Lucianos or Jimmy Hines or Lepke Buchalter to hang a conclusive rap on. Not yet, anyhow. No big pigeon has fluttered out of the Grand Jury chambers. Our new cop chieftain, Thomas Murphy, is an able, honest man, but he is up against a practically insoluble set of circumstances.

You can't definitely stop corruption of police and politicos by gambling combines for many basic reasons. One is that people will always gamble, up to 30 billions a year worth, and so long as there are gamblers, there will be gambling combines to accommodate them.

Being illegal operators, bookies have to have protection. Protection comes on two levels, very low and very high. The cop on the beat gets his five-spot. Who knows what the lieutenant and the captain and the inspector get? Who knows the size of the Christmas present to the really big official? Who knows the amount of kick-in to the campaign fund?

Until something is done about chain-of-command nobody will ever be able to swab up a rotten relationship between crook and official. The private, the cop on the beat, the sergeant's knowledge and permission. The sergeant must operate under the captain, and so on up the line until you reach into the vitals of your local and even national government. Even if Tom Murphy's crooked take operation must be strictly in cahoots, because one weak link in the chain is a danger to the taker.

Another fist guarantee that nothing very much can be done about cop-bookie collusion is vested in the old and creaky system of punishment that has always kept police force cynical. You rarely fire a cop when you catch him stealing — or rather, when expediency demands that somebody take a fall to satisfy the righteous.

What you do is transfer him, and demote him, and then, when the heat dies, quietly restore his rank and move him back to a fruitful beat. In the last year O'Dwyer transferred precincts of officials as a reprimand, with all the force and practicality of removing a dollar from one pocket and putting it in the other. Dewey has even right on doing business. They merely swapped locales.

It is physically impossible to enforce honesty of individuals in any large town, so long as there is the possibility of topside corruption. The boys cover up for each other, and the honest lads find themselves walking a bleak beat in Catatonia.

I admire the nobility of aim in our current crusade against wickedness, but am cynical about the chances for practical success. So long as horses run there will be bookmakers, and so long as there are bookmakers there will be corruption among the cops and politicians. People are built that way.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Marshall May Quit Defense Post Soon

WASHINGTON

GENERAL MARSHALL has given a hint that he may remain as Secretary of Defense only a short time. The hint is a request to continue as head of the American Red Cross—despite the fact that at the age of 70 he occupies one of the most back-breaking jobs in the Cabinet.

The reason given is that General Marshall has been a strong advocate of civilian defense, and has committed the Red Cross to several civilian defense programs on which he would like to follow through. Behind this, however, it is believed that the General may want to step out of the Defense Department sometime next year and go back to the Red Cross.

The Red Cross Board of Governors will meet on November 15 to decide whether they will retain Marshall.

In the interim Marshall rates next to the President as the highest-paid public servant in the United States. His salary is $45,000 plus $6,000 for entertainment—total $51,000.

This is because Marshall now draws $22,500 as a Cabinet member, plus another $22,500 as head of the American Red Cross, plus $6,000 for entertainment.

Even when head of the Red Cross alone and before he took the Defense job, Marshall was one of the highest-paid public officials in the country, drawing $18,761 as a five-star General, plus $22,500 from the Red Cross, plus $6,000 for entertainment, or a total of $47,261.

Attempted Bribery

THIS column has sometimes been critical of the bureaucrats, but here is a tribute to a man whom the public probably has never heard of, William H. Kennedy, former Assistant Deputy Commissioner of the Alcohol Tax Unit.

Bill Kennedy retired the other day, after spending 20 faithful years with the Government, and just before he retired it looked as if some of the big liquor companies were trying to pay him off.

For mysterious telegrams went out to whisky distillers asking that they send a series of presents to Bill Kennedy. The telegrams even informed the distillers what they should give Kennedy, as follows:

1. A maple bedroom suite.
2. An Oriental rug of an exact room size to fit Kennedy's new home.
3. A complete silver set.
4. A new radio-television set.
5. A set of chinaware.
6. A de luxe dog.

The telegrams were signed by "A. R. Reed" and sent from Philadelphia.

It happens to be against Federal rules for anyone having business with the Government to give presents to a Government official. Furthermore it is not considered ethical to give expensive presents when an official retires. Therefore, Kennedy immediately sent telegrams to the distillers saying he knew nothing about the proposal to shower him with gifts and that he would not accept them if offered.

Kennedy also conferred with his fair-minded chief, Carroll Mealey, who sent investigators to the Western Union office in Philadelphia from which the wires were sent, to see who had suggested this series of indirect bribes. No one by the name of "A. R. Reed" could be located in Philadelphia, though investigators found that a man by that name had registered at the Statler Hotel in New York, giving an address in Washington. When investigators checked on the Washington address, however, it turned out to be a vacant lot.

Finally, Treasury agents traced the telegrams to Dr. Louis Marks, head of the giant Publicker Distilling Firm in Philadelphia. The tip that Dr. Marks might be "A. R. Reed" came from Commissioner Mealey, who got to wondering why "A. R. Reed" wanted to send Kennedy a collie dog. Then he remembered that Dr. Marks was fond of collies.

Dr. Marks, incidentally, was fined $20,000 and given a suspended jail sentence last year for concealing German assets in the United States during the war. But he is now back in the distilling business and took a peculiar way to embarrass rather than reward a retiring and faithful public servant.

Johnson And Brewster

PRESIDENT TRUMAN is still telling intimate friends about the reasons why he fired Louey Johnson. "I found out," said Mr. Truman, "about the secret deals between Louey and Senator Brewster, and those trips Louey made to New York to see Barney Baruch."

"I hear that Louey and Brewster even had a connecting door between their apartments in the Mayflower," remarked the Presidential caller.

"It was almost that bad," replied the President. "Louey was actually feeding Brewster ammunition against our foreign policy. It showed up in speeches by Republican Senators."

NOTE—Had Truman waited two weeks until after the Inchon invasion to fire Johnson, it would have been difficult. The Secretary of Defense would have received part of the credit. Hence the latest Washington wisecrack: "Truman has captured Formosa from the Republicans and prevented Johnson from taking Seoul."

Woodrow Wilson's Namesake

FORMER President Woodrow Wilson must have been present in spirit when a disabled veteran of the war he tried to purge by a League of Nations called at the White House in a wheel chair.

The caller was ex-Army Cpl. Woodrow Wilson of Millville, N. J., who lost both legs and a hand in Germany after the Battle of the Bulge. He came to present President Truman with a forget-me-not, opening the annual fund-raising drive of the Disabled American Veterans.

"You have a distinguished name," suggested Truman.

"By any chance—

"Yes, sir. I am related to the late President Wilson," said the veteran, "and was named after him."

"Well, I know he'd be mighty proud of you if he were here today," replied Truman. "I've reminded me of another young fellow to whom I awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. He told me he regretted having only one life that he could give to his country."