THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1953

POLICE REPORT OMITS A KEY QUESTION

THE LONG-AWAITED police study report—a part of it, at least—arrived at City Hall yesterday. If the noise it made was something less than a loud explosion, chalk it up to the fact that one member of the Council and a Washington radio commentator had consistently sought to make of it what it was not—an "investigation" of the department, with all the innuendoes and insinuations that word implies.

Only two members of the special study committee have reported so far. Dr. R. S. Snyder, chairman, and Lambert Schwartz devoted their time mainly to an examination of the department's administrative set-up, and made recommendations on salaries, personnel practices, training programs, the formation of new divisions within the department, and other like matters.

The third member of the committee, Dan Marley, continues his independent study. It is not clear just what Mr. Marley is looking for in his series of interviews with members of the police force. But whatever his objective, and whatever his findings, no final conclusions on the worth of the over-all study can be made until he has sent his report to council.

Of the Snyder-Schwartz part of the job, this can be said:

The two men obviously did a great deal of work. They talked to many people. They studied many aspects of the department's operation. They approached the subject with a constructive intent. And though the report alone won't work any wonders in the improvement of the police department, its findings should provide a basis on which improvements may be commenced.

It is certainly true that some salary readjustments are necessary, though we have reservations about the precise schedule suggested by Messrs. Snyder and Schwartz. A personnel director and a better system of personnel records would be of great help in a department in which merit and accomplishment are the yardsticks for advancement. Yet the report did not reveal whether these are the standards of the Charlotte force. A good on-the-job training program has been needed for years, and there is some satisfaction in the fact that one was started on Sept. 15, 1953—after the study committee had started its work.

More attention to the problem of juvenile delinquency, perhaps to the extent of creating a full division to handle it; greater emphasis on apprehending shoplifters; local ordinances governing pool halls and drive-in beer establishments; renovation of the interior of the police station; the retaining of a city physician to give officers regular checkups and to be on call at all hours; all of these recommendations have some merit, though some of them will require further study by the City Council to determine beyond question their practicality.

And on the over-sensationalized and unsubstantiated charges by commentator Drew Pearson, the committee did what it should have done at first—passed the "information" along to the Council. The resolution creating the committee contained no authority for probing such matters.

When all that is said, however, a large question still remains. And that is whether with all the changes recommended the morale, efficiency, and professionalism of the Charlotte Police Department will be substantially improved unless at some date in the near future new administrative talent is acquired.

We have long had a great admiration for Chief Frank Littlejohn as a detective. His record of solving major crimes is good. He is well thought of by a host of responsible people in this community. No one has ever proved that Frank Littlejohn is anything less than completely honest and incorrupt—though many have tried to so do. And it is in his favor that the town is free of the big crime and rackets that have fastened on to so many American cities.

The major omission of the Snyder-Schwartz report, as we see it, was its failure to measure the administrative potential—presently in the department—at the top and at the captaincy level just below—to see if there is any hope for a more orderly, more proficient, and more professional administration of the department in future months and years.

This is the question that will remain for the City Council after all the Snyder-Schwartz recommendations have been either accepted, modified or rejected. It is a question that the Council itself must answer.

HE'S A GOOD MAN

ALMOST 50 years ago a young Virginia lawyer decided to come down to North Carolina. He joined Duke Power Co. He grew with it. This week the capstone of his distinguisher career was fitted into place when Norman A. Cocke Sr. was named president of the company.

Thus once more the company has promoted to its highest office a man whose roots are deep in this region. He brings to that office a record of accomplishment that augurs well for his organization and the Piedmont. For Norman Cocke has never conceived it as his duty to serve only his employer. He has directed his knowledge of economics, particularly in the field of agriculture, toward furthering farm and industrial diversification in the Piedmont. A champion of conservation and prudent land management, he directed his organization's extensive reforestation project in the Catawba Valley.

Mr. Cocke's reputation as an industrial leader extends far beyond the Carolinas. The prestige of the company and the state are enhanced by his selection. We join his countless friends in congratulating this fellow Charlottean.

From The Greensboro Daily News

CULTURE IN THE SOUTH: MUSIC

WHAT THE SOUTH is doing with, by, for—and to—music must be heard to be believed.

Henry L. Mencken was doubtless right when he said some 30 years ago that there was not an orchestra in the South capable of playing the nine symphonies of Beethoven. Today, however, there are a good many more than nine Southern cities and communities with orchestras capable of playing all nine symphonies. There are chamber music groups capable of playing satisfactorily all of his 17 string quartets.

At any rate most of the South's larger cities have symphony orchestras, including New Orleans, Dallas, San Antonio, Atlanta, Louisville, Miami, Houston, Oklahoma City, Knoxville, Austin, Birmingham, Chattanooga and Charlotte.

A lot of smaller places have them too: Oak Ridge, Tenn., for example, has a symphony orchestra conducted by a chemist. There are regional orchestras, such as that of Central Florida, and state ones, such as that of Virginia. The Louisville symphony orchestra a few years ago presented a program in New York City consisting of Bohuslav Martinu's *Intermezzo*, Virgil Thompson's *Wheatfield At Noon*, Claude Almand's *John Gilbert: A Steamboat Overture*, and William Schuman's *Judith*, which was written for and danced by Martha Graham; only one of these works had been performed in New York before.

North Carolina has a good symphony orchestra with headquarters in Chapel Hill. Organized and conducted by Dr. Benjamin Swalin, it brings fine music, by bus, boat and other means of transportation to people in every cove and cranny of the state, from Cape Hatteras to the Cherokee Reservation in the Great Smokies. It has recently toured most of the South, having played in Florida, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. Supported partly by the state and partly by subscription, it traveled 10,000 miles in 1952 to give 123 concerts. One hundred and forty thousand school children heard these concerts in one year. To watch the children responding to various sorts of music, from a Mozart minuet and a Brahms symphony to *Sourwood Mountain* and *Gum Tree Canoe*, is a heart-moving experience.

In Raleigh, the Grass Roots Opera Company has sprung up; it takes opera, in English translation, without benefit of scenery or costuming, to town and countryside for a guarantee of $60 for a small opera, such as Mozart's *Cosi fan Tutti*, up to $110 for a full-sized one, such as Bizet's *Carmen*.

A good deal of American music, of one sort or another, has come out of the South, such as the Negro spirituals, the blues, jazz. Springing straight from the primary emotions of religion, sex, sadness and joy, this music is warmed by "the heat of life in the handful of dust."

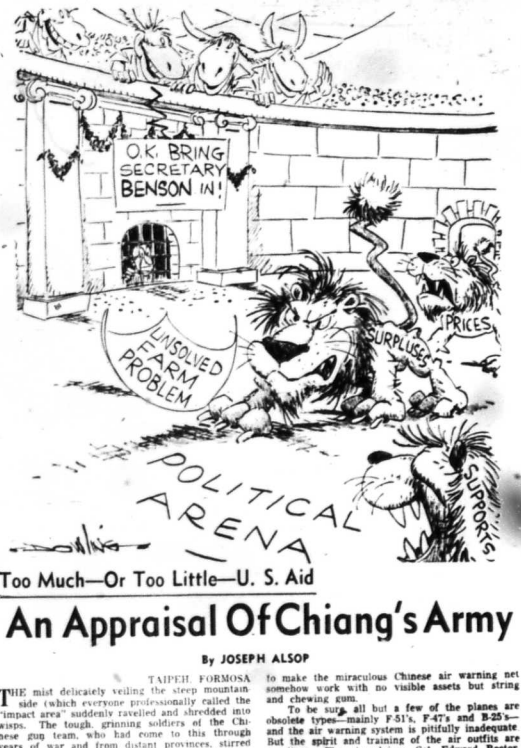
John Powell of Virginia and Lamar Stringfield of North Carolina are two of many Southern composers who have fashioned "silk music into sophisticated forms.

The South is by nature a singing, fiddling, music-making region. Innumerable groups of singers and instrumentalists are springing up all over it, as usual.

What will result from the exposure of Southerners to the immense mass and variety of music coming to them by way of radio and phonograph, symphony orchestra and juke box, no one can tell. But there are quite a few persons in the South now—professors, lawyers, insurance agents, taxi drivers, cooks and bottle washers—who will pronounce Brahms "Brammams" until they get to know you better, when they will discourse learnedly and excitedly on the beauties of, say, the fourth movement of Mozart's *Quartet in D Major, K 575*, or the second movement of Beethoven's *Quartet in E Flat Major, Opus 127*. It is not yet quite respectable for men in the South to know much about music, but the beloved mistress may be taken to wife at almost any time now, "in the sight of God and in the face of this company."

We don't know which interests us least—Pakistan, Indo-China or King Farouk.—*Elizabethtown (Ky.) News.*

Roman Holiday



Too Much—Or Too Little—U. S. Aid

An Appraisal Of Chiang's Army

By JOSEPH ALSOP

TAIPEH, FORMOSA

THE mist delicately veiling the steep mountainside (which everyone professionally called the "impact area") suddenly ravelled and shredded into wisps. The tough, grinning soldiers of the Chinese gun team, who had come to this through years of war and from distant provinces, stirred into a bustle of activity under their be-fronded camouflage net.

From the other side of the bean-field, the wiry young battery executive officer began shouting the count harshly and loudly. The gun team leader responded, while the spade-holder at the tail of the gun carriage opened his mouth comically wide, to protect his ear drums from the noise of firing. "Fire," bellowed the exec.

Three mechanisms crashed out at once, and soon dust plumed up from the distant mountainside. The divisional commander, smart, soldierly and a graduate of Leavenworth, grinned his pleasure. The division's American liaison officer, a cheerful young major fresh from the line in Korea, turned to the Chinese general happily to say the shooting was "damn good for the first round." The gun team leader, grinning too, carried his 75 pack howitzer, while his number two man cleared the gun and rammed home the second shell.

This little scene was typical of a good many scenes of a day spent visiting one of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's poorer divisions, which is just being brought up to combat-worthiness. One remembered the Chinese Army of the past—the roped and beaten files of new recruits that the gun team had once walked with; the wretched, maltreated equipment that was all they had, the careless, ignorant officers who stole their pay and rice. For one who so remembered, the scene in the bean-field was profoundly moving.

A Big Improvement, But . . .

BUT the sharp contrast between past and present does not justify mere vague enthusiasm. The generalissimo, the Prime Minister, Gen. Chen Cheng, who began the army re-organization, and the brilliantly able army commander, Gen. Sun Li-jen, have done great things with the help of the American Military Advisory Group under General Chase. Yet it is important to realize very precisely just what those things are and what they mean.

From the beaten remnants of 45 armies, then, they have formed 28 Chinese divisions, of which approximately 21 are included in the American aid program. By the wise insistence of Gen. Sun Lijen, these are light divisions, adapted to move over the gruelling, almost roadless Chinese terrain. They have a full strength of 11,000 men, a sensible minimum of mechanized transport, and one battalion of .75's as divisional artillery. These divisions are in turn backed up, at the army level, by battalions of 105's as army artillery plus some tanks.

The troops are properly fed, regularly paid, reasonably housed, and continuously and toughly trained, which they appear to enjoy. All the American advisers agree, with an enthusiasm rare among American officers in their position, that these Chinese soldiers will fight and fight well, if and when they are called upon to do so.

In the last year, the generalissimo's air force of approximately eight groups has also made strides under the determined leadership of Gen. Wang Shu-ming, "Tiger" Wang of the old days, who used to make the miraculous Chinese air warning net somehow work with no visible assets but string and chewing gum.

To be sure, all but a few of the planes are obsolete types—mainly F-51's, F-47's and B-25's—and the air warning system is pitifully inadequate. But the spirit and training of the air outfits are excellent. The air adviser, Col. Edward Rector, one of the finest American flyers in China in the last war, rates the majority of the pilots as equal to the men of our own air force. Rector believes further that nothing but more training is needed to bring the whole force up to this level of proficiency. And better planes and warning equipment are on the way.

Such are the credit items of the balance sheet. The debits are of three kinds. In the first place, because of the treacheries of his generals in the fighting on the mainland, the generalissimo has sought to strengthen his personal control of his armed forces. The instruments of control are the combined supply force under General Wang Chen-chou and the political department under the generalissimo's son, Gen. Chiang Ching-kuo. Both agencies are responsible directly to Chiang Kai-shek himself.

The combined supply force might work very well under such a man as the famous Chinese war time chief of ordnance, Gen. Yu Ta-wei. Unfortunately Gen. Wang Chen-chou is a not very competent palace favorite. Consequently this vital service has many of the defects of the Chinese Army in its worst period.

As for the political department, it is simply a system of political commissars. At first, every order given by a unit commander actually had to be countersigned by the unit commissar. Now American persuasion has led to reform. Since Gen. Ching-kuo is singularly able as well as singularly tough, the system now works fairly well, except in one respect. It promises political interference in the army. This is the second big debit item on the balance sheet, which forms a subject in itself and must be discussed in a subsequent report.

What Is Army's Purpose?

AS for the third and final item on the debit side, it can be stated bleakly and simply. These Chinese forces on Formosa are not ready and are not being got ready to accomplish any known and worthwhile mission.

The air force and the smaller and less satisfactory navy are very far from adequate for the defense of Formosa. The air force and navy are hopelessly inadequate to support a return to the mainland. Meanwhile the army is needlessly large for Formosa's defense. But even if a turn of world events provided the Chinese with American air, naval and logistical support for a landing on the mainland, the present Chinese Army is not up to this task.

The generalissimo and his government cannot leave Formosa and the neighboring islands absolutely undefended. They cannot therefore produce more than about fifteen of their light divisions for a landing operation. This is just not enough divisions, considering the probable opposition. As both General Chase and Ambassador Karl Rankin have plainly warned Washington, we are doing too much here in Formosa if all we want is a defense of Formosa, and we are doing too little if we want Chiang Kai-shek to possess serious offensive capability.

Worried Republicans Want Rep. Hope To Replace Ezra Benson

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

UNHAPPY Republicans looking for a way to calm the farm revolt believe they have an answer. Privately and with no public fanfare they are seeking to substitute a new Secretary of Agriculture for the beleaguered Ezra Taft Benson.

What is more they have a candidate who seems to be what the political doctor ordered. He is Rep. Clifford Hope of Kansas, chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. A modest man and loyal to his party, Hope has given no encouragement to this move.

In fact he continues to speak discreetly of Secretary Benson, urging critics to give the administration time to come up with a workable farm program. But Hope, who toured the country with his committee for a first-hand reconnaissance of farm discontent, knows how extensive the revolt against Benson is and how serious the consequences can be for the Republicans at next year's election.

The irony in the move to substitute Hope for Benson is that the Kansan, who has served 25 years in the House of Representatives, was reported to have been Ike's choice for Secretary of Agriculture. In the presidential campaign a year ago he was one of the chief Republican advisers on farm policy. As a result the report spread that he would be given the important Cabinet post at the head of the far-flung Agriculture Department.

KLINE AGAINST HOPE

The chief opposition to Hope is said to have come from Allan Kline, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. Kline favors flexible farm price supports rather than a fixed parity level. He and Milton Eisenhower, the President's brother, along with Dean William Myers of Cornell University, were reported to have pushed Benson for the job.

If the switch could be made in the near future, the Democrats would in large measure be deprived of an issue they intend to exploit to the fullest. Hope has taken the view that farm programs should be bipartisan and he has supported many of the measures put forward by the Democrats.

What is more, he has the confidence of Democrats and Republicans in Congress. The tendency would be to give him time, in cooperation with the White House, to shape an acceptable program. Target No. 1 in next year's campaign would be removed.

Benson has compounded his troubles by announcing at this particular moment a reorganization of the Department of Agriculture. Under the plan the regional offices of the Soil Conservation Service would be abolished. This has stirred a hornet's nest of protest. Much of it is motivated by genuine concern of conservationists on the farm and in the cities who feel the change will jeopardize a service vital to America's future. The Izaak Walton League, made up of conservationists and sportsmen, has officially protested the reorganization.

But at stake, too, is the deeply-rooted power of soil conservation officers in counties throughout the country. They believe the Benson plan is part of a move to shift authority over soil programs to the land grant colleges and the Agricultural Extension Service. The emphasis would be on research and education rather than on action. Benson has given many indications that he favors such a transfer of power.

So loud are the protests over the reorganization that the Secretary could be forced to withdraw it. One consequence has been a further demoralization in the Department of Agriculture. Republican Congressmen complain that they cannot find out what is going on when they telephone the department. The problem at Agriculture is not unlike that in other government departments. The secretary has around him a small group of trusted advisers, most of whom he brought in with him. They work closely together in carrying out Benson's orders. But the liaison with the level just below—with the great mass of civil servants who must actually execute the orders—is faulty to the point of being non-existent.

Much of Benson's trouble goes back to the speeches he made shortly after he came into office. To business audiences he talked of the need of freeing farmers from control. He apparently believed that acreage limitations and other controls, which must go along with price supports, were really repugnant to the farmer. His mission was to free American agriculture. In recent weeks the Secretary has taken a different line, promising a better program with more supports.

If he were to walk into the President's office tomorrow, say "Mr. President, unfortunately I believe my usefulness is over and I wish to resign," his resignation would probably be accepted. But with a deep conviction of his own rightness, Benson is not a man to quit under fire.

Recent Korean Developments Spotlight Communist Cruelty

By JAMES MARLOW

WASHINGTON

THE Communists in Korea, looking worse every day by their own doing—but with some assists from the United States—are taking a beating in the psychological war.

Humiliated by their own countrymen who refused to return home after being captured, the Communists by a nakedly cruel proposal gave a good insight into why so many Red prisoners rejected repatriation.

This was in their demand that the prisoners be forced — even though it might require shooting hundreds of them as a terror tactic—to listen to Communists explain why they should return.

And this week the United States added to this picture of Communist savagery with two reports on the mental and physical torture and murder used by the Communists on the United Nations soldiers they captured.

Under the Korea armistice agreement covering prisoners who refused to go home, 5,000 Indian troops were brought into Korea to guard these prisoners on both sides. This was to be the program: **THIS WAS THE PLAN**

The Communists would be permitted to talk face to face with the 16,500 Chinese and 5,000 North Koreans who had been captured by the U.N. and refused repatriation. The U. N. would be allowed to do the same with the 335 South Koreans, 23 Americans and 1 British soldier who had been captured by the Communists and chose to remain with them.

These repatriation talks were under the supervision of a special international group set up as the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission (NNRC), whose members are:

Sweden and Switzerland, both truly neutral in the war; Poland and Czechoslovakia, only theoretically neutral since both are Communist; and India, whose only contribution to the war was a medical unit.

The Communists talked to 921 Chinese and persuaded only 20, or 2 per cent, to return. Many of the others roundly cursed the Red "explainers" and suggested they too get away from communism while the getting was good.

The North Koreans rioted when the Indian troops sought to bring them before the "explainers."

The Communists, professed lovers of mankind, demanded that the North Koreans be brought before them. The Indian custodians, who might have had to kill somebody, refused. The Swiss and Swedish members of NNRC also were opposed.

The U.N., in what seems like a shrewd maneuver, hadn't tried to talk to a single U.N. prisoner captured by the Communists. The U.N. may have decided to hold back while the world concentrated its attention on the Communists' humiliation.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Costello, Freed Today, May Be Deported

WASHINGTON

KINGPIN gambler Frankie Costello, who gets out of Milan, Mich., federal penitentiary today, has been a model prisoner. He received a few special favors, but only a few.

When he entered prison two days after Christmas last year, Costello arrived late at night in a Bureau of Prisons bus, a departure from normal practice, aimed to avoid waiting photographers and newsmen.

During his two weeks' quarantine in the admission unit, Costello was bombarded with offers of candy, cigarettes, magazines from other prisoners. To them he was a hero. He turned all offers down, made it plain he wanted to be an ordinary prisoner.

After quarantine Costello was assigned to the white cell-house instead of the usual dormitory. There is a waiting list for the white cell-house and prisoners get on the list because of merit. Frankie, however, didn't have to wait. He found on arrival that three inmates had completely scrubbed down the cell for him, at which point he decided to follow the line of least resistance and let others work for him if they wanted to.

Costello's prison job was that of sorting other inmates' dirty socks—which got a laugh from everybody.

Costello was paid considerable deference by the guards, but was never placed on meritorious good time—a status whereby a prisoner can reduce his sentence for exceptionally good work. He was allowed the privilege of having visits from his attorneys, which, aside from admission to the white cell-house instead of the dormitory, was about the only privilege he got.

Once during his incarceration, Costello was taken to New York City under guard to face an income-tax charge.

Upon release from Milan today, Costello faces possible deportation.

On July 21, 1947, this writer reported that Costello had falsified his naturalization papers when he stated that he had never been previously convicted — having been convicted of carrying a concealed weapon. Subsequent investigation caused Attorney General James McGranery to place Costello on the list for deportation.

It is not known as yet what action Attorney General Brownell will take on this aspect of the Costello case.

Military Buck-Passing

TENNESSEE'S famed ex-Sen. Kenneth D. McKellar returned to Washington the other day to "protect" TVA from the power lobbies.

During his 42 years on Capitol Hill McKellar participated in more back-stage maneuvers and closed-door sessions than any man alive today.

Despite his age, generally believed to be about 85, McKellar's memory is remarkable, and at lunch the other day, he launched on one of his oral trips through history.

"Y'know," he said, "most military men delegate too much authority. They let somebody else do the job for them.

"Back toward the end of the Hoover administration, I was on the Senate Appropriations subcommittee that handled army funds. One day the chief of staff, General MacArthur, came up to testify. He brought two generals, a colonel and a major with him.

"MacArthur was always a good witness. McKellar recalled. "He had most of the answers on his fingertips. But finally Senator McNary of Oregon stumped him with a question about Army research on new gun mounts. General MacArthur and his aides all turned to the major for the answer. But the major didn't know the answer.

"Well, that major gave us a big, friendly smile and said he'd have his staff dig up the answer and get it to the committee.

"A couple of weeks passed and we still didn't have the answer," McKellar continued. "It was time to make out our report so we phoned General MacArthur. He explained that the major was handling the whole matter. A staff member phoned the major and was told that a lieutenant was working on the answer.

"Well, finally just before we sent our report to the printer, a lieutenant arrived with the answer on the gun mounts. Everybody in the army, it seems, had pushed the job off on his assistant. The lieutenant was the only man who knew what was going on. Not even the major knew the answer, yet he was the man who had promised to give us the information. The major just delegated too much of his own work to his subordinates—and they let him down.

"This little story is interesting today," McKellar added with a grin. "The major's name was Dwight D. Eisenhower."

McCarthy-Go-Round

ACTUAL fact is that the Army, not Senator McCarthy, dug up the evidence of a possible spy ring at Fort Monmouth, N. J. McCarthy, as chairman of the Senate Investigating Committee, gets carbon copies of every probe by the executive branch of government. When his aides saw copies of the Army probe at Fort Monmouth they wired McCarthy, then on his honeymoon, to come back and get into the headlines . . . Army agents rate the refugee scientist who reported seeing U. S. secrets while still behind the iron curtain as unreliable. The scientist is likely to say what he thinks his questioners want to hear, the agents warn . . . Many of the radar secrets, supposedly stolen, were actually handed over to Russia during our wartime alliance. During World War II, Soviet officers inspected top-secret facilities at Fort Monmouth where American civilians weren't even allowed.