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THE REDS ARE READY TO TALK

THE Communist maneuvers toward a truce in the Korean War may be a "diabolical box" as one official has suggested...

The wheels of peace, already turning before Soviet U. N. delegate Jacob Malik made his truce suggestion on June 23...

July 1: The Communist commanders of the North Korean and Chinese troops, Kim Il Sung and Peng Teh-Hsiang, accepted the Ridgway proposal...

July 2: The Communist commanders of the North Korean and Chinese troops, Kim Il Sung and Peng Teh-Hsiang, accepted the Ridgway proposal...

July 3: Ridgway accepted the Kaesong line and the July 10 date, but urged that preliminary talks be started by three officers from each side on July 5.

July 4: The Communist commanders agreed to the preliminary talks to work out details for the July 10 discussions...

The stage is set. On Sunday three U. N. officers will go to Kaesong — by helicopter if the weather is good and by jeep if the weather is bad...

Until the Communists reveal their hand, it is impossible to predict the course of the negotiations. Key demands of the U. N. position have already been made public...

If the Communists are sincere in desiring an end to the Korean fighting, a truce can be arranged. If this is merely peace ammunition for the Soviet's worldwide propaganda machine...

THE 'CONFESSION' OF WILLIAM OATIS

TO UNDERSTAND the "confession" by AP Correspondent William M. Oatis that he had been a spy in Czechoslovakia, it is necessary only to re-read the story told by Robert Vogler to the National Press Club...

"It was told that I was charged with sabotage espionage, conspiracy and the smuggling of Hungarians out of the country. Whenever I seemed to approach exhaustion, I was given coffee and cigarettes. They were laced with sodium chlorate...

"I was presented with a so-called confession of espionage. Before I signed that statement, we argued it word by word, line by line. That night I was awakened roughly and was launched on a picnic trip for some twelve days of further grilling. I was fed scantily... I lost some twenty pounds, and was maliciously subjected to hours of shouting and screaming...

"I was shoved into a 6 ft. by 9 ft. cell. The next ten days I was allowed to wash, and my menu comprised black bread and water three times a day. The worst of it, however, was the endless routine, repeated every six minutes...

YOU GOTTA' HAVE FAITH

ONE OF OUR local historians—who is also a staunch believer in and militant defender of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence—was in the office yesterday being quite caustic about the current issue of Collier's which has an article challenging the legend of the Mecklenburg Declaration.

Reminded that no one has yet produced irrefutable contemporary proof of the May 20, 1775 document, he admitted that "you gotta' have a little faith" and told a story to illustrate his point.

One Raleigh newspaper, favorable to Johnson, described the thousands of excited citizens who boosted the President to their shoulders and carried him from his carriage to the porch of the famed Yarbrough Hotel...

UNSWING SAGA

THERE is an unsung saga unfolding today. It is a saga of the land, of peoples who live close to the land. It includes pitched battles, daring reconnaissance feuds, guerrilla skirmishes, and the enemies are in the forefront.

One discovers this saga behind such unprepossessing titles as Technical Co-Operation Handbook with 45 tons of insecticide to Iran to help combat the plague of locusts there.

As a man looks back from the present complexity and confusion at the simpler world of 50 years ago, he feels that he himself could have repaired almost anything that went wrong then and set things in a piece of halcyon time—Jackson (Mrs.) Daily News.

No 'Rubber-Stamp' Outfit

Congress Blocks Truman Bills

COLD figures hold the answer to the hot debate on just how active the 82nd Congress has been compared to other Congresses in moving ahead on President Truman's legislative program.

They add up to this: the present Congress has passed 30 bills in 176 days, while the 80th Congress during its first six months, but the 82nd has refused to accept as much as 200 bills.

What's more, many of the President's proposals the 82nd Congress has enacted have not retained their original flavor. Several were completely diluted.

Here are the figures, culled from Congressional Quarterly's exclusive "boxscore" on the legislative tug-of-war between the Capitol and the White House during the past six months.

What The Figures Show

Mr. Truman has made 47 specific legislative proposals to his 82nd Congress. It has completed action on fourteen of them, sending nine to his desk in the form of bills to be signed into public law.

Rejected Or Diluted. In outlining the GOP Congress when it came to rejecting Mr. Truman's proposals, the 82nd doomed them to an uncertain fate.

One of the most dramatic examples of Congress diluting a President's request came in the package bill to extend anti-inflation economic controls. The Senate made minicement of the bill, again refusing to permit price rollbacks.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THE 4th of July is usually so bogged down with picnics, fireworks and baseball, that we never get around to studying the great documents which we are celebrating.

This week, however, the American Heritage Foundation and the Philadelphia Independence Committee invited me to broadcast in a special room in Independence Hall where the Declaration was signed.

When we get away from the charges against King George, what the Declaration of Independence does is extoll faith in man. It doesn't talk about the underdog.

Now For A Quiet Independence Day



People Endangering Their Own Freedom This July 4th

By MARQUIS CHILDS

THEIR may be the most publicized Fourth of July in our history. Well-oiled publicity engines have been churning out a mass of material to remind us that this is the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The founding Fathers would certainly be astonished if they could see this apparatus. They would be amazed at the long and sometimes bitter experience with tyranny, they were dedicating to the right of the individual to choose his own way of life.

They would be amazed at the solemnity that hung over that gathering, those great men seem never to have assumed the role of men uttering final and ultimate words of wisdom on the nature and form that government should take.

Certainly, we need their courage and their boldness, for we are confronted today with a new kind of communism in every land. We need them, but their creativity, their imagination, and, get it, I am afraid, their passion for freedom are lacking in spite of all the fan-fare apparatus of publicity.

One who knows the work of the Founding Fathers, and that authority is Julian P. Boyd, librarian of Princeton University. He edited the papers of Thomas Jefferson in a complete and definitive edition.

Don't Charge It To Vanity; Men Are Just Plain Stupid

By ROBERT C. RUARK

THREE bellhops and the housekeeper were trying to wedge me into a full-dress suit the other day when I was in the city.

I got to thinking that no man alive has the right to lower a woman's fashion follies so much as to submit to a claw hammer coat and the boiled shirt.

I am tied into a shirt with a round razor for a collar-band, literally tucked into the shirt over my head, as you secure a baby to a chair or a lunatic into a strait jacket.

The legislative foot-dragging in the 82nd Congress has not been limited to the President's program, however. Action on projects he did not expressly request has been less than in other Congresses.

I looked at the coat. It's got one pocket in the left breast pocket, a handkerchief pocket, and that's out on the bias. You can't keep anything valuable in it, like a wallet or a folded newspaper or a Racing Form.

Manifisto For World

IN THIS country, the equality of men is a principle toward which we have struggled. And if we had given the principle more encouragement outside our own borders, as in Asia, we would not have 400,000 Chinese paying lip service to the false creed of Communism as they today.

People Forget Basis For Fourth of July

where a man is English, American, French or Chinese, the founding fathers decreed that he should be equal to any other man.

When that doctrine was first signed, it was an inspiration to other struggling young republics throughout the world. The French Revolution followed the pattern of ours. So did many in Latin America. Among the crowned heads of Europe we were considered dangerous radicals.

Revolutionary Diplomacy

RECENTLY Congress passed the McMahon-Rifeboff resolution which is designed to put a formal official basis for friendship with the Russian people. However, there is no way the Russian people can know this, because their masters, the Kremlin, do not allow their people to see it.

That is the very heart of our problem of peace war. Through we may win a temporary respite in the war in Europe, a victory which would indeed unless we can penetrate the iron curtain in our view on peace and with our great creed for the equality of man, the Declaration of Independence.

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Recently we were all so busy celebrating the 175th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, that we never get around to studying the great documents which we are celebrating.