

SATURDAY, JULY 7, 1951

Shouts Of Joy Turning To Mutterings Of Distrust

By STEWART ALSOP

THOSE OFFICIALS who are responsible for the security of the United States are now being asked to act a little like a herd of antelope, who have accepted a sudden shift of danger. The news has appeared on many motion picture screens—a buck thrown up his head and sniffs the wind; others follow his example; there is nervous, shifting movement in the ranks; the paving of the ground, the quick short run. The total impression is less of fear than of a sudden, wary anxiety.

NOT STRAIGHTLY LOGICAL. As before, the reasons for the change in mood cannot be explained on a strictly logical basis. Obviously, the great movement of men and supplies to the Communist front and the building of a Russian-equipped Manchurian-based Chinese air force of more than a thousand planes, have no room for complacency about Communist intentions in Korea. But there is also another, hitherto unreported and unexplained, factor which worries some officials even more.

This is the reorganization of the North Korean army. The "destruction" of the North Korean army after the Inchon landings was widely advertised. But an army is not like a candle which can be blown out with a puff. What actually happened after Inchon was that the North Korean army was thoroughly disorganized. But an army which has been disorganized can be reorganized. This is precisely what has happened since the Chinese Communist entered the war, assisted in wholly reliable reports.

When the Chinese came in, the bulk of the North Korean army was withdrawn across the Yalu, which contributed to the impression that no more serious fighting has now been re-built and re-equipped from the ground up, and considered a more fighting force than the original Korean Communist army which drove almost to Pusan.

What is the meaning of all this—the massive reinforcement of the Chinese line, the build-up of a strength in Manchuria, the creation of a powerful North Korean army? There are, of course, several possible explanations. One is that the Communist negotiators at Kaesong will make the fact of the new army a bargaining chip. When these are rejected,

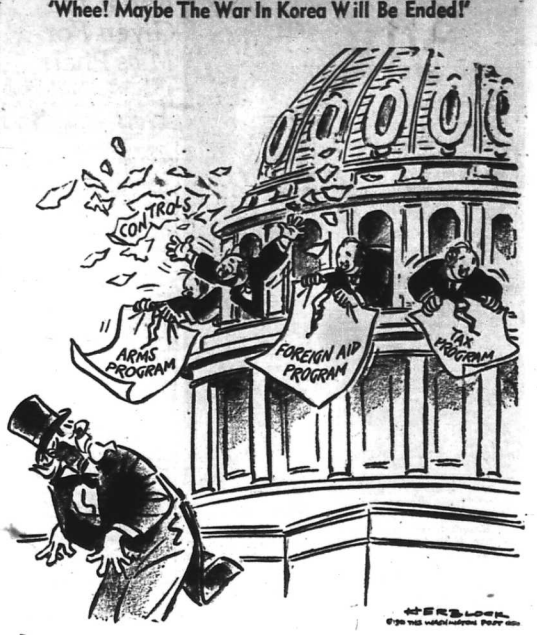
another great offensive will be launched with the object of throwing the United Nations forces into the sea. Another possibility is that the true conditions will be accepted, and that once the United Nations forces are withdrawn, the truce will start again, with a great attack south against the Republic of Korea by the North Korean army.

These are some of the reasons why the question—"Is it a trap?"—is now being so insistently asked. Yet neither of these traps are very clever traps. If another offensive is indeed planned, a costly fire offer was a senseless prelude to it. Such an offensive would be a strictly logical proposition, a gambit drive to a cocked hat.

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ANOTHER TRAP. As for the second possible trap, another North Korean offensive would be a strictly logical proposition, a gambit drive to a cocked hat. What is more, it would ensure a direct attack against Manchuria, almost certainly against China proper, and quite possibly against Soviet Siberia.

These reports are rated "unreliable." So, as far as mentioned in passing, were reports received from refugees last Spring, that a North Korean would attack on June 25. Certainly no new course, after a failure in Korea, is likely to seem more logical to the Kremlin. It does not seem likely, then, that the reports are anything more than a simple prelude to disaster.



People's Platform

Letters should be brief, written on one side of the paper. The writer's name must be signed, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editor. The News reserves the right to sign, but not to publish, any letter.

... I take it that he intends to close the colored schools down and fire all the teachers. The fallacy here is obvious—if you are to abolish segregation by mingling students, you certainly can not stop at segregation in the facilities of these schools. Must go, too. And since the colored and white schools are not located side by side, there would be a better dispersal of facilities; buses could run the same routes, picking up students of both races. This would be an economy, since some white and colored students both must travel long distances to school now.

A Plea To Ministers

Editor, The News: THERE are truly truthful sayings and one is: "There are two sides to every question" and another one is: "Do not strain at a gnat and swallow a camel." I think the time has come for the general public and the ministers of our city to investigate both sides of the question of why so many of our young men and women are being sent to the military and herded to the roads or chain gangs. It is because the State of North Carolina or the County of Mecklenburg have sent out the word they want free labor, or is it the man acting as a judge of men.

It is a rotten system we have, and I think it is time some of the ministers or our city to investigate the set-up and conditions now existing in our police courts and our roads. It does not seem likely, then, that the reports are anything more than a simple prelude to disaster.

... If our City is so hard up and needs for the eight dollars or what the County pays them for each man they gather up and send out to work for the County for free, they certainly think they could gather in a few dollars from among their own ranks for the same reason other men are sent to the jail or roads.

More On Segregation

Editors, The News: I WOULD like to express my opinion of the letter about segregation in your issue of July 2. It concerned the issue of treating Negroes as second-class citizens. Mr. Hester asked what advantages there would be in economy if segregation were abolished, and went on to answer his question to the effect that it would increase teacher load and crowd bus-

Quote, Unquote

How come so many churches shy away from electric fans? They spend wads of money on other things, but when it comes to electric fans, they are afraid. They are afraid of the heat, but they are not afraid of the heat. They are afraid of the heat, but they are not afraid of the heat.

HOW TARHEELS VOTED ON CONTROLS

ONE of the biggest politico-legislative fights of recent years is developing in Washington over an extension of the economic controls in the Defense Production Act of 1950.

The Truman Administration has gone all out for strengthening anti-inflation controls, the latest move being an effort by Democratic National Chairman William Boyle to line up state chairmen and vice-chairmen of the party behind the Administration.

The control program was given a temporary extension until August 1 by a House stop-gap bill, approved by the Senate after the House had stripped all rollback authority from the measure.

The Senate had previously passed its own long-term measure, but it was stalled in the House.

Since North Carolina voters will be vitally affected by the outcome of the battle over controls, they ought to know how their Senators and Representatives voted. From 23 roll-call ballots in the Senate and two in the House, Congressional Quarterly has selected those regarded as most important in terms of basic issues still to be decided. Here is how the Senators from North Carolina lined up:

The amendment of Sen. Paul H. Douglas (D-Ill.) which would have stricken out section two of the 1951 Defense Production Act limiting price rollbacks. Rejected, 26-11, June 27.

Truman Administration: For Democratic Majority (25): Against Republican Majority (36): Against Sen. Hoyer, Against Sen. Smith, Against

The amendment of Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) eliminating the exemption of rollbacks on agricultural commodities in the amendment of Sen. Eugene D. Millikin (D-Colo.) which permitted price controls on non-agricultural commodities. Morse amendment rejected, 22-24, June 28. The Millikin amendment was subsequently adopted by voice vote.

Truman Administration: For Democratic Majority (21): Against Republican Majority (32): Against Sen. Hoyer, Against Sen. Smith, Against

OPENING UP THE WEST

THE tourist business, already numbered in the top four North Carolina industries, stands to benefit greatly from a group of primary road projects for Western North Carolina authorized by Governor W. Kerr Scott from surplus highway revenues.

Of the eighteen projects approved, twelve will have some effect in making Western North Carolina more accessible to the rest of the state and to surrounding states. Three are of major importance:

1. A \$600,000 link between Fontana Village and Brock which, in turn, will make Highway 19 near Lauda. This will bring Fontana to within 33 miles of Bryson City, less than half the present distance over the narrow and tortuous Tipton-Robbinsville-Tapoco route. Fontana is a tremendous tourist asset, but hitherto it has been more accessible to Tennessee or Georgia than from North Carolina.

2. A new highway from the Tennessee line near Cosby, Tenn., to Dollywood, N. C. (between Lake Junaluska and Waynesville). This is the part of the Pigeon River and beautiful Waterville Lake, the new road will connect with Tennessee Highway 32 into Newport, and will also tie in with the Tennessee road projected to skirt the northern edge of the Great Smokies National Park between Gatlinburg and Cosby.

3. A \$450,000 project for widening of U.S. 32 between Franklin and the Georgia state line, to join a similar improvement project within Georgia, bringing the big Athens-Atlanta area closer in time if not in distance to Western North Carolina.

The other nine projects are mainly improvements of existing highways within the state to facilitate the easier movement of traffic.

The Great Smokies overlook any other U. S. national park last year, despite its national inaccessibility. With these eighteen new road projects, Western North Carolina may expect not only a boom in tourism, but also a greater incentive for further industrial and agricultural development. And, since all the state benefits from progress in any part thereof, the new highway projects in the West will mean new wealth and new happiness to Tar Heels everywhere.

A WASTE OF THE PUBLIC MONEY

FROM our privileged sanctuary in Faraway Mecklenburg, we have watched with some pang the great squabble over the proposed \$30 million troop camp base at the Raleigh-Durham airport.

On the one side has been the staunchly pro-Administration Rep. C. B. Deane of Rock-Port, who thinks that the fields at around which the camp would be built were of which were built during World War II, should be used for the troop carrier base.

On the other side have been the Durham Evening Herald and the Raleigh News & Observer, both of which have scolded Deane for opposing the Raleigh-Durham site and have charged that he is just policking for his own district.

There may be some slight degree of politics in the fuss. It is not at all unusual for

From The Arkansas Gazette

FREE FOR ALL

ONE of our readers has written to suggest that we might serve the public interest if we stopped printing controversial letters in our "From the People" column. The uninhibited expression of vigorous opinions on religion, race, politics, economics, patriotism and the like, she feels, only serves to stir up strife at a time when unity is a pressing need.

Disparities Remain After Congressional Redistricting

By RICHARD SPONG

WASHINGTON (Editorial Research Reports) OF THE SIXTEEN states with changes in Congressional districts in 1953 as a result of the 1950 population census, the number which have already taken redistricting action has been increased to 14. The House Judiciary Committee has so far failed to report a bill introduced on Feb. 14 by committee chairman Celler (D-N.Y.). The Celler measure would require states to redistrict after each decennial census. It would allow Congress to deny seats to Representatives from states which had failed to provide "reasonable compact" districts. Under a yardstick set up in the bill, Congressional districts in any state with more than one Representative would not vary in population more than 10 percent from the average of all districts in the state.

Draw Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON CLOSELY those who have talked with General Eisenhower on a strictly personal and confidential basis report the following developments in Ike's political thinking:

1. The General has now conceded that he must run on one party, not on both. This is a change. Some months ago he had said that he would be open to the possibility of running as a Republican, because he does not want to be saddled with Democratic obligations. He has now decided that he will not make any decision on which party until he knows: (a) the degree of opposition to him in the GOP; and (b) the receptiveness of the Democrats to his proposal.
2. He has no political organization, and no one is authorized to say he is Eisenhower's political agent. He has no staff, and he has no one to take care of his affairs. He has no one to take care of his affairs. He has no one to take care of his affairs.
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Eisenhower Seems Certain Candidate

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Washington Pipeline

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Argentine Atom

DR. CORNELIUS J. BAKKER, The Dutch physicist who recently visited Argentina for a quick look at Juan Peron's much-publicized "atomic energy" developments, has reported privately to his Government that he is indeed something of all the hullabaloo—something very much, as yet.

Manpower Hoarding

MANPOWER HOARDING—The Army has been quietly hoarding manpower by calling up draftees for pre-induction training at a rate of 100,000 a month. The Army needs them. As a result, the Army now has a corner on 300,000 young men, while the Air Force is running out of men. So General Eisenhower, the Assistant Secretary of Defense in charge of manpower, ordered the Army to release its priority on the 300,000 draftees for 30 days, and give the Air Force a crack at recruiting them.

Capital News Capsules

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