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MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1956

Ike Convinced Nehru Of America's Peaceful Intentions

By WALTER LIPPMANN

There can be no such thing as a free lunch, as a measure of what was accomplished by Prime Minister Nehru's visit to Washington last week. His talks with the President were private, and the official communique is not comminative. It is fair to assume that out of the long talks there came no specific decisions but a "broad area of agreement" within which both men acknowledge the same general principles and express the same general intentions.

Most certain that Eisenhower and Nehru have much more in common than do Mr. John Foster Dulles and Mr. Krishna Menon. This causes one to wonder whether Eisenhower and Nehru agreed upon how, when they are separated by half the world, they can carry forward consultations which began at Gettysburg. In thinking about private meetings of this kind between the heads of governments, most of us carry around with us the main lines of the wartime meetings between Roosevelt and Churchill.

had this prejudice. But there has been a good deal of talk by his enemies in America that his appearance in Washington was salutary and has done much to clear the air.

AREAS OF INTEREST

At the level of practical issues in foreign affairs we may distinguish three areas - China, the Middle East and Russia-and-Europe. My impression is that for the time being the highest priority is in her relations with China, with the China whose population is growing seriously, whose industrialization is proceeding at a very rapid pace.

As for the Middle East, I got the impression that India's action in the Middle East is not so much to speak, in a channel. One bank of the channel is the living memory of the British colonial system in Asia. This tends to confine India to the role of a partisan of the former colonies, and to what India as a mediator between East and West.

The other bank of the channel is in India's difficult and dangerous relations with the Moslem world. It is not so much her own Moslem population and with Pakistan. Nehru is in no position, it would seem, to take any serious part in the Moslem sentiment is involved. This too inhibits him in the role of mediator.

As for Europe, my impression is that India does not regard the grave problem of Germany, of East Europe, and the Soviet Union as within her field of effective influence. She does not regard herself as a world power in the sense that she can or should play an important part at such a distance from home. We must not, it seems to me, expect India to take a leading role in Europe.

What I have been saying consists of impressions and inferences and nothing in it should be taken too literally or more authoritative than that.

People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

So, Peace On Earth, Good Will To Men!

Rockingham
Editors, The News:
CHRISTMAS is almost here again. With many greetings passing through the land, a little wish to you and many friends: a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year throughout the world to all.

Christ's Birth Marked By Undorned Beauty

Marshallville
Editors, The News:
IN FRONT of the Parthenon in Nashville, Tenn., is a manger scene surrounded on both sides by shepherds seeking the Christ child and cherubs singing joyously of the birth of the Prince of Peace. Thousands of glittering lights whose colors change at frequent intervals illumine the Babe of Bethlehem, Mary, Joseph, and the Wise Men, who occupy the central position in the huge outdoor tableau. These same lights also reveal shepherds wandering their way over Judean hills toward the City of David and the angels triumphantly proclaiming the birth of God's Son.

All Earth's Families Descended From Seth

Gaines, S. C.
Editors, The News:
ON DEC. 12, it was asked in the Q. column whether most Arabians claim descent from Cain, Abel or Seth. The answer, Seth. Of course it could not be otherwise. All the descendants are reckoned through the males of a tribe or family. So Noah and his three sons—Shem, Ham and Japheth, were direct descendants of Seth. Moreover, all the Arabians and all other tribes or families of the earth are descendants of Seth.

Rooter For GIs

Sondre Strom is under the command of Col. William Jowdy, a native of Rainier, Ore., but now an adopted Texan. He is a big, burly, good-looking man, and he seemed genuinely glad to see us. The first thing he did was to persuade us to give two hours of our time to the G.I.s. He said, hadn't you seen any entertainment since September, and the theatre was too small to hold his 1,000 men.

Danes Cooperate

Sondre Strom is located up a narrow fjord. In the west they would call it a canyon. One thousand American troops are stationed here to fuel and repair U. S. bombers on practice maneuvers, or help Scandinavian Airlines, if necessary, on its polar hop from Los Angeles to Stockholm.

Lazy Old Sun

Below us were first the trees, rocks, mountain ranges of Labrador, then the open sea—cold, studded with icebergs, little icebergs at first, then bigger and bigger until the sea was all ice—sometimes cracks in the ice, but mostly ice. Not an inviting place to land. You can understand why the Air Force must have bases in this area, why men have to spend Christmas here, why many long miles from home.

Atomic Censorship Has Its Limits

THE unreasonable and unrealistic curtain of secrecy surrounding data on peaceful uses of nuclear energy is beginning to lift ever so slightly. Chairman Lewis Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission has announced the approval of a new classification guide by the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada which will result in declassification of some 30,000 documents.

From The Richmond News Leader

BEES IN THE NEWS

BEES have always fascinated men. Aristotle thought they carried stones when they flew, for ballast. "How doth," inquired Isaac Watts, "the busy little bee improve each shining hour?" The noise of bees was among the attractions of the Big Rock Candy Mountain. And for gentlemen of science, the bee has been a gold mine of research and speculation.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors' Note: Drew Pearson today continues his bit of a Christmas season trip through the Arctic. He took with him a group of entertainers.

Igloos Have Vanished From Greenland

Understand why the Air Force must have bases in this area, why men have to spend Christmas here, why many long miles from home. At noon the sun tried to come out, crimson and beautiful, but faded. After a feeble, discouraged glow in the east, it set at 1:15 p.m., leaving behind a pale, blue and white sky.



Variations On A Theme Ah, For Yules Of Yesteryear

By ROBERT C. RUARK

I ALWAYS come down with a severe attack of the fudd-diddle around the 24th of December, a common complaint of us ex-bobby soxers who complain that things ain't like they used to be, and are probably right, at that. The main theme would be that there are some things that don't need improving, and certain substitutes won't do.

GENIAL ODORS

There was a perfume in the older Christmas houses, compounded of kitchen odors, with the bells jingling and Grandpa's nose matching the sunset. But there is no system steam heat with ersatz electric logs that can match up to a six-foot birch log with a fat pine kindling as a dispenser of cheer.

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