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As Seen From Peking

—By Bip Pares



The world-wide cold war Korea is the only area of open conflict between Communist forces and those of the free world. From Peking, the fighting front is connected to China by a continuous land communications, and there the Fourth Army with North Korean forces, perhaps some 400,000 men, are retreating before 275,000 United Nations troops. Supply lines in North Korea are under constant air and bombardment.

Korea is dangerously near the province of Manchuria, whose industrial wealth the economic future of China. Manchuria has easier access to the Soviet Far East than China proper, and already at Changchun there is a Soviet staff headquarters where 1,500,000 Chinese troops, including the Third Field Army are receiving training and training from Russian instructors before they enter Korea.

According to recent reports, China's regular army will be increased from 2,000,000 to 4,500,000 men and her territorial militia, now 4,000,000 strong, is to receive university recruits for training in naval and air services.

But all these forces require equipment, and this, with technical instruction, is obtainable only from Russia and Russian-controlled Manchuria. Besides her commitments in the north-east, China requires to reserve forces for such possible issues as a counter-revolution in South China, a conflict with Nationalist forces in Formosa, and the Tibetan campaign.

In the area mapped above, China possesses superiority in manpower; Russia controls the arsenals, land communications in the north, and is developing a submarine fleet (for which she desires the use of the Korea Strait between the Amur River shipyards and the warm-water naval base at Port Arthur); while the United Nations control the sea and air from bases in Japan, the Ryukyu Islands, Hong Kong and the Philippines.

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Truman - MacArthur Controversy Is Raging Furiously in States

MacArthur is Going Home

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CP) — House Republican Leader Joe Martin said today "there is a possibility" General MacArthur may fly back to the United States next week to address Congress.

Martin made the announcement following an early morning session of the House Republican policy committee. "There is a possibility," he said, "that General MacArthur will fly back next week and will be available to address Congress sooner than the three weeks mentioned earlier."

Republicans, furiously angry at President Truman for firing the general, are sponsoring a resolution inviting MacArthur to address a joint meeting of Senate and House.

Flash!

WASHINGTON CONCERNED — WASHINGTON—Grave concern was expressed in military circles today over the expected new Communist offensive in Korea. It could spread to a general war in Asia.

MacARTHUR FAVORED — WASHINGTON — Unofficial polls of public opinion on the Truman-MacArthur dispute favor MacArthur three to one.

VICTORIA LEADS — VANCOUVER — New Westminster defeated Victoria 7 to 3 last evening. Victoria leads three games to one in the best of seven Pacific Coast Hockey League final play-off.

TRAIL WINS — BRANDON — Trail Smoke Eaters won the Western International Hockey play-off game last night 7 to 3. The series is now three to nothing for Trail.

Jet Fight Is Biggest

Baffling Withdrawal of Koreans in North Korea

TOKYO (CP) — American warplanes shot down five enemy jets and probably destroyed two more, damaging 15, today in two roaring air fights over north-west Korea.

All American planes came safely out of the battles. One of the thunderous clashes was the biggest jet fight in history. It involved 152 jet planes — 83 Russian-made MIG-15's and 72 American F-86's and F-84's — and about 40 B-29 medium bombers.

On the ground two Chinese divisions pulled back suddenly and mysteriously on the central front. American troops pushed cautiously ahead in their wake against no opposition.

Staff officers said they were puzzled by the enemy withdrawal.

Two Red divisions Wednesday bitterly opposed Allied crossings of Hantan River south of Chonwon, but they broke contact Wednesday night. South Korean troops on the east coast stabbed 26 miles into North Korea in the deepest Red land penetration of the current United Nations drive.

Former Victoria Lawyer Convicted

VICTORIA — Percy Walls, disbarred Victoria lawyer, already serving a term in penitentiary for breach of trust, was found guilty by an Assize Court jury yesterday on a charge of defrauding William Scott of \$9000. Sentence was reserved.

Maple Leafs Take Opener

Canadiens Lose in Overtime

TORONTO (CP) — Swift Syd Smith, an old hand at scoring hockey playoff goals in bunches, got the Toronto Maple Leafs off to a winning start with a two-goal outburst last night in the first of best-of-seven games in the Stanley Cup finals with Montreal Canadiens.

Princess Pats Are Advancing

TOKYO — The Princess Patricia's have taken a 3000-foot hill and advanced one mile further into North Korea.

Baseball Scores

Pacific Coast
Sacramento 5, Seattle 1.
San Francisco 6, Oakland 1.
Los Angeles 6, Hollywood 5.

Firemen Given Boost

A 15-per-cent increase in wages was granted to the Prince Rupert Fire Fighters' Association by unanimous approval of the board of conciliation this afternoon. They had asked for a 20-per-cent raise, in line with the Vancouver wage scale.

THE WEATHER

Synopsis

Clear skies persist over most of the province except on the north coast where there is considerable cloud and a few showers. There are no major disturbances near this area and little change is expected for another forty-eight hours. Afternoon temperatures will range slightly higher in the southern portion of the province tomorrow.

Forecast
North coast region — Clear south portion. Variable cloudiness and a few showers north portion. Little change in temperature. Light winds. Lows tonight and tomorrow — At Port Hardy 36 and 60, Sandspit and Prince Rupert 38 and 52.

Listed for embarkation on the southbound Prince Rupert tonight for Vancouver are Lee Flat, Pon, George Bolton, R. J. Deaman, F. N. Good, Mrs. A. Patterson, Mrs. G. V. Patterson, T. Bulger, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Carr, P. S. Bonney, Mrs. Ed. Johnson, P. Simonson, T. S. Brake, M. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Rosburg, M. Stephens, R. McKenzie, San Kido, Carl Nielson, Reg. Backley, R. M. Pargee, R. Sankere, M. Leighton, A. Auckland, D. Provost, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Choi, H. Ayling, D. Fraser, R. Dick.

Forest Parley Is Continuing

Fire protection and operational problems comprised the theme at the conference of Forest Branch officials of this district which is now in progress in the city with sessions at the Civic Centre. District Forester Marc Gormely opened the proceedings and Assistant District Forester then took the chair.

Today, with L. B. Boulton in the chair, the subject of forest management is under discussion. The conference is to wind up Friday with a field trip to the new Columbia Cellulose pulp mill.

Tonight there is to be a reception in the wardroom of HMCS Chatham and Friday night there will be a banquet in the Broadway Cafe.

Road is in Good Shape
C. W. Michiel and Lloyd Johnston, Terrace hardware store partners, drove into the city Tuesday evening for a brief business visit and reported the highway in good condition except from Prudhomme Lake to Galloway Rapids and within the city. They left yesterday afternoon on their return to Terrace.

Wismer Promises Tenants Protection

VICTORIA (CP) — Attorney-General Gordon Sloan said yesterday tenants will not get kicked around when the British Columbia government takes over rent controls from the federal government.

Speaking during the second reading of the government's rent control bill, he said tenants now living under federal regulations will not be forced to vacate or pay doubled rents. Provincial controls would come into effect immediately federal controls are relinquished. April 30 is the date.

Wismer said the government is hoping it would be possible to institute a "reasonable and proper" system of orderly control. Legislation aimed at sharply reducing the land tax on privately-owned tracts developed as tree farms was introduced by Finance Minister Anscomb.

The bill amending the Taxation Act has been heralded as another step forward in forest management plans.

It was believed the bill effecting the new taxation set-up would encourage growth of sustained yield forest management under private ownership.

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No Return to 5c Candy Bar

TORONTO — Laura Secord Co. announces a 10 per cent reduction in the price of candy following budgetary reduction of the excise tax.

Owing to the increase in the general sales tax, no return to the five-cent chocolate bar is expected.

Marpole Rejects Beer by Glass

MARPOLE — This suburban Vancouver community emphatically rejected a beer-by-the-glass plebiscite. The vote was 2520 against and 1606 in favor.

Clover Leafs Champions

VANCOUVER — The men who made Vancouver Clover Leafs mighty gathered perhaps for the last time and wrote Canadian basketball history last night with an unforgettable display of floorwork.

A 73-57 victory over Toronto Tri-Bells gave them the Canadian basketball championship in three straight games and made them the first team in history to nab the Dominion title four times.

The company was awarded the increases "won't be paid," amounting as an increase of two-tenths of a cent per pound of butter and three-tenths of a cent per pound of coffee.

Graveling continued annual freight bill to the Alaska would be approximately \$260,000, Mr. Skinner's data for 1950.

pay of \$19,000 a year still entitled to two aides.

His Big

WASHINGTON, D.C. — General MacArthur, being a general, connected on active duty without a job, his dismissal as commander-in-chief in the Far East.