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Timely Reprimand

The announcement that Maj. Gen. Emmett O'Donnell would be called on the carpet by his superior officers to answer for his rash statements regarding the bombing of Red China was a cheering bit of news; but it is highly unlikely that anything other than a white-wash will come of it.

Last Thursday General O'Donnell pointed up two glaring faults in our democratic system which doubtless cause many a sleepless night for President Truman and Secretary of State Dean Acheson.

First, by plumping for the bombing of the Chinese mainland, General O'Donnell typified the rugged individualist who speaks his mind no matter how much his statements may wreck to the the Nation's foreign policy. Certainly the American public would like to see China's factories leveled and her supply lines smashed . . . and the government could conceivably be of the same temperament.

But that is not for a mere bomber command chief to say. His job is to see that bombs are carried to the enemy, not to demand that the Air Force "smoke hell" out of the Red's industry in Manchuria.

The second fault, much as we hate to admit it, lies with American journalism. Owing to the most intense type of competition imaginable, every journalist to any worth will break his neck to get into print the statements of high-ranking . . . or even middle-ranking . . . men in positions of importance before his rivals do.

This tendency is demonstrated by Columnist Drew Pearson, who, while a very competent journalist, often lets the heavy magic of an exclusive "scoop" get away with his judgement. Pearson is currently accused by volatile Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin of violating government security regulations in printing classified matters in his news column.

The whole affair boils down to two facts: General O'Donnell, being unauthorized, should never have made the statements with which he was credited, and the reporters on the scene, recognizing that he spoke without proper authorization, should have exercised more critical judgement in reporting the interview.

Such bad taste and questionable ethics reflect on this country's standing with foreign governments. True, we are carrying the rest of the world along; but we cannot hope to win their support in the fight against world Communism if they become convinced that any three-star general can override the president, Congress and the State Department and plunge us into an untimely conflict.

The free-riding nations are just like hitch-hikers anywhere. They appreciate the lift, but they can surely turn down the ride if they think the car is being driven by an irresponsible maniac.

These Days



By

Sokolsky

WHERE DO WE STAND?

A nation has to face up with reality sooner or later. We can wander in a miasma of hopes and wishes, but sooner or later we come up slap-bang against cold facts. No twisting and squirming helps.

No matter how much we talk about what we need to do in Europe, we are actually fighting in Asia. Americans are being killed there. Our troops have been at it since June 20, six months of heart-breaking, mind-searing, deadly fighting. Many have been killed; many are permanently disabled. I recently saw a preview of a motion picture, "Steel Helmet," which, with rare realism, describes our Korean war as a fact.

While we sit comfortably ruminating on what General Eisenhower or may not succeed in doing in Europe, General MacArthur is actually, day by day, hour by hour, being a merciless and formidable foe. Nor is it possible to forgive Korea, while we wait for Eisenhower to make his deals in Europe. There is no waiting time while our boys are being killed.

Maybe we should never have gone into Korea! Maybe we should, in humiliation and agony, cut our losses there and get out. Maybe we should recognize the Soviet world as our masters! It is not all that academic! The fact is that we are in Korea and that we cannot accept the indignity of humiliation and defeat without suffering diplomatically and economically throughout the world. A licked nation has no standing. Nor can we long remain an independent people if we accept the Soviets as our masters.

Therefore, Dean Acheson has taken the correct step when he rejected the counter-terms of Soviet China in the matter of the cease-fire. Their counter-terms involve total humiliation for the United States. They are insulting terms—the offer of a conqueror to a defeated foe who is tolerated.

Our government has no alternative but to acknowledge that Soviet China is an enemy nation making war upon the United States. That nation has rejected every effort on our part to meet them three-quarters of the way. They demand total humiliation.

If the United Nations deserts the United States at this point, there is nothing for Congress to do but to abrogate the treaty which makes us a party to the United Nations charter.

Therefore, the next step is up to the United Nations. Either that body declares Soviet China to be an aggressor or it denounces itself unworthy of our membership. It seems to me that those are the alternatives.

True, if the United States abandons the United Nations, that parliament of states would have little reason for existence. Nevertheless, it would be an interesting legal point as to whether they could not.

Mister Breger



"That's enough—you don't have to KEEP saying 'ah, ah, ah, ah' . . .!"

Little Old NEW YORK

By ED SULLIVAN

NO LAUGHING MATTER

In moments of national stress, comedians will tell you that audiences are so eager to laugh that they are what the trade calls "pushovers." Danny Thomas, wrecking all boxoffice records at the Copacabana, sat with us last night and made this observation: "Sometimes, when you're playing a club or theatre, the comic gets the impression that the audience is sitting there challenging him; these audiences laugh so easily, you'd think they were relatives." Jimmy Durante says he's found the same atmosphere within the past three months . . . Victor Borge, Joey Adams, Jack Haley, Jack Benny, Jan Murray, Bob Hope and Eddie Cantor all have expressed the same thought. Casts of Broadway musicals acknowledge that the January, 1951, audiences are quickest on the uptake. The phenomena of 1918 and 1941 are recurring.

Thomas, long-beaked, literate comic out of Toledo, Ohio, is enjoying his force at the Copacabana. He is "murdering" em. This is pleasant news to relate, because for a time it appeared that the philosophical Thomas was going to sermonize himself right out of the comedy business. The last time he played in New York, Danny would interrupt his comedy routines to discuss Americanism, equal rights and other topics. These are splendid causes in which to interest yourself, but they don't belong in a comedy routine. Stage professionals started calling Danny "The Preacher."

MRS. BILL CUNNINGHAM ENTERTAINS PRESBYTERIAN CIRCLE LAST NIGHT

Mrs. W. W. Cunningham entertained members of circle No. VI of the First Presbyterian Church at her home on South Magnolia Avenue Monday night at 8 o'clock. Mrs. J. E. Wilbourne, chairman of the circle, presided over the business meeting.

A very interesting Bible study was given by Miss Virginia Smith, educational director of the church. Mrs. L. Banks Holt is leaving for

in such circumstances, continue to meet in New York. They are housed in this city by the terms of contracts with the government of the United States and the state of New York, fully covered by acts of federal Congress and the New York State Legislature.

Would our withdrawal from the United Nations affect those contracts? One of the clauses of the contract with the government of the United States guarantees to those who have business with the United Nations free access to it. That includes spies and saboteurs if they have the proper credentials. The United States is not the judge of the credentials, although such agents of foreign governments must live in our cities and move about in them.

In our present troubles with Soviet Russia and Soviet China, this can become tremendously important whether we remain in the United Nations or withdraw from it. Thousands of Europeans and Asiatics, in one way or another, have proper business with the United Nations who may, as a sideline, have other highly improper business in the United States. How are we protecting ourselves from them? How many agents do the Soviet countries have in the United States at this moment?

Here it is only five years since the San Francisco Conference and already it is faced by a crisis which means life or death for that body. Such is the destiny of all human institutions that are devised in cunning and perpetrated by appointment.

A nation, like a man, must live with dignity and decency—or go under morally. (Copyright, 1951, King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Greenville soon to make her home. Mrs. Wilbourne expressed regret at her leaving.

Mrs. M. B. Poole, a recent bride, was remembered with a silver ash tray.

Mrs. Cunningham, assisted by her daughter, Evelyn, served a sandwich plate and an iced drink to Mrs. J. N. Stephenson, Mrs. Bill Stancil, Miss Elenor Goddard, Mrs. Henry D. Hood, Mrs. L. Banks Holt, Mrs. M. B. Poole, Mrs. D. A. Blackman, Mrs. J. E. Wilbourne, and Miss Virginia Smith.

Mrs. J. E. Goddard Is Circle Hostess

Mrs. J. E. Goddard, chairman of Circle 2 of the First Presbyterian Church of Dunn, entertained members of the circle at her home Monday afternoon at 3:30.

Mrs. K. F. Howard gave the Bible study taken from John 17, and Mrs. Goddard gave a very interesting talk on foreign missions.

Following a short business session, Mrs. Goddard served ice box cake and coffee to Mrs. W. E. Jackson, Mrs. K. F. Howard, Mrs. J. M. Bath, Mrs. R. M. Fearsell, Mrs. Carl Fitchett Jr., Mrs. F. Chandler, Mrs. A. E. Chandler, and Mrs. Guyton Smith.

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Frederick L. OTHMAN

WASHINGTON. — I have here the harrowing tale of how some transplanted city slickers almost nicked the rest of us innocent taxpayers for a \$150,000 airport in the tiny village of Palmer, Alaska.

These sourdoughs with the taking ways floored the Senate Executive Expenditures Committee and me by saying they considered it their patriotic duty to milk the Federal government for every cent they reasonably could. So:

The leading citizens of Palmer, which now numbers 800 souls, decided they needed a new airport. They paid \$60,857.97 for the land, chopping down the trees, clearing out the stumps and grading the runways. The airport they then sold to the Alaska territorial government for \$150,000. They got a check for this sum. Then they "unated" \$145,000 back to their government.

The Far Northern statesmen then applied to the Civil Aeronautics Administration for \$150,000, under the law which allows the Federal government to match local funds for the building of airports. The CAA took this application, including mention of the phantom \$150,000 fee, at its face value and was about to hand the Alaskans \$150,000 more to match the money that wasn't there when the Senate began to investigate.

Now an assortment of Alaskans have been hauled down here to testify under oath their shenanigans with our money and with no comment from me, let's listen to Roland Snodgrass, slim young man in a khaki shirt, who was secretary of the Palmer Airport Association.

Having paid \$6,753.96 for the land, plus \$53,000 more to turn it into an airport, his problem was to get some of that Federal money. The airport builder in the region of the polar bear appointed as their first step three appraisers, including Snodgrass' father.

"And I did everything I could to see that the appraisers were friendly," he continued. "I did quite a lobbying job. I wanted them to value the land as high as they could."

"Why?" demanded Sen. Karl Mundt (R., S. D.).

"It would affect the Federal matching funds," Snodgrass said. "How?" asked the Senator. "It would raise them," said Snodgrass. "I wanted to get as much Federal money as we could, within

reason." "Why didn't you make it \$250,000?" Mundt continued.

"That wouldn't have been reasonable," Snodgrass replied. "So you were trying to give the old heave-ho to Uncle Sam for \$150,000," the Senator observed.

Alaska's aviation director, George S. Schwann, who helped write up the deal whereby the territorial treasury paid \$150,000 for the airport and then got all but \$5,000 of it back, continued in the same patriotic vein. "I was duty bound to get every cent possible, legally, from the Federal government," he said.

Thanks to the committee and to Sen. Hugh Butler (R., Neb.) who first turned up this bank-panky he didn't get it. I doubt if he ever does. As for the CAA officials, who approved the deal without investigating it, they said they guessed they'd made a mistake.

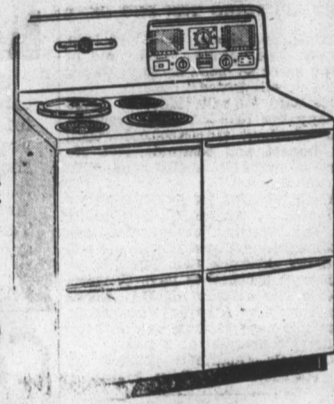
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Stanley Holt Avery, month-old son of Kermit and Geneva Smith Avery, died this morning at the home on Dunn Rt. 3. Rites were held at 4 p. m. today from the home, and burial was in Erwin Chapel Cemetery.

Mrs. Jonnie Louise Hair, 59, died Monday afternoon at her home, Dunn Rt. 1. Funeral services were held at 3:30 this afternoon from Spring Branch Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Police Busy

(Continued From Page One)
rested James Armstrong, 27, Negro, of Dunn, for assault with a deadly weapon. As a result of an accident Sunday, they arrested Edward L. Price, Negro, 25, of E. Cole St., for careless and reckless driving.

It Says Here

by Bob Hope
What will Sabu say about this? About one hundred of India's maharajahs have formed a union and threaten to strike because they have not been invited to state functions since India became independent. These Indian maharajahs are famed for their great wealth. If you've never seen one, just picture Crosby with a turban. If the princes decide to strike, they'll have plenty of pickets. All they have to do is hang signs on their wives. I can just picture the pickets parading in front of the government offices carrying signs reading: "We haven't been invited to a party for 30 years, our diamonds are getting muddled." And if the strike is successful, John L. Lewis may try to organize a similar union over here. He'll probably begin with Prince Mike Romanoff, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, and Wayne King.

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