

WEEKLY NEWS ANALYSIS

Accused 'Spy' Ridicules Charges; Johnson Says U.S. Defense Okay; Britain to Cut Purchases in U.S.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** When opinions are expressed in these columns, they are those of Western Newspaper Union's news analysts and not necessarily of this newspaper.

LATTIMORE: "Pure Moonshine"

Owen Lattimore, mustachioed, mild-mannered United Nations employee, was the big news of the Communist expose which Senator Joseph McCarthy had instigated and of which the highlight was McCarthy's charge that Lattimore was Russia's top spy in the United States and that he was in the employ of the U.S. state department.

IN AFGHANISTAN on a U. N. mission, Lattimore when informed of the charge, called a press association that McCarthy's "rantings" were "pure moonshine."

It appeared that McCarthy was out on the shakiest limb of his political life. Loudly asserting that he would base his entire case against the state department, which he charges was infiltrated with Communists, on the truth or falsity of the Lattimore case, the senator appeared to be off on the wrong foot at the start.

Lattimore was working for the U. N., not the state department. He had not been connected with them for five years, the state department said. His lawyers hung a libel suit threat on McCarthy, contending that when McCarthy named Lattimore as the "top Red spy" in a private session with newsmen, he was outside senatorial immunity.

LATTIMORE expressed pleasure that McCarthy was basing his whole case upon him, for, he said, when he returned to Washington and testified, McCarthy would "fall flat on his face."

Meanwhile, there was much controversy over whether FBI files should be opened to the committee studying McCarthy's charges. McCarthy contended the proof he needed were in these files and in other confidential files. FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover argued that the files should not be open because of the bad effect it might have on "many innocent people" and the fact that it would destroy FBI usefulness in many ways.

BRITAIN:

Less Buying

Great Britain, stipulating many "ifs," planned to cut purchases from the United States and other dollar countries by as much as 25 per cent in the period from July 1, 1950 to June 30, 1951. By this action, the government hoped to cut its annual gold-dollar deficit in half by mid-1951.

THE DESIRED GOAL could be reached only under the following conditions, the government said:

1. Continued good business in the United States.
2. The lid is kept on wages, prices and dividends in Britain.
3. British productivity goes on improving with no sharp increases in costs.
4. Exports to dollar markets increase sufficiently to offset the cut in the value of the pound last September from \$4.03 to \$2.80.
5. Gold-earning exports to South Africa can be stepped up.
6. THE DOLLAR NATIONS demonstrate readiness to accept imports and to invest capital in non-dollar areas.

JAPAN:

Treaty Urged

With Gen. Douglas MacArthur and U.S. roving Ambassador Philip Jessup agreed on the desirability of the move, strong pressure was building up inside the Truman administration for an early peace treaty with Japan.

THERE IS conflict on the issue. It is a group principally within the state department which seeks an early treaty, while many others believe that the treaty project should be shelved in order to prolong indefinitely the present American control.

Added strength was given the treaty proponents when Great Britain urged months ago that a treaty should be completed.

AS might be expected, the Russians had to put their oar in. Moscow insists that there be a big-power veto over all treaty terms, but the trend in Washington seems to be for the western powers to proceed by themselves if Russia should refuse to join in under acceptable conditions.

The Japanese treaty is seen by proponents as one line of action the United States could take to strengthen its position in that quarter of the globe.

SQUEEZE PLAY

Reds Knock U.S. Dollar Down to 4 Rubles

The Russians had come up with an economic squeeze play, and the U.S. was vigorous in its protests. Moscow had set a new 4-to-1 ruble exchange for the American dollar. The United States charged the new exchange rate was "completely unjustified."

A note delivered in Moscow demanded that the former exchange rate of 8 rubles for \$1 granted to

Named to AEC



Thomas E. Murray, mechanical engineer who holds more than 200 patents and is an important figure in the auto and banking worlds, has been named by President Truman to succeed David E. Lilienthal on the U.S. atomic energy commission.

DEFENSE:

How Adequate?

The people, themselves, would have to decide who was right in the controversy on how adequate are our national defenses in the event of another war.

Two highly important gentlemen in the defense setup had disagreed on the status of American defense strength.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme commander of Allied forces in World War II, had declared publicly that he feared United States defenses had "fallen below the danger point."

THE GENERAL'S REMARK stirred a wave of apprehension in many quarters and set some congressmen on a road which may lead to another look at military budget piling.

But, Louis Johnson, U.S. defense secretary, didn't agree with General Eisenhower. After a long conference with President Truman, he emerged to assert that our national defenses are "sufficient" "unto the needs of the moment."

Just what Mr. Johnson meant by that was not clear, but it was quickly apparent that there could be read into the statement a conclusion that we are safe "at the moment" because no war has been declared. But those jumping to conclusion would immediately query: "How sufficient are these defenses at some other moment—say in the next six months, or next year—if war should come?"

JOHNSON SAID he had not discussed the situation with Eisenhower since the general's statement concerning defense and declined to discuss specific quotations from the Eisenhower speech. Asserting that he was in no "controversy with Ike," he pointed out that the present defense budget was put together by the joint chiefs of staff, of which Eisenhower is chairman.

General Eisenhower has been asked to tell congress what he thinks of the current defense setup, and Johnson said: "When he appears before congress I don't want it to appear that I talked with him and tried to influence him in any way."

NEW 'BRAIN':

Great Things

Factory workers may become obsolete in the future if a new mechanical brain—resembling a pinball machine on a jackpot ramp—will do what its inventor claims it will.

THE DEVICE, described as capable of operating an entire factory without human aid, is designated officially as the magnetic-drum-digital-differential analyzer. The inventor, 31-year-old Floyd Steele, calls it Maddida for short. What Maddida can do was demonstrated at the opening of a three-day conference on computing machinery at Rutgers university college of engineering.

Steele, who is also an aeronautical engineer at Manhattan Beach, Cal., said the machine was the forerunner of the completely automatic factory—where goods will be produced without help from the human hand or the human brain.

BIG THREE:

GOP Advisor

John Sherman Cooper, Kentucky Republican, former U.S. senator and now U.S. representative to the United Nations general assembly, was signally honored by the national Democratic administration. He was chosen by U.S. State Secretary Dean Acheson as one of his principal advisors during a series of major meetings in London in which the western nations will chart strategy in the cold war.

THE MEETINGS will consist of a session of the 12-nation North Atlantic council and separate conferences of the "Big Three," Acheson, British Foreign Minister Bevin and French Foreign Minister Schuman. All the meetings will deal with various aspects of the struggle of the western powers to build up their strength against Soviet communism in Europe and Asia.

Selected, too, as an advisor was U.S. Ambassador-at-Large, Philip Jessup, who was accused by U.S. Sen. Joseph McCarthy of having an "affinity" for Communistic causes, a charge Jessup hotly denied.

The Cooper appointment obviously was designed to improve relations between the state department and congress and to build a backfire against Republicans who have been assailing Acheson and his policies.

WHAT THE APPOINTMENT would do to Cooper's standing in his own GOP ranks was something which only the future would divulge. It was logical to assume there would be some GOP stalwarts who would feel that Cooper had "sold them out" by accepting the assignment from Acheson, when they were trying their best to get Acheson out of the government.

And with Cooper a potential gubernatorial candidate in Kentucky in 1951, it would be interesting to see whether his connection with Acheson and the Democrats would imperil his chances in that state, should he elect to make the race for governor.

TRUMAN:

Won't Open Files

President Truman has refused flatly to surrender federal loyalty files to congress in the current spy investigations, but he was establishing no precedents. Neither was he in any hazardous position in indicating he would ignore congressional subpoenas commanding him to surrender the files.

In fact, so far as could be ascertained officially, no President of the United States ever has honored a similar congressional subpoena. SO, it would seem that congress could tume and stew all it pleased, but it wouldn't get the files it wanted until President Truman changed his mind. Nevertheless, following the President's announcement that he would not surrender the files, the senate group investigating charges of communism in the state department promptly issued subpoenas for the records.

The President's action, in a way, would provide sort of an "out" for Sen. Joseph McCarthy who touched off the state department spy hunt with charges that Russia's "top spy" was connected with the department and that it was infiltrated with persons with Communist sympathies.

CHALLENGED to produce proof, McCarthy countered that evidence to support his charges was locked in federal loyalty files and in the files of the FBI. With both files closed to him and the investigators, McCarthy might still be in a technical position to continue his charges and claiming that official action in high echelons was preventing him from proving them.

Off-Season Santa



Herman F. Luhrs, Detroit, chairman of the American Legion public relations committee, presents a toy to a French boy who manages a smile despite the unwieldy brace he must wear as a result of a broken neck. The toys being distributed are some of 42 tons donated by American children and collected by the American Legion for European children.

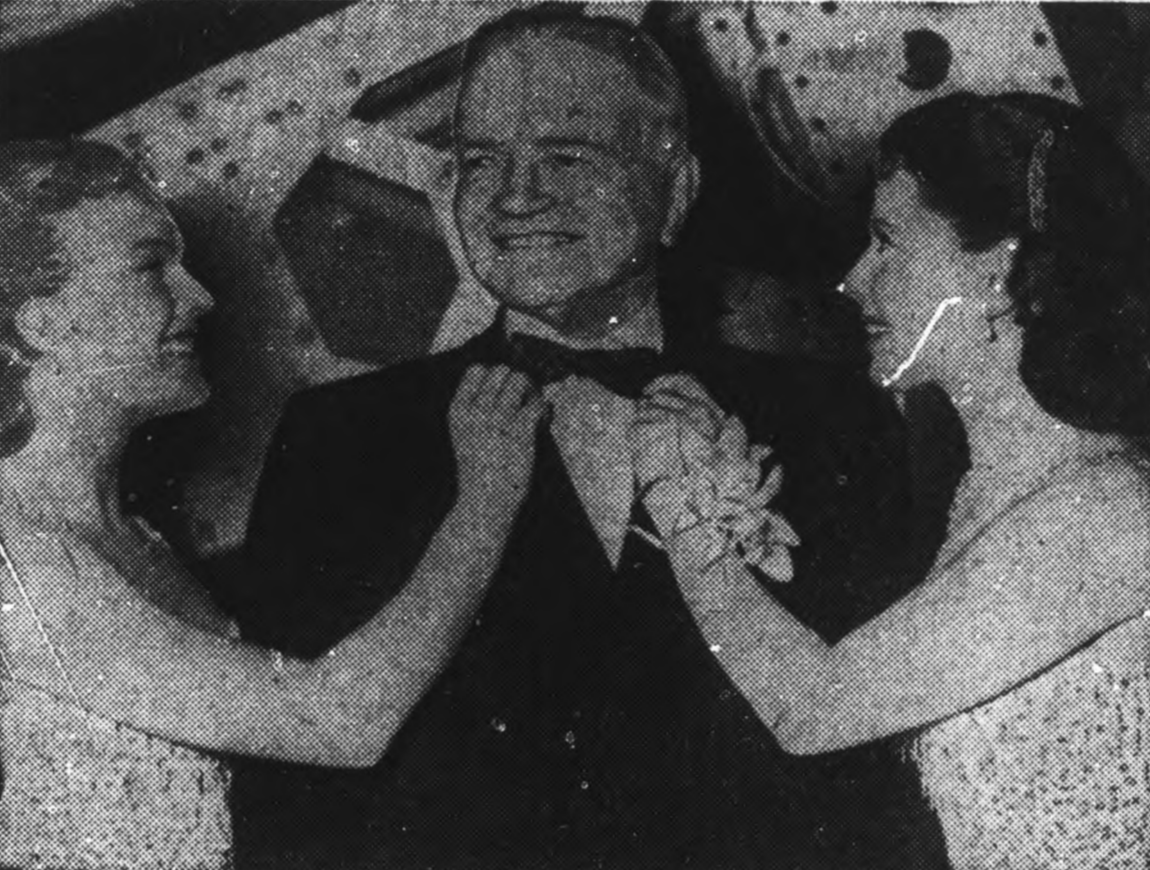
SUBMARINES:

May Be Scourged

According to a top U.S. navy expert, the feared submarine menace in the event of another war may not be so fearful after all. Rear Admiral C. B. Momsen has declared that he has reason to believe that a development is "just ahead" that would enable the United States "to drive submarines off the seas." Admiral Momsen is the inventor of the Momsen lung, used in escaping from submarines. The Admiral declared the sub-



LENSMAN'S LAPSE . . . The news photographer took a vacation from world-shaking events to visit these three hot-women on movie location near Las Vegas, Nevada. They are well-armed, and that's not all. Left to right, the three hollywood beauties are Corinne Calvet, Marie Wilson and Diana Lynn. They may be shy, but they're certainly not gun-shy. Let's steal a "hoss" and try to date this lovely mob up for a necktie party. It would be a pleasure to "hang" around with this pretty posse.



THE "BULL" AT BAY . . . En route to Hawaii for a vacation, Fleet Admiral William F. (Bull) Halsey stops off for a vacation at a Hollywood movie studio to witness the shooting of a new technicolor film. He was besieged by cut June Haver (left) and Gloria de Haven as soon as he set foot on the set, and was welcomed by the other stars. Here, June and Gloria are adjusting the admiral's bow tie.



ACCUSED ENTERS COURT . . . Alice Richard, 14-year-old high school girl charged with the "hate" slaying of her twin, Sally, enters Fresno, Calif., juvenile court accompanied by probation officers. After a brief hearing behind closed doors, juvenile judge Arthur Shepard decided the case would be handled by juvenile court. The girl, who says she killed her sister because she hated her, was to be examined by psychiatrists, the judge ruled.



THEY NEED BLOOD . . . Jeanne Schapiro (left), student at Long Island university, chats with Grace Picconi and brother, Anthony, at Long Island, N. Y., college hospital. The Picconi children are members of a group of 15 suffering an anemia condition that necessitates transfusions every two to six weeks. Grace's birthday will be April 22. To make it a big event, students of Long Island U. are staging a big blood donor campaign to insure the children at least another year of life.



LOSES FIGHT, WINS BRIDE . . . Carmine Vingo, prizefighter who was critically injured recently in Madison Square Garden, leads his bride, the former Kitty Rea, down the aisle of Our Lady of Pity church in the Bronx. The ceremony was postponed by Vingo's injury.



GOODBYE, AMERICA . . . Mrs. Valentin Gubitchev, wife of the Russian ambassador to the U. N., tried with Judith Coplon for espionage conspiracy, boarded the Polish liner Batory in New York to return to Russia with her spouse. His sentence was suspended on condition he go home.



STUNNED BY SENTENCE . . . Mrs. Yvette Madsen closes eyes as she leaves Frankfurt, Germany, courtroom after being sentenced to 15 years in prison for the murder of her husband, Air Force Lt. Andrew Madsen, 32. She is the mother of two children.



NEW SKIPPER OF MIGHTY MO . . . The navy has announced that Captain Irving P. Duke will become skipper of the recently grounded battleship Missouri.



RED TAPE HOLDS UP ADOPTION . . . Mrs. Charles Gage, St. Joseph, Mo., holds Shirley Ann, whom Mrs. Gage and her soldier-husband are trying to adopt. He is returning to Germany where Shirley was born.



Now He Knows

ONE DAY last December, an American newsmen walked up to a stocky, pipe-smoking diplomat in the delegates' lounge at the United Nations—Vladimir Clementis, foreign minister of Czechoslovakia.

"Mr. Minister," said the newsmen, "What's this I hear about a purge in the foreign office in Prague?"

"Ridiculous!"

"A purge which, they say, might even eliminate you."

"Absolutely ridiculous. Look here, why don't you fellows print something true about my country? Why don't you tell the story of our great advances in agriculture and industry, under the Communist regime, instead of printing silly rumors about purges?"

Clementis wouldn't call them silly rumors today. He has now been purged.

NOTE — Reason for the latest Czech purge probably was to pave the way for a complete taking over of Czechoslovakia by Russia. Hitherto the country has been run by Czech Communists. But Poland is now under the dictatorship of a Russian general and this will probably follow in other satellite countries as a crackdown on growing unrest.

Taxation Humor

High taxes have brought a fusillade of forensics from congressional Republicans.

"Suppose a young man decides to propose," opined Congressman Bob Rich of Pennsylvania. "He has to pay a 20 per cent tax on the engagement ring. Then another tax on the wedding ring. And suppose in due time they acquire an offspring."

"Then the taxes really start—20 per cent on baby oil, baby powder, baby lotion and baby creams."

Mom and Sis also had a defender in Rep. Les Arends of Illinois. "And when the tax gougers made up their 'sucker list,' Arends said, 'you ladies were placed at the top and you have been there ever since.'"

"These are not luxuries," continued Arends, referring to toilet articles and cosmetics. "The American way of life has made these articles as essential to you women as shaving to menfolks. The truth is that the Washington tax-masters regard you women as a 'soft touch.'"

Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts, not to be outdone, got in a plug for the menfolks. "From the time they get up in the morning men pay a tax on everything," she said, "their pajamas . . . their bath soap and shaving lotion . . . their razor and hair tonic . . . everything they eat for breakfast . . . and that all-important smoke."

Democrats seemed to enjoy the show as much as republicans until GOP Rep. Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania tearfully recited:

"No baby oil for you, young man, Bareback babe, with cheeks of tan. By the rule of Uncle Sam. You're a luxury, little lamb. The skin we loved to touch with powder We sadly pat while you yell louder; So now you know, my little man, Why Mama votes republican."

Byrd Battle

The Senate hasn't seen the end of the feud between Minnesota's breezy, young Sen. Hubert Humphrey and Virginia's apple-cheeked Sen. Harry Byrd. Humphrey is still trying to sprinkle salt on Byrd's tail.

The brash Minnesotan raided Byrd's favorite nest, the senate economy committee, with a charge that instead of saving money it was wasting money. He pointed out that the committee hadn't even met for two years.

This brought the Byrd forces to the senate floor in full array. More Republicans and Democrats turned out to defend Byrd than listened to the debate on the Marshall plan and Atlantic pact. One by one they lambasted Humphrey, who couldn't get a word in edgewise. When he finally gained the floor, the Byrd forces drifted out, left him to talk to a near-empty chamber.

Bouncing Sen. Ken Wherry of Nebraska, the republican leader, actually hustled among the Republicans, urging them to leave Humphrey stranded. "This guy has given us a rough time," he said.

Republicans joined southern Democrats in trailing out of the senate chamber.

Stung by this insult, Humphrey lashed back at Byrd with facts instead of oratory. He also offered to meet Byrd any time in open debate, even sent several radio interviewers to try to arrange it. So far, Byrd has not accepted the challenge.

NOTE—What also burned up Humphrey was the way administration Democrats left him to battle Byrd's friends singlehanded.

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