

Iberian Bases for Defense

IT WAS announced Wednesday that Generalissimo Francisco Franco of Spain and Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, American Chief of Naval Operations, had reached an agreement that would enable the use of Iberian bases for Western defense.

This appears to be a sound move militarily, because the Naval bases at Cadiz, Cartagena, Ferrol, and Santa Cruz in the Canaries, as well as the Air bases at Barcelona, Madrid, Seville, and possibly those of Valencia and Lugo, are all strategically located.

However, France and Britain are shouting, "No. No." Dispatches from London and Paris indicate both the French and British feel that any association by a NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) member would provide Russia with a prime propaganda weapon because millions in Europe view the Franco regime as completely Fascist.

It is obvious, we think, that the real reason for France's and Britain's resenting the NATO's friendliness toward Spain is that the British and French think that the addition of another European country would reduce the aid that France and Britain now receive from the Atlantic Treaty.

The primary purpose of the NATO is to strengthen the Western nations militarily and economically. All military men are in agreement that the addition of Spanish bases will strengthen us militarily. Economically speaking, Secretary of State Dean Acheson has reassured France and Britain that neither arms aid nor their standing as areas to be defended, would be altered due to the acceptance of the Spanish agreement.

Influence Peddler Sells Office Space

HAVE YOU heard of the man who sold the Brooklyn Bridge to an unsuspecting client? Here's a true story that rivals that gag.

The Senate investigators have dug up evidence about an "influence peddler" who has been successful in convincing people that the government plans to go underground to escape an atomic attack and that he could snap up present government building for bargain leases.

This man professed to have "connections" that would enable him to secure government buildings for as little as \$1 per month. The amount of money this "con man" has collected runs into six figures.

Even though a man has the gift of gab to the extent that he can sell hair-straighteners to Chinamen, the human race is not gullible enough to swallow a story about renting huge buildings for a "buck" a month unless the man's story of "connections" is rather convincing.

Therefore, it appears to us, the custom of "connections" which has proved profitable to everyone involved except the taxpayer is so matter-of-fact, that a stranger can go to Washington and convince supposedly intelligent people to part with large sums of money with any cock-and-bull story as long as that story hints of crooked political "connections."

Senator Mundt (Rep. S. D.) said there is nothing in the evidence so far to show that the man "contacted or corrupted any government officials." Apparently the man operated as a "lone wolf."

The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions "Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

The Battalion, official newspaper of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, is published five times a week during the regular school year. During the summer terms, The Battalion is published four times a week, and during examination and vacation periods, twice a week. Days of publication are Monday through Friday for the regular school year, Tuesday through Friday during the summer terms, and Tuesday and Thursday during vacation and examination periods. Subscription rates \$6.00 per year or \$0.50 per month. Advertising rates furnished on request.

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Dave Colett, Editorial Assistant; James Fuller, Church News Editor; J. R. Alderdice, Staff Photographer; R. D. Witter, Charles McCullough, Photo Engravers; Autry Fredricks, Ed Moses, Advertising Representatives.

We think that not only Spain but Greece and Turkey as well should be brought into closer association with the North Atlantic defense alliance. Of course, additional nations would increase the cost of operation, but the reward of more fighting men and the strategic bases involved should compensate for the added cost to us and the minor sacrifice that Britain and France might have to make.

Java Student Doesn't Like U.S.

THE Christian Science Monitor stirred up some little indignation recently with the publication of a letter by one Seyd Mohammed Sarodjo, a native of Java. The letter-writer had just returned from six years as a student in the United States—six years in which he had gathered a very unfavorable impression of this country. The letter gave his criticisms.

Monitor readers were quick to answer the attack. Their answers, however, were not the shallow or heated kind so often found in a letter to the editor column. In fact, the letters showed how deep-rooted and sensible the American sense of patriotism is. One answer particularly impressed us. In part, it reads:

"If Seyd Mohammed Sarodjo believes that the United States is only a nation filled with race prejudice, false values, egotism, materialism, and blinding, national pride, I ask him to remember that these faults are faults of human nature in general and are not confined to peoples of this particular nation.

For who are we Americans? We are nothing less or more than the extensions of all nations and races on this globe, and if our people do not always live according to our own highest hopes and ideals, it is because we are people—like all people—with the temptations towards evil which plague the human being everywhere."

Our Clean Rooms--New Furniture

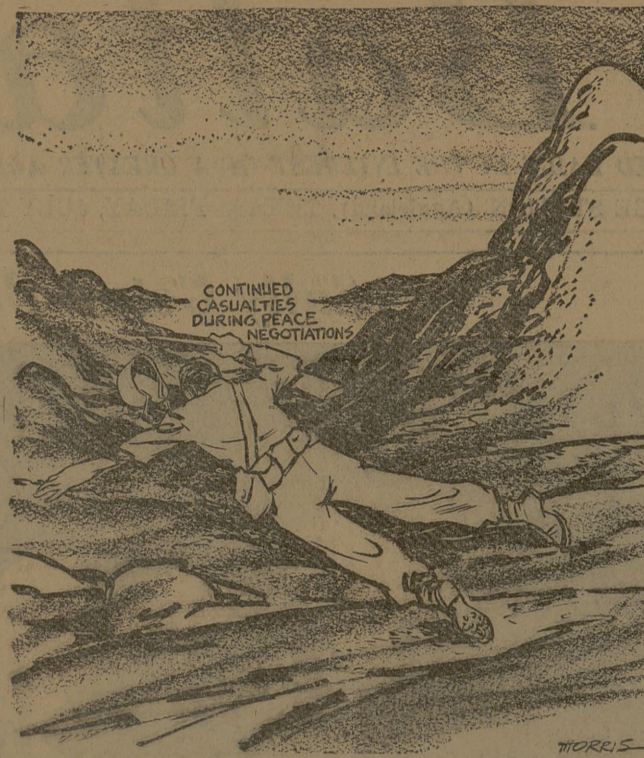
THE THIRTY students had just seated themselves when the professor entered the classroom. The "prof" gathered the student's cards, walked slowly back and forth as he called the roll. Then, apparently noticing for the first time that some of the fellows were drinking Cokes, the instructor made an announcement:

"Gentlemen," he began as he whipped out a handkerchief and dabbed the perspiration which had formed into tiny icicle-like beads upon his forehead, "we will not allow Coke drinking in the class rooms. The janitors don't get around to cleaning the rooms very often. The bottles are left there to draw flies and, in other ways, to create an unpleasant after effect. Therefore, no Coke drinking permitted in the class rooms."

Then he seated himself behind his desk and leaned back. Without warning, the chair crumbled underneath his weight. Slightly embarrassed and greatly irritated, the professor, got to his feet, brushed the seat of his pants, and said disgustedly:

"A million dollars for buildings and not one cent for decent chairs."

THERE OUGHT TO BE A LAW...



CONTINUED CASUALTIES DURING PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

Interpreting the News

Russia's Re-entry in Peace Talks Causes Uncertainty

By J. M. ROBERTS JR., Associated Press News Analyst

SOVIET RUSSIA'S public re-entry into the Korean cease-fire picture has intensified the uncertainty surrounding the whole business.

It had been expected that there would be sharp differences at Kaesong. The Communists had demands about the 38th parallel, which had to be compromised before the U. N. negotiators could enter into any truce. The U. N. commanders had similarly difficult demands about having observers keep constant check on observance of the truce. But everything seemed possible of negotiations.

Propaganda Machines Working

The Russian, North Korean and Peiping propaganda machines, while inevitably at work, had seemed inclined to let the negotiations proceed in an atmosphere of relative reasonableness.

But then, just as the negotiating teams seemed to be getting down to work on the really tough points, Moscow broke loose with a typical broadcast.

"Is it clear that peaceful settlement of the Korean question is impossible without the withdrawing of foreign troops from Korea. That's close to an ultimatum.

"The American side is categorically opposing the question concerning the withdrawal," the broadcast said.

The opposition, of course, is to inclusion of the withdrawal problem in the cease-fire agenda, the Americans wishing to leave it for a conference on general settlements, as more of a political than a military question.

Broadcast Mentioned Opposition

The broadcast also mentioned American opposition to reestablishment of a demarcation line at the 38th parallel, and said the Communists would insist.

Another virtual ultimatum. Now, these matters are subject to negotiation at Kaesong. The U. N., in the interest of maintaining an atmosphere in which an agreement could be reached without involving "face" on either side, has tried carefully to keep the daily talks secret. There have been no ultimatums from the allied side, except on technical procedural matters such as the physical arrangements for the conference.

There has been some American propaganda, such as an attack on General Nam Il, chief Communist negotiator, which might better have been withheld for the moment. Suspicion of Communist motives in initiating the truce talks may have been overplayed.

But there has been nothing quite like the Moscow broadcast statement that the difference at Kaesong "clearly shows the desire of the American side to get around the commonly known proposal of Mr. Malik."

Allies Expressed Suspicion

The allies may have expressed suspicion. But Moscow comes very close to expressing a final decision that America is insincere.

The broadcast was quoting a Tass dispatch from Pyongyang, North Korean capital. It followed closely a New York dispatch from this official Russian news agency accusing American officials of being afraid of peace.

On the other hand, there is evidence that both sides are anxious for truce in Korea. What the Russians want to do with it is another matter.

Dr. B. J. Zobel Employed As Silviculturist

Dr. Bruce J. Zobel has been employed as assistant silviculturist effective July 1 by the Texas Forest Service to conduct research in forest tree improvement according to an announcement by A. D. Folweiler, director of the Texas Forest Service.

He will be assigned to the Research & Education Department at College Station working to produce strains of pine trees with superior qualities.

Competition Hits Monopolies Says Electric Power Head

DALLAS, July 20—(AP)—"We are putting competition in the field where monopoly is characteristic of that field," Claude R. Wickard, REA administrator said yesterday.

He spoke at the 14th convention of Texas Power Reserve Electric Cooperative, Inc.

The head of Rural Electrification Administration said that power companies throughout the nation are being forced into improving their service because REA presents a constant threat to furnish service where it is needed.

Wickard said that is the last ten years, REA co-ops have progressed until they are paying one mill less per kilowatt hour than all other large power users. Ten years ago the co-ops were paying one mill more than the other large users.

"We never will be through with this program," he said. "We can't overestimate the number of farms in need of electrical service.

"If the private companies can do the job as well and as cheap, then they can have the job," he said.

Preceding Wickard's talk, elections were held to replace directors of the TPR. George Ross Jr. will replace Carroll Land at San

Red Radio Charges UN Plane Violation

Tokyo, Friday, July 20—(AP)—The Peiping radio yesterday charged United Nations planes violated Chinese territory while Korean war cease-fire talks were being held at Kaesong.

The Chinese-language broadcast monitored here said 10 planes were over Chinese territory between July 11 and 16. The planes, the radio added, reconnoitered and strafed ground installations.

The broadcast listed places and dates of the alleged border violations but atmospheric interference garbled the list.

Angelo. Truett W. Bailey will follow Chester Kirk at Junction. W. E. Lanham was reelected as director at Blue Grove.

Land goes to Marshall in place of Ross. R. A. Yarborough was reelected Children's director. Kirk replaced Weldon Groves at Hamilton, and C. M. Wagner directs the Edna Co-op, relieving Allen L. Burditt.

John C. White, Texas commissioner of agriculture, sketched the progress of the REA Co-ops in relation to the progress in farming and cattle-raising.

"You can't help but notice the fine churches, schools and public buildings that have sprung up in rural neighborhoods, all due to rural electrification," White said.

REA has made it possible for young people to stay on the farm, he added. The young people, which every industry, organization and business needs, can find a useful, comfortable life on the farm. They refuse to stay on farms which don't show promise of progress.

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LPL ABNER Civilization—Take It Away!! AH DON'T SEE NOTHIN' SWEET ABOUT HIM? HE'S MERELY TALL... IN THE SHRUBBERY - OTHER EYES WATCH - FRESH ARRIVALS IN DOGPATCH... THESE HILL PEOPLE ARE FULL OF IGNORANT SUPERSTITIONS... Who Wouldn't? NOW THAT WE'VE LOST MUMMY, WE'LL TRY TO SAVE OTHERS... I CAN BRING THE WONDERS OF MODERN SCIENCE... IF THARS ONE THING AH KNOWS, SUH—ITS HOW TO SITT? WOULD YO LIKE T'SEE A SAMPLE O' MAH WORK?

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