

At Panmunjom the feeling of Armistice is in the air again. General Nam Il looks expressionless whatever the stage of the talks, but on the United Nations' side optimism is apparent. It seems that the end of the three year war really will be signed in the truce building.

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Back in Seoul President Syngman Rhee walks the tight wire of diplomacy with Oriental skill, friendly with U.N. Commanders but sticking to his opinion that a show-down war with the Red world will come sooner or later. When Walter Robertson flew back to Washington after long talks with President Rhee he was met by Secretary of State Foster

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Dulles. President Eisenhower needs all his own famous diplomatic skill to make sure Syngman Rhee does not wreck the armistice.

It may be that the barrier between East and West Berlin will be broken down by food. <sup>U.S.</sup> ~~America's~~ offer of free food

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having been rejected by the East German Government, the accepting Americans sent ~~the~~ supplies for sale, ~~maintaining~~ East German marks, though they're only worth one-fifth of West German ~~money~~. Thousands who'd been starved of fresh fruit and milk became eager buyers. Perhaps ~~the~~ hunger will eventually ring up the Iron Curtain.

Packing the holds of S.S. American Inventor <sup>in NY</sup> went another shipload; ~~many thousands~~. ~~Many thousands~~ ~~surrounding~~ the difference between ~~that~~ propaganda ~~paradise~~ and stuff you can really eat.

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Visitor to Vatican City was that great woman who has won all our hearts, the Queen of Tonga. Few of us had ever heard of her before the Coronation; now, ~~now~~ she's on her way home. Dignitaries of the Church of Rome, ~~many~~ escorted Queen Salote into the presence of His Holyness the Pope, who always receives in special audience reigning sovereigns who are passing through Rome. The Holy Father presented her with a gold medallion .

July 16, 1953

Music: Trail the Crow (Warbonnet) PN 754  
Buque March (CL 134)  
March Gardner (Para) PN 229

Klein  
Joyce  
Non  
Issue #96

KOREA THE HOURS OF NEAR-TRUCE

WASHINGTON

Panmunjom -- the possibility of a showdown session fixing all eyes on delegates of both sides, and the conference hut where only final details remained before an armistice might be signed -- or the talks abruptly called off. The talks have been held in secrecy since they were resumed on July 10th. Now the moment could be at hand for news of global significance.

But in the grim "meanwhile" -- the war in Korea erupts with almost unprecedented fury: the mightiest Communist offensive since the breakthrough in May, 1951.

These are some of our casualties at "Porkchop Hill" ... two days before the central front assault. The war is not over, for them; your blood, your prayers are still needed.

... other troops are honored ... a citation for the Eighth Army from President Syngman Rhee..... At this time when it appears an understanding has been reached at last to remove South Korean opposition to a cease-fire.

That the thirteen meetings with President Rhee held in sixteen days with President Eisenhower's special envoy, bore fruit, is given credence when Walter S. Robertson arrives back in Washington. Met by Secretary of State Dulles, the Assistant Secretary goes to the White House to report to the President. The Chief Executive's regular weekly press conference is cancelled so that he may meet Mr. Robertson.

The meeting lasts 40 minutes. The press is to hear that South Korea has agreed to collaborate in an effort to achieve South Korea's unification by peaceful means.

That it is now possible to have an armistice .... if, as Secretary Robertson says:

(talk to end)