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sia next battleground'—Mrs. F. D. R.

—Daily News photo.

S. ROOSEVELT SAYS ASIA IS THE "BATTLEGROUND"
en communism and western democracy will fight it out there

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt gave it as her opinion yesterday that "the real battleground" for the ideological war between democracy and communism is Asia and Africa, "but I think nobody really knows how it's going."

Mrs. Roosevelt, who speaks tonight in Philharmonic Auditorium on the United Nations, to the General Assembly of which she is an American delegate, said the "battleground" was shifting from western Europe because, despite the USSR's best efforts, it is becoming evident that the Marshall Plan is "helping to restore a normal way of life."

In the Orient, however, Mrs. Roosevelt told a press conference in the Biltmore Hotel, the Russians have a "great opening for communism."

"And that is," she said, "their lack of racial discrimination. The Communists feel that time is on their side and that they have the appeal for the underprivileged of the world."

In this connection, Mrs. Roosevelt linked President Truman's civil rights program to American foreign policy and its ideological fight against communism.

"It used to be quite reasonable to say that these questions were domestic and should be handled by the separate states as they saw fit. But times have changed. We are the leading democracy and we must win the battle against communism.

"I think we are going to have to show the United States does offer to the mass of people the greatest opportunity. You must remember that in Asia the people have never known freedom—and the USSR never talks to them of freedom.

"I do think it would be wonderful if the Communists could bring at no cost any little thing that happens at home. But they display these things up everywhere. "We can beat against this by the way we live at home."

Mrs. Roosevelt said she linked the foreign policy considerations the current turmoil over what to do with Communist Party members in the United States.

Mrs. Roosevelt said she is opposed to fighting the party by "repression."

The protection of the government from subversive Communist agents and the concurrent protection of the civil liberties of American citizens, Mrs. Roosevelt said, can best be accomplished by the FBI.

She had her hands full with her Russian colleagues on the United Nations Commission for Human Rights, of which she is chairman.

The best way to "get along with the Russians," she said, "is to be absolutely firm, and absolutely kind and to be absolutely sure that you know what you believe in."

Then, Mrs. Roosevelt said, when our democratic example leaves its impress upon the rest of the world, the Russians will be ready to accept compromise as a means of settling differences because "they will see our appeal, by what we do, is greater ideologically than theirs."

Of the much-debated Atlantic Pact and whether it threatened the existence of the United Nations, Mrs. Roosevelt said it is permitted under terms of the charter itself.

Article 52 of the charter, she said, provides for the "regional grouping" of nations as a means to prevent aggression. "They have that right and should, perhaps, undertake such a grouping for that purpose."

Mrs. Roosevelt, whose column appears in the Daily News, leaves here tomorrow for Columbia, Mo., for the next address of her speaking tour.

G. I. R. -7

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