

L.T. P.&G. FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1948.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Today President Truman took off in a plane from the Army Air Base at Tacoma, Washington, flying south. The weather was bad, pouring rain, heavy clouds. The Presidential plane dipped low, got under those clouds and then the President had a view of the Columbia River, swollen, raging with flood. The President saw huge areas of inundation. The dramatic spectacle coming as he neared Portland. He saw the place where several hours before a big dike had gone out. A tide six feet deep sweeping across the Portland Army Air Base. This the latest disaster as the flood crest came to the Columbia today. The breaking of the dike there swamping a large area of open fields, city suburbs, homes, country clubs, golf courses too. So the President saw the flood at a dramatic time, just after things happened.

The whole matter of our foreign policy which will be so much the concern of the President to be elected in November, came to a focus today in the United Nations. An atomic focus it was. Before the Security Council our U.N. representatives once again brought up the plan to outlaw the atomic bomb. The project for international atomic regulation which for two years has been blocked consistently by Soviet Russia. Supported strongly by Great Britain, an American move was made today to have the Security Council bring an atom control plan before the General Assembly of the U.N. when it meets in Paris this autumn. So what now will happen? Another Soviet veto

is expected. In which event it is believed that the Americans and British will go right ahead on their own and place the atom control plan before the General Assembly as their own proposal.

The Senate has just passed the United Nations legislation calling for reforms in the United Nations. With something to be done about that Soviet veto. Previously the Senate had passed its bill to permit the entrance of 202,000 displaced persons into this country; I suppose it was to be expected that in the Palestine truce there would be complaints the first day. The Cease Fire order went into effect this morning. But soon Israel, then the Arabs made complaints against each other. However, here's the latest. A message from U.N. Mediator Count Bernadotte. He informs the Security Council that the truce is, in his words; "going well." In Washington, Israel representative Epstein declared that the people of the Jewish State would refuse to accept the four-weeks armistice if the truce is used as an occasion to appease the Arabs. He added the opinion that Count Bernadotte had exceeded his authority in imposing restrictions on the immigration of men of military age into Israel. From Tel Aviv an Israel statement that the Jewish State will not give up captured Arab territory like the seaports of Jaffa and Acre. Nor was the outlook for a general settlement improved by a declaration from King Abdullah today. He repeated the insistence that the Arabs will never accept any Jewish State. Preferring to resume the war at the end

of the truce. And King Abdullah also said that this might lead to a third World War. All of which gives a formidable aspect to the task Count Bernadotte strives to accomplish as he summons an Israel-Arab peace conference to meet on the Island of Rhodes.

In Washington, the hearings continued today on the question that has brought about a sharp division among Republican leaders. The slash of funds for the Marshall Plan. The dispute is now between GOP leadership in the Senate and the Republican majority in the House which voted a large cut in the European relief program. The controversy is now headed straight for the GOP National Convention, a battle there over that ERP plank in the platform. Today the strongest kind of evidence in the case was presented by Secretary of State Marshall. Testifying before the Senate Appropriations Committee, Mr. Marshall pointed out that under the promise of the Marshall Plan, free nations in Europe are defying Soviet Russia. Which may represent no small risk to them. Their stand is based on their faith in the European Recovery Program. So what if we now go back on our pledged word as voted in Congress? Leave the free nations with the feeling that the United States is not to be relied upon? That would cause an amount of disillusion which would weaken the very base of American foreign policy. So argued the Secretary of State today.

Well, Governor Dewey, who is sitting beside me at the moment, has

repeatedly said that same thing. On this he agrees with General Marshall. And now the whole thing is headed toward the Republican Convention.

L.T.: As I've mentioned several times I've been in touch with the various Presidential candidates, inviting them to join me on the air. So far I've had several of them. Tonight I have just caught up with Governor Dewey. He's back from a campaign trip to the south. Governor, will you tell us what impressions you brought back from Maryland, Virginia and Carolina?

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GOV.DEWEY: Well, they were all very good ones and very happy ones. I think the sentiment of the south is moving as rapidly toward the Republican party as the sentiment in the north. It's pretty much the same all over the country.

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L.T.: I hear that you had quite a reception in North Carolina; the largest crowds in fact in the history of that state. Well, you must have been somewhat pleased about that.

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GOV.DEWEY: Well, it was quite a day and we had a grand time. I made 13 speeches, from 8:30 in the morning until 9:30 at night, traveled 300 miles by car in between them and I guess it was a turn out that made history in North Carolina. We had a grand day.

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L.T.: A moment ago in the news, Governor, I spoke about the Security Council and the discussion of atomic control. This of course is going to be the first American Presidential campaign of the atomic era. Do you think that the shadow of that atom bomb is going to be felt at the national conventions?

GOV. DEWEY: Only as it's felt over practically all of us. We all realize that weapons of destruction have now been developed to such a point that we with our atomic bomb, the Soviets with their bacteriological warfare which has gone forward at such a tremendous rate, has made war the most formidable instrument that it ever has been and has made the possibility of another war the most horrible thing that any people ever contemplated. I'm sure that the whole problem of foreign affairs in the building of a peace will - as it should - dominate the thinking of the members of the Republican convention.

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L.T.: And by the way - don't you think the mood of the delegates to the Republican convention will be something extra special this year, the political situation being what it is, don't you think that they're going to feel that in nominating they're actually going to be choosing a President?

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GOV. DEWEY: I think that's pretty likely...laughter...

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L.T.: Is that putting it mildly?...laughter...

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GOV. DEWEY: Well, I never underestimate the opponent.

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L.T.: I see...laughter...and that's pretty smart, too. Isn't it rather unique so far as recent American history is concerned - what effect do you think this feeling of actually choosing a President is likely to have on say the mood of the delegates?

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GOV.DEWEY: Be much the same as I've indicated about the world situation. It's a very sober and a very serious job and I think the delegates are coming in that mood.

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L.T.: In your fairly wide campaign travels you of course have met many of the delegates. How many of them?

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GOV.DEWEY: Oh, I should say half, from coast to coast.

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L.T.: And what sort of people are they? Mark Sullivan told me recently - just after he had fallen in that bath tub and broken his back - he told me that they're pretty much the same as members of Congress, the same type of individual in communities. Can you tell us something about their state of mind and about them generally?

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GOV.DEWEY: I'd say that the delegates to the Republican national convention represent the good, sound leadership in the party; a good many business men, labor leaders, political leaders. Almost universally people who are giving a large amount of their time, a good share of their lives towards the business of free government with practically no reward and usually a lot of abuse in exchange for it. I think Mark Sullivan was probably right. They're a good deal like congressmen who get underpaid and over-worked and give 6 or 8 months of the year away from their homes and families and get nothing but a large amount of criticism when they

get home. And the delegates to that extent are probably somewhat similar to congressmen. They're pretty fine set of people. In fact if you tried to pick 1100 people in this country whom you'd be very happy to have represent you at any kind of a conference, I think that would be a good representative picture of the Republican convention.

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L.T.: Well, the world situation being what it is - the choice of a President this year becomes especially important. Have you actually found that the delegates are aware of this as you've gone around...

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GOV.DEWEY: Oh yes. Yes indeed.

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L.T.: And what's your predication? Is it a forecast of...well, what do you predict for Philadelphia, anyhow?

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GOV.DEWEY: I predict that it'll be hotter than blazes...laughter...

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L.T.: I've been to a lot of those conventions and invariably it turns out to be the hottest week of the summer, it seemed.

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GOV.DEWEY: In Chicago when we finished our reception at 2:00 in the mornin' it was still a 100 degrees.

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L.T.: Here's one. I don't know whether this will embarrass you or not, Governor.

This by the way is an ad lib affair and the Governor doesn't know what's coming.

Will the nomination be decided in the smoke-filled room this time?

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GOV.DEWEY: I should say definitely not.

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L.T.: Well, on what do you base that...you think the delegates themselves feel so much their sense of responsibility?

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GOV.DEWEY: I've never seen a situation where the delegates were taking their individual responsibility so seriously, and this is my third national convention in which I've had a rather active part. The delegates are very serious, very earnest about making up their decisions and they're universally seeking for the kind of a ticket, the kind of a platform that will restore the confidence of the people in the administrative capacity of their government that can bring order out of the growing chaos and eliminate the incompetence, the waste, and of course most of all bring a new high degree of competent and vigorous men to the service of the government who can start building the peace of this world so that we can make our plans with a greater degree of security for the years ahead.

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L.T.: Well, we hear that the demand for Convention tickets is enormous. Have you had a lot of requests, and by the way have you got any tickets to spare? Laughter...

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GOV. DEWEY: That is the largest headache I know at the moment. For example, New York with 14 million people has been allotted 500 tickets. And you can imagine that 500 tickets would get you exactly nowhere.

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L. T.: You were in South Carolina last night, Governor, and tonight here you are back on Quaker Hill and Dutchess County surrounded by several hundred of your neighbors incidentally. Have you spent much time at your farm recently with those prize cows?

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GOV. DEWEY: Well, not as much as I'd like and they aren't really prize cows. Most of them are grades but they're doing very well at the moment. I'm going to go to the farm soon as I finish broadcasting, as a matter of fact.

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L. T.: I had hoped to have you on the air last Monday night. You were involved in another broadcast that evening. That was why we postponed the interview until now. But I had also heard that you had picked up laryngitis. And when I listened and others had the same impression, they didn't notice there was anything wrong with your throat at all.

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GOV. DEWEY: I didn't have any laryngitis. Perhaps it was a little tired from 102 speeches in Oregon and a few other states, but I made 13 in North Carolina yesterday and it's still fine.

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L.T.: You seem to be going strong, I notice that. I'm rather interested in all this because recently I was broadcasting from Canada and I lost my voice. And the following night when I recovered it I was rash enough to say that if anyone wrote in I would tell them what had happened to me. The magic formula. And I've been inundated with requests for that. And tonight I'm going to tell them, I hope they're all listening. My magic formula was hot tea mixed with honey and lemon. Just an old-fashioned home remedy. And Governor, I hope that between now and November you'll have no laryngitis.

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GOV. DEWEY: Thank you very much, Lowell.

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L.T.: Many thanks for running all the risks that may be involved in going on the air impromptu. Now let's see what kind of a voice you're in tonight, Nelson.

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*Note: original script lost; this obtained from CBS, so probably is not verbatim.
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