

In Washington today, Assistant Defense Secretary Nash indicated that the United States may be planning new efforts to reach an agreement with the Soviets. Speaking to a conference on U.S. foreign policy, the Assistant Defense Secretary seemed to be talking in riddles. He stated that this country's armament program is designed to provide "a platform of strength from which to speak and negotiate." Then he added:- "When the play begins, we will know our lines. I'm not at liberty to say when or where the play will begin," he went on. "But we have already played the prologue! I know, we know our lines," said he.

But what does this rhetoric mean? And what is the prologue? Was it perhaps the meeting between Ambassador Kirk and Foreign Minister Vishinsky?

Meanwhile, Senator Taft told a news conference that he favors a meeting of President Truman, British

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Prime Minister Churchill, and Stalin; provided

"there is a reasonable chance of success," said Taft.

ATOMIC

(The descriptions of today's explosion at Frenchman's Flat are spectacular.) Nobody who actually attended the test ~~says~~ ^{says} anything! -- and observers ^{who are} quoted were as much as one hundred miles away.

A United Press reporter says: "A huge radio-active cloud shot forty thousand feet into the air. The flash", he goes on, "blotted out the sun for a moment."

(People in an airplane seventy miles away say they were -- "blinded by the brilliance.")

At Las Vegas, ninety miles away, it was like a giant flash bulb -- followed by a boiling purple mushroom cloud. For long minutes afterward, the radio-active cloud hung in the sky, drifting and changing shape.

In southern Utah, one hundred miles distant, ^{both} people heard and felt the explosion -- the sound and the shock waves.

The previous weapons tested in the present

series of experiments were "baby-bombs." Today, there was no comparison. This one was a full-fledged atomic explosion -- "the Bikini type," they say. That is, an atomic blast as immense as at that far-off Pacific atoll -- where the tests were like a cataclysm of the atom.

EGYPT

From the Suez Canal Zone tonight comes word that Britain's Third Infantry Division is being rushed to the Middle East. ~~There are no details, but it's believed the troops will~~ ^{more trouble} ~~a flare-up in~~ to Cyprus, to be held in reserve in case of ^{along} the Canal. ~~Zone~~.

Meanwhile, Cairo newspapers today boasted that "volunteers" were all set for an underground war against the British. The papers ^{spoke of} ~~mentioned~~ a "soldier of fortune", ^{one} Aziz Ali el Masry Pasha, a desert fighter ^{who they say was with} ~~alongside~~ Lawrence of Arabia in World War One, ^[The story is that he] will lead the "liberation battalions." ^{— who may have been with L. I don't recall him —} El Masry Pasha is supposed to be rallying his "guerrillas" with the cry of "sell your clothes, cut down your food, buy arms!"

There is also word that another Arab adventurer, Colonel Abdullah el Tel, a former officer in Jordan's Arab Legion who was sentenced to death for the assassination of King Abdullah, is forming ^{his own} ~~another~~ underground army. The

sponsors of the two forces are given as the Moslem Brotherhood and ~~by~~ the "Young Men's Mohammedan Association" - ~~but it~~

could be. A lot of men have had that kind ~~seems to be mostly a case of yackety yack, more fiction than~~ of experience and training in the last 35 years.

~~fact!~~ For instance, the present Prime Minister of Iraq, Nuri Said, was associated with the fabulous T.E.L.

~~was available, in the Canal zone itself, the last sort of passive~~

~~resistance goes on, with further cuts in the food supplies~~

~~seeking the British troops.~~

Nevertheless, in Cairo, the Egyptian Foreign Minister

gave the first sign that his country ^{design to} may consider the

four-power proposal for a Middle East command.[!] Following a

meeting of envoys from the Arab states, the Egyptian

government announced today that the Arab Foreign Ministers

would meet soon in Cairo, to discuss the defense pact.

Today's meeting of the truce teams in Korea is followed by a baffling communique. Again we learn the meeting ~~made~~ made "no progress." The Communists stuck to their original proposal and made no new suggestions, ^{Same for} ~~as did~~ the U.N. delegation. However, there is much speculation following the meetings. This centers around a statement made by Major General Hodes, the head of the Allied Sub-Committee on the truce line. He told newsmen: ~~that~~ "I think it is too early to say we've reached a deadlock - I think everyone hopes for a reasonable solution." ^{But} General Hodes ^(added) ~~said~~ that the Reds had so far made "no concessions, no trades, no offers", and had termed the Allied proposal for a truce line "unfair, unreasonable, unjust and inequitable."

~~However, a later dispatch from Munsan gave rise to speculation that the Allies may make concessions to the Communists - do a little hard-headed ~~horse~~ bargaining.~~

~~In dealing with the Chinese and Koreans, our truce team has been learning something of that famed oriental patience and~~

FOLLOW KOREA - TRUCE

In the ^{ad} truce talks, the American Liaison officers have started negotiations of another sort. They have asked the Communists for information about Kim Won Kyu, an eleven year old Korean boy. The story is that Kim Won Kyu - followed the Candy Trail.

The story comes from the lad's father, a poor Korean peasant who lives a few miles to the south of Pan Mun Jon, the site of the truce talks. He has four daughters -- and only one son. In Korea, as in other parts of the Orient, they look to the son to continue the family. So there was bitter grief when Kim Won Kyu disappeared - on the Candy Trail.

Each day the convoy of U.N. representatives and American newspaper men, passes the farmhouse, and the reporters and GI's throw candy to children along the route. Korean kids follow them, and scramble for the chocolate bars and gumdrops. So did Kim Won Kyu, and he was more venturesome than most. Every day he ran ~~after~~ after the trucks further and further to the North -- until, finally, that took him across

the Communist lines at Pan Mun Jon, and he never came back. Other peasants told ^(his) ~~her~~ father that they had seen Chinese Reds seize the boy, and carry him away.

So the father, weeping, went to the Americans, and told the story. They said they would do what they could -- and at a session of the truce talks, ^{they} presented a written demand, which calls for an answer tomorrow. Asking the Reds -- to hand back Kim Won Kyu who followed the Candy trail.

INDO-CHINA

The hand of the assassin struck again today - this time in French Indo-China. The victim was Gene DeRaymond, French High Commissioner for the Republic of Cambodia.

It appears that the High Commissioner was taking his afternoon siesta at his home in the capital, Phom-Penh, yesterday afternoon, when he was stabbed and slashed repeatedly by his native houseboy. DeRaymond ^{is described as/} ~~was~~ one of the youngest and most brilliant French civil servants in Indo-China, and it's understood that the servant was "planted" in his household by the Reds.

GAMBLING

Late news from Washington - there will be a quick test case of the gambling tax law, which would levy a tax of ten per cent on bookmakers' bets, and require the bookmakers to take out licenses, and display stamps. In Washington tonight, an attorney, Myron Ehrlich, ~~stated that he has been engaged to attack the law, on the ground that it is unconstitutional and carry the case to the Supreme Court, if necessary. His contention is that the taxation of bookmakers, compelling them to file public returns, comes under the heading of self incrimination. By going on record as being bookmakers, they virtually convict themselves of crime.~~

~~The lawyer~~ says he has been retained by "a taxpayer."

There's a rumor that gambling interests, centering in Cleveland are behind the move.

BERTRAND RUSSELL

Here's a dispatch to make you wonder -- how does a philosopher get that way? One of the world's most eminent masters of logic and mathematics is Bertrand Russell. I suppose that if someone were to ^{name} ~~comment on~~ the Seven Wise Men of the Twentieth Century -- Bertrand Russell would be on the list. Recently, he was a speaker at the Herald-Tribune Forum in New York. Now he ^{gives} ~~expresses his English and English~~ impressions of America. And the echo seems to say -- how wrong can a philosopher be?

Writing in the Manchester Guardian, Bertrand Russell indulges in satire about the Red scare in the United States -- which is a proper subject for satire. But here's what the philosopher says: "In Germany under Hitler, and in Russia under Stalin", he writes, "nobody ventured a political remark without first looking behind the door to make sure no one was listening. On my last visit to America, I found the same state of things there."

Now, where in America did he find anything like that? Not in your town. I'll bet.

He concludes by saying: "Any ~~But~~ Englishman going to America at the present time has a strange experience of seeing a population subject to a reign of terror and always obliged to think twice before giving utterance to any serious conviction."

You ^{/begin/}~~begin~~ to wonder -- maybe the philosopher was not in America at all, but in some other country. But, seriously - even satire, which is permitted to lampoon and exaggerate, should stick to some semblance of the fact.

HEARST

A story tonight states that Marion Davies has given up voting rights for stock in the Hearst Newspaper Empire.

After the death of the famous publisher, the word was that the actress, his long-time friend, had been left control of the Hearst newspapers. But now the announcement:- Marion Davies relinquishes all such rights.

The communique given out by Marion Davies includes the following:- Miss Davies has every faith in the intentions and abilities of Mr. Hearst's sons to ensure the continuity of Mr. Hearst's editorial policies. Miss Davies will continue to render service in her capacity as official consultant and advisor to the Hearst Corporation." The statement denies rumors of dissension between Marion Davies and the Hearst family.

FRANCHOT TONE

The romantic misadventures of Franchot Tone take a new twist. The ~~movie~~ ^{motion picture} actor arrested and put in jail -- for spitting in a lady's eye. Which sounds not so chivalrous -- even for the sophisticated kind of movie.

It happened at Ciro's, haunt of the Hollywood elite. The victim - Florabel Muir, a filmland columnist, who was at a table with her husband. It seems that, in her column she wrote a lot about that fracas a few weeks ago, when Franchot Tone was badly beaten up in a brawl over the affections of actress Barbara Payton. Since then, he has married Barbara -- and they were together in the shrine of movieland fashion.

According to the story, the actor went over to the table where Florabel sat with her husband, and made unfriendly remarks. In climax, he is quoted as saying: "I'm going to spit in your eye." And he did.

Which is a thing that should never happen to a lady --
certainly not to a lady
named Florabel.

So that's how another fight began -- with the columnist's husband lunging at the actor. But it wasn't much of a scrap - the waiters rushed in. Florable Muir, however, was also kicked in the shins -- we are told. She called the Police, and Tone was arrested - taken to jail.

Well, it's all hard to understand. I suppose it is permissible for a gentleman to say to a lady -- "Here's ~~the~~ mud in your eye." But that, ^{Nelson,} _{is} as far as it should go.