

LONDON (new lead) *B.T. - P. & S. Thursday, May 27, 1948.*

In ~~Whitehall~~ London, tonight, as Big Ben tolled midnight, a foreign office spokesman hurriedly assembled the reporters. He told them that British Foreign Minister Bevin had received a private and personal message from United Nations Secretary-General Trygve Lie. A message concerning the Palestine question. Bevin had replied, said the spokesman, telling Trygve Lie that His Majesty's government is doing its utmost to obtain a just peace in Palestine. And that London will keep on trying.

No word as to what Secretary-General Lie had written. ^{The} Foreign Office spokesman ^{added} ~~said~~ that Bevin does not want to betray ^{Trygve} Lie's confidence. He did reveal, however, that Trygve Lie told Bevin that he was ~~being~~ sending the message under what he described as "heavy pressure from various quarters." ~~And, said the Foreign Office spokesman, the message was of a different ~~message~~ character from~~

U N SUBSTITUTE

At Lake Success tonight the British delegate Sir Alexander Cadogan, proposed a four week "cease fire" period for the Holy Land - to go into effect at once. Arabs and Jews to stop bringing troops and arms to Palestine. The British delegate recommending that if both sides fail to obey, then his country to go along with us and the Russians; i.e. urge the United Nations to take punitive measures against both Arabs and Jews.

The British resolution took the other delegates completely by surprise. There had been no hint of the British making this move.

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At Lake Success today a spokesman for Israel accused The United Kingdom of being the villain in the whole affair, of fighting the war for the Arabs, of trying to use the U.N. to tie the hands of Israel. Cadogan replied with angry words. He said the Stern Gang had broken that short cease fire that was observed for a few hours in the Holy City last Monday;

and he blamed the Jews for the failure of a Red Cross attempt to arrange a truce with Abdullah.

Whereupon, Gromyko, the Russian delegate, proposed that the Security Council should get tough without delay and do something to end the fighting. Whereupon Cadogan surprised the delegates with the announcement that he had been instructed by London to inform the Security Council that the British are willing to stop all deliveries of war materials to the Arab nations -- if the Security Council decides on a general embargo affecting both sides. Thus he tossed the responsibility squarely into the lap of the Security Council.

He added that London would immediately withdraw twenty-one of the thirty seven British officers with the Arab Legion. He said ~~that~~ London had no authority over the other sixteen officers, including the picturesque Glubb Pasha, who are in Abdullah's private employ -- on the King's staff.

JERUSALEM

(The fighting in Jerusalem appears to be almost ~~near~~ over.) A late dispatch ^{tells how} ~~reports that~~ the last remaining Jewish defenses in the old city are a row of three-story concrete buildings. ~~They are~~ near the Hurva Synagogue. These buildings ^{now} are under point blank fire from the Arab guns, and one by one they are crumbling away. But ^{still} ~~there is~~ no sign of surrender. The soldiers of Haganah fighting to the end with a few machine guns and rifles, defying superior forces ^{that are} pounding them with artillery and mortars. (Five hundred Jewish soldiers ~~x~~ reported to be left in this last ditch stand.)

ADD JERUSALEM

Another report tells of a heavy battle between well-armed Jewish troops, and Egyptian forces, at Bab-El-Wad, situated on that vital

road that links the Holy City with Tel Aviv. - the old ~~Taffa~~ - Jerusalem highway.

This battle, described by correspondents as the ~~heaviest~~ ^{engagement} largest of the campaign up to date, ^{some} thousands of

troops involved on both sides. With Haganah in a strong position, ~~being~~ able to supply its lines from the Israeli capital.

ISRAEL

A news dispatch from Tel Aviv reports that the soldiers of Israel have accomplished something that previous reports from the Holy Land have overlooked. The newsmen lately have concentrated on the fighting in Jerusalem.

Israel's frontiers, with Lebanon and Syria to the north, have not been dented says a United Press correspondent, -- that frontier secure, everywhere. The story goes on to tell of (heavy fighting along that northern border; the Arabs attacking daily from the north and the east, with tanks. Although some of the frontier villages have changed hands ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ several times the Jews are holding their own.)

The Haganah soldiers are reported to be using Molotov cocktails against the tanks - bottles and cans filled with explosives, thrown under the tracks, the most vulnerable part of a tank. So many tanks crippled in this way that the Arabs are said to have just about given up, attacking along the borders of Syria and Lebanon.

RUSSIA

Soviet Ambassador ~~Alexander~~ Panyushkin is leaving for Moscow to talk with Premier Stalin about that eleven billion dollars the Soviet owes us on lend-lease.

Panyushkin called at the State Department today, where he had a long interview with under-Secretary of State Lovett. Afterwards he told reports ~~he was~~ ^{and he is} off

to Moscow - ~~that he wouldn't~~ ^{but won't} be away long. He and Lovett had talked of nothing but lend-lease, ~~he~~ said. - Well,

we've been trying to get that eleven billion dollars, or some of it, from the Russians, for a long time. But

they won't put the cash on the barrelhead. However, ~~Uncle~~ ^{Sam} hasn't ~~been~~ ^{all} given up hope. Our State Department says we're

going to keep on trying, particularly now in view of that Russian "peace offensive." ^{TP} Said a State Department official: "If the Russians really want to do business, let them show it. Let them sit down to serious discussions and settlement of the lend-lease account."

And what else did Soviet Ambassador Panyushkin say to the newsmen? He gave them an opinion rare for a Russian diplomat. He said that Russia believes

the lend-lease negotiations must be concluded. But he didn't say the Soviets wanted to settle the bill and pay the eleven billion dollars. That's up to Uncle Joe.

KOREA

A news dispatch from Seoul, Korea. It indicates that our relations with the Soviets are not improving. In fact just the opposite. General Hodge, today told his civilian personnel that the most critical days, for us, in Korea lie just ahead. He added that we are not quitting. Then he went on to say that he has streamlined the American occupation force, making it more mobile in case Washington someday does tell him to come home.

About that incident yesterday. Carl Smith of Huntington, Virginia, was inspecting rice fields along the Soviet-American border. Suddenly there was a burst of machine gun fire. Two bullets hit Smith. When they got him to a hospital, he told how he and his party were standing some yards from the border between the American and the Soviet Zones. They saw a party of North Korean Police on the other side, but took no notice, - just went on looking at the rice. Then came the burst of machine gun fire. The Americans ran for safety. And it was while they were zigzagging up a hill, hoping to put the gunner off his aim, that the American was hit twice.

SOUTH AFRICA

(A surprise from South Africa! Field Marshal Jan Christian Smuts, Prime Minister, has been defeated at the polls. This means that Smuts must resign as Premier. A position he has held since Nineteen Thirty-Nine.) Smuts, the most revered figure in the Union, ousted by the South African voters. His defeat so complete that the elder statesman has even lost his constituency of Standerton, in the Transvaal, the former Dutch-Boer territory, which he has represented through the greater part of his political career.

And what is the reason for the defeat of the great South African, who was Minister of Defense in World War One and Prime Minister and Defense Minister during the Second World War? The news dispatch from Capetown says that South Africa's distinguished elder statesman may have lost thousands of votes among Englishmen and ex-soldiers, because he recognized the state of Israel just two days before the election. But, on the eve of the polls, the Nationalist Party, opposing the Prime Minister, promised that the decision to recognize Israel would not be rescinded.

COMMUNISTS

In Washington, the Senate Judiciary Committee, today began its hearing on the Mundt-Nixon Bill -- the measure to control American Communists and fellow travelers - the bill the House recently passed.

One of the first witnesses, Paul Griffith, former Commander of the American Legion, today told the Committee he has proof that American Communists are now raising five hundred thousand dollars as a slush fund to fight the bill. Griffith added that every fellow traveler and Communist stooge is joining in the outcry against it.

~~Former N.R.A. chief, Attorney Donald Richberg warned Congress against trying to control public thought by legislation. At the same time he said that he considers the bill constitutional; and, that it does protect innocent people who might be wrongly accused of being Reds.~~

~~The next to take the floor was Congressman Leo Isaacson of New York, the man who entered Congress~~

last February with the support of the Wallace Third Party. Isaacson told the lawmakers that the Mundt-Nixon Bill is an attempt to stifle the Third Party, the Wallace Party. He delivered a passionate tirade against the bill.

Committee Chairman Wiley banged the gavel - called for order and said to Isaacson --

"Are you a Communist?"

Replied Isaacson: "I believe in the American form of government" Then he went on: "because I believe in and, because I love that government, I am here opposing the bill."

"You are not answering my question," thundered the Republican from Wisconsin. "Do you want the Communists to take over this country?" His voice reverberated through the Committee Room, leaving one of those tense silences.

"No" shouted Isaacson, "I am not. I am not a Communist;" and, he added a differential "Sir".

The young man from the Bronx then went on to tell the Committee that he felt the Mundt-Nixon Bill was merely an administration attempt to make public thought conform with its beliefs.

How did it end? Oh, on a friendly note - a Senatorial compliment for the Congressman. When Isaacson was about to leave the witness chair, Senator Wiley smilingly observed that the New York Congressman appeared to be a young man of great ability. And with a twinkle in his eye, he added: "Young man, keep your eyes and nose open to these Communist threats."

LABOR

~~Good news on the labor front. General~~

General
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Motors and the C I O ~~have~~ ^{today} agreed on a cost-of-living

wage increase. ~~today~~ This news ^{was} quickly followed by

an announcement by General Electric saying it will

resume discussions with its employees on the wage

question. ~~This decision prompted by the General~~

~~Motors settlement.~~ And tonight we learn there are

hopes for a quick settlement of the ~~the~~ ^{the} sixteen-day-

old Chrysler Corporation strike.

SUBSTITUTE ECCLES

Marriner Eccles told President Truman by letter today to forget his promise to make Eccles Vice-Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board. ^{Mr.} Truman ousted Eccles from the chairmanship of the Board four months ago, naming Republican Banker Thomas McCabe of Philadelphia to succeed him. Mr. Truman asked Eccles to remain on the board as Vice-Chairman and Eccles accepted, but ^{Pres.} Truman never actually nominated him for the job.

Now Eccles says he is tired of waiting for the President ~~to~~ to act. "Four months have elapsed, he says in his letter to the President, "since you first asked me to accept the Vice-Chairmanship. Under these circumstances and in view of other developments I wish to withdraw my name from any further consideration." ^R Meanwhile Washington is asking what about those other developments that have caused Eccles to withdraw his candidacy from this important position.

STATELESS

In Paris tonight, a young man who until yesterday was an American citizen, is in a dingy back street hotel, wondering how he can get to Germany, the country he says he wants to help rebuild, because he helped destroy it. ^R Gary Davis, an American bomber pilot during the war, and subsequently a Broadway actor, renounced his American citizenship in Paris yesterday.

He signed a legal document stating ^{that he} ~~he is~~ no longer ^{is} an ~~any~~ American, because he says he believes in world government. And he wants to be a citizen of the world.

~~Now~~ ^{he goes on, it's} With him, ~~he says, is~~ a question of world citizenship ~~xxx~~ or world war. ^{So} Now he's a man without a country.

~~I was curious to know just what can~~

^{at what} happen to an American who renounces his citizenship? Has he any civil rights in the country where he left off being an American? Can he travel? And what happens to him if he is sick or becomes a public charge? ~~so~~ I called up our State Department ^{and} asked ~~them~~ there if an ex-American citizen ^{can} ~~could~~ change his mind, ^{become an} ~~and come back~~

[^] American again? [^] Yes, I was told, if he first [^] ~~to Uncle Sam if he wanted to.~~

can qualify for a visa as an alien and then become naturalized according to our laws. But, how to do that? Our immigration laws require certain qualifications which an ex-American could not fulfill.

For a stateless person has no rights. He is an alien in any land, with no government to protect him. He must stay where he is, on the sufferance of the country.

But, suppose no one wants him? Can he be deported? Where could he go, having no country, was the reply I received from the State Department.

What if he becomes a public charge, unable to work, with no means of a livelihood.

The answer is grim. He might be made to work at forced labor - to earn his food. And some governments have been known to put their stateless "visitors" in detention camps, so no one knows what happens to them.

As for the world citizenship that young Davis wants, it doesn't exist, not yet. ~~World citizen,~~
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SKELETON

Have you ever found a needle in a haystack? Have you ever seen a horse of another color? Have you ever buried a hatchet? Have you ever scraped the bottom of a barrel? Did you ever find a skeleton in your closet?

The Paris police did, today. A real skeleton. When they arrested burglar Andre Martin in his home, today, they found the ~~man~~ bones of his mother in his closet. Andre had been keeping them there since she died, shortly after the war. In fact he had been making a modest profit by so doing. Collecting his mother's old-age pension, regularly.

MACARTHUR

~~Here's the latest on MacArthur.~~ The Senate Appropriations Committee today voted seventeen to two to extend a formal request to General MacArthur to return, ~~to this country~~ and testify on our ~~money~~ needs in the Far East.

Shortly after, the committee announced President Truman told newsmen at his press conference that he wanted to see MacArthur home - to testify, that is. The President revealed that he had invited the General to come to the United States several times, but the Allied Commander in Japan has ~~always~~ always said he was too busy. Now it looks as if MacArthur is really coming.

Army Secretary Kenneth Royall immediately cabled the Committee's request, with June Second or Third suggested as a convenient date for MacArthur's arrival. The General invited to bring his wife and son along. Royall's cable to Tokyo told the General all arrangements would be made to meet him in San Francisco, with such accommodations as MacArthur may desire for his family and himself in Washington during his stay. *And now back to you, Nelson.*