

I wonder if you'll agree with me on this - a selection of the most important dispatch on the news wire today? Going through dozens of items, ~~today~~, this is the one that caught my attention the most.

A terse bulletin from the Air Force, announcing the creation of a new unit. Called - "The First Pilotless Light Bomber Squadron." Introducing a new type of plane - the B-61 "Matador." The Air Force establishing - its first guided missile squadron!

I don't know why they picked ^{the} Spanish bullfight name of "Matador" - except that maybe the word has a ringing sound. Anyway, that B-61 is a bomber with no accommodation whatever for a pilot. Even in test flights, it never had a ~~■~~ pilot! Strictly a guided missile.

Hitherto, we've had pilotless planes, like the Drones used for observation in tests of atomic bomb explosions - but they've been radio guided versions of ordinary planes, released from bombers in

the air. But the Matador is altogether different - a ^{and rocket-propelled} jet plane that looks like a smaller version of a medium bomber, but is faster than any jet flown by a pilot.

The B-61 takes off from the ground, and flies automatically to its target - with an atomic bomb for use against enemy troops in battle. Which is in line with what we've been hearing about the development of tactical atomic weapons - smaller kinds, as compared with giant A-bombs for long range devastation of major targets.

There ~~was~~ one difficulty in the use of smaller atomic bombs in battle. If dropped by a plane, would the plane be able to get away from the atomic blast? Maybe not - and it looked as if they might have to call for volunteer suicide pilots, something like the Japanese kami-kazis in the Second World War.

But now the B-61 Matador answers that question. The plane might be destroyed by the

explosion of its own atomic bomb - but, it has no pilot. At the same time, it is indicated that the Matador might well survive the blast, and fly back to its own base, under radio guidance.

Today's Air Force announcement is definite on one point. The new guided missile is not in the research stage. It is what they call "operational." That is, ready for combat. Hence the "First Pilotless Light Bomber Squadron." That outfit will be based in Florida - the Banana River Guided Missile Station! There they begin practical training - in the use of the Matador.

Recently, ^{the} President Truman ~~rather~~ mysteriously spoke about "fantastic new weapons" - and this is one. Ushering in a new era, a guided missile era. So that's our selection for the dispatch of the day - and I'll bet you agree.

CHEMISTS - FOLLOW GUIDED MISSILES

Now let's go on to - the most remarkable news conference ever held. That's what it's called by reporters who worked the stunt. At the New York Conference of the American Chemical Society, they kidnapped and shanghaied six Nobel Prize winners - gathering them in one hotel room.

(The scientists, representing six different nations, were bombarded with questions. Such as - what chemistry can do for the world food supply. The Science reporters were told that, right now, farmland uses only one percent of the energy it receives in the form of sunlight, and this could be pushed up - for immense increase of the world's food.

But) the exchange of question and answer that catches the eye particularly is one about - chemistry and world peace.

A newsman asked: "What can science do to man, ~~essentially~~ chemically, to make him a more peaceful creature?"

CHEMISTS - FOLLOW GUIDED MISSILES - 2

Sir Robert Robinson, British Nobel Prize winner, said he knows of no chemical process that could make the human being less belligerent.

Whereupon Dr. Adolf Butenandt of Germany gave a warning. He said there might be danger in an attempt to change human chemistry to make mankind more peaceful. It might work the other way round, and make things worse than they are now.

Which certainly would be ironic - if they tried chemistry, and only ~~not~~ succeeded in making man more warlike! Imagine the battles and campaigns! Or rather - it's too painful to imagine.

KOREA

In Korea, the talk of the truce is drowned out by the roar of battle. Today the conflict rose to a greater violence than at any time since the Armistice ^{negotiations} ~~talks~~ began. North of the Iron Triangle U.S. Marines and Allied infantry drove the Chinese and ~~North~~ Korean Reds from a series of strategic ^{hills} ~~hills~~ ~~which they did in the face of obstinate resistance~~. Weapons of every sort were turned on ^{the} Communists - tank fire at close range, barrages of exploding rockets, blazing jellied gasoline, hand-grenades, everything right down to bayonets.

A dispatch from the front states that a record number of planes took part in the assault, giving the closest kind of support to the ground forces - all in the deadly work of routing the Reds out of strong points and fortified caves. The advance went on in the heaviest fighting since the truce talks began.

These echoed rather feebly today, when the Chinese Red Radio stated that negotiations could be resumed, if Supreme Commander General Ridgway would do something serious

about the alleged violations of neutrality at Kaesong.

There's no indication that Ridgway intends to back down at all. His answer seems to be the offensive - in full blast today.

SENATE FOLLOW KOREA

The Senate has voted sixty billion dollars for the armed forces of this nation. At the last minute, the Senators put through a slash of two and a half per cent, for economy. That represents a billion and a half less than the sum the President wanted. Even so, it's a record-breaker, the largest armament bill ever passed in peacetime. The measure goes to the House - where the Congressmen have approved a somewhat lower figure.

(This has not yet been released.
I will phone when it is, any minute.)
Ann

BIG_THREE

The Peace Treaty with Japan is being followed quickly by arrangements for a similar pact with Western Germany. Tonight in Washington, where the ministers of the Big Three are gathered, an announcement was made that the terms have been concluded for what is called -- a "peace contract." Not a treaty apparently, but something less formal -- though meaning the same thing. Secretary of State Acheson, British Foreign Secretary Morrison and French Foreign Minister Schuman had a formal conference today and came to a mutually satisfactory conclusion for a "peace contract" to give Western Germany its independence and to prepare for German participation in the Armed Forces of Europe.

DEWEY

Governor Dewey of New York had his conference with President Truman today - they talked for forty minutes. The White House invited the New York Governor to drop in and present his views - following his forty-five thousand mile tour of the Pacific. We hear that Tom Dewey suggested "military alliances" with ^{those}~~these~~ nations of the Far East, which may be next on the list of Soviet ambition. Upon leaving the White House, the Governor said that President Truman was - "certainly cordial."

Later on, Governor Dewey predicted that General Eisenhower would be the Republican candidate for President ~~that he might be appointed Secretary of State, if Dean Acheson~~ next year.

~~resigns. Previously, Dewey had ridiculed the report - and today he said that no such subject had come up in his talk with the President.~~

~~Later on came a Truman comment.~~) At a news conference this afternoon, the President declared that Dean Acheson will remain Secretary of State - "as long as I am President." He authorized the reporters to use the direct quotes - "as

long as I am President." To which he added - "that may be a good while yet." Which was out of quotes - sounding as if it might have third term implications. The President tried to pass it off - but the newsmen jumped ^{at} the seeming implication. He wouldn't discuss the issue, and amended the statement to read that Acheson would remain Secretary of State until the end of the present Truman term.

FIGHT

Today brings an uproar, because of the Robinson-Turpin prizefight last night. Not because of the way it ended - although there ^{is some} British opinion that the referee should not have stopped the bout. To which I can only say that I was there, and the British boxer looked helpless. *If you want to see how helpless he was be sure and see the films - in slow-motion.*

The uproar today was about the ban on radio and television, with a chorus of complaints from owners of sets - who would like to have tuned in on the fight. Which was limited to theatre television. A United Press survey reveals that, in thirteen theatres in eleven cities, some thirty-three thousand people paid to see the middle-weight championship match. Many other thousands were turned away. Which might indicate an era of theatre television for big-time sports events.

But what about the public with home sets? In Cleveland, a league of T.V. owners announces a boycott of the theatre that presented the fight. In Washington, Congressman Sutton of Tennessee demands an investigation by a congressional committee, saying that home radio and ~~television~~ television should not be

deprived of a major sports event. "This," declares the Congressman, "is a right that should not be denied the taxpaying public of America." Which raises an interesting point: - ^{What} ~~the~~ right ^{have the} ~~of~~ radio and television public to get the entertainment free.

(The promoters who staged the ^{affair} ~~event~~ take another view. They say they tried to sell the radio and television rights, but no sponsor would put up the money required. Because it was an open air bout, the weather might force a postponement. ^{And} They say they have the right to televise to paying audiences in theatres.)

ROCKEFELLER

Tonight we have a financial report from the Rockefeller Foundation - with figures for the period of a year. The Foundation gave away a total of eleven million two hundred and forty-eight thousand dollars. Which was at the rate of nearly thirty-one thousand dollars a day for the twelve month ~~per~~ period.

A major triumph is reported - malaria wiped out on the Italian island of Sardinia. For centuries, malaria has been a scourge in Mediterranean countries - Sardinia in particular. So here's the record. In Nineteen Forty-six the island had ten thousand cases of dangerous malaria. Today, not one! - the disease obliterated!

All of which recalls a story - how the Rockefeller Foundation began. (Related ^{to me} by Julian Street, Jr., who some time back was associated with Nelson Rockefeller, and had this account from him. How - some forty years ago, the original John D. Rockefeller ^{the elder} grew concerned about the size of the fortune he had built. The millions piling up - and there was

public hostility. So the historic magnate of oil decided - it was time to get rid of some of those millions. But how? He thought of - medicine, the healing of human ills.

So he called in a group of top medical scientists, and put before them the following problem. John D. (Rockefeller was always practical, and so was the problem. He) said he'd put up several millions, provided they could present a disease that had three characteristics. (Firstly) - it must be a malady, serious and important. (Secondly) - it must be one that could be understood by people at large, no incomprehensible thing of esoteric science. (Thirdly) - there must be good prospects of working out a cure.

The doctors listened - millions for research. Soon afterward, they came up with the answer - hookworm. That was a disease ravaging Southern States, caused by a kind of parasite, producing lethargy, lack of energy, lassitude.

So that was the deal - and, in due course of time, hookworm was in the news. Medical research - and a campaign

of cure which obliterated the malady.

Such was the beginning of the Rockefeller Foundation - and now we can go on to another figure in today's dispatch. Since Nineteen Thirteen, the Foundation has given away more than one hundred and ninety-seven million ~~and~~ five hundred thousand dollars.

BANKER

In Michigan, the most successful banker went out of business today. This top ranking financier is a woman, Miss Lydia Welsch; and the oddity is - that her ^{(crown of success} ~~coming success~~ comes, as she goes out of business. ^P For fifteen years, Lydia Welsch has been running the bank at Port Hope, Michigan. No giant financial institution - just a small country town affair. A private bank - and therefore immune from government regulation. Now, however, there's a Michigan law putting private banks out of existence - while enabling them to obtain a state charter. Which would put them under government regulation.

That's what Banker Lydia Welsch objects to. "We run this bank like a woman runs a house," she said today. "And, if anybody could mess up a house, it would be the government."

^P With that feminine view, she decided to go out of business - and today started paying off the depositors. ~~The bank has~~ Four hundred and ninety-seven thousand dollars on deposit, and ~~this is~~ ^{it's} being handed out in cash.

~~All of which rocks the establishment of the State~~
~~The State~~ →

the State Banking Commissioner, Maurice Eveland, says he's amazed - at the ability of a bank to liquidate like that. Cash on the line.

To which he adds: "If I had to pick the state's most successful banker, the honor would go to Miss Welsch."

She, meanwhile, announces her plans for the future.

"I'm quitting. I'm going home and sit in my rocking chair," says she. So there you have a picture - the old family rocker.

Back and forth, back and forth - Michigan's most successful banker.

Back and forth! Back and forth - to you, Nelson.