

C.N. - P. & A. Thursday, June 9, 1949.

Discussions to finally end the Soviet blockade of Berlin, are to be held immediately -- in Berlin, on the spot. So it was decided today at the Big Four Meeting in Paris -- each of the four foreign ministers to send a separate letter to his military commander in Berlin, ordering him, the military commander, to reach an agreement -- by Monday.

Today's meeting of the Big Four, in the pink palace, was the longest ~~held~~ yet - four-hours-and-forty minutes. Most of the time - a dreary deadlock. Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky refusing to agree to a demand by Dean Acheson that the Big Four issue the order, to their commanders for the blockade of Berlin to be ended on Monday -- as Russia had promised.

Vishinsky wouldn't hear of it - not unless the Soviet marks be the only legal currency in Berlin. So Dean Acheson remarked that the meeting was wasting its time discussing Germany any further, and he suggested taking up the last item on the conference program - the Austrian Treaty.

CONFERENCE . . . 2

At which, Vishinsky sprang a surprise -- with a smile. After having insisted all day that the Berlin blockade did not exist -- and never had existed he said -- he reversed his decision and agreed in principle to an immediate settlement of the Berlin blockade, by the military commanders in Berlin. But, to gain himself a point -- he insisted that each power send separate instructions to its own commander -- instead of the Big Four Conference sending a blanket order.

So the letters are to be sent to Berlin -- right away; the American, British, French and Soviet military commanders ordered to sit down together -- but an end to the intolerable Soviet blockade.

BERLIN STRIKE

Meanwhile In Berlin today, American Military Headquarters upheld the right of German Railroad workers -- to maintain orderly picket lines, while on strike. The strikers blockaded the office of the Soviet controlled railroad, ~~that's~~ in the American Sector. The ~~whole~~ building surrounded by a double line of pickets; -- ~~and~~ the day staff of German workers not allowed to go in.

Whereupon, the Russian troop commander called up General Frank Howley, and asked him to have what the Russian described as, "That mob of hoodlums" driven away.

Gen. Howley
But ~~our man~~ said no. The pickets could stay.

But he would see that the strikers didn't bother people going in, or coming out of the building. *Then* To ensure

peaceful picketing - the American Commander sent some Western German Police to open the picket line, and ~~thus~~ raise the siege of the building, which contained some mighty hungry Russians. The strikers *were seizing* ~~having grabbed~~ all the food ~~that was~~ being sent in to them *Russians.*

So tonight, * the railroad strike goes into its nineteenth day, the non-Communist railroad workers are picketing their Soviet bosses - with our side keeping a weather eye on the situation.

FOREIGN AID

E.R.P. Administrator Paul Hoffman says he'll quit as head of the European Recovery Program -- unless Congress gives him enough money to do the job properly. Today Hoffman told the Senate Appropriations Committee that a further cut in foreign aid funds would wreck the Marshall Plan. Also, that if our help-to-Europe-program fails, we'll face a federal deficit. A deficit so high, he told the lawmakers, that "You'll hate to face it."

The economy group in the Senate Committee wants to cut as much as a Billion Dollars from the Marshall Plan appropriations -- to reduce the E.C.A. money even more than the House. To which Hoffman objects strongly. After leaving the Committee, he told reporters that he thinks the administration figure of four billion for nineteen fifty is about the bottom dime -- the least we can put up in order to give our foreign aid program a reasonable chance of success.

He added that, if after a fair trial, he finds the program cannot succeed, the only honest

thing to do will be to give it to somebody else who
thinks he can do the job. ⁷ Some hero, he went on, -
who thinks he could handle the program with less
money, might come along. ~~And, he concluded, such a~~
~~man is welcome to try.~~

DEFENSE ECONOMY

How long are we going ^{to continue} ~~on~~ spending between Fifteen and Sixteen Billion Dollars a year on our Armed Forces? The Senate Armed Services Committee is going to ask Defense Secretary Louis Johnson how much his military program will cost us, the taxpayers, during the coming fiscal year -- and how much in the future.

Senator ^S ~~Harry~~ Byrd of Virginia and ~~Leverett~~ Saltonstall of Massachusetts, reminded the Committee today, that our military spending in this current fiscal year ~~has~~ ^{has} already topped President Truman's defense budget allowance of Fifteen Billion Dollars. So, Defense Secretary Johnson will get a letter from Committee Chairman ^{Sen.} ~~Walter~~ Tydings, asking for an ^{ex/} exact accounting for the fiscal year of Nineteen Fifty.

Also, the exact costs of each individual military program -- ^{army, navy, air} -- the lawmakers wanting detailed information -- so they can decide on what to approve, and what to lay aside -- ^{if they can - some of} to save the taxpayer's money.

ADD DEFENSE ECONOMY

Here's the latest on the Armed Services pay hike. They are likely to get it. The House Committee by a vote of twenty-six to one, today approved a compromise bill, - to give more pay for all ranks. Three percent for the enlisted man, thirty-seven percent for - Generals. A little extra incentive for each G I to hitch his ambition to that single star of a ~~Big~~ Brigadier General - rise from the ranks.

CHINA

The Chinese Nationalist Government

apparently has a secret plan to defend Western China -- the remnants of the Chiang Kai-Shek dynasty. Today a special emissary of Chinese President Li called at the State Department, to give ^{us the} exact details of the defense plan. ~~which has the~~ ^{It is said to have the enthusiastic} approval of former Secretary of State ~~George Marshall, and which Chinese Ambassador Wellington Kee wants to outline to President Truman.~~

Meanwhile, from the Island of Formosa we hear that the Nationalist Government wants to establish a model Chinese state on the ^{island} Island. K. S. Wu, ~~the~~ former Mayor of Shanghai, ^{hopes} ~~wants~~ to develop Formosa's trade, and for this he asks ^{that} ~~that~~ Fifty-Four Million of our E.C.A. funds ~~to~~ be transferred to Formosa -- to help ~~her~~ build the model republic; on an area about the size of the State of Maryland.

As for the Nationalist plan to defend China, Dr. Kan, the Chinese Emissary,, says it can be carried out with -- or without American help.

BUDENZ

, A Senate sub-judiciary committee warned today that Communist Gerhart Eisler may have been ordered back to Europe - by Moscow. Called back to help train new Red Spies -- and organize a propaganda campaign against the United States.

This from Louis Budenz, who deserted Communism to rejoin the Catholic church. Budenz likened Eisler's flight to that of Communist Peters, who fled this country and is now in Hungary -- working there for the Red government. Budenz went on to say that we can expect a lot more trained Reds over here.

ATOMIC

An Atomic Energy employee, the man identified as Case A, tonight asked the Joint Atomic Energy Committee for a public hearing. Case A, was suspended from his work at an atomic plant because of anonymous charges made in a letter. Which charges were later withdrawn. His case was brought out by Senator ~~Bert~~ Hickenlooper-- to prove charges of mismanagement against Atomic Energy Commission Chairman ~~David~~ Lilienthal. Now Case A claims he has suffered by the mention of his case. Every one in Washington knows who he is -- so he wants to be heard in public -- have the opportunity to defend himself.

CRASH

An air crash -- at Barksdale Field, Louisiana.

A five-hundred-mile-an-hour B-45, the fastest bomber in the world, crashing as it made a landing, ~~and burning.~~

Of the three ~~men~~ aboard, two ^{were} killed, ^{the third} ~~one seriously~~ injured. An eye witness says that the giant Jet Bomber

may have been on fire before it crashed. That it came

down ~~on the airfield~~ in a steep bank, with smoke ^{ing.} ~~pouring~~

~~from its inside.~~

ISRAELI MINISTER

King George the Sixth of England has decided to over-ride established custom, and receive the Israeli minister to Britain -- in Buckingham Palace. And this, we are told may put ~~Britains~~ Foreign Minister Bevin in some kind of a political quandary -- because the British Government ^{hasnt yet} ~~is not~~ formally recognized ~~the~~ ~~State of~~ Israel. Under ~~the~~ strict protocol of international law, the King should not receive a representative of a state ^{that hasnt been} ~~not~~ fully recognized by his government.

But his Majesty's mind is made up, and any day now, Mordecai Eliash, representing the government of Israel, will be formally welcomed to the royal presence -- at Buckingham Palace.

GUARD FOLLOW ISRAELI MINISTER

Also in London, British tradition triumphed over Socialism and austerity at today's trooping of the colors -- to celebrate the King's birthday. The Brigade of Guards turned out in full dress -- in uniforms costing more than a thousand dollars each - scarlet tunics, tall helmets of bearskins. With the horse guards, and the life guards - in their golden plumed helmets, silver breast plates -- and white doeskin riding breeches. Each man on a specially bred coal-black charger -- the first full dress celebration of the King's birthday since before the war.

Last year's ceremony was postponed, because of rain; and those stunning uniforms are not worn in the rain, for they are the last that will be issued to the royal troops, ever -- so they say.

Previously, the austerity-minded Labor Government ruled against the use of these costly ceremonial outfits. But, that caused a storm of protest. Every Britisher wanted to see the guards in their brilliant plumage. So, as the uniforms were there in storage --

GUARD FOLLOW ISRAELI MINISTER2

in mothballs -- the government decided they might as well be used, while they last. But -- no renewals, no new scarlet togs for the King's guard.

Today the sky over London was overcast, so everyone was anxious, including King George. Worrying lest a sudden shower ruin a million dollars' worth of uniforms and bearskin shakos.

BASEBALL

The Tokyo newspapers are alarmed at the language used at Nipponese baseball games. Baseball being the most popular Japanese sport, always drawing huge crowds. The Nip baseball writers are saying that the Tokyo fans are much too exuberant, too voluble, and too lax in their manner at games.

In particular, they are objecting to fans shouting "bak-ayaro!" at the players. That's terrible, they say. In fact it's militaristic. Whoever shouts "bak-ayaro" must want war again. So they warn the fans to stop shouting "bak-ayaro" - or there'll be another war.

What does bak-ayaro mean? It means idiot. And what does bak-ayaro have to do with war? The term idiot? Well, there does seem to be a connection between idiocy and war.

LABOR

President Truman had a word - three words - for John L. Lewis, today. He called the ~~White~~ United Mine Workers leader -- a headline hunter. This at his press conference, when the President was asked if next week's shut-down of the soft coal mines might change his opinion about repealing the Taft-Hartley Law. No, said Mr. Truman, no change. Nor would he say whether he thought the government had ~~enough~~ sufficient power either under the Taft-Hartley Law or in the proposed Administration Labor Bill, to deal with such a threat as this. That, said the President, will have to wait until the shut-down goes into effect.

MANEUVERS

The European Western Union Nations will try out their defenses -- with air and naval maneuvers, at the end of this month. These said to be the largest in history -- with the U. S. Air Force giving a ~~helping~~ hand to the sea and air power of Britain, France, Belgium and Holland.

The ^{al} maneuvers ~~are~~ to test Field Marshall Montgomery's secret defense system. ^{Monty the} ~~key~~ supreme commander of the Western ~~Union~~ Forces. The first part of the mock war ^{will include} a massive air attack on industrial Britain by American Superfortresses, R.A.F. heavy bombers, and units of the French Air Force. British, Belgian and Dutch fighters will ~~help~~ defend Britain's industrial centers.

And more than a Hundred fleet units, aircraft carriers, mine sweepers and submarines will be used -- to test the ~~islands~~ sea defenses, -- to find out how best to keep Western Europe's supply-routes open ~~now~~ if Russia's submarine fleet should ever try to cut them. The Soviets are said to have built a

MANEUVERS...2

huge fleet of under-water craft. ^{AP} ~~And so~~ The Western
Union Powers ~~are~~ taking no chances. First, the air
maneuvers. ~~and~~ Then a mock naval war. With special
emphasis on - submarine defense.

BALLOON

It may sound rather far-fetched to store grain in a barrage balloon, but that's what's happening in Cleveland, Ohio - barrage balloons stuffed with grain. This bright idea was thought up by Jack Berger - himself a bag merchant -- much smaller bags. Jack bought three ~~xxx~~ thousand surplus barrage balloons from Uncle Sam - to use for aerial advertising.

But, Uncle Sam said no, he mustn't do that. To make sure the balloons were not used for flying billboards, the gas valves were removed before delivery. Whereupon Jack Berger found himself with a whole flock of sky-going white elephants - barrage balloons, that wouldn't blow up, because they had no valves. It looked like Jack was stuck!

Then, the bright idea! With a bumper wheat crop on our hands why ~~nt~~ not fill 'em full of kernels -- spelled with a k. Bagman Berger hit on the idea of ~~nt~~ using them for storing grain, on farms.

At Fairport, Ohio, he tried it out. And
it worked. Two thousand, four hundred bushels
stuffed into one ex-gas bag. Weather-proof too.
And easy to fill. Each looking like a giant squash.

Nelson,
So, [^]if you have a surplus of wheat, ^{on your farm,} put [^]

it in a balloon!