

PALESTINE

P. J. Sunoco. Friday, May 3, 1946.

In Jerusalem, the old city, ~~the inner town~~,
A famous wall -- the Walls of Jerusalem.
is surrounded by a wall. Outside of the wall lies
the more modern part of Jerusalem. Today, in the old
city, there was a wild outbreak of Arabs. At noon,
the Mosques were thronged with Moslems -- for their
-- including the great Mosque of Omar.
midday prayers. When the crowds emerged, a mob of
^{some} of fifteen thousand formed and ^{then} staged a disorderly
march -- a protest demonstration against the
recommendations made by the joint Anglo-American
Committee. They shouted in anger against the proposal
that a hundred thousand Jews be admitted into the
Holy Land at once. The Arabs yelled -- "Down with
the Americans and British." They screamed -- "Shame
on Truman and Attlee."

Their intention was to go storming from ~~the~~
the old city to the new. So they streamed to the
wall, the Damascus Gate. That's one of the historic
gates in the ancient wall around the old city. The
British authorities were on the alert -- determined
to keep the angry swarm of Arabs from getting into

the modern part of Jerusalem -- where they might go rioting against Jews and Christians.

British Troops, at the approach of the mob, slammed shut the Damascus Gate -- the ^{huge} old iron door. Stopped in this ~~fm~~ fashion, the fifteen thousand Arabs staged a wild outbreak. They tried to storm the Damascus Gate -- beyond which British Troops stood with fixed bayonets and bristling guns at barbed wire barricades. The Arabs screamed their wild epithets -- "Down with the Americans and British! Shame on Truman and Attlee!" ^{they shouted as they} ~~They~~ beat frantically on the gate with their bare fists. They tried to climb the wall. Some got to the top, and hurled stones at the lines of British Troops on the other side -- soldiers who stood impassive, waiting.

The British sent runners at top speed to close the four ~~xxxx~~ other gates of the old wall of Jerusalem. Herod's Gate, near the Biblical Tomb of Absalom; ~~Jaffa Gate, leading to the wailing~~

- Facing the Mount of Olives, & the Garden of Gethsemane;

the Zion Gate; St. Stephen Gate, not far from the Garden of Gethsemane. And the Jaffa Gate, the great western gate which is the most famous of all -- the gate through which ~~Abi~~ Allenby made his entry after he drove out the Turks.

This trouble inside Jerusalem was the most dramatic event in connection with today's widespread Mohammedan protest all over Palestine. The general strike of Moslems in the Holy Land, called by the Arab Committee was complete. In Jerusalem, everything run by Mohammedans, was shut down, stores, transportation, factories -- and so it was in other cities of Palestine -- Nazareth, Acre, Nablus, Jaffa, Haifa, Hebron, ~~Ex~~ Gaza, -- all the way from Dan to Beersheba, all were dead cities today, everything shut down. It is estimated that a million Moslems were in the general strike, which lasted from sunrise to sunset. Then after, dark, things came to life again.

Arab publications published inflammatory

articles. And -- significantly, they made appeals to Soviet Russia. Arab newspapers demanded the Moslems in Palestine seek the aid of the Soviets. One paper put it in these words: "We shall fight →

this democratic despotism and adopt any line securing our safety -- whether this brings us the Russians or the Devil."

The Moslem clamor for a Holy War against the proposals for Jewish immigration continues, and today one Mohammedan is quoted as making an astonishing threat against the Jews in Palestine. United Press Correspondent Elia^S~~S~~_A Simon quotes an Arab Sheik as declaring that the Moslems were prepared to destroy Jewish cornfields and granneries --- burn them out. How? By tying flaming torches to the tails of jackals and driving the jackals into the grain fields, said that Sheik of the Desert. Which would be something -- ~~ix~~ imagine the jackals of Palestine scurrying along with lighted torches tied to their tails. Allah be merciful!

LAGUARDIA

The world agency called UNRRA has to do with shortages -- food being short in the ~~20~~ countries threatened by famine. In UNRRA, itself -- tempers are short.

That was illustrated in Washington today, when Director LaGuardia stormed out of an UNRRA Meeting. When he was Mayor of New York, LaGuardia was known as -- Fiery LaGuardia. He still is fiery.

What irked him today was that he was to have met the heads of the combined American-British-Canadian Food Board -- the American Representative being Secretary of Agriculture Anderson. However, the top men did ⁿot show up. Instead, they sent subordinates. These presented a statement about grain, but LaGuardia stalked indignantly out of the room, saying -- that the food board was trifling with him, and he refused to be kicked around.

Well, the shortage of food is bad enough, without a shortage of temper.

COAL

The Government has ordered another cut in railroad passenger service, the second. Today the Office of Defense Transportation notified all coal burning railroads that, after May fifteenth, they will be permitted to carry only half the passenger traffic ~~that~~ they handled on April First -- when the coal strike began. The cut is, of course, because of the dwindling supplies of coal -- the strike causing about two million tons a day.

Meanwhile, there's no sign of a break in the strike, which now has lasted for thirty-three days. There was another conference today between Union President John L. Lewis and Representatives of the coal companies -- but no sign ^{of them making} ~~that they made~~ any progress toward a settlement.

ALCATRAZ

The Marines, this afternoon, were firing at Alcatraz with mortars. They were lobbing shells into one corner of the third floor of the island prison, where fifteen of the most desperate criminals of America were making a last stand. They hurled shells through the windows at slow intervals -- to give the prisoners a chance to surrender. But there was no sign of surrender. The ~~many~~ convicts apparently were determined to die rather than give in. Probably some were killed, others wounded, by the blasts of Marine Corps mortar shells.

If the bitter end convicts preferred death to submission, there was little wonder, after the stories of what occurred in the revolt at the rock in San Francisco Bay. Only a few of the convicts were in it, long term criminals, kidnapers, murderers. They slugged a guard and took his weapons, then they broke into the prison arsenal. How they did this is a ~~xxx~~ mystery. Alcatraz authorities say this afternoon they can't guess -- they're investigating.

But the convict insurgents did get at the weapons that were stored in the arsenal. They overpowered a number of guards, and put them in cells. Some wanted to hold the guards as hostages. But other said -- they wanted no hostages. And they opened fire at the guards in the cells. Some of these were shot down, others fell wounded. Two lost their lives, others played dead. Guards, weltering in their own ~~blood~~ blood, lay on the floor -- expecting the convicts to come in at any moment and finish them off. But the mutineers went off to shoot at attacking forces -- in the siege of Alcatraz.

One of those who perished was Deputy Warden William A Miller -- who before he died, contrived to give evidence by telephone. He gave evidence against the convict who shot him. Listeners at the other end took down his words -- as he stated that he believed he was dying, and that it was his sworn statement that he had been shot by convict

Joseph Cretzer, whom he could positively identify. "Joseph Cretzer," He declared, "Shot me cold-bloodedly, and said, "I'll kill you." This occurred as the prison mutineers fired into the cells to massacre the guards. And Cretzer, moreover, kicked and stomped upon the Deputy whom he had shot.

This convict is a notorious criminal, convicted of the murder of a United States Marshal. He had made a previous escape from another Federal Penitentiary, and now he was trying it again. This time, if he survives the siege of Alcatraz, there is evidence to hang him -- the evidence given on the telephone by the dying Deputy Warden.

The latest is a report that the last bitter end group of besieged convicts have been given an ultimatum -- surrender or be blasted to bits. With the ultimatum the firing ceased for a while.

BOMB

Well, we seem to have been foolish with all that talk about the atomic bomb, viewing with alarm, foreseeing horrors in atomic warfare. Because today we learn the atomic bomb is really a harmless little toy - compared to something else, with another thing that's coming. In Paris today, a Professor of Amsterdam University stated that it won't be long now before we'll have - a cosmic ray bomb. And this, said he, will be ^Yastly more powerful and destructive than the atomic missile - "a billion times more powerful", declared the professor.

Addressing a conference of scientists at the French capital, he explained: "Once we have discovered the origin of cosmic rays, there is no reason why we should not be able to provoke them at will". Meaning - they'll find a way to hurl cosmic rays by means of a bomb.

A leading French scientist supported this prophecy concerning the mysterious rays that come from out of space. Comparing future cosmic ray bomb with the atomic bomb, he employed this simile

"a great power dam compared with a drop of water".

In other words, the atomic bomb ~~is~~ just a drop in
a bucket.

All of which will leave us a good deal more
cheerful, ~~being informed that the much dreaded atomic
weapon is merely pyrazene.~~ Thanks, Professor, for
telling us that something so much worse is coming.

NUREMBERG

A war criminal trial is no place for any gesture like the thumbing of a nose. But it happened at Nuremberg today. Goering, one time number two man to Hitler, thumbed his nose at a witness who was testifying -- Dr. Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht, one time financial wizard of the Nazis.

The trial was being treated to a description that Schacht gave of Goering at the time when Fat Hermann was at the height of his glory, a description as follows: "Goering I can only regard as immoral and the most egocentric man imaginable. His greed knew no bounds. Goering's predilection for jewels and finery was unimaginable. His personal appearance," the Schacht statement went on, "was so theatrical, he could only be compared with Nero. A lady", the former Nazi financial wizard added, "told me that Goering appeared at a tea in a toga and jeweled sandals, his fingers heavy with rings and his face and lips rouged." [↑] And at that point Goering thumbed his nose at Dr. Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht.

TOJO

In Tokyo, sombre and imposing proceedings have begun - the trial of Tojo. Together with a group of fellow war criminals, he faced the court today - the arch militarist who, as Premier of Japan, ordered the Pearl Harbor surprise attack and launched the conflict in the Pacific. The trial of Tojo is of majestic and historic import, but today it had a turn of low comedy.

This was because of one of Tojo's fellow war criminals - named Okawa, ~~He is~~ a militarist who ran a line of propaganda calling for the expulsion of the white races from Asia. Okawa, is a peculiar looking, skinny individual, who today, as he faced the court, was full of mirth and pranks. While the indictment was being read against Tojo, he sat just back of the former Premier. The reading of the indictment was dignified and solemn when - smack! Okawa, leaning forward with a wide grin, slapped Tojo on the head. The arch war lord is bald headed, and his pate is shaven to b - and the slap made a loud sound --

smack! Tojo was startled. He turned around abruptly. When he saw the grimacing face of Okawa, he too smiled - sadly, as if to say, 'oh, he's whacky.'

Maybe Okawa is, or maybe he's pretending, shamming insanity. Anyway, he did it all over again, while newsreel pictures were being made of the arch war lord on trial, Okawa gave Tojo another slap on the bald head.

All of which disturbed the stately formalities - at the trial of the instigators of the Pacific war. Peculiar doings on the part of the propagandist who preached the ~~gospel~~ gospel of expelling the white races from Asia.

And now a weekend message
from Hugh.