

PADESTINE

D.J. - P. & G. Monday, Oct. 18, 1948.

The Security Council of the United Nations will hold an emergency session tomorrow - on Palestine. (The Council will try to do something to stop the outbreak of fighting in the southern part of the Holy Land, which threatens to wreck the truce and start a general war going again. U N mediator Dr. Ralph Bunche declares that the armistice has been broken deliberately.

The state of Israel claims that Egyptians forces violated the truce by cutting highways in the ^{*= the southern*} Negeb Desert - highways that are lines of communication for Jewish settlements. Violent fighting has been going on, and the troops of Israel report that they have driven back the Egyptians. And have opened the vital highways.)

GERMANY

From Germany we hear that a force of American fighter planes has been keeping a continuous combat alert, ever since last winter. Thunderbolt planes, of the eighty-sixth fighter group, are maintaining a look-out for twenty four hours a day -- because of strange planes that come flying over the American occupation zone of Germany.

Soviet planes apparently, an average of one a day. When they are detected, American fighters go up to look them over. In some ^{cases} ~~cases~~ the strangers have been jet planes - much faster than the Thunderbolts. It isn't clear what these visitations may mean. But the eighty-sixth fighter group is on ~~combat~~ combat alert, day and night - just in case.

There's no explanation of a violent explosion that occurred today in the ~~Sax~~ Soviet zone. This was reported by a pilot of an American transport in the air lift, who flashed a radio message that his plane was being shaken by anti-aircraft fire. Later it was definitely established that the force which rocked the big air transport was an explosion on the ground -

so violent that he thought it must be shells
bursting near him.

FRANCE

There was a coal mine battle in France today, soldiers using tear gas tactics against Red strikers ^{who were} swinging clubs and hurling stones. The government gave orders for the seizure of strike-bound ^{- coal -} ~~mines~~ mines in northern France, where today the maintenance men walked out, ~~at~~ Placed by the strikers to keep the mines in good condition, they ~~had~~ abandoned their posts, leaving the coal pits to be flooded and put out of commission for months. Four thousand troops, motorized and supported by tanks, drove into the coal ~~ka~~ mine area today and took over - having to fight a battle at one of the mines.

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The British Ambassador immediately called at the Czechoslovak Legation to protest, but the foreign minister refused to see him. Then, hours later, the abducted attaché returned, his clothes torn, leaving the words "I'm free."

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

From Red Czechoslovakia the story of a British diplomat hurled head first into a Communist police car. This occurred as members of the Red police were arresting a Czech employee of the British Information Service. They were dragging out the Czech employee, and at the door the British Press attache ~~mx~~ was standing, Richard Wallis. The reds claim that he interfered with the arrest. The press attache states: "I was suddenly pushed ~~ix~~ out by two thugs and thrown head first into the car."

Another British Embassy official adds the following: "The last I saw Wallis, he must have been lying on the floor of the car - because his feet were sticking out of the window".

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POLK

In Prague, Czechoslovakia, an official who terms himself "minister of Justice" of the Greek guerrilla government, says that the two men whom the Greek government charge with the murder of George Polk, foreign correspondent for the Columbia broadcasting System, are both dead. One of them, Adam Mouzenidis killed in battle on May Fifth -- three days before Polk was thrown into Salonika harbor on May Eighth. The other, says the Greek Guerrilla Minister of Justice, was murdered by Athens police. To support his claim, he produces transcriptions of the Guerrilla radio announcement of their deaths, and offers pictures of the graves of the two men.

Meanwhile, General William J. Donovan, who was head of the office of Strategic Services during the war, says that the Greek government must bring proof of its charge that Communists murdered ~~Rxxx~~ Polk. Donovan went to Athens as Counsel for the Overseas writers committee. This committee has

offered a ten thousand dollar reward for information leading to the solution of the murder. General Donovan returned to America today with the statement

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that there will have to be legal evidence at a trial, proving that the Reds committed the murder, before the ten thousand dollar ~~xxx~~ reward will be paid.

BARUCH

~~"The United States must go on making atomic bombs. But we must not stop the peaceful development of atomic energy".~~ ^{TP} ~~So said Bernard Baruch in New York tonight at the Herald Tribune forum.~~

The author of the United States plan for international control of atomic energy ^{sees} ~~pictured~~ nuclear power as the greatest single factor in the problem of human survival. Because national ^{re} sources are decreasing and ^{global} population is increasing atomic energy", ^{Bernard} said Baruch, "opens up such possibilities as ocean farming" growing food under water, and producing oil and coal. Also the probability of irrigating vast desert areas: making them produce food.

^{Baruch, at the N.Y. Her. Trib Forum tonight} ~~He~~ blamed Russia for holding up peaceful atomic ~~development~~ development. But he says he does not believe war is close. The fear of war remains said he, and will remain for sometime. So the United States must prepare to defend itself. ~~and~~ Doing this, ^{he added,} ~~said~~ ^{Baruch} imposes a huge tax of waste which we cannot

avoid at present. So our problem is to prepare for war, and at the same time do the best we can with our resources" using them to swell our reserves.

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Another speaker was Lieutenant General Leslie Groves, ~~the~~ former head of the ~~United States~~ atomic bomb project. ~~He warned that the United States must not make any pact to surrender its atomic weapons. Not until we are convinced that all the other powers have good intentions. "We must not budge an inch from the Baruch plan for international control" said General Groves.~~

^{warns}
~~He thinks~~ that the time for atomic agreement will not come until the Soviet Union ^{lowers} ~~breaks down~~ the ^{for} ~~Iron~~ Curtain ~~that will allow~~ a free interchange of ideas. ~~Until this happens, General Groves went on to say, We are doomed to continue in a very uncertain state of international affairs. "Peace" said he "is possible only when peoples understand each other. "Peoples" he explained "do not have to be in agreement on all points. They just have to have the same ideals,~~

POLITICS

President Truman, before the American Legion today, defended that idea which came to naught -- the mission to Moscow. He contended that his proposal to send Chief Justice Vinson to see Stalin would not have hampered the Western Powers in their dealings with Soviet Russia. He said: "My emissary was to convey the seriousness and sincerity of the people of the United States in their desire for peace. This ~~is~~ proposal" he went on "had no relation to existing negotiations within the scope of the United Nations or the Council of Foreign Ministers." Yet, it was called off - on the advice of Secretary of State Marshall.

The American Legion is holding a five day convention at miami, and the President's address today was non-political. ^R Still, there is no complete absence of politics down in southern Florida. I have a telegram from Paul Limbish, a Republican treasurer, who asks for further information about a story we had on Thursday - the news that the glittering potentates

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However, Mrs. Bradshaw got some advice -- from Democratic state officials. She says the Democratic state chairman told her - "it might cost the President votes". The city of Raleigh is wet, but of the one hundred counties in North Carolina, seventy-four are dry, and prohibition is a hot issue in state politics. Mrs. Bradshaw says that the whole trouble was in just one word - "cocktail". The party for Margaret Truman was, in her words - "just called the wrong thing."

of India are having to dispose of their stables of princely elephants. Herds of panoplied pachyderms for sale - cheap. The figure as low as two hundred rupees apiece, about forty dollars.

Hearing about that, the Florida Republicans would like to import a royal elephant - for purposes of G O P symbolism. The telegram reads: "Miami Beach Republican Club anxious to secure elephant from India during American Legion convention. Your assistance in locating pachyderm appreciated".

Well, the only assistance that I can offer is the information that the land of Hindustan is a long distance away, and a panoplied elephant is ponderous freight to transport in a hurry.

But, all the Miami Beach Republican Club has to do is - hire a very large, long range airplane, *and continents* send it across oceans [^] to India -- together with a check for two hundred rupees, forty-bucks, made out to the *Maharajah of Gwalior or Udaipur, the Begum of Bhopal, or some other Hindustan prince,* ~~the Begum of Bhopal, or some other Hindustan prince,~~ ~~other Maharajah~~

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Leaving the Miami Convention, President Truman ~~proceeded~~ ^{proceeded} ~~is on his way~~ to Raleigh, ~~North Carolina~~ ^{No. Car. tonight,} ~~for campaign addresses there.~~ His trip to Florida has given him a convenient opportunity to do some campaigning in the south. But this is limited to North Carolina, and leaves out other parts of Dixieland - like Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and South Carolina. Because that is not only Dixieland, it is also - Dixiecrat.

Governor Dewey returned to Albany today, after a forty-five hundred mile swing through ten states. His previous campaign tour ~~is~~ covered eleven states, and eighty-eight hundred miles. Thirteen thousand miles in all. They call it - "running" for President. And to say the least it is - travelling for President.

There will be two more Dewey addresses next week - one - at The ^(Herald-Tribune) ~~Forum~~ Forum. The other at a dinner honoring the memory of Al Smith, ^{where the} Republican candidate will pay homage to a former Democratic candidate - who ^(was) ~~was~~ his predecessor as Governor ~~is~~ in Albany.

TEAMSTERS

A reminder of the election four years ago came up in a Washington courtroom today - when a verdict was handed down in a suit that grew out of one of the headline incidents of the Nineteen Forty-four campaign. The U.S. court of Appeals rejected a ^{200,000} dollar libel suit brought by a former ~~naval~~ officer against the Teamsters Union-- because of what happened when the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered a major campaign address before a banquet of Teamster Union officials.

That was a famous speech, with F.D.R. putting on a lively show that featured remarks about the White House Dog - Fala. There was a Teamsters' Union ovation -- and then, when the labor leaders were leaving, a fight broke out in the hotel lobby.

They were passing a naval officer and companion who were not enthusiastic ~~xxxx~~ supporters of F.D.R. *The Naval Officer* ~~and~~ made some remarks to that effect - and, the ~~xxxx~~ brawl was on. There was a lot of comment at the time, with the magazine of the Teamsters' Union printing

the statement that the naval officer and his companion were drunk and used foul language.

The officer was Lieutenant Randolph Dickens, and he proceeded to sue the Union magazine for two hundred thousand dollars. That has been going ~~on~~ through the courts ever since. And today the Court of Appeals rejected the libel charge, on various counts. One -- that the article was "privileged" because it was written to protect the interests of the Union. So that's that - an echo of ~~that~~^{the} previous presidential campaign, ~~which~~^{that} featured the figure four. Nineteen Forty-four and fourth terms.

EXPLOSION

An explosion at an oil refinery rocked Texas City tonight. It was followed by a flash fire, which threw a mass of flames across the Texas City - Galveston highway.

Some Two dozen automobiles ^{were} caught in the roaring flames. ~~Earlier~~ ~~Earliest~~ news of the casualties - One dead and seventeen injured *are the figures so far.*

WEATHER

This weather we're having is nothing more than a visitor from somewhere around the North Pole. The ~~meteorologists~~^{meotorologists,} explaining the sudden frosty nip of autumn, picture a huge mass of air chilled in that ice box of the Canadian Arctic, then ~~came~~ pushing south and east - reaching the Atlantic Coast today. The western part of the Mississippi valley is warming up, the mass of polar air having moved on - while at Chicago today the thermometer fell far below freezing -- record-breaking cold for October Eighteenth. *Even in* the mountains of Pennsylvania and West Virginia - snowstorms.

All of which reminds us that winter is coming - today's weather an early visitor from the polar north.

WOMAN PRESIDENT

We are often beguiled by the idea of -- Madam President. After all the hullabaloo about women's rights, we might expect that sooner or later a lady will be elected to the White House. So what are the prospects?

Today Mrs. Walter T. Fisher, head of the Women voters of Illinois, points out that if the women voters of the nation were to get together, they could easily elect - Madame President. But alas and alack -- that will never happen, says Mrs. Walter T. Fisher.

She gives an explanation of that impossibility: "If you've ever tried to get a bunch of women together on anything, you'll know what I mean", says she. Well, we've ~~heard~~ heard how arguments can arise even in the sacred circle of the family - when sisters and sisters-in-law-, Aunts and cousins, get together. Dissensions in the sewing circles, the church social and the neighborhood bridge club.

However, there is still hope for -- Madam President. She may be elected, but it won't be by the women, says the head of the Illinois ~~League~~ League of

Woman voters. The lady candidate will need a huge lot of masculin votes to take her to the White House.

All of which may come to pass, and the fellow that I'm worrying about is - the husband of Madam

President. Maybe Comedian Bobby Clark will shed some light on that. Bobby is due to come into N.Y. with a new musical show the story of which is about a woman who is elected Pres. of the U.S.A. with Comedian Bobby Clark as the husband of Madam President. That ought to be a great role for Bobby.

Wonder if Bobby Clark got Mrs. Fisher in Illinois to make that statement today? Could he —
Or am I too suspicious, Nelson?