

L.T.-DELCO. TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1956

(Given by Chas. Collingwood)

GOOD EVENING:

The two Soviet leaders visiting England did a bit of fence-mending today, Khrushchev and Bulganin the picture of amiability when they attended a reception given in their honor by the Soviet Embassy in London. They drank and laughed and chatted just as if they were determined to make everyone like them. Khrushchev even did a little bit of whispering to Sir Anthony Eden's wife. He got her to drink a little Vodka after some coaxing. Among the guests was Charlie Chaplin. Khrushchev invited the famous comedian to visit Russia and got a friendly answer, Charlie Chaplin, a long-time friend of the Soviet Union, saying he would be delighted to go there for a visit.

All this gayety was in contrast to the diplomatic negotiations at No. 10 Downing Streer. A spokesman for the Foreign Office told reporters that Britain and Russia were close to an agreement on the Middle East, also on more extensive

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cultural relations and increased trade, but the spokesman added that the talks are still deadlocked on disarmament and on the unification of Germany.

ATOMIC

Tonight we have an answer to one things that Khurshchev said yesterday when he boasted that Russia had an intercontinental missile with a hydrogen warhead. The head of our Central Intelligence Agency, Allen Dulles, was asked about that by reporters. Dulles said he thinks Khrushchev is exaggerating. As our spy chief put it: "I don't think he's given to minimizing things." Allen Dulles did not deny that the Soviet Union is making progress on the intercontinental missile, but he made it clear that he doesn't believe all the big talk that Khrushchev has been making in London.

DULLES

Secretary of State Dulles devoted a good bit of today's news conference to the question of Titoism in eastern Europe. He noted that Khrushchev has approved independent Communism for Yugoslavia and the captive nations, like Poland and Hungary, must resent their own slavery. Since the reason for that slavery is rejected by Khrushchev in the case of Yugoslavia, why shouldn't Poland and Hungary look for more freedom? Secretary Dulles thinks they are looking for it and have more of it now than they did in the days of Stalin.

Today Secretary Dulles was also asked about the possibility of Khrushchev and Bulganin visiting this country/. He replied that he has not received any indication that they want to come here and he suggested that, after their cool reception in Britain, they might not be very anxious to put their popularity to a test in America.

INTRODUCTION TO L.T.

Over in London, Lowell Thomas has been in the middle of the Bulganin-Khrushchev hullabaloo so let's hear by recording from him by short-wave radio.

Lowell, what have you been seeing and hearing of this international circus?

L.T.: - Hello! Charlie, I have a suggestion. Wonder how it will appeal to you as a veteran foreign correspondent. But, first, everywhere over here, and I suppose the same is true in America and elsewhere, people are asking the same question - what is the real objective of Bulganin and Khrushchev making these journeys? What are the Russians really up to? A group of us sat discussing this in the dining room at Claridges where the Russians are staying. In fact, eighteen or twenty of the Bulganin-Khrushchev party sat at the long table just next to us. Perhaps they could hear parts of our conversation. They didn't seem to be listening.

Two at our table had just come in from the Middle East, but one was an American, who has been in Russia off and on for twenty years. This veteran journalist is wise in the ways of the Russians. He believes they are eager for peace at this moment, that they want time in which to consolidate their position at home, as so many have said. He added, too, that they are genuinely fed up with one-man tyranny, but to me

his most interesting comment concerned propaganda. Now, most of us think of the Communists as wizards at propaganda. He says flatly that they are bunglers at it, not at all clever; that their success with it is due almost entirely to worldwide unrest, also to the fact that so far they have been able to promise the moon and get away with it and because we ourselves are so inept at telling our side of the story.

Well, here it comes, Charlie! I sometimes wonder if all our foreign journalists, who really do know more than any others about other peoples and world problems and propaganda methods, I wonder if we ought not call them all home, a few at a time, but always keep them coming in, to help us run our own government? Keep sending out a new crop of young men to replace them and learn at first hand as they have learned for how, without such knowledge and first hand experience, how can we ever solve world problems like these and how better can you get such experience and knowledge than as a working foreign correspondent? Have you a better suggestion?

COLLINGWOOD:- Well, Lowell, as an old foreign correspondent and globe-trotter like yourself, I think there's some merit in your idea, just as long as they don't send the proppagandists over to make foreign correspondents out of them!

ISRAEL

Just before the Secretary General of the United Nations left ~~for~~ Israel for Jordan today he received word of a brutal massacre on the Jordanian border of Israel; Dag Hammarskjold informed that a car carrying four engineers was ambushed and all four were killed. They were riddled with bullets and then the automobile was set on fire. The massacre was apparently carried out by suicide commandos similar to the Egyptian Fedayeen. It was the worst incident in the Middle East since Hammarskjold arrived on his peace-making mission. The incident took place on the only Israel border not pledged to a cease-fire.

BUS LINE

In Montgomery, Alabama, the bus line that has been boycotted by Negroes for five months is now threatened with prosecution by the city and the state. This threat is the result of yesterday's Supreme Court decision which outlawed racial segregation in public transportation. The Montgomery bus line promptly announced that it would abide by the ruling, end segregation, but today the Alabama Public Service Commission ordered the line to stop integrating passengers and the city police say they'll arrest employees of the line and even passengers if they try to enforce integration. Meanwhile, the problem has not become as acute as it might be because the Negroes in Montgomery are still boycotting the bus line. There's integration on the buses but only white passengers are riding in them.

TAXES

President Eisenhower is opposed to any reduction of the income tax this year, so stated Senator Knowland, of California, following a meeting of GOP congressional leaders at the White House. During the meeting they heard a report from Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, the Secretary repeating his prediction that our surplus for the current fiscal year will be about two hundred million dollars. That's a lot less than the report from Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, the secretary repeating his prediction that our surplus for the current fiscal year will be about two hundred million dollars, that's a lot less than the two billion predicted by the Congressional Economic Committee last week. And on the basis of Secretary Humphrey's prediction, Mr. Eisenhower is opposed to any idea of any income tax cut right now. However, the President has not ruled out a change in his attitude if the surplus should turn out to be much greater than the Humphrey prediction.

What does Senator Knowland think? He told reporters

that no tax cut should be considered even if the surplus amounts to two billion dollars. He thinks it should be applied to the national debt. If the surplus does go a great deal higher than two billion then Senator Knowland would be in favor of doing something about the income tax. In other words, President Eisenhower, Secretary Humphrey and Senator Knowland all agreed that we should wait to see how much surplus there is before we decide what to do with it.

POLITICS

A lot of politics has been going on today, in three places, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Alaska, primaries in each of those places although the delegates that will be chosen will not be bound to support the winners. These elections are mainly popularity tests. In Pennsylvania, the contest is between President Eisenhower and Adlai Stevenson, Kefauver's not on the Democratic ticket there but his supporters are urging a write-in for the Senator from Tennessee. Kefauver is not entered in Massachusetts either. He asks his backers there to vote for Congressman John Mc Cormack, who is opposing Stevenson. Alaska is the scene of a head-on collision between the two Democratic hopefuls, both Stevenson and Kefauver are down on the ballot in Alaska and what happens in this election will be a big boost to the prestige of the winner.

EISENHOWER

President Eisenhower voted today in the Pennsylvania primary, Mr. Eisenhower exercising his right of suffrage in Pennsylvania for the first time as a new citizen of that state. In 1952 he voted in New York City.

The President drove from his Gettysburg farm to the Cumberland township voting precinct shortly after seven this morning. He was one of the first voters to arrive, but he found lots of people on hand, reporters, photographers and Secret Service agents besides five election officials. After leaving the building, the President posed for the photographers, then he drove to Harrisburg, boarded the Presidential plane for his return trip to Washington.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The anti-Stalin line is still running through the Soviet satellites. We've had stories from the Balkan countries about Stalinists resigning, with emphasis on Chervinkov of Bulgaria, the so-called "little Stalin" who fell because he'd been such an abject henchman of the big Stalin.

Today's story concerns Alexei Cepicka. He rose rapidly through the Communist apparatus in Czechoslovakia during the last years of the Soviet tyrant - well, the anti-Stalin line has caught up with Cepicka. Today, he resigned; he confessed that he was guilty of grave errors in following the cult of the individual, the crime that Khrushchev has pinned on Stalin. In Vienna, it's believed that Cepicka resigned on direct orders from the new bosses of the Kremlin. Anyway, he's out, the latest victim of the anti-Stalin line.

PETAINE

The ghost of a great French hero - and a great French scapegoat, caused a riot outside of historic Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris today. A mass was held in the Cathedral to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Marshal Petain, who helped save France from German invasion in World War I and then became head of the French state during the German occupation of World War II.

Hundreds of anti-Petain demonstrators milled outside Notre Dame during the Mass; a lot of them were survivors of Nazi concentration camps and they started a fight with admirers of Petain as they came out of the Cathedral. Riot police were on hand, they managed to break up the riot before anyone was seriously hurt. But, meanwhile, the Mollet government has banned anniversary observances scheduled to be held at Verdun, where Petain stopped the Germans in a critical battle of World War I. The government is afraid that any more pro-Petain ceremonies might touch off serious violence. Yes, the ghost of Petain is still something to conjure with in France. Is he

Marshal Petain, the hero of Verdun, or is he Marshal Petain, the collaborator with Nazi Germany? That question still divides the people of France.

Well, that's the main news tonight. Now, what do you have to say for yourself, Henry?