

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A quick round-up of news from the Near East tonight. (In Cairo, the faculty of the largest Moslem university in the world -- the Alazhar Council of Ulemas -- issued a call to all Moslems, to a holy war, to prevent the partition of Palestine.) Jihad -- that means - holy war, for all Moslems, everywhere. So says the Council of Ulemas in Cairo in a formal proclamation. Under Moslem law any believer who ignores the call to war is a sinner.

In Jerusalem, Moshe Sneh, the mysterious figure reported to be head of Haganah in its underground days, came out with a fiery speech, urging Jews to press for cancellation of British immigration laws. "We must cultivate relations with Russia," said the Haganah leader. Then he went on:- "We want peace with the Arabs, who must concede facts. Losses of men will not deter us," he said.

At Damascus, tonight the Syrian Parliament voted

compulsory national service and appointed General Taha Pasha El Hashimi, Chief of the General Staff of Iraq, as supreme Commander of the Syrian forces.

In Aleppo, thousands of students wrote their signatures in their own blood on enlistment papers into the "Yarmouk" corps now being organized hurriedly by Fawzi El Khaujki, Militant Arab leader, a descendant of the Moslem general who defeated the Romans centuries ago.

In Cairo, it's reported tonight that General Ibrahim Atallah Pasha, Chief of Staff of the Egyptian Army, is inspecting his troop twenty-five miles southwest of the Palestine border -- all Egyptian Army units being alerted because of the tension -- officers' leaves cancelled, troop movements imminent.

According to an Arab report, large numbers of Libyans who fought the Italians have volunteered to fight for the Arabs and are enlisting in Cairo -- signing up for the Jihad.

PALESTINE

Earlier reports were that (Jerusalem had its worst day of violence) since the turbulent times of old, since Crusaders and Saracens fought for the Holy City. Sounds like exaggeration; but so we are told by the news dispatch, which describes the fury of Arab mobs -- and Jewish mobs, too.

(Arab violence began the first thing this morning with a mob forcing its way into the Jewish quarter,) just west of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, - near Christian Street -- and therein infuriated Moslems assailed Jewish shops and beat up Jewish passersby.

(Soon the smoke of fires was rising; shops ablaze.) The police charged the crowd, firing into the air, whereupon the Arabs dispersed into groups of snipers.

(This was followed by the appearance of a Jewish mob

which stormed through the streets with shouts of -"Rēvenge!"

The police formed barricades, to check the surging Zionists and were joined by armed and uniformed members of Haganah.

This was the first public appearance, in full paraphernalia, of the hitherto secret underground army, which is scheduled to form the official military force of the new Jewish state.

Haganah joined the police in checking the Jewish mob, while Haganah trucks with loud speakers ordered the Zionist rioters back to their homes.

(Next, at about noon, came another Arab mob, which surged through the Damascus Gate, and went into an orgy of looting and burning shops.) By now, clouds of smoke were rising over the old section of Jerusalem, ^{- inside the old wall,} the ancient city. Moslem and Christian storekeepers, taking frantic precautions, chalked crescents and crosses in front of their places, as an appeal to the raging Arabs to ^{pass them by,} ~~let them alone.~~

By mid-afternoon, it ~~seemed~~ seemed as if the rioting had subsided; ~~but~~ then a great cloud of smoke was noted rising

— still in the old city.
from the section of Zion Square, This turned out to be an Arab garage, set on fire by a Jewish mob; and the flames spread ^{ing} to nearby Arab buildings. Jewish retaliation - after which word came of new Arab attacks.

(So it went all day long in M Jerusalem,) with fire engines racing through the streets - the fire brigade unable to keep up with the outbreaks of flame, as one building after another was set ablaze. ~~by the Arabs~~. The news dispatch tells of scores of Jewish shops on fire - fifty burning in one district alone - as the Holy City had its worst day since the violent times of old.

^{also} Trouble _^ broke out in the Tel Aviv-Jaffa area, ~~mixer~~ too - and there an ~~ominous~~ ominous situation prevails. Arabs and Jews are occupying buildings in the No Man's Land between all-Jewish Tel Aviv and the Arab seaport of Jaffa, as if digging in for warfare. The Jewish forces are detachments of Haganah, while the Arabs are members of - Majada, ~~This is~~ the underground Moslem army, said to be prepared for secret

guerrilla war. You may hear that name repeated in the news on days after this, the name of - Majada.

The story of violence is expanded by news from places throughout Palestine and elsewhere in the Near East - Moslems in a fury about the decision of the United Nations to set up a Jewish state in ~~Palestine~~ ^{the Holy Land,}

FRANCE

(France reports what the news dispatch calls - "four pitched battles" between the police and ~~the~~ Communist-led strikers. One ~~was~~ at the Renault Automobile Factory near Paris, where Red rioters tried to smash a hole in the factory wall with a tractor as a battery ^{ing} ram. Forces of mobile guards beat them back in violent fighting.)

At the City of Limoges, strikers seized the railroad station, and were ejected only after a battle in which tear gas bombs drove them away.

In the coal fields of northern France strikers, trying to keep non-Communist miners from returning to work, were ousted from thirty-four mines.

At Marseilles, strikers wrecked a police station and fought a furious battle with the ~~police~~ ^{gendarmes}.

These "four pitched battles" are a clue to what's happening - (Premier Schuman's government using force to drive the Reds out of industrial establishments and railroad stations, which they have seized.) The result is a series of dispatches

from various parts of France telling of strikers going back to work. ^R Postal employees are on their jobs again, ^{too,} and mail deliveries in Paris were resumed for the first time in ten days. Military forces put six power houses of the subway in operation, and today subway trains in Paris were running again. ~~It is~~ ~~estimated that,~~ Railroad service is increasing - eighty per cent of the trains running; ^{so} it is estimated. The picture seems to indicate that the new government of Premier Schuman, if able to continue its anti-Communist campaign, may be on ^{the} a way to suppression of the Red disorders.

The latest from Paris tonight states that the French National Assembly has resumed its deliberations on the stern powers demanded by Premier Schuman, ~~drastic authority to put down the Red violence.~~ Parliamentary proceedings were tied up ^a by [^] sit-down strike of the Communist legislators, ~~who~~ who in an uproar made business impossible. But tonight the French Legislature is in session again - taking action on measures to ^{the} give [^] Premier Schuman the authority for an overwhelming drive against the Reds.

CZECHS-FOLLOW-RELIEF

While Congress over here is prolonging the debate over American economic support for the free nations of Western Europe, Stalin has come forward quickly with ~~a~~ the same sort of thing for Czechoslovakia, the Soviet puppet. The news from Prague today states that the Soviet Premier has personally promised to give the Czechs four hundred thousand tons of Russian grain - thereby doubling the previous amount the Soviets had engaged to deliver.

It all goes back to the first headlines on the Marshall Plan. The ^(libertarian) ~~libertarian~~ countries of Europe jumped at the ~~suggestion~~ suggestion made by our Secretary of State, and so did Czechoslovakia - though a Red satellite. The Czechs announced - yes, they'd join in the Marshall Plan. But then they quickly changed their minds, when they heard a thing or two from the Soviets. They reversed their decision, ~~to cooperate in the~~ ~~American economic program~~ in return for which Moscow promised them Russian grain - two hundred thousand tons of it. The Soviets ^{to} ~~will~~ meet the American offer with an offer of their

own - to keep their puppets in line.

However, Czechoslovakia found that the two hundred thousand tons were not enough, and recently the Communist Premier of the government in Prague, Red Premier Gottwald, made a trip to Moscow, and there Stalin gave him a personal pledge - the previous figure to be doubled, Czechoslovakia to get four hundred thousand tons of Soviet grain. [↑] This was announced in Prague today, with the comment that Stalin's promise has ^S _^ greatly strengthened the position of Communist Premier Gottwald and ^{the} _^ Red regime ⁱⁿ _^ Prague. The Soviets taking action in behalf of their satellites behind the Iron Curtain - while Congress over here prolongs the debate on the bill to back up the free nations.

EXPORTS

A Congressional committee voted a resolution today calling for the administration to give an account of American exports -- an inventory of supplies shipped abroad. This follows a proposal by the Commerce Committee of the House to demand a disclosure of materials being sent to Soviet Russia and the Red satellites. Congressional critics have been saying that it reminds them of the pre-war scrap iron shipments to Japan.

ATOMIC

(Today In Chicago, they ~~are~~ celebrating^{ed} the birthday of atomic power.) It was just five years ago, Nineteen Forty-Two, that man first discovered that he could release and control the stupendous energies of the atom. Most of us regard Nineteen Forty-Five as the beginning of the atomic era - the time of the experimental explosion in the New Mexican desert and the atomic blasting at Hiroshima. Those were the spectacular events, and they all trace back to (an epoch-making experiment, which made it ^{all} possible - an experiment at Chicago just five years ago) So that was really the birth date of atomic power.

Today, (with this in mind, I looked back to my broadcast notes for December Second, Nineteen Forty-Two. What news were we thinking about on that day - when, in the deepest of secrecy, the great experiment was carried out?) Well, I find that the ~~tidings~~ tidings of that day featured the North African campaign, then in its early stages - also various other items of war news. ^R Moreover, (in my broadcast that night, I had something special, something that had a large tone of importance.

I told of ^a ~~the~~ rally of big-time newsmen, analysts and forecasters. This ~~was~~ at a luncheon of the New York Advertising Club; - and, as I recall, I presided. We had a galaxy of top-flight foreign correspondents, who gave their opinions and predictions about the course of events.) ^y ~~There~~ were Otto Tolischus, veteran correspondent of the New York Times, Harold Denny^{also} of The Times, Victor Keen of the Herald-Tribune, Dan DeLuce from the Associated Press, Reynolds Packard from the U.P., and William Shirer of "Berlin Diary" fame. It was most impressive - the prophets were prophesying. The seers, gazing into their crystal balls, ~~were~~ foreseeing the shape of events to come. And I believe I added my own two cents' worth of prophecy.

My broadcast notes show that there were some pretty good bits of insight about events of the war. But, (in all the predictions and forecasting, foretelling the future on various continents, we prophets never mentioned the atom - and there wasn't the slightest hint of what was going on in

Chicago on that very day, the same hour,)

Our crystal ball failed to produce any vision of the scene in the squash court under the football stands at Stagg Field, University of Chicago. The regular football season was just over and there might have been a ghostly echo of the roar of the crowd as touchdowns were scored. But in the squash court under the stands the idea was different; - ~~and~~ it wasn't squash either. ^R Scientists were gathered, atomic scientists - a term not so familiar in those days. ^{There} In the squash court they had a bulky sort of contraption - which actually consisted of chunks of uranium and graphite. In charge of the experiment was the Italian physicist, Dr. Enrico Fermi, who had built the bulky contraption - which was, in reality, an atomic pile.

^R The first, the very first. ^R The purpose was to ascertain where ^{there} ^a chain reaction would be set up in the pile of uranium and graphite. Chain reaction is what makes the atomic bomb blow up.

In the experiment, the graphite was used to slow down the discharge of uranium energy - otherwise the squash court,

the scientists, and the football stands might have been blown sky high.

Just five years ago today the experiment came to ^{that} ~~the~~ climax:- was there or was there not ^a chain reaction? ^{-- would there be?} To the scientists, tensely expectant, the answer was given by some gadget or other. In a recording device the needle moved, and that signified - yes, there was a chain reaction.

After that, the rest followed like the proverbial *(Quod est demonstrandum)* Q.E.D., the stupendous developments that ushered in the atomic era. The success of the ⁺ experiment gave the ^{signal} ~~word~~ to go ahead with the two billion dollar atomic project. Then, three years later, the test explosion over the Mexican desert and the atomic blast at Hiroshima.

Today, in that same squash court under the University of Chicago football stands, top atomic scientists of the nation commemorated that event of five years ago, the history-making experiment. Dr. Enrico Fermi, who directed the experiment, ^{Pres. Truman sent a statey message. And} was there. The nuclear physicists were addressed by Chancellor

Robert M. Hutchins of the University of Chicago, who gave solemn warning against atomic war and who proclaimed the lyrical promise of atomic power of works of peace. He said: "We may now hope to unlock the ultimate secret^{ts} of nature, to fulfill the dreams of the alchemists, to cure incurable diseases, and to have at our disposal ~~an~~ an abundance beyond the wildest dreams of mankind."

Concerning all of which we prophets at the ~~the~~ New York ~~at~~ newspaper and radio gathering ~~we~~ had not the slightest inkling, when we gazed into the crystal ball just five years ago today - the very day when a revolution in human events was being initiated by the experiment in Chicago.

FOREIGN MINISTERS

The news from the conference of the Foreign Ministers in London is -- luncheon news. Marshall accepts Molotov's invitation to lunch.

It seemed for a while as if the knife and fork problem might be a menace to peace. Because it started with Marshall inviting Molotov to lunch, and Molotov said -- no, nyet. That came buzzing across the trans-Atlantic cables with a tone of alarm. Obviously Marshall wouldn't be inviting Molotov to talk about the skiing in Switzerland. It would be a matter of business. So, when Molotov refused, it looked like a rejection of an American proposal for personal negotiations.

However, it seems to be okay -- because the Soviet Foreign Minister came right back with a luncheon invitation to our Secretary of State -- which Marshall promptly accepted. Luncheon, Friday. Luncheon Fri!
Now Dinner Tues - how about it Nelson?