

AIR LIFT

C.J. - P. + S. Wednesday, Sept. 29, 1948.

Today, an American C-54 cargo plane took off from Gatow flying field. That's a Berlin airport operated by the British, the terminus for transports flying in coal- the fuel aspect of the Air Lift. (The pilot proceeded along the supply line corridor over Sovietheld territory, and soon five planes appeared- fighter planes, Soviet Iaks.

They flew straight at the C-54. The American pilot states: "They came roaring in at us, and then peeled off a bare hundred feet, or less, just short of ~~short of~~ collision."

That was the first event of today's headline - Red fighters buzzing cargo carriers on the Aerial supply line, swarming in and making passes at American transports. Shortly after that first case of buzzing, a second occurred - yak fighters whirling around another American Transport.

These incidents drew a prompt strong protest from the American authorities in Berlin, who demanded that the Soviets put an immediate stop to such provocative

tactics. The Russians were warned that if American lives were lost, there would be, what the protest called - "Repercussions."

All along, there has been a menace of red fighter activities in the air corridor, soviet threats against the supply planes, and today brought^t the most serious of all - Red fighters, one after another, making reckless passes. It isn't hard to see the possibility of -- repercussions.

FOLLOW AIR LIFT

A late announcement tonight gives new and impressive totals for that Berlin air lift. Since June twenty-sixth, the transports of the sky have flown two-hundred-and-one-thousand, seven-hundred-and-thirty-five tons of supplies, food and fuel for blockaded Berlin. The average is more than thirty-six hundred tons a day, ^{and} there have been twenty-eight-thousand-six-hundred-and-fifty-eight flights; that many in three months.

The record-breaking day was, appropriately, last weekend - when, on Air Force day, five-thousand-five-hundred-and-seventy-two tons were carried on six-hundred-and-fifty-one flights.

These figures have an important meaning in the crisis now before the United Nations - illustrating the ability of the western powers to beat the Red blockade. But here's another figure, also significant:- The air lift is costing the United States about three-hundred-and-ninety-three thousand dollars per day.

SUBSTITUTE U N

This afternoon in Paris, an American diplomatic messenger arrived at headquarters of the United Nations at half past two o'clock - and waited. Presently he was joined by British and French messengers - who also waited. They had letters from the American, British and French governments to be presented to U N Secretary Trygve Lie at four o'clock -- and were there early to be on time.

When four o'clock came, they asked for Trygve Lie -- but nobody seemed to know where he was. They went around scouting for him, then phoned to their respective headquarters.

At length - the secret was disclosed. Trygve Lie was in his own office - waiting for them. In fact, he was phoning headquarters of the western allies - where were the messengers? Well, they finally got together ~~xxx~~ half an hour late, and (the documents were delivered - placing the Berlin crisis before the security council of the United Nations.

The identical accusations made by the three

western powers,) are expressed in long dry diplomatic language. They state exactly what previous advices had indicated, (charging that the Soviet hunger blockade is a violation of the U N Charter and is a menace to the peace of the world.)

COMMUNISTS

The Department of Justice issues a blast in the battle between the administration and the committee on Un-American Activities - on the subject of Communists. Attorney General Clark says ~~that~~ there is no evidence for the prosecution of three men and woman accused of being atomic spies for Soviet Russia. These four ^{being} ~~are~~ Atomic Scientist Clarence Francis ~~Rinky~~ Hiskey and his former wife; Atomic Scientist John Hitchcock Chapin; and, Communist party official Steve Nelson.

~~Committee Chairman Parnell Thomas ~~III~~ wrote to President Truman and the Attorney General, demanding that action be taken. He declared that the department of Justice has evidence in its files for the prosecution of the four alleged atomic spies.~~

~~This the Attorney General denies, contending that its all, what he calls - "hearsay evidence." He accuses the Committee of trying to tear down the Constitutional safeguards of American Democracy. The Attorney General calls the Red Espionage investigation - "A witch hunt."~~

It is a biting retort to the committee charge that the Truman administration is blocking the inquiry into Communist attempts to spy into the secrets of the Atomic Bomb.

The Atomic Energy commission today put a ban on two C I O Unions, some of whose officers are alleged to have Communist affiliations. The two unions are - The United Electrical, Radio and machine Workers of America and the United Public Workers of America. The Officers of both of these organizations have refused to file the Non-Communist Affidavits required by law. So Atomic Chairman Lilienthal has issued an order that none of our Atomic Projects could have any dealings with those two unions: United Electrical and Public Workers - two unions "blacklisted."

In Washington today, the Secretary-treasurer of the United Electrical workers refused to answer a question - a new kind of ~~investigation~~ interrogation this time. He and a couple of other Electrical Union Officers balked at that familiar query - are you a Communist? They

refused to answer on Constitutional grounds - Fifth Amendment. Whereupon Secretary-Treasurer Julius Emspak of the Electrical Union was asked-whether or not he had attended the Communist Party purge trial of Earl Browder in Nineteen Forty-five?

That was the famous affair in which the Reds cast out Browder, because of his policy, so convenient in wartime, of going easy on Capitalism. Today Emspak admitted that he had read about the Browder business in the newspapers, but when it came to the question of the trial of the ^(one-time) ~~XXXXXX~~ party boss - he refused to answer. Constitutional grounds - Fifth Amendment.

GEORGIA

The Georgia Legislature today passed a bill regulating the ballot for the presidential election. All parties will be on the ballot. The principal interest lies in the fact that both Truman and Thurmond will be on.

However, the bill does not bind the electors to vote for the candidates of their party. Thus, if President Truman should carry Georgia against Thurmond, the Electors on the winning slate would not be bound to vote for Truman in the Electoral College. The same goes for Thurmond- all candidates on the ballot, with electors bound to none.

This action in Georgia follows the special session of the legislature in Louisiana - where the decision was to put the Truman-Barkley ticket on the ballot, but as independents, not ~~the~~ nominees of the Democratic Party. The Truman forces refuse to accept this, and it is likely to go the courts.

WHITE HOUSE

In this political campaign, we use a familiar expression for an election ~~xxxxxx~~ victory:- "Going to the White House" ^{is what} we say of the winner. But it may be that the candidate who comes out ahead in the presidential race - will not go to the White House. Because that legended mansion may be a scene of devastation - the kind of wrack and ruin that greets the eye when the carpenters, the plumbers and the painters are at their gentle art of ripping things apart.

The Public Works Administration has been giving the White House a check-up this year, and they describe the home of Presidents - as a shaky old fire-trap.

~~Government~~ architect ~~Morenzo Winslow~~ presents a most unflattering report on that edifice which is the pride of every patriotic American. He says it will take six months to make the creaky White House fire trap safe to live in.

Well, that historic mansion was thoroughly repaired fixed up, rebuilt and restored - everything put in tip-top shape. But that was a hundred-and-thirty-two years ago - in eighteen-sixteen, after the British had

burned the White House in the war of eighteen-twelve.
Since then the venerated building has just stood there.

~~From time to time, they've made repairs in one section or another, reinforcing the architecture, propping up the floors. That sort of fixing and strengthening has been done in every part of the White house, except the second floor and that's where the President and his family live.~~

Official architect Winslow paints a lugubrious picture of that presidential second floor. "It sags and shakes," he declares, "and the boards creak at night as if the place were crawling with ghosts." ~~well,~~
~~I always thought the White House was crawling with~~
~~Presidents.~~

He wants to start a big time job of rebuilding and ~~repair~~ repairing, beginning right away. So maybe the winner of the election will go - to the Blair House. That's the residence nearby, which the state department uses as a guest house for visiting foreign celebrities. The President might have to live there for a while,

in which case we'll have to report a news story something like this; "Word from the Blair House is that the latest quarrel between the Blair House and Congress is growing more violent, with the Blair House issuing a new statement." It won't sound right, but, ~~it~~ *it'll be a lot* better than having the White House fall down.

THUNDERJETS

The Air Force has grounded all F-84's, those thunderjets which are among the fastest of fighters. The action is taken because of recent accidents. One F-84 crashed in Florida. The cause would appear to have been- breaking up in the air, one wing coming off. The same thing applies to a thunderjet that seemed to disintegrate in flight on Air Force Day at Dallas, Texas-the pilot coming down safely by parachute.

The Air Force has two types of Jet Planes of the six hundred mile an hour class - the F-84 and the F-80 shooting star. These two have been the advance guard of our high speed jet aviation, and now the Air force orders the F-84 ~~to be~~ grounded-until a study can be made to determine the cause of the accidents.

BASEBALL

In the world of baseball, the agony was prolonged today, when the Cleveland Indians, the New York Yankees, and the Boston Red Sox, all won their games. Which even-stephen-result was in favor of the Indians - *For now* they ~~was~~ ^{are} two games in the lead, with only three more to play.

The Cleveland game was won by Bob Feller, the fire ball ace for years - who now is likely to make his first appearance in a World Series. People have been wondering if the Indians should win the pennant, how would Bob Feller show up in the series? The long time brilliant master of blazing speed was not so good earlier this year, but ^{now} toward the end ^{of the season} he ~~has~~ ^{has been showing} ~~his~~ ^{his} old stuff. ~~So~~ ^{How} did he do today? Not so brilliant. - He gave ten hits, but was strong and ~~a~~ steady, and won five to two.

MITCHUM

In a Hollywood court today, Screen Star Robert Mitchum asked the judge to throw out the indictment that charges him with smoking marijuana. Right after he was arrested, a couple of weeks ago, the idol of the bobby soxers told the police that he had been puffing reefers for years. But now he wants the indictment thrown out. Why? He says it isn't written in English.

The indictment, in legal fashion, tries to make clear what it means when it says - marijuana. Of course, in Hollywood, they know perfectly well. But lawyers are lawyers, and they have to put it in Latin, with such words as "cannabia sativa." That's ~~XXXXXX~~ marijuana - the Latin of Botany.

Mitchum's lawyer today stated that in the indictment there are only two words that he could understand - ~~XXXXXX~~ flowering hemp. "And," said he, "I always thought that had to do with rope." Hemp, the rope of which they give you enough to hang yourself.

So, in the Mitchum case they want the indictment translated into good old fashioned anglo-saxon words

like Marijuana.

HIGH COST OF ROMANCE

There's plenty of talk about the high cost of corn and wheat, chickens and hogs, lumber and cement. But it's worse than that, because we now get figures on - the high cost of romance.

This comes from dealers in what are called - courtship commodities. That is-candy, ice cream, theatre and night club entertainment, flowers and similar other aids of ~~marriage~~ cupid. The lovelorn statistics indicate that the price of ~~being~~ wooing and winning has gone up - at least four hundred per cent. Well, the sentimental swain has always been known to sigh, and he certainly has reason now. Even I am compelled to heave a sigh.

One expert is author Ted Peckham, who wrote a book called, "Up to no Good", which touches upon the economics of moonlight and roses. He says the situation is so alarming that a fellow sometimes has to ask his date to pay her share of the check. And you've got to have real ^{appeal,} ~~charm~~ ₁ fascination and a ^{patent} ~~lovely~~ ₂ line of talk - to get away with that.

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"The girl who used to get a box of candy," says the author, "is lucky now if she gets a candy bar."

To which the florists add that, instead of orchids, she's likely to get a sprig of ~~rose~~ ^{water cress for her hair} ~~now~~ ~~now~~ ~~has~~.

Figures from the industry show that the average orchid costs two dollars more than before the war, and the price for the kind the lady would really love to receive is about ten dollars. Gardenias that used to ~~sell~~ sell for a buck, are now two. And the price of a rose corsage is double.

Mr. L. Charles Baum, Jr., official of a chain of florist shops declares; "The only roses a girl can count on these days are in her cheeks - if she can afford the rouge."

And that seems to lead right straight to you, Nelson.