

GREECE

L.T.-DELCO. WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 1956.

(Given by Chas. Collingwood)

The classic city of Athens was a scene of stormy disorder, today. Huge crowds rioting in protest against the scheduled execution of two terrorists on the island of Cyprus. Condemned - for the murder of a policeman and a British civilian.

The mobs assailed the British Embassy. Also - a U.S. Information building. The anti-American angle is explained by the belief among the Greeks - that the United States is backing British policy in Cyprus.

The Athens government prohibited all demonstrations - afraid of rioting and violence. But the ban was relaxed - permitting one big rally in a downtown square of Athens. The rally quickly got out of hand, and the mobs were on the rampage.

They stormed the U.S. ~~if~~ information building, hurling paving stones - smashing windows. But - were hurled back by strong forces of police.

They burned the British Union Jack in a public square, and marched on the British Embassy. But, again - were met by

reinforcements of police, and repelled.

In the rioting, clubs were not enough to beat back the mob, and the police opened fire - shooting over the heads of the crowds. But some rioters were hit, they say. In any case, two persons were killed, at least - possibly seven. Two hundred injured - one hundred and thirty rioters and ⁶³~~fifty-nine~~ police.

On Cyprus, the report is that the hangings will be carried out soon, possibly tomorrow. And, today, there was ~~it~~ violence across the island. British troops fired at demonstrating students in Limassol. At another place, a British soldier was killed, another wounded - in a series of gunfire and bombing attacks made on British motorized patrols.

LONDON

In the House of Commons, today, the statement was made outright - that Commander Lionel Crabb was on a spy mission, investigating the Russian cruiser on which Bulganin and [REDACTED] Khrushchev arrived in Britain. In the course of which - he vanished, and his fate is a mystery.

The charge was made by Labor Party Leader Hugh Gaitskell, who said that the "frogman" swam under the cruiser Orjonikidze, for the purpose of inspecting the hull of that warship. Presumably, the bottom of the boat might reveal secrets of naval construction.

Prime Minister Eden answered - in a most inconclusive way. Saying: "It would not be in the public interest to disclose the circumstances in which Commander Crabb was [REDACTED] presumed to have met his death."

To which he added this enigmatic statement: "What [REDACTED] was done was done - without the authority, or knowledge, of Her Majesty's Ministers", said ^{Eden.} ~~the Prime Minister.~~

He said, also - that "appropriate disciplinary steps

are being taken." But he didn't say - against whom. Or - why?

It was puzzling, tantalizing, and the Labor Party leader said bluntly: "The House and public must draw their own conclusions - that, in fact, officers or an officer was engaged on a business of espionage during the Russian visit."

The affair is a headline mystery in London, with no end of surmise. The "frogman" was a civilian, recalled on active duty, only for special jobs. He registered at a hotel with a man named "Smith", who is otherwise unknown. The British Admiralty says that Commander Crabb was testing "special apparatus." An official of the Soviet Embassy declares that a "frogman" was seen near the Russian cruiser.

London newspapers are indulging in a guessing game.

The most
~~one~~ plausible account is that Commander Crabb was ~~found~~ *drowned* accidentally. Another story says - he was killed by a "Soviet frogman". Still other surmises are - that he was kidnapped and taken to Russia.

But the prize yarn of all is that American espionage

was involved in this affair, and that Prime Minister Eden refuses to talk because he's covering the doings of Americans.

Altogether - a melodramatic aftermath of that headline visit of B. and K. to Britain.

CHURCHILL

Sir Winston Churchill arrived at Aachen, today, and was received with all honors by the West German government. But he was greeted also with manifestations of hostility. Signs reading - "Churchill is unwanted, Churchill go home." The protests are the doing of one-time Nazis and refugees expelled from Soviet occupied East Germany. They blame the former British Prime Minister for agreeing to the division of Germany at the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences.

~~The city of Aachen was utterly destroyed by bombing and artillery fire in the Second World War, and Sir Winston is~~ there to receive the "Charlemagne Prize," promoting European unity. Aachen, famous Aix-la-Chapelle, is the place where Charlemagne was buried. That mighty Frankish monarch, who unified so much of Western Europe - more than eleven hundred years ago.

MOSCOW

There's a journalistic argument in Moscow - a new dispute in the business of down-grading Stalin. The newspaper "Red Star", which represents the views of the Soviet Army, takes issue with ~~the~~^a publication issued by the Defense Ministry.

In ~~the~~^{the} ~~the~~ military bulletin, the Defense Ministry blamed Stalin for the defeats the Russians incurred in the early part of their war with Nazi Germany. Declaring - that the ~~the~~ Red forces were unprepared, in spite of the fact that Stalin had been warned by Soviet Intelligence that Hitler would attack.

The "Red Star" quarrels with that, not because of the blame put on Stalin - but because of the statement that the Red forces were unprepared. ~~The~~^{the} contention is that the Central Committee of the Communist Party was apprehensive of the Hitler attack, and that the Red Army was ready to resist.

The "Red Star" argues that those early Nazi victories were because of a German superiority in tanks and warplanes, and because their forces could concentrate on the Soviet frontier.

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SENATOR GEORGE

When the next session of Congress comes around, the Senate will be minus one of its most familiar names - George of Georgia. The seventy-eight year old legislator, dean of the Senate, is retiring. He won't run for reelection.

Senator George ^{would have had} ~~was expected to have~~ some formidable opposition in Georgia. Running against him - former Governor Herman Talmadge, a veteran of a knock-down, drag-out style of political battling. But the withdrawal of Senator George from the race appears to be based on other considerations.

In Washington, today, announcing his retirement, the aged Senator presented a statement from his physician. Who says: "Senator George has discussed with me, on several occasions, whether it would be wise for him to run for the U.S. Senate again. His decision to withdraw," adds the doctor, "is a wise one."

The medical statement mentions ailments from which the Senator suffers - mild, but something for a seventy-eight year old veteran to reckon with. "The strain of a vigorous campaign

at his age might be detrimental," says the doctor.

So, after serving in the Senate for thirty-four years, George of Georgia will be seen in the legislative halls no more.

But, apparently, he will not step out of public life.

Because President Eisenhower immediately offered him a high ranking post in the realm of foreign policy. Senator George - having long served as ^{a member and now} Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The job Mr. Eisenhower offers him is that of "Presidential Representative and Special Ambassador" to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. And George of Georgia indicates - he'll accept.

There's an irony in this - going back to the days of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Who tried to purge Senator George - as an arch conservative. But the Senator won out against F.D.R. - and was returned to the Upper House of Congress. Now, apparently, he'll take a high post in a Republican administration.

PRIMARIES

The primary elections, held yesterday, were significant in only one state - Indiana. Where there was another of those popularity contests. How many votes would President Eisenhower get on the Republican side? And how many would Senator Kefauver get on the Democratic side?

Indiana was doubly important, because it was the first agricultural state that could be used as a measure of the President's popularity among the farm voters - since he vetoed the Farm Bill. So the figures are being scanned for their bearing on a possible revolt against the Republicans in the corn belt.

The returns give the President three hundred and fifty thousand votes. He had some token opposition from Lar Daly, self styled "America First" candidate. Who polled - thirteen thousand. Senator Kefauver was unopposed on the Democratic side, and he gets two hundred and sixteen thousand. However, one county normally Democratic - is still missing. So the estimate is that the Kefauver total will be about two hundred

and thirty-seven thousand.

Percentage-wise, the President gets about sixty
per cent of all the votes cast in the primary. Which betters the
showing he made in the Indiana primary of Nineteen Fifty-Two.
When he got fifty-nine per cent - compared with Adlai
Stevenson.

The farm vote angle is emphasized in the primary news
from Indiana. The President rolled up huge majorities in the
farm districts. Where there was no apparent sign of a farm
revolt, because of that Eisenhower veto.

MENNEN WILLIAMS

Governor Mennen Williams of Michigan removed himself, today - as a possibility for the Democratic vice-presidential nomination. There was talk that he might be a likelihood for second place on the ticket. But now he announces - that he'll run for Governor of Michigan, again, seeking a fifth term.

Doing so, he declares - he is not ^{in line} ~~a possibility~~ for a place on the national ticket.

EISENHOWER - HEALTH

President Eisenhower will have a "major medical check-up" on Friday. He told his news conference today that this is part of annual routine, and has nothing especial to do with the heart attack he incurred last autumn. He'd have a check-up - in any case. So he'll enter the Walter Reed Hospital, and let the doctors give him a thorough medical inspection.

Actually, the President had an examination by a doctor, today - but that was only because heart specialist, Dr. Paul Dudley White, was at the White House on a casual visit. Dr. White, who treated the President last autumn, was calling on the presidential personal physician, Major General Snyder. So he took that opportunity to have a look at the illustrious patient.

Dr. White said he gave the President "a brief examination." Result - favorable. "He seems to be in good health," said the Doctor.

HOSPITAL

At Pierre, South Dakota, they had a special celebration of National Hospital Week - among the school children. Youngsters were called upon to write essays - giving their opinion of hospitals.

One girl in grammar school wrote: "In a hospital, you can sleep all day, and some of your friends give you money and flowers."

A little girl, in the second grade, expresses her appreciation in these words: "Once upon a time I drank baby oil - and once I ate moth balls. I like the hospital, because they helped me get well."

But the prize should go to a lad in the first grade, who printed his essay in a large scrawl. Addressing this to the nuns at a local hospital, he did not profess to have too much knowledge. The first-grader said:

"Dear Sisters:

I was born in St. Mary's Hospital, but

I don't remember much about it.

Love,

John Porter."

~~No, Jo~~

~~has not such a good memory!~~