

Tonight, all of Algeria is tense - as the French brace to meet a possible "holy war". Midnight tonight, marks the end of the Mohammedan feast of Ramaden - and the fear is that terrorist violence will erupt into a full scale war very soon. Three hundred thousand French security troops are on the alert. In many areas of Algeria, all able bodied men between eighteen and forty-eight have been called up for duty with the militia. Isolated French settlers have been armed - to meet sudden raids. Reinforcements are pouring into Algeria from France.

Meanwhile, the search for the so-called "army of Allah" goes on. French troops, fanning out through the mountains, in a drive to smash the terrorist forces. The ground troops are supported by ~~xxx~~ tanks and planes - and helicopters are spotting the area for them. There have been at least fifteen battles between the French and the terrorists in the past twenty-four hours.

~~But~~ But there is one hopeful sign - many native Algerians are turning against the "army of Allah". In one place,

villagers killed the leader of an anti-French band - and turned the rest over to the authorities. The French say that the same kind of thing is happening in other places. So there's a glimmer of hope - even as the danger of a "holy war" grows more threatening.

NEWSPAPER

The French government has confiscated today's entire issue of the Communist newspaper, "Humanite". The reason - the Red paper is accused of violating the Criminal Code, which forbids anyone to endanger the security of the state.

The point is that today "Humanite" devoted most of page one to the Algerian situation - calling the French attempt to put down terrorism "unjust".

Naturally, the French government doesn't want that kind of propaganda - just when the Algerian situation is so touchy. So the Prefect of Police ordered the entire edition of almost two hundred thousand - to be picked up for burning. Tonight, gendarmes are stationed at newsstands and railway stations throughout France - seizing all copies of the paper that they can find.

CYPRUS

On Cyprus, the British are searching for the underground leader who goes by the name of Dighenis. He's believed to be a Greek colonel trained by the British. - but very little is known about him.

It was "Dighenis" who signed the leaflet, distributed all over Cyprus - stating that two British soldiers have been executed in reprisal for the execution of two partisans. The British say they doubt this claim.

HAMMARSKJOLD

The Secretary General of the United Nations doesn't consider the minor incidents between Israel and the Arab states - as a violation of their pledge to a cease-fire. Dag Hammarskjold, telling his news conference that he's satisfied if each government controls its military units and its civilian population. If a nation does this, in the words of the Secretary General, "it has lived up to its assurances."

What about those incidents along the Israeli border?

Hammarskjold said, ~~that's a very~~ with so many people involved - we can't expect trouble not to pop up now and then. But that doesn't matter - as long as the governments keep their word.

FROGMAN

Britain has apologized to Russia -- for the mysterious frogman who disappeared after bobbing up near the Soviet cruiser which brought Bulganin and Krushchev to Britain. The Russians sent a stiff note of protest to the British. Today the British replied that the frogman's presence near the ships was without any permission whatsoever, and Her Majesty's Government expressed regrets. The Russian press has taken up the matter calling the episode "dirty work and shameful spying."

Meanwhile, the British people are waiting to hear just what happened to Commander Crabb, the frogman, ... They'll get at least some of the answers when the subject is debated in the House of Commons.

DEFENSE

America is strong enough to deter any sudden enemy attack. So says General Nathan Twining, head of the Air Force. But General Twining adds - we are strong enough "for this year."

He was testifying before a Senate Military Appropriations Sub-Committee. Senator Saltonstall of Massachusetts asked whether we were so strong that no other nation would dare to attack us. General Twining replied that it was a difficult question. Then he added: "For this year, the answer is - yes." The General, refusing to predict what the situation will be a year from now.

INTRODUCTION TO L.T.

Tonight, we have another report from Lowell Thomas in Katmandu. He tells us some of the history of Nepal - history we don't often hear about.

L.T. RECORDING

Why journey half-way around the world to attend a coronation in a country as little known ~~as remote~~ and remote as Nepal? Up here, next door to Tibet? In case you are wondering, there are at least three answers, either of which would be enough to lure me here. First of all, Nepal, of course, is in the Himalayas and these, the highest mountains on earth, have a fascination for nearly all Westerners and for Eastern peoples, too. Second, and perhaps most important, there are not many kings left on this planet. This is sure to be one of the last coronations of our time, probably the last with real old-time Oriental pomp and pageantry, with painted elephants and all their silver and gold trappings. And, then, there's a third reason. Nepal is trying to jump right from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century and do it overnight. And who wouldn't want to see something of this violent transition while it's going on?

What are the present King's credentials? How does he rate the throne? The early history of Nepal is lost in the

Himalayan mists, but we do know that a few centuries ago, when the great moguls came down through the Khyber Pass and swept into the plains of India, when Tamerlane, Barbar the Great and Akbar and their people conquered most of Hindustan, some of those, who have long resided in the plains, fled into these mountains. Among them the Gurkhas, whose legends tell of how they came from the desert of Rajputana; one of the major massacres of the mogul period took place at Chita, where tens of thousands of Gurkhas were said to have been slaughtered and the survivors, who fled to the Himalayas, mixed with the Mongoloid Tibetan peoples here and, finally, in the year 1769 they conquered this hidden valley in the center of which is the fabulous city of Katmandu. By the time the British had established themselves in India and taken over from the great moguls, a Gurkha family called The Renas had become rich and powerful here in Katmandu. There were the usual oriental conspiracies. After the death of one king, two of his queens, who were rivals, each wanted her son to have the throne. One of

them plotted with a Rana warrior named Jang Bahadur. Jang Bahadur, according to the story, paid off his gambling debts by capturing elephants single handed in the jungles of lower Nepal. Jang Bahadur Rana and his men staged what is known as the massacre of Hanuman Dokha. That means the Monkey Gate and on that occasion they got rid of all the ministers and generals who had been in power. The king's son they put on the throne was a half-wit and from him Jang Bahadur got an edict, that henceforth the Prime Minister would always be a Rana. That, in brief, is the story of how Nepal was governed for one hundred and fifty years, all the kings from 1845 to January 1951 were virtually prisoners of the Ranas, who held the reins of power.

You may recall that in these broadcasts back in 1950 I told how the then-King, Tribhuvana, decided that there had been enough of that Rana dictatorship. From Katmandu, stories got down to India over the trails by courier of how the King had just taken asylum in the Indian Embassy here in Katmandu and then came the collapse of the Rana dynasty. The

rule by hereditary prime minister ended quickly, no doubt indirectly brought on by the withdrawal of the British from India. British viceroys had upheld the Ranas because the Ranas had helped Britain in India in the days of the Sepoy mutiny, but, now, the new world spirit of unrest has even penetrated the jungle and scaled the front range of the Himalayas to this isolated country and the jig was up for the Ranas. The Indian Embassy secretly flew the King out to Delhi. That was in 1951. And now it's King Tribhuvana's son whose coronation we have flown all the way from America to attend. So long!

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COLLINGWOOD: Well, Lowell, that is a colorful bit of history! Part of it I, for one, didn't know anything about. We'll be looking forward to more of your recorded broadcasts, the ones that are still to come, from Katmandu.

TRUMAN

Former President Truman is off for Europe - to receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree at Oxford. Mr. Truman told reporters at the dock - his main purpose is to receive that degree. Otherwise, he'll just be sightseeing. Asked whether he would carry out any mission for President Eisenhower - Mr. Truman said he hadn't been offered any such mission. Then the former President went on: "I wouldn't be worth a dime to him."

ROBBERS

In Quincy, Massachusetts, they're saying that today's cops-and-robbers chase - was like something out of an old time Mack Sennet comedy. The robbers, fleeing aboard a golf course lawn mower - just as if they were playing in a movie of the Keystone Cops.

The gunmen held up a Quincy bank - and got away with four thousand dollars. They fled in a car, which they abandoned near the Wollaston golf course. But the police were hot on their trail. So they raced across the ^{fairway}/~~green~~ and jumped onto a power lawn mower, and off they sped - with the police in hot pursuit. There was a wild chase across the golf course. The police, shooting all the while. At the fifth green, one of the gunmen was hit - and fell off the lawn mower. In the language of golfing - the gendarmes scored an eagle on the fifth green.

The second gunman jumped off the power mower - and fled into the woods - the end of a Mack Sennet comedy routine - at least that's what it looked like to observers on the course.

BOYS

Here's an astonishing crime story from Topeka, Kansas - astonishing, because it involves two brothers, seven and eight years old. They told police they stole close to two thousand dollars - taking money from cafes, filling stations, and drug stores.

What ~~made~~ made them do it? Well, the whole spree began as pretty much of an accident. The two boys were at the movies - appropriately, the picture was about Jesse James. During the picture, one of the boys went outside and entered a cafe. He climbed the rear stairs, without meeting anybody. The stairs led him into the office - which was empty. He found some half dollars, which he put into his pocket, and then returned to the movie.

He told his brother what he had found - and they decided on a second visit. So they both climbed those same back stairs and entered the office, which still was empty. This time they took some bills as well as silver from the desk. Then they went back to their movie.

They told some of their friends, who urged them to make a third visit to the cafe office, which they did. And during this visit they did a thorough job of looting the place - leaving with twelve hundred dollars.

All this time, not a soul in the cafe realized what was going on. Then the two boys set out to get money in the same way - from other places. And they ran their total up to one thousand, seven hundred and fifty-five dollars.

They might never have been caught - except that one witness saw them flashing a lot of money - and told the police. The brothers told the police quite freely about their career of crime - at the age of seven and eight, they don't realize that there was anything wrong with what they did. Now it's up to the authorities to find what happened to the money - the brothers say they buried most of it ^{in different spots,} but they can't remember all the locations. Anyway, it's the end of one of the most remarkable careers of crime in the history of Topeka.

ANIMAL

Near the ghost town of Sneedsborough, on the Pee Dee River - they're hunting for a strange animal. Sounds like the beginning of a fairy-tale. But Sneedsborough and the Pee Dee River, both exist all right - they're in North Carolina. Whether the strange animal exists - is another matter.

It all started when Farmer Henry Morton paid a visit to his farm. He says he saw an unfamiliar object in the field - which fled, as he approached. He thought it must be a cow or a deer - but it left tracks thirteen inches by five inches - and the ^{claw}~~sn~~ marks are three inches long. That makes the tracks bigger ~~better~~ than those of a bear.

So now Farmer Morton and the local police are hunting for the strange animal - that left enormous footprints in a field near Sneedsborough, on the Pee Dee River.