

Yesterday's optimism at the Geneva Conference -- has just about evaporated. Today, the grey dawn arrived -- in the form of that old familiar deadlock. Britain and America proposed a one-year's suspension of atomic tests, to be continued on a year-to-year basis should it prove effective. They tied their offer to a foolproof inspection system -- and progress toward general disarmament. The Russian delegate immediately ~~summed~~ countered with the proposal offered in the past by so many Russian delegates -- immediate cessation of all nuclear tests, but no discussion of general disarmament, and only subsequently talk of how to police the atom ban.

MIDDLE EAST

Tension is mounting in the Middle East -- following that Arab accusation against Israel.

The charge that Israel is preparing to attack Jordan.

In Cairo, officials of the United Arab Republic said

today -- they would go to war immediately, should the

Israeli army cross the Jordanian border. And ^a ~~that~~ the

report from Iraq states -- that the Revolutionary

government of that country -- is preparing to put

its troops under the command of the U.A.R. -- if ~~shooting~~ shooting does start.

In Jerusalem, the Israeli government denies

that it has any aggressive ^{intentions} ~~intentions~~ and accuses

Cairo and Baghdad -- of trying to create chaos along

the Israel-Jordan border.

FORMOSA

Despite the recent pledge to Secretary of State Dulles to renounce aggression, there is a new statement out of Formosa tonight.

The Nationalist Chinese may counter-attack against the Communist-held mainland - if Mao Tse-tung sends an invading armada against the off-shore islands. So says Chen Cheng, Premier of Nationalist China. He emphasizes that his government definitely intends to return to the mainland - and therefore may choose a Communist attack as the moment to see if Communism can be overthrown.

But Chiang Kai-shek seems to be taking a more moderate view. In today's message to his troops - Chiang pledged to rely more on political measures than on armed force. He still wants to wait for an uprising on the mainland - before launching an invasion attempt.

PASTERNAK

The Soviet Union seems about ready to give Boris Pasternak - the boot. Russian speakers and newspapers have been full of attacks on the winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature - ever since Stockholm announced its decision. Today the organization of Russian Writers - flatly called the author of "Doctor Zhivago" a traitor. And demanded that he be stripped of his Soviet citizenship.

This follows yesterday's television program - in which speakers told the Russian people - that Pasternak has no place in Soviet society. Khrushchev sat in the audience and listened - to one speaker after another, telling the novelist -that he ought to try life under capitalism. Which sounds like an open invitation - for him to go to west. But there's one sinister alternative. Since he's being called a traitor - the author of "Doctor Zhivago" could be prosecuted in the Communist courts.

And also there is another subtle little form of torture the police state could invoke. They could exile

Pasternak - but refuse to let his wife to along.

INTRO. TO RECORDING

On Monday, Lowell Thomas will be back on this program, after his trip to the South Pacific, covering the study of an eclipse of the sun, by means of space rockets. Tonight, he gives us a final report from the scene of that remarkable experiment.

L.T.

There are so many things to tell about this Danger Island South Pacific Eclipse Expedition, that I feel frustrated. I could do a full hour broadcast and still not cover it all. So far I have told you just a little about the history-making event, the rocket astronomy part. About the launching of the six great rockets - sending them into Outer Space. It will take several months for the U.S. Navy Research Lab to study and then report on the messages sent back from Space by the instruments in the nose-cones of the Nike-Asp rockets. But I haven't yet told you how these rockets were developed, how they operate and so on.

Nor have I told you about what happened ashore on Danger Island, the coral atoll where half of the scientists were observing the eclipse - hoping to. Scientists from five institutions. There's the story of The Air Force astronomers from Sacramento Peak in southern New Mexico; and the astronomers from the University of Colorado High

Altitude Observatory and headquarters at Climax and Boulder. Also Air Force sponsored. They had hard luck; as often happens with eclipse expeditions. Making a tremendous journey in vain. While we on the flight deck - the launching platform of a Navy ship 40 miles at sea from Danger Island, we had a perfect eclipse show. At the island they never saw the sun or moon, at all.

Astronomers are philosophical about that sort of tragedy. They know it has happened to so many others. For instance, Dr. James King, a British scientist with this American expedition, has been telling me about a European astronomer who went all the way to Central Asia, somewhere on the Tibetan border, hoping to see just such a total eclipse as we have seen. Now a total eclipse can only be seen in one part of our planet once in every 360 years. This is one reason why astronomers will travel so far to see one. Ah, but this scientist had made a

miscalculation. When he arrived the eclipse had already passed. So he figured out the nearest area in Central Asia from where the next one would be visible. He went there; built a house, and stayed for seven years. The day of the eclipse it rained, and of course he didn't see it. So, sadly he returned to Europe. By now he was gray haired. No one knew him. And his wife had remarried.

Dr. Ring, by the way, is here with a University of Wisconsin group that includes himself, an American, and a Danish scientist. Their project, to study the Sun's Corona, the light that shoots out from the edges of the disc during eclipse. They are experts in the use of a new instrument called an introferometric spectgraph. Alas their journey also has been in vain, because they too needed visibility.

Before totality, when they knew the time had come for the Moon to move across the face of the Sun, around 7:45 A.M., it started to rain. Whereupon the dignified

English professor proceeded to do something that broke the tension. We have all heard of the annual "Rain Dance" of the Arizona Hopi Indians, an event that draws droves of tourists. Dr. Aing put on just the opposite. He called his the "Anti-Rain Dance." Surely there have been few stranger spectacles than this British scientist, this distinguished scholar an astronomer from the University of Manchester, dancing wildly in the rain, on Puka Puka Atoll, in the remote South Seas. Too bad the Puka Puka people didn't see it. They probably would have made the professor a Puka Pukan. At any rate two of my cameramen, Bob Young and Bert Gerrard, filmed it for our T v High Adventure show about this Danger Island Expedition. So you will see it. So long.

HOFFA

The Board of Monitors watching over the Teamsters Union - accuses its President of trying to suppress opposition. According to the Monitors, Jimmy Hoffa limits the number of candidates in local elections, to retain his control.

HOT DOG

The staid old British Parliament is having a row about - the American hot dog. Members of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, demanding to know - why the government accepted that gold-plated wiener. It was donated by American manufacturers - and is now on view at the headquarters of the British sausage industry.

And there's the rub. The British have always been addicted to sausages. A lot of Britons are afraid the national taste will be corrupted - by that un-British ~~and~~ delicacy from America. So the hot dog is under fire - in the House of Commons. Some M.P.'s today added insult to injury by referring to the hot dog - as "a sausage inside a roll."

As an old Londoner, I might add that with the British sausage, one never knows whether it is trick or treat. Does one. Goodnight.