

ATTLEE

L.I. - Sunoco. Friday, Nov. 9, 1945.

Prime Minister Attlee is flying across the Atlantic tonight. He took off from London today in an American C-54 Skymaster, and is due in Washington tomorrow morning at nine o'clock. In another plane, another Skymaster, flew Sir John Anderson, Chairman of the British Advisory Committee on Atomic Research - which reminds us what it's all about - the atomic bomb.

Shortly before leaving London, the British Prime Minister stated the purpose of his trip to Washington - "to see," said he, "how best we can lift from the ordinary man and woman this spectre of fear that haunts them."

The Attlee departure is accompanied by London rumors that the British Prime Minister and the American President may be joined by that other member of the Big Three - Stalin. There is some belief that, after Attlee and Truman have conferred between themselves,

the Soviet Generalissimo may join in the discussion of the atomic bomb. ^H This ties in with Stalin's unexplained absence from the big Moscow celebration on the anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution. We've had rumors that he is ill, and couldn't attend the celebration. One story today said that Stalin had a heart attack, and was being kept in bed by the ~~amxxx~~ doctors at his vacation place on the Black Sea. ^{there's} But [^] still another rumored answer to the question of Stalin's whereabouts ^{— —} ~~is~~ [^] that he may have gone to join President Truman and Prime Minister Attlee to talk about the atomic bomb.

One angle is this - that the Truman-Attlee conferences are to be held on the presidential yacht "Potomac" in Chesapeake Bay. And in Washington the question is raised - why ~~have a meeting on~~ Chesapeake Bay? The weather as it happens is mild, but the probabilities were that at this time of year Chesapeake Bay would be a bleak

sort of place, chilly, rain swept and wind swept. And it still may be - by the time the atomic power conferences

begin^s over the weekend. Anyway it would be a good place for secrecy - such as Stalin might want.

CHINA

The Chinese Communists made an appeal today - to President Truman and the American people. The Chinese Reds asked for an end of what they called - "armed intervention." They charge that Lieutenant General Wedemeyer, American commander in China, has had his forces take action against the Communists in China's civil war. And the Red appeal to President Truman and the American people requests the withdrawal of all American troops from China.

The Communist argument is that the mere presence of American forces constitute what they call - "armed intervention." To which they add that American soldiers have fired on Communists, and that American planes have been used against them. These charges of military action are denied by Americans ~~in charge~~ out there and by the government in Washington - the American attitude being that our forces have been used to enable the troops of

Generalissimo Chaing Kai-shek to move into places liberated from the Japs and accept Jap surrender.

Today the Communists declared that Chiang Kai-shek was preparing to move four armies into Manchuria by air. During recent weeks, nationalist forces have been flown to Communist dominated areas by the United States Tenth and Fourteenth Air Forces - so the assumption is that, if four Chiang Kai-shek armies are to be flown into Manchuria, the Americans will do it. It would certainly have to be done with American planes - which are all there are in China.

Meanwhile, the Communists have made sweeping new political demands - and these are said to be a fresh threat to the peace negotiations that have been dragging on between the Reds and ^{the Generalissimo,} ~~Chiang Kai-shek~~. The Communists now insist on complete autonomy for north China - the Red forces to control north China as a semi-independent

area. This of course would, in effect, divide China in two. The Reds likewise demand that Chiang Kai-shek dismiss General Ho-Ying-Chin, commander-in-chief of the Chinese army, and court-martial him on charges of promoting civil war.

The situation looks worse than ever - a full fledged civil war to the bitter end seeming almost inevitable. ~~to China.~~

JAVA

In Java, the British today took possession of the naval base of Soerabaja. Hitherto, they ~~British have~~ held only the dock area. Now they've moved to the limits of the city all the way around. There was no fighting, the Indonesian forces moving out as the British advanced.

Today's action backed up the ultimatum that the British had given to the Indonesian insurgents, an ultimatum demanding - unconditional surrender. That term, so familiar in the global war, now makes its appearance in the colonial conflicts out East. The ultimatum had a deadline, the equivalent of five thirty Eastern Standard Time today. However, the British ~~xxxx~~ appear to have extended this with twelve hours of grace.

The threat of a general insurrection in Java still continues, although there was little sign of it today.

JAP MURDER

American authorities in Japan have found fourteen graves - crudely marked with planks. They are the graves of B-29 flyers, murdered by the Japs; ~~They were~~ killed only two days before Japan offered to surrender. There is [^] evidence of this in the prison cell where they were kept.

On one wall the captive flyers had marked a calendar, and on it they crossed the days off as these ~~had~~ passed.

August Seventh was the last day crossed off, and witnesses declare that they ^{Superfortress fliers} were taken away on the Eighth, two days before Japan made its offer to capitulate.

The B-29 had been shot down in a raid on Osaka.

The flyers were tortured to extort information from them - their ~~final~~ ^{black} fate still another crime to mark down against the Japs.

PEARL HARBOR

Two Republican Senators of the Pearl Harbor Investigating Committee ^{today} interviewed Captain Alvin D. Kramer at the Navy Hospital, ~~Camp~~ Bethesda, Maryland. Captain Kramer is the ^{Navy} ~~Army~~ Intelligence officer who is said to have played a vital part in the business of the secret messages in Japanese code -- the breaking of the code having given a tip-off to the Japanese intention of starting the war, so they say. *

^{TR} Republican charge was made in the Senate recently that Captain Kramer had been badgered into a nervous breakdown and was being held ^{in detention} at the Navy Hospital. All of this in connection with accusations that Pearl Harbor evidence was being suppressed. Senators Keefe of Wisconsin and Gerhardt of California ^{had} tried ~~to~~ to see and question Captain Kramer, but failed. They succeeded today, because of President Truman's directive making all Pearl Harbor evidence available to Senators on the investigating committee.

Senator Keefe of Wisconsin stated afterward that he is now satisfied that Captain Kramer has not

been under ^{what} ~~XXXXX~~ the Senator called "duress and
restraint." But ^{he} ~~the Senator~~ added that the Captain
has been under orders at the hospital where he is a
patient. ^{TP} We are not informed what information the
two Senators gathered from the ^{Naval} ~~Army~~ officer who is
said to know vital things about the breaking of *the*
Japanese code and the interception of messages that
gave warning of the ^{im} ~~im~~minence of war.

FRANCE

France was to have had a new chief of government ^{today-} but the selection was postponed. The schedule was for the new Constituent Assembly to make its choice, but that's off until next Tuesday - the Assembly voting a delay.

The reason is that a complicated wrangle is on among the three major parties, the Communists, the Socialists and the R.P.M. - ~~this~~^{the} last one being the party of General DeGaulle. The Communists and Socialists are willing to support DeGaulle as head of the government - but they make conditions.

One point of dispute presents a neat problem of logic - and the French love their logic. The three major parties are to agree on a program which DeGaulle, if chosen, would present to the Assembly. ~~this program~~ The Communists and Socialists want DeGaulle to accept ^{this} publicly before he is voted in. DeGaulle, on the contrary, is reported to be unwilling to announce the acceptance of

any program until he is chosen. And in this, DeGaulle has the recent election on his side. In that election, the French people okayed a proposal, according to which the chief of the government would present a program after being selected. Meaning, of course - selection first and program next.

However, the Communists and Socialists argue that this procedure can be reversed. They point to the fact that the people in the election also decreed that the Assembly shall have supreme power. So how can the Assembly be restricted?

Which makes quite a paradox - the people having voted that the Assembly shall do this and that, and also that the Assembly shall have the right to do as it pleases. Which leads one Parisian newspaper to assert: "If the Assembly wants to exceed its authority, DeGaulle can do nothing."

Well, the French sometimes get so tangled up in their logic, that it seems to be the height of good sense to be illogical.

MACKENSEN

In Germany, there died today a man whose lifetime covered the full scope of that world phenomenon of power and terror, ~~the rise and fall~~ the phenomenon called Modern Germany. Field Marshal von Mackensen was born in Eighteen Forty-Nine, shortly after Bismarck first appeared in public note. And he passed from the scene shortly after the end of Hitler. Bismarck, Kaiser Wilhelm, Hitler - he served them all, ~~the perfect figure of the Russian soldier.~~ *P* Mackensen ^{*Fought*} ~~served~~ in the Franco-Prussian War which Bismarck used as the means of unifying Modern Germany. He was a brilliant commander of victory for the Kaiser. For Hitler, he was a show horse - the aged Field Marshal trotted out on occasion to grace Nazi parades, a famous ^{*Prussian*} military figure. He was the perfection of a military figure - he joined the Death's Head Hussars when he was twenty, and wore his uniform to the end of his life, dying at ninety-five.

LABOR

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The Labor-Management Conference in Washington came to a full agreement today on one vital principle, the general principle of collective bargaining. Both the union leaders and the representatives of industry joined in a declaration that collective bargaining, unionism, was necessary to the American industrial system. And this was the first important sign of harmony between Labor and Management at the Washington get-together. ^T It was the more significant because back in the time following World War Number One, a similar Management-Labor Conference was wrecked on that very issue - the employer group refusing to accept the principle of collective bargaining.

Well, it was altogether different today - a decided change of attitude during the intervening years. And now the conference in Washington goes on to something more difficult - how to make collective bargaining more

workable and secure - how to enforce contracts between unions and employers. For example, how to abolish wildcat strikes.

Also, they'll have to face the question of wage increases. President Philip Murray ^{of} the C.I.O. made it clear today that he intended ^S to bring the wage question forward in an attempt to get the conference to declare itself in favor of raising the level of ^{pay} wages. This, apparently, will be opposed by a coalition of the employer group and the American Federation of Labor and the mine unions headed by John L. Lewis. They don't believe that the question of wage increases should be brought before the conference.

The latest tonight is ~~xxxxxxx~~ an official Navy protest against things that were stated today by the Army's famous Eighth Air ^{Force} ~~For~~ Commander, - General Doolittle. A dispatch just in states that Secretary of the Navy Forestal lodged a vigorous complaint with ~~the~~ Secretary of War Patterson, denouncing the testimony that General Doolittle today gave before the Senate Military Affairs Committee. The Doolittle testimony concerned the hotly debated question of unification of command for all the armed forces of the United States. The Army supports unification, the Navy opposes. ~~The~~ Navy is for unity, but not unification.

General Doolittle today spoke in favor of the Army view, ~~and tonight Secretary Forrestal~~ - spoke in blunt ~~outspoken~~ terms. There was no mincing of words, no beating around the bush.

He called for a separate Air Force, ~~xxx~~ -

relatively small, but equipped in the most modern way, the latest thing in technological advancement. He suggested a post-war air force of five thousand combat planes, always up-to-date, each plane the last word in progress.

As for the Navy opposition to unified command, General Doolittle declared: "We must not permit pride of an organization, and misplaced confidence in any outdated weapon, to interfere with the nation's future welfare." He argued that under a unified command there would, in his own words, "be more money spent on the new, the modern, the necessary, and less on the outmoded, the obsolete and the obsolescent."

As for battleships, they have been, in the Doolittle words - "obsolescent for twenty years and obsolete for ten years."

Well, that must have evoked a cheer from a shade somewhere in the paradise of aviators, the shade of Billy Mitchell, that ~~far~~^{far}sighted air commander who took such hard knocks in the days when the Army was less air-minded than now. Jimmy Doolittle, in his earlier years, was a ⁵d₁disciple of Billy Mitchell.

But what about the aircraft carrier? We may recall that in the first bombing of Japan, Jimmy Doolittle's bombers were launched from the deck of ~~an~~ *a carrier - the Hornet,* ~~aircraft carrier~~. Today he stated that the carrier has reached the peak of its usefulness and now is going into what he called - "obsolescence." He reasoned this way: "The carrier has two attributes.

First, it can move about. And second, it can be sunk." *and*

he went on: -

When we get aircraft of sufficient range, we won't need carriers."

General Doolittle summarized by denying that the Navy is now our first line of defense. "The air," he argued, "is our first line of defense."

Yes, it was a blunt and hard hitting talk, and it would be interesting to hear some admiral or other give an answer. Whom would you suggest? Well, there *is* Halsey, also noted for blunt and hard hitting words.

A Doolittle-Halsey debate on the obsolescence and
obsolet^eness of the Navy would be something I'd like to
hear. To make it the more interesting, Admiral Halsey
commanded the task force that took the Doolittle bombers

to within striking range of Japan. ~~and that~~ ^{Which} might add

~~more~~ spice to a Doolittle-Halsey debate — a debate
full of dynamite. That brings us
to Dynafuel and you Hugh.