

L.T.-K. WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1953.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

An announcement from Moscow. The Soviets say they have exploded a hydrogen bomb. The blast touched off "a few days ago." An experimental explosion, of a power many times that of the atomic bomb.

In Washington, air officials refuse to confirm or deny the Moscow announcement.

No comment.

IRAN

The weeping premier of Iran, Mossadegh, has been overthrown. The news is definite, now. This morning, a bulletin flashed from the Persian capital, the city of Teheran - announcing a successful Army revolt against that emotional statesman, Then hours went by; no further news. But, late this afternoon came a full account from the United Press correspondent in Teheran. The Army - in control, after a day of savage fighting and bloodshed. Mossadegh out - a new military government in power.

All this of course comes as a wild climax, following a spectacular series of events. Ever since the seizure of Anglo-Iranian oil, which he directed, the weeping Premier had risen to an ever increasing dominance. Last week, he staged an election, authorizing him to throw out the Persian Parliament - the Majlis. Then over the weekend - an attempt by the Shah to oust Mossadegh. But that failed - the monarch -

fleeing from his kingdom. Mossadegh supreme - or so it
This time he
seemed. ~~He~~ was backed by the Communist Party, the Tudeh; and
some thought the ^{next} Reds would seize power. But it turns out -
the other way around.

Trouble was brewing for Mossadegh in the Army. The
Shah, in his attempt at a coup, had named a premier to take
Mossadegh's place - General Zahedi. After the failure, ^{Zahedi} ~~he~~ went
into hiding, and Mossadegh put a price on his head. But
General Zahedi, under cover, was lining up the Iranian Army
against Mossadegh - and in support of the King. Plans were
laid - and, today, the storm broke.

Army units, from surrounding bases, marched on
Tehran - infantry, tanks, artillery. They took over in a
spectacular seizure of the city - supported by royalist mobs that
~~city, mobs stormed, and~~ raged through the streets. ~~Royalist~~
~~mobs backing the army.~~

The principal scene of bloodshed and violence was
the residence of Mossadegh - powerfully fortified. Mobs
attacked the place, and were met by machine gun fire.

Mossadegh's guards - shooting into the crowd, and many fell.

But, then, Army units came up - for a military siege.

Mossadegh's residence captured - after bitter fighting. The building - stormed, wrecked, burned.

the aged
But Mossadegh escaped, getting away through

adjoining houses. There was a search for him, and tonight's dispatch indicates - he may have been captured, and may be held by the Army, to protect him from the fury of the mob.

Meanwhile, the Army was crushing centers of resistance here and there. Attacking buildings held by Mossadegh supporters - blasting them with fire from tanks and artillery. Hand-grenades and rockets were used. And, all the while, the Royalist mobs were on the rampage. Storming newspapers which supported Mossadegh, and assailing his more prominent supporters. *P*One report is that they cut to pieces Mossadegh's Foreign Minister, Hussein Fatemi, who had been the Premier's right hand man in the seizure of Anglo-Iranian Oil. The crowds broke into a Communist reading room, operated by

Soviet Russia. Smashing and destroying - ripping up pictures of Soviet leaders. A band of looters ^(also raided) ~~the~~ the headquarters of the U.S. Point Four Program - and made off with the furnishings.

~~The~~ Strong Man, General Zahedi, went on the radio, and announced that he was heading a new government - as Premier, named by the Shah in the weekend coup that failed. Zahedi states that he has sent a message to the monarch, Risa Pahlevi, who is in Rome - asking the Shah to return at once and resume his throne. In Rome, the King said - he would go back, as soon as he was called.

From Meshed to Bandar Abbas, from the slopes of the desert of Baluchistan,
(All over Iran, the scenes in the capital city seem to have been repeated - on a smaller and less violent scale. The Army taking control. Jubilant scenes are described - crowds rejoicing wildly over the downfall of Mossadegh.)

These events are being watched with vivid interest in all the capitals of the world. In the West, ~~there's~~ there's a hope that the new Iranian government, firmly in power,

may settle the dispute over Anglo-Iranian Oil. New Premier Zahedi promises the Iranians - better living conditions, and a more prosperous country. Which could result from an arrangement that would put the great oilfields into operation again.

~~That Anglo-Iranian production,~~ With royalties, that used to give the Iranian government so much of its revenues.

EGYPT

During the pilgrimage to Mecca, which is now on, Allah the All Merciful was asked - for something most modern. Thousands of pilgrims from all over the world ascended the slopes of Mount Arafat. Not Ararat, which is different. Mount Arafat, the mountain of mercy, is near Mecca. The place where, according to Moslem legend, Adam and Eve stood after they were expelled from the Garden of Eden.

Today, one of the True Believers was Mohammed Naguib, President of the new Republic of Egypt. Wearing the flowing white robes of a pilgrim, the Egyptian Strong Man stood on Mount Arafat amid great throngs of the faithful. There he bowed his head, and prayed to Allah in these words: "Cleanse our country of British troops." That Suez Canal question - brought up during the pilgrimage to Mecca.

KOREA - PRISONERS

News from Korea indicates that ~~the~~ Red Cross brought about the release of two hundred American prisoners - whom the Reds intended to hold back. So stated by returning G.I.'s, who say the two hundred were Americans angrily hostile to Red indoctrination.

Corporal John Tyler of Moundsville, West Virginia,

declares:-

"They sure were not going to let the last two hundred of us go from camp. After the Red Cross made them turn us loose, the Chinese had to get six more box cars to carry us."

Other home-comers tell of a resistance movement in the camps - Americans organizing, secretly, to check the Communist indoctrination. They used persuasion on comrades who were weakening, and took action against informers.

(Three leaders of the resistance are being hailed as heroes. Sergeant Lloyd Pate of Columbia, South Carolina, Private James Prow of Solsberry, Indiana, and Private Alexander Kreizer of Danbury, Connecticut. Kreizer is a Hungarian, who spent a number of years in a Nazi ~~concentration~~ ^{concentration} camp during

World War Two.

~~They tell how they sent secret notes to~~ ^{TP ON} prisoners who seemed to be yielding under the pressure of Red propaganda ~~notes warning them. With informers, the measures were more drastic.~~ "We had to use quite a bit of fist work, ~~on them.~~" says Private Prow. Sergeant Pate adding: "We succeeded in making men out of the rats we worked over. We never hurt them bad. We kind of disgraced them.")

~~Meanwhile~~ sixty more Americans were set free today - ninety Britons, and three hundred South Koreans. But, on the other side of the fence - nothing. No Communist prisoners handed over. The reason, a typhoon. A tropical tempest making it impossible to take Red captives off South Korean islands. Vessels for transport - not venturing out into the typhoon.

KOREA - CASUALTIES

The Defense Department gives the final figures for U.S. casualties in Korea. Called - a "preliminary total." There may be minor changes. But the report brings the figures down through the last day before the armistice.

IN three years, our forces in Korea suffered more than one hundred and forty-two thousand casualties. Twenty-five thousand, ~~six hundred and four~~ - dead. More than one hundred ~~and three thousand~~ wounded. Eight ~~thousand, five hundred and~~ twenty-nine - missing.

In the Second World War, the ~~total~~ American casualties in battle ^{were} ~~more~~ - more than one million, one hundred and forty-three thousand. Korea - about twelve per cent of that. (In World War One, the U.S. casualties were nearly three hundred and sixty-five thousand. ^{only} About two and a half times the figure for Korea.)

WET BACKS

The Mexican Government has ordered "extreme vigilance" along the border - to stop the swarm of "wet backs" pouring into the United States. Mexican Immigration officials are instructed to do all they can - supplementing the efforts of U.S. officials. ~~on the American side of the border.~~

This follows the inspection tour made by Attorney General Brownell, who reported to President Eisenhower - that the U.S. border patrol was unable to deal with the thousands of Mexican laborers entering this country illegally. It would seem that the Mexican Government was asked to help - and has responded.

The Mexicans are saying that responsibility for the condition lies largely with American farmers - who employ the "wet backs." The Mexican laborers attracted by - "the lure of the American dollar."

(Anyway, the two governments are now collaborating - to stop the swarm of illegal entrants, who splash across the Rio Grande. ^{Or} they cross the border, where there is no river, but are still called "wet backs")

RIO GRANDE

They^are getting ready for big doings, down on the Rio Grande. Presidential doings - doubly so. Two Presidents, American and Mexican, to dedicate a new dam across the river, ~~dividing their two countries.~~

The Falcon Dam, ~~is~~ seventy-five miles down stream from Laredo^{is} an international project, for irrigation on both sides of the border. ~~The celebration to be held in October. But, already, officials have arrived on the scene. Getting things ready for~~ President Eisenhower and President Ruiz Cortines ~~who~~ will preside - over the double-barrel presidential dedication.

Today, President Eisenhower was attending a dedication in New York - the opening of a housing project named after the father of ~~his old friend~~ Bernard Baruch. He is also in the Big^Town to register for the coming primary election.

CAVE

In that cave adventure, over in Europe, the perilous task of rescue was completed, today. The last of three trapped cave explorers - brought out. They established a record for descending deep into the earth, and it looked as if they might perish - in the subterranean depths.

The cave is the deepest in Europe - an immense cavern in the Pyrenees, along the border of France and Spain.

~~Long a lure for explorers - making their way farther and farther into the depths. Last year, one was killed. Others have been injured in weird misadventures. This latest expedition, consisting of~~ three French experts on caves, set a new mark by making their way down to a level of two-thousand-three-hundred-and-seventy-three feet below the surface. They descended on long cables, and something went wrong. Equipment out of gear. ~~and they were trapped.~~ They were able to climb up to a point a thousand feet underground - and, there, were trapped.

The rescue was a tough job - a long, thin cable sent all the way down, a thousand feet. The height of New York's Empire State Building. In that way, they were brought out. The last of the three - reaching the surface today.

BERNHARD

A news dispatch discloses that, recently, Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands had a narrow escape from death - under water. At the Dutch island of Cuaracao, in the Caribbean, he was taking under-water pictures. In diving equipment, at the bottom of the bay, he was burdened with photographic equipment - when the diving gear broke. Bernhard of the Netherlands - left without oxygen, ~~down there~~ under the water, and there was no way to pull him up. But he was helped by companions down there with him, in diving suits - and was able to squirm out of his own equipment. Whereupon he shot up to the surface - just in time.

Queen Juliana of the Netherlands nearly lost - her adventurous Prince consort.

QUINTUPLETS

One of the Dionne quintuplets has decided to become - a nun. Marie - always the quietest of the famous five. She was the smallest and weakest of the quintts at birth. Now to enter a convent at Quebec, where she will prepare for a religious life. Marie will have two-and-a-half years of probation; then decide whether or not to take the final vows.

The Dionne quintts were reared in all the piety of French Canada, and today Papa Dionne said - that Marie had been thinking of the convent for several years.

So now the famous five will break up, after having been always together - during their nineteen years. Only three, in fact, will remain at the school where they have been studying home economics and music. Yvonne is going to study art in Montreal.

9 years ago - on their 10th birthday, I helped them celebrate - and did a broadcast from their nursery - with the five little girls sitting around me. I

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haven't seen them since then - and it seems odd to think of them as grown young ladies, vivacious Yvonne off to Montreal to study art and little Marie entering a convent to become a nun.

BUS

A Chicago bus driver is trying to figure - how do you keep a lady from riding on a bus? The judge said, he'd have to do it.

John Craig was sued by his wife, who charged - their marriage had been broken up by a mystery woman. Who, every day, boarded hubby's bus, and rode to the end of the line. She liked to be near the driver - romance on a bus. *Victims of a bus on a bus - and all that.*

Judge John Lupe, patched things up between wifie and hubby. Telling the latter: "Keep that woman off your bus."

"But how can I do that?" asked the driver. "She's a paying passenger."

"Insult her," said the judge.

"I can't, Your Honor. She's a lady."

"But you can shame her and discourage her," commanded

His Honor.

"I'll do my level best," promised the husband.

So that's his problem, *mile* - how to keep the lady from

14 riding on that bus/.