

L.T. - DELCO - FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1956
(Given by Charles Collingwood)

GOOD EVENING:

President Eisenhower left no doubt about his opinion when reporters at his News Conference, today, raised the question of influence peddling in Washington. The newsmen wanted to know about the testimony of Murray Chotiner, who told Senate investigators yesterday that two White House aides checked on some of his cases and arranged appointments for him. Murray Chotiner was the 1952 campaign manager for Vice President Nixon. But the lawyer says he never used the Vice President's influence.

When Mr. Eisenhower was questioned, he replied that when he took office, he issued two orders for government officials in handling contracts. The first order was that anyone doing business with the government should be treated courteously. The second order was that anyone who tried to peddle influence should be kicked out at once. What about the

Chotiner case? The President says that neither of his two rules were violated. Mr. Eisenhower noting in particular that twice Chotiner's clients were turned down by the government.

During a news conference, Mr. Eisenhower referred to a report that he had said he agreed to run for a second term because the GOP didn't have time to find another candidate. Newsmen asked if the President had actually made such a statement. He seemed to find the question amusing. He admitted that it was possible that he had made the statement, although he couldn't remember, but he said that if he did it could only have been a joke. Mr. Eisenhower pointed out that he can't remember everything he's ever said about his candidacy and he's joked about it many times. Anyway, he says, seriously, that the idea is ridiculous that he decided to run for a second term because he was the only candidate available. He believes there are a number of acceptable candidates in the Republican Party besides himself.

AIR POWER.

President Eisenhower says that critics of our air power - are failing to take into consideration our naval air arm. The President's remarks, directed at Democratic members of a Senate Sub-Committee investigating air power. They claim that Russia is ahead of us. But Mr. Eisenhower retorts that we have the most powerful Navy in the world - and it emphasizes air power. From what the President says, it seems that we are still ahead of the Russians - as long as we count the Navy in. And who doubts that the Navy would be in - if a war broke out suddenly?

FARM

President Eisenhower describes the new Farm Bill as "bad legislation." Mr. Eisenhower told his News Conference that to enforce the Bill would demand a bigger bureaucracy in the Agriculture Department - than we already have. Mr. Eisenhower thinks that the provisions of the Bill are almost unworkable - and that's why he doesn't like it. But he refuses to say whether he will veto the Bill or not - he'll wait until he sees the language in which it is written.

HAMMARSKJOLD

The Secretary General of the United Nations is in Rome. Dag Hammarskjold, drafting a report to be presented to the Security Council next week. He's scheduled to leave Rome tomorrow - and should be in New York City by Sunday night.

Dag Hammarskjold is described as "satisfied" with the results of his twenty-five days in the Middle East. He did a lot of hard bargaining with Arab and Israeli leaders - and won the acceptance of his plan for a cease-fire.

But even as the Secretary General was on his way home new incidents were reported along the Israeli border. Israel states that Jordanian infiltrators were surprised yesterday by a military patrol - and one of them was killed, as the rest retreated back into Jordan. Israel also charges that Egyptian infiltrators crossed the border near the Gaza Strip - and stole some Israeli crops on a farm near the border.

DULLES

Secretary of State Dulles proposes a new "Ten Year Plan" for the nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Mr. Dulles outlined his idea before the NATO Council of Ministers meeting in Paris. The idea is for NATO to move beyond a mere military alliance - into the field of common economic and political activity. The first step would be to set up a committee - that would work out the initial expansion. That group, to report back to the NATO Council in the Fall.

Our Secretary of State emphasized the need for a long haul - because the cold war with Russia will probably last indefinitely into the future. He pointed out that the West must stand firm - in the hope that liberalism will eventually triumph inside the Soviet Union. That's the point of his new proposal - a Ten Year Plan.

French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau also had a scheme ready for the NATO Council. He proposed a United Nations "Marshall Plan." Pineau's idea is to set up an international aid agency - with delegates from the nations that

give aid now, as well as representatives of the nations that receive aid. The agency would control a special bank to handle the finances. In this way, the burden of administration would be taken from individual countries - and passed on to the U.N. Also, it would help diminish international rivalries. So far, there's no indication that the NATO Council will back the Pineau Plan.

POWER

The Atomic Energy Commission issues the first permits - for private industry to build nuclear power plants. The permits are given to Consolidated Edison of New York, and Commonwealth Edison of Chicago. Both firms will use nuclear energy to provide electricity for commercial use. The atomic reactors, to be ready by Nineteen Sixty.

Both plants have been investigated for safety - the A.E.C. making sure that there is no risk to the public. When each Company submits a final report - their permits will be converted into forty-year licenses. This, a major step toward using atomic energy in private industry.

RIESEL

The doctors announced today that Victor Riesel has lost his sight, blinded in both eyes. Riesel is a columnist who writes on the labor situation, hard-hitting, sometimes controversial. One night after he'd put the column to bed, a man stepped up to him as he left a restaurant and threw the contents of a bottle of acid in his face. Riesel had just done a broadcast attacking one side in a bitter struggle for leadership in a New York union local. The search for his assailant is still going on. For weeks, Victor Riesel has lain in a darkened hospital room while doctors fought to save his sight. But now the darkness for him is permanent.

As the announcement was made, the head of the syndicate who distributes Riesel's column, said "The hoodlums may be able to blind one newspaperman's eyes but they had not dimmed his memories or his powers. The gangs can blind one newspaperman but they cannot blind the nation's entire press. Everyone who knows him knows Victor Riesel is a fighter. The column will continue and it's a good guess that ~~xxxxxx~~ its insight will not be impaired."

ANTI-STALIN

In Russia, the anti-Stalin line was pushed a little further today - when the bulletin of the Supreme Soviet stated that persons accused of anti-state activities must be tried in ordinary courts and under normal procedures. Stalin, as we know, set up a "Star Chamber" system - secret trials followed by immediate execution. That was how he managed to have his opponents liquidated in what looked like a legal form. Now the Supreme Soviet declares the method wasn't legal at all - and outlaws it. Every Soviet citizen, to have a right to normal court procedure in the future.

ALGERIA.

In Paris, it's announced that seventy thousand more troops are on their way to Algeria. This will bring to two hundred thousand - the number of recruits and reservists shipped to that territory to help fight the Arab terrorists. And we hear that the Mollet government will order the mobilization of more than sixty thousand more recruits next week.

Meanwhile, the head of the French armed forces is in Algeria. General Paul Ely, having a first-hand look at guerrilla warfare with the so-called "Army of Allah." General Ely is a specialist in guerrilla warfare - he commanded the French Expeditionary Corps in Indo-China, two years ago.

DISARMAMENT.

The London Disarmament Conference broke up, without agreement - as expected. The reason - Soviet refusal to accept President Eisenhower's "Open Sky" inspection Plan. The Russians did not reject that plan altogether - but they insisted that it should not come into operation until a late stage of disarmament. The West is afraid that a delay would permit a surprise attack from the East. And so nothing was accomplished in London.

ATOMIC

Our new series of nuclear tests began at Eniwetok today - when a small atomic device was touched out. Apparently it was a warhead for anti-aircraft missiles - and the blast equalled only a few thousand tons of TNT. But reporters on the USS MT. McKINLEY say that the blast was big enough to light up the sky before sunrise.

There are fifteen newsmen on th MT. McKINLEY. Also, twenty-one Civil Defense observers. They were fifteen miles from the center of today's explosion. Next week they expect to test a hydrogen weapon.

~~The test had been postponed for one day - because of the weather. The winds were blowing from the wrong direction yesterday and our scientists were afraid that fall out might be blown over inhabited islands.~~

BARONET.

The Royal Canadian Air Force has expelled the son of a Baronet. Acting Pilot, Malcolm Bates, is the son of Sir Alfred Bates - a staid member of the English nobility. Apparently, the younger Bates is not quite as conservative as his father. He was being trained at Centralia, Ontario - when he took up a plane without permission, and began to buzz the airfield. Authorities say young Bates zoomed to within twenty feet of the control tower - and scared the wits out of housewives and school children.

The result - a court-martial, followed by expulsion. Malcolm Bates, to be sent back to England - because the Royal Canadian Air Force doesn't want him, even if he is the son of a Baronet.

REMBRANDT.

A number of art dealers are on their way to Timmins, a gold mining town in northern Ontario. They're going to look at a couple of paintings belonging to a resident of Timmins - who rejoices in the name of Richard Van Op Den Bosch. He's an immigrant from Belgium, who received two paintings as a wedding present. They're said to be Rembrandts - one a portrait of the artist's son, the other a portrait of one of his friends. The numbers on the paintings correspond to those in the catalogue of the works of the great Dutch master. If the experts say these are true Rembrandts - then Richard Van Op Den Bosch has two priceless masterpieces, genuine Rembrandts in a gold mining town of Ontario.

UNIVERSITY.

The Spring fever that hit the University of Pennsylvania last night - left a hundred and sixteen of the students to spend the night in jail. Today, eighty-eight were discharged by the court - but twenty-eight are being held for further hearing.

It all started when the students threw a barricade across a busy street - snarling traffic for blocks, before the police were able to clear the way. All the while, students were hooting and jeering from the windows of their fraternity houses. They launched a barrage of eggs and other missiles at the police - who promptly charged into the fraternity houses, and started pulling the brothers out by the dozen. Police vans were backed up to the houses - and the under-graduates were carried off to the pokey - a hundred and sixteen of them.