

L.T.-W. FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1954

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

First I want to express my appreciation to any of you who bore with me last nite. I almost lost my voice yesterday - been battling a cold lately - and I didn't know until I went on the air last nite that my voice had all but vanished. I should have handed my notes to Harry Marble. Or had my son broadcast for me - except that he's in Africa - in Timbuctu tonite I guess. Anyhow it must have been painful listening to me and I appologize for putting you through such an ordeal.

Hope I do better this evening! Now let's look at the news:-

ATOMIC

America proposes a "concrete plan" for carrying out President Eisenhower's proposal for the international use of atomic energy. The President made his proposal last December, in a speech at the United Nations, ^{and} Today, Secretary of State Dulles handed Soviet Ambassador Zarubin, what is described as a "concrete plan." No details announced. Neither Dulles nor Zarubin would comment. But the State Department reveals that the plan was drawn up after consultation with other nations of the free world.

Meanwhile, our development of atomic energy has gone so far, that the new weapons are said to be of "almost unbelievable power." The reference being to the hydrogen device that was touched off in the Pacific on March First. According to Dewey Short, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, that explosion indicates that our weapons are getting, in the Chairman's words, "so big we won't be able to test them."

The Chairman's remark, pointing up the importance of President Eisenhower's proposal ~~for making development of~~ atomic energy, international.

ATOMIC - JAPAN

America will pay compensation to the Japanese fishermen injured by atomic radiation during our test explosion in the Marshall Islands, ^{early} ~~on the first of~~ this month. So announced in Tokyo by ~~our~~ Ambassador, John Allison. Our Ambassador added that American civilian and military facilities will be used to help treat the fishermen who were burned at the time of the blast.

At the same time, the Japanese government states that radiation tests will be made of all tuna brought in from that area around Bikini. This, to make sure that no contaminated fish ^{are} ~~is~~ exported to America. The Japanese Welfare Ministry, to check the tuna catch during the processing.

Japanese leaders are demanding international control of atomic explosions. All political parties, backing a move to prevent any more fishermen from being harmed by radiation and atomic dust.

BENTLEY

Congressman Alvin Bentley of Michigan, - ~~hopes to be~~
~~out of the hospital by the end of this month. The Congressman~~
was the most severely wounded of those who were hit during the
shooting by Puerto Rican terrorists, ~~he~~ has been operated on
three times, in less than three weeks. But today he told a
news conference at his bedside - that he hopes to be out by the
end of the month. And the Congressman added, that his doctors
believe he will recover completely. ~~at some~~

thinks ~~that~~
Congressman Bentley ~~has~~ ~~added~~ that the Puerto Rican Nationalist
Nationalist Party should be outlawed. Because it's composed
of what he termed, "crackpots and fanatics." *And he* ~~Bentley~~ added
that the Nationalist Party may be stronger in New York than in
Puerto Rico. Anyway, he thinks it should be outlawed.

INDO-CHINA

A dispatch from Hanoi tells of Communist artillery firing on hospital planes and helicopters. The Reds, attempting to stop the transfer of ~~the~~ wounded ^{from} ~~out of besieged~~ Dien Bien Phu.

First, a hospital plane marked with red crosses, flew in. It took thirty-five casualties aboard. But the Reds opened fire on the plane as it stood on the landing strip. And on its return to Hanoi, the plane was found to have twenty shell holes in its wings and fuselage. *But it made it!*

Then the French Radio beamed a request to the Reds - asking ^{them} to let hospital planes land at Dien Bien Phu. No answer came back.. But ^{a helicopter} ~~an egg-buster~~ was sent out anyway.

had- It was met with Red bullets and artillery shells, as it settled down onto the runway. In spite of the guns, the helicopter took aboard a load of wounded, and flew them out. So far, no indication that the Communist command will respect the ~~the~~ red ^{symbols} crosses on either planes or helicopters.

~~For the fourth day, the enemy has held up the~~

WINNINGTON

A British war correspondent loses his passport. The name of the reporter, well known to our newsmen in Korea, ^{and} ~~because he is~~ *you have all heard his name -* Alan Winnington, of the London Daily Worker.

Winnington was a mouthpiece for the Reds during the fighting in Korea, and during the armistice negotiations. Some Repatriated prisoners ~~charged that the Communist~~ *say this British Red* correspondent conducted indoctrination lectures in the prison camps. ^{So} Many Britons asked the authorities to do something about him.

Today, the ~~authorities did something~~ *did. Her Majesty's* Consul in Peiping, ~~will~~ *taking up* ~~visit~~ Alan Winnington's passport. The Red reporter came in for a renewal - but lost the passport altogether.

~~Winnington~~ *He* was offered a "travel document" - ~~which is~~ valid only for a return journey to Britain. Said one London official: "Perhaps if he doesn't want to come home - his Chinese friends can help him out with documents."

That's the British attitude toward Alan Winnington - the Communist reporter ~~who is~~ accused of giving ~~so~~ much aid and comfort to the Reds.

JORDAN

Jordan offers to help track down the murderers of the eleven bus passengers - the victims, ambushed south of the Dead Sea at Scorpion Hill in Israel, near the Jordanian border. The proposal to help coming from none other than General John Glubb, - the legendary Glubb Pasha - British Commander of Jordan's Arab Legion. General Glubb said he would provide U.N. observers with trackers from Jordan - to go into Israel and help in the search. Israel accepts the offer, and the Jordanians will join the search tomorrow.

But Israel still blames Jordan for the massacre. The Tel Aviv government declaring, that permitting Jordanians to join in the hunt - does not wipe out the Israel charge that Jordan was to blame.

Anyone who knows the Arabian Desert knows there are brigards in some sections who pay allegiance to no government. Raiders in the desert could come from almost anywhere.

The Jordan government denies the charge. And Jordan's senior member on the Armistice Commission calls it, "false and baseless." He adds that even if the trail of the murderers leads into Jordan - that is no proof that Jordan was guilty.

DE GASPERI

A former Italian Premier sues a famous Italian author. Signor de Gasperi, the ex-Premier, filing a libel suit against Signor Guareschi, author of "The Little World of Don Camillo."

Guareschi declared in a magazine article that de Gasperi asked the Allies to bomb the suburbs of Rome, during World War Two. This, to cause a popular rising against the Nazis. De Gasperi was then a librarian at the Vatican. Guareschi declares that de Gasperi wrote to the Allies on Vatican stationery. The author, not having the original of the letters. But producing photostatic copies.

The ex-Premier charges that the letters are forgeries. And so he sues Guareschi for libel. The case is up in the air at the moment - because an expert for Guareschi says the letters are in de Gasperi's handwriting. While an expert for de Gasperi claims that they are forgeries.

The ironic thing is that the author was once a strong supporter of the ~~ex-Premier~~ ^{politician.} Guareschi backing

de Gasperi as Premier. But de Gasperi turned out to be too
Republican, - ~~because~~ Guareschi was a fervent Monarchist.

So the author went over to the opposition, ^{and} began to attack

de Gasperi, ^{Even keeping} ~~as Premier. And kept~~ up the attack after the fall

of the Premier. ^{So now he} ~~And now~~ is sued for libel by the man he once

defended.

EXPLORERS CLUB - MENU

I am taking part tonight - as toastmaster in what is just about the most remarkable banquet in the world. With a menu - the like of which you'll find nowhere else. Starting up with a smorgasbord that could pass for a sort of map of strange, far off places. This is the 50th anniversary of the explorers club.

Tenzing from Mt. Everest was coming - but got held up somewhere. At any rate we are eating outlets of yak. Reminiscent - of the Himalayas and Tibet. Sent along - by Prince Peter of Greece. Which may sound odd - but His Hellenic Royal Highness is an explorer. At present - on an expedition among the mountains of India - along the border of Tibet. He sent the yak.

For the Arctic explorers, Byrd, MacMillan, Balchen, Frenchan and many more, there are tid-bits of polar bear, walrus, whale, with seal blubber.

For the explorers of the tropics - octopus and

EXPLORERS CLUB - MENU

crocodile eggs. Also pickled worms - considered a delicacy in Central America.

Then those cocktail snacks - recommended by Tropical Explorer Arnold Haverlee:-Fried ants, termites from the Belgian Congo. Where, natives consider them - a rare delicacy.

"The fried termites," says Arnold Haverlee, "taste something like nuts. They go wonderfully with martinis." I'm sure he's right, but I wasn't drinking martinis. So I didn't need the cocktail snacks - of fried ants.

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Even the news wires today are carrying an item of interest to explorers;.

DARTS

New York police, searching for ^{unusual} dangerous weapons.

(Which sounds like an ordinary kind of news item. Except that the dangerous weapons are) - poison darts. The type used in blowguns by South American Indians. Bamboo missiles, dipped in curare - a deadly poison. Savages of ~~the Amazon~~ the Amazon hunt with poison darts ^{and} use them in battle.

(What's the New York story about this type of dangerous weapon?) Well, the Museum of Natural History has an exhibition ^(on the primitive Indians) of South American ~~artifacts~~. Poison darts ^a being part of the exhibition. And a handful of the missiles disappeared - stolen. So New York police - and the police of ~~twelve~~ other states - are on the lookout for the robbers.

(The guess is that ^{youngsters} ~~kids~~ are fascinated by the jungle weapons - ~~and~~ took them.)

Museum officials say they don't know just how potent the poison ^{is} is. But they suggest that anyone who comes in contact with it - see a doctor at once.

CONGO

The "Crown Prince of the Belgian Congo" isn't parading around San Francisco in his royal robes any more. The "Prince" and his wife appeared in the city of the Golden Gate, a few weeks ago. They sported garments that they said were from the Congo - flowing robes, feather headdresses - and the "Prince" carrying a zebra tail for a scepter. He introduced his wife as "Princess Nuana" - and said he had seventy more wives back home in the tropical jungle.

The "Prince" and "Princess" caused quite a sensation in San Francisco. Especially, when they turned up at the opera house for a performance of "La Traviata" - the Belgian Congo royalty, apparently interested in Verdi's sophisticated opera of life in Paris.

Ah, but there was a catch to it all. San Francisco has a Belgian Consulate - and the Consul began to ^{get suspicious} wonder about the "Crown Prince of the Congo." He wondered why he hadn't been informed about the royal visitor. So ^{the Consul} ~~he~~ called the

Immigration Bureau. The Bureau asked the "Prince" for his diplomatic passport. "Passport?" said he. "I'm from East St. Louis, and in East St. Louis you don't need a passport.

It seems that the "Prince of the Belgian Congo" is really an American dancer named Fred Williams. And he adopted his royal title for the sake of business. As he puts it: "We found ^{(with} ~~that~~ a title - we were able to get more respect and more bookings." Then he added: "Sometimes one has to descend to the depths of the dish-washer, when one has no title."

That Harry, is The story of Fred Williams, the dancer from East St. Louis - who decided he would rather be the "Crown Prince of the Belgian Congo" when dealing with theatrical agents!