

ARABS

L.F. - Deles. Mon. May 20 - '57.

For the first time - the Arab states propose peace with Israel. Suggesting terms - on which a settlement might be made.

This comes from the Secretary General of the Arab League - Abdel Kahlek Hassouna, who, today in Baghdad, issued a statement - proposing a basis for peace talks. What basis? The partition plan set forth by the United Nations - in Nineteen Forty-Seven.

That was before the state of Israel came into being. The U.N. - deciding that Palestine should be divided between the Zionists and the Arabs. The Arabs - rejecting the partition. Which led to the war - in which Israel maintained its independence.

~~Today~~, It is virtually certain that Israel will not agree to talk peace - on the basis of that old scheme of partition. Which would in fact, cost Israel one-third of its present area. The Israelis having gained, in the war - much more than the original partition plan allowed.

So today's Arab offer will not be the terms of any settlement. But it's highly significant - that any peace offer should be made at all. The Arab states, hitherto having taken the position - that they would never officially/<sup>even</sup> recognize the existence of Israel.

## EGYPT

In Egypt, Nasser proclaimed a new law today - which sounds like the typical edict of a dictator. Providing harsh penalties, including the death sentence - for a whole series of political & offenses. Treason - of course. But also -- rumor mongering, and insults to the President. Nasser giving himself a sacrosanct position - and don't you dare talk badly about him.

## SOMALILAND

A newspaper in Rome publishes a story - of a strange mystery of murder/and politics, in Somaliland. That East African country - which now has a parliamentary government. Two members of the Somaliland Parliament - arrested for complicity - in the killing of an Egyptian diplomat.

The victim, Kamal Eddin Salah. Who was - the Egyptian Minister Plenipotentiary to Somaliland. Stabbed to death, a month ago. ~~As~~ he was getting into his auto~~mobile~~ - outside the Egyptian Consulate.

The killer - a Somali, who was arrested on the spot.

An investigation - implicating the two members of Parliament. Accused - of instigating the murder.

They had parliamentary immunity, and couldn't be jailed - without action by the ~~Saha~~ Somaliland Legislature. Which action was taken - by a vote of thirty-eight to twenty-one. Lifting parliamentary immunity - and the two Somaliland M.P's now face trial.

Today's dispatch gives no reason why they plotted the murder of the Egyptian Minister Plenipotentiary.

## SOVIET NOTE

There's a Moscow proposal - for two-power talks between Soviet Russia and France. Soviet Premier Bulganin making the suggestion - in a message to French Premier Mollet.

Bulganin says - the two countries should have a bi-lateral discussion of disarmament and other international questions. Like French economic interests - in the Middle East. France - having rejected Egyptian control of Suez. Now taking the Canal question - to the Security Council of the United Nations.

The Bulganin message gives France a warning - on the dangers of atomic warfare. The Soviets - having used a threatening tone with other countries. Warning them. But Bulganin specifically tells Premier Mollet - that he's not making any threat. "Do not regard this as a threat against any country," says the note.

## ITALY

The new Italian government - sworn in, tonight. Premier Zoli and his Ministers - taking the oath in a solemn ceremony at the Quirinal Palace.

The new Cabinet - Christian-Democrat. All the Ministers - belonging to that moderate group. The Christian-Democrats -- the largest party in Italy, ~~But -~~ without an outright majority in the Rome Parliament. So Premier Zoli heads a minority government. (Which could be voted out - at any time. But seems likely - to stay in office for a while. Other parties - not wanting a new political crisis. Which might bring about - a speedy, national election. For which - they<sup>r</sup> are not ready.)

BECK

Dave Beck - banished from the high command of Labor.

Deprived of his post - as a Vice-President of the AFL-CIO.

Also -

~~And~~/expelled - from the Executive Council of the great Labor organization. Action without precedent - in the case of the head of the largest union in this country, the Teamsters.

In Washington, Beck appeared at his "trial" before the Executive Council. Hurling defiance - at his former colleagues on the Council. Refusing - to make any defense. Giving as a reason - the fact that he is under indictment for violation of income taxes. So <sup>that</sup> anything he said - might be used against him in his income tax trouble. In a way, ~~it's~~ like the old Fifth Amendment, ~~The~~ self incrimination plea - which Beck has taken so often before Congressional investigators.

AFL-CIO President George Meany, as chief of the Executive Council, presented the charges. Based - on evidence before the Senate Committee. The Teamster President - accused of having stolen Union funds. Beck insisting - it was a loan of some three hundred thousand dollars.

Today, George Meany stated the AFL-CIO view in the following words: "Whether Beck stole the funds, or borrowed them," said he, "the record shows that he took advantage of his position as a trade union official, ~~to use~~ <sup>To use</sup> money belonging to the dues-paying members - for his own personal gain and profit."

The Council vote, expelling Beck - unanimous.

Along with this, we have a statement from Senator McClellan, of Arkansas, Chairman of the Senate Committee. Who says he believes that Beck has, in the Senator's words, "committed many ~~serious~~ criminal offenses." Repeating the word - "theft."

Senator McClellan says this - in reply to the American Civil Liberties Union. Which protested, on technical grounds-  
against  
the way the Committee questioned Beck.



RIESEL

In New York, a big trial was to have begun today - in the case of Victor Riesel, well known Labor columnist - who was blinded by an acid attack. ~~In the courtroom, Judge William Herlands was ready to begin the proceedings.~~ The defendants - alleged Labor Racketeer Johnny Dio, and four others. Accused - of masterminding the attack on Riesel. U.S. Attorney Paul Williams - to present the case <sup>for</sup> the prosecution. But, instead, there was - a surprise. The prosecutor - asking for a delay. Telling the court that the government witnesses had been threatened. Too terrified now - to testify.

He said these witnesses are ~~now~~ in jail. Being, apparently, mobsters convicted previously in the Riesel case, ~~who~~ agreed they'd give evidence that Johnny Dio plotted the acid throwing. But, sinister influences were able to get to them in jail - threatening them, if they testified. So, now, they were all refusing to talk.

Hence the need for a delay - while a grand jury investigates the intimidation of the witnesses.

Judge Herlands granted the request, and the matter is now - before a grand jury. Looking into the way - the underworld has been able to reach into a prison, and silence government witnesses. One of the reluctant witnesses, already under a five-year sentence -- was promptly given another five years in prison.

## BUDGET

A Chicago rally - for budget reduction . A demand for a slash of those huge Eisenhower figures - made by more than a hundred representatives of thirty groups of all kinds. The National Farm Bureau Federation, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the American Medical Association - etcetra.

Addressing the meeting, Democratic Senator Byrd of Virginia, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee - called for a cut of nine billion dollars.

Republican Senator Styles Bridges of New Hampshire was, likewise, emphatic <sup>in advocating a reduction.</sup> ~~in calling for a reduction of the seventy one billion, eight hundred million dollar budget.~~ Thinking - that something more than three billion dollars could be lopped off.

At the White House, the word is that President Eisenhower will probably send his new foreign aid figures to Congress, tomorrow. Calling - for <sup>less than originally requested.</sup> ~~three billion, eight hundred and eighty million dollars. Instead of four billion, four hundred million, as previously requested.~~

Prospects are that the President will send along the reduced figures - shortly before he makes his radio-television appearance tomorrow night, <sup>1</sup> Appeal number two - defending his budget.

( Today, White House Press Secretary Jim Hagerty told newsmen - the President was well satisfied with the response to his radio-T.V. address last week. ~~He~~ But some Congressmen are saying - they don't think the presidential arguments against any big reduction of the budget have had much effect.)

## MAYFLOWER

Good news, at last, from the Mayflower Second. Which, for days, was becalmed - in the doldrums, west of the Canary Islands. Not a breath of air - to fill the sails of that replica of the Pilgrim Fathers' historic vessel.

Today, however, Captain Alan Villiers reported by radio - a favorable breeze has blown up. The Mayflower Second - in the Trade Wind. Making - three to four knots an hour.

The little windjammer - scudding along for fifty-seven miles in the last twenty-four hours. Blown by the Trade Wind - in the latitude of the West Indies. *And*

considerably south of the original destination - Massachusetts, Plymouth Rock. Where - the Pilgrim Fathers landed. The Mayflower Second, actually, taking the trail of Columbus. The Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria.

## QUEEN

The White House announces - that the President and Mrs. Eisenhower will be "delighted" to have Queen Elizabeth the Second visit the United States. But Britain had not yet given any decision about when - the Queen and her husband would arrive to be guests - of the President and the First Lady. Maybe - in the Fall. Or, perhaps - the royal visit may be delayed until the Spring of next year.

## T.V.

On television, today, the band should be playing - Rule Britannia! Because the British seem to have discovered - the secret of T.V. commercials. How to make them - wonderfully entertaining.

Demonstrated - at the old city of Leeds. Where the viewers were delighted - by T.V. commercials that sent them into stitches.

Before I describe those miraculous T.V. commercials I think I might better disclose the secret - or the description may be too puzzling. At the local T.V. station, in Leeds - the technicians got balled up. The pictures came on - with the wrong words, the wrong sales talk. The pictures and the sound tracks - mixed up.

On the screen flashed a picture of a panfull of sauce - rich and appetizing. While the voice of the lady announcer said, in silken tones, "Clean your teeth with this."

A close-up of a glass of beer, and a bass voice announced, "The never-fail car lubricant."

Then, the T.V. viewers beheld a beautiful girl pouring out a glass of champagne. The sound track saying, "Give this to your cat, he'll love it."

~~Then~~ In the next commercial, a cat walked on. Which capped the climax. As the cat strolled across the screen, a feminine voice exclaimed, "That's my husband."

Yes, the British have discovered the secret. So, now, our American T.V. magicians will know what to do - to make the commercials completely entertaining. Just put the wrong sales talk on the wrong picture. For example - a beautiful girl in a fascinating bathing suit, with Henry announcing: "Built and backed by General Motors."



**END**

Announcer: And now Lowell Thomas recalls.

L.T.: I'll never forget a scene I witnessed - a year ago. In the Vale of Kashmir - that paradise on earth. In the city of Srinagar - the great mosque, and a vast throng - bowing to the ground. Tens of thousands of Moslems - at prayer, facing in the direction of the Holy City of Mecca.

The scene - impressive in itself. But, with what a graphic meaning! Telling of a swarming Moslem population - under Hindu rule. A danger spot - for world peace. India - in possession of the Vale Kashmir. Pakistan - demanding a plebiscite. Which observers - most of them - say would go - in favor of Pakistan.

So that was the meaning of the scene of myriads of Moslems, bowing in prayer - at the great mosque of Srinagar, in what many believe to be the most beautiful valley of all - the Vale of Kashmir.