

S. J. - P. & G. Friday, March 19, 1948.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

A banquet hall in a Detroit skyscraper is the scene of my broadcast tonight. I came ^{here} ~~out~~ for the opening of the new studios of one of the leading radio stations in the country -- W J R. For twenty-one years the head of W J R has been George "Dick" Richards, one of the ~~most~~ dynamic figures in this new world of radio which has attracted so many men who seem to ^{have boundless energy} ~~be endowed with~~ ~~energy~~ energy.

I'd like to talk at length about W J R, but, over W J R and all the other stations on this network, my assignment is to talk about the days news -- give first attention to that.

PALESTINE

The top headline of the day broke at the Security Council of the U N, Lake Success, New York. The headline: (The United States proposes that the partition plan for Palestine be abandoned! Washington reverses itself, and offers an alternative -- the establishment of a United Nations trusteeship over Palestine.) The General Assembly of the U N to be summoned to meet ~~in~~ and vote the trusteeship.

Today the response of the other major powers was as follows: France and China immediately gave their okay. Great Britain refused comment. The British have been boycotting the big power talks. Gromyko said he would have to consult Moscow for instructions; but, it is believed that Soviet Russia will oppose.

The Jewish representatives were downcast, while the Arabs were pleased -- when the United States proposed a substitution of trusteeship for partition and the establishment of an independent Jewish state.

~~The latest news~~ ^R The Jewish Agency quickly

came forth with a denunciation of denounces the American reversal. The Agency declared that the Jews will ignore the reversal and will establish a Jewish state in Palestine, by force, if necessary.

Why the American reversal? Delegate Warren Austin, declared it was apparent that the United Nations were not prepared to take the measures necessary to enforce partition; meaning, the use of military power. Without an army to keep the peace in Palestine there could only be an orgy of bloodshed when the British withdraw.) Today in London, Parliament, by a formal vote, made the matter completely definite - the British to get out by May Fifteenth. So something had to be done to forestall a full scale Jewish war that was only too certain to follow.

Warren Austin was asked today: Would the United States back up a U.N. administration ruling the Holy Land? He said - yes, the American government would assume its share of the responsibility.

although it had been expected from the way things have been going in Palestine recently.

But the question on everyone's lips since the news has been - why? What caused this surprising reversal of policy on the part of Uncle Sam?

so far
No comment [^] from our State Department.

Newsman say officials there are silent, but plainly embarrassed, everyone believing up to the present that there would be no change in the U.S. support of partition. Secretary ^{of state} ~~George~~ [^] Marshall and

Undersecretary ~~Bob~~ Lovett not available for comment.

of course wants
~~And~~ Everyone [^] ~~wants~~ to know the story behind this news. *And I have for you an interpretation,*

~~And here is that story~~ provided by a man behind the scenes who refuses to allow his name to be quoted; ^{but} - a reliable source. "The world situation," ^{he} [^] says, ~~no~~ ² "is the reason for ^{our} ~~the U.S.~~ abandoning Palestine partition." Uncle Sam's lack of military strength making it impossible for us to support partition with the ~~firm~~ force considered

necessary to prevent war between the Arabs and the Jews." ^{That we} ~~we~~ need our armed forces in other parts of the world, ~~to keep the peace~~. My informant goes on to say that the ^{is} ~~the~~ new American policy was decided on only after detailed talks with ^{the} ~~the~~ British and French ~~authorities~~. And he insists that the decision was made on the "highest authority." Which would indicate that President Truman himself gave the final go-ahead for Warren Austin's speech today.

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So, the problem of the immediate future of Palestine now rests with the U.N. ^{Uncle Sam} ~~The United States~~ to propose U N trusteeship of the Holy Land, to the General Assembly, where ~~that~~ proposal is ~~not~~ expected to be passed by the necessary majority, despite the known opposition of Russia ~~and~~ and her satellites. Under ^{such} ~~this~~ trusteeship, the U N ^{to} ~~will~~ set up an administration, and provide ^{the} manpower and arms ~~that~~ ~~may be~~ needed to police ^{it,} ~~the area~~ ~~and, for a~~ ~~Other suggestions to trusteeship by a~~ ~~single big power under U N mandate, or joint~~

~~government would assume its share of the~~
~~responsibility~~

The news from Palestine today ~~XXXX~~ provides
an emphatic background for the new American proposal. .
everywhere
From ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ in the Holy Land came reports of
clashes. At least forty-nine Arabs, Jews and British
killed in the last forty-eight hours. Battle, massacre,
retaliation.

Today in Jerusalem, a spokesman for the
Jewish Agency took note of reports that American
Jews are trying to leave Palestine -- after having
gone to the Holy Land to play their part in the
building of a modern zion. The violence and terror
being what it is, they want to leave. The spokesman
for the Jewish Agency denied that Haganah, the Zionist
Army, is preventing the departure of American Jews.
But he ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ acknowledged that the Jewish agency.
in his words, "took a poor view" of American Jews
who, in the present crisis, want to go back to the
United States.

ADD PALESTINE

And here's a bulletin from Palestine --
in Jerusalem, British military authorities are
strengthening their patrols, as both Arabs and Jews
agree that the U.S. proposal to abandon ~~xxxx~~ ^{partition}
will bring a blood bath to the Holy Land.

Late news from London on the Palestine
situation - Prime Minister Attlee and Foreign Minister
Bevin have called a series of urgent conferences with
cabinet ministers ~~xxxxx~~ for the weekend - a full
cabinet meeting to be called tomorrow, Saturday.
An informed source in Whitehall - the British war
department - says that Great ~~St~~ Britain will insist
on withdrawing her troops from Palestine by May
Fifteen- despite the U.S. ~~pm~~ proposal. Colonial
Secretary Arthur Creech-Jones saying that Great
Britain will not accept any responsibility if the
U.N. trusteeship council fails to arrange a
~~an~~ government for the Holy ^{Land} ~~City~~ by that date.

JOLIOT - CURIE

(In Paris today, it was stated that the atomic physicist Madame Joliot-Curie, was invited to the United States by Professor Einstein - as well as by the anti-Fascist organization she came over here to address. That organization is described by the Department of Justice as disloyal and subversive.)

The declaration in Paris was made by Madame Joliot-Curie's husband, who also is an atomic physicist.

A French newspaper quotes him as saying: "My wife went to the United States on the invitation of the anti-Fascist refugees committee of New York, and on that of other people including the great scientist, Einstein."

(On this side of the ocean, Madame Joliot-curie has been released - after having been detained by the immigration authorities overnight. Today she declared: "The United States has a little iron curtain of its own".)

She said she didn't believe there was any possibility of aggression by Soviet Russia, and added that she would see Professor Einstein.

The history in the background is this. The whole world knows of the fame of Madame Curie - who, with her husband, discovered radium. Radio activity, itself, was discovered by the French chemist, Becquerel, who disclosed the radiation of uranium. After which Professor and Madame Curie discovered another radio active metal, radium. As things developed, the name of Becquerel, the original discoverer of radio activity, is almost forgotten. The name of Curie - famous.

Madame Curie ~~is~~ had two daughters, Eve, the writer, and the other who became a physicist and married a physicist, the French scientist Joliot. Working together in atomic science, they won the Nobel Prize. (Professor Joliot-Curie -- he adopted his wife's name -- is a communist, high in the Red party in France.) In a newspaper interview, he ~~is~~ declared

recently that he would not keep any information about atomic energy a secret. He described Communism in these words: "A scientific religion." In Paris they say they don't know whether or not Madame Joliot-Curie is a member of the Communist party.

Today, (there was a red outcry in France because Madame Joliot-Curie was detained overnight by the American immigration authorities.) In the Chamber of Deputies, Communists demanded that the French government issue a protest to Washington. To this the ministry gave the following reply: "The French government protects its nationals wherever they may be, but it will also respect the immigration laws of the United States of America."

FRENCH FOLLOW JOLIO-CURIE

There was pandemonium in the French Chamber of Deputies today, when a Communist legislator was charged with being a former member of the Soviet secret police, the notorious OGPU. This came out of a book now published in France, a book by Jan Valtin -- whose expose of Red conspiracy and espionage made a sensation over here some years ago.

Valtin's book states that French Deputy ~~Pierre~~ Pierre Villon was at one time a secret agent of the OGPU. And in the French parliament ~~today~~ today a right wing member challenged Villon to deny the fact. The Communist replied with shouted ~~insults~~ insults, and the other Reds joined in.

To all of which the Right Wing Deputy kept repeating insistently: "Monsieur Villon, you have not yet Denied". And amid all the uproar, the French Communist Deputy never did deny that he once belonged to the OGPU.

ATOMIC STRIKE

The federal court has issued an injunction against an atomic strike. At Knoxville, Tennessee, the court forbade a walkout at the all-important atomic laboratories at Oak Ridge. The strike had been scheduled for midnight tonight, but now comes the injunction -- which ties up the strike for eighty days.

DRAFT

In Washington, the Republican leaders have decided to delay action on the draft. Delay, that is, until the armed forces have completed the study they are making of national security and what we need for our defense.

An informal poll, made by the United Press, shows that the armed services committees of both the Senate and the Lower House show a clear-cut majority in favor of some form of selective service as asked by President Truman. Opinion seems to be veering toward selective service on a contingent basis. That is, vote a draft law, set up a selective board, register conscripts, and have everything ready for ~~immediate~~ induction. Then, leave it up to Congress to decide when the men will be mobilized -- this in the hope that the enactment of the draft may speed up enlistments. A contingent draft seems to be the favorite idea right now.

WEATHER

The weather is acting up tonight - storms of gale force in the middle west. A tornado in northwestern Ohio, two factories demolished, eighty per cent of the houses damaged in Ohio City, a village in Van Wert County. Cincinnati and Toledo, Ohio. Also struck by an eighty-five mile per hour wind. Torrential rains in Chicago, and here in Detroit; and serious floods in Iowa. March roaring like the proverbial lion as winter ebbs into a memory - we hope.

Before signing off another word or two about W J R, Detroit, where I am tonight. Many prominent men from different parts of the country, have assembled here for this official opening of these handsome new studios. [Ⓜ] "Dick" Richards, guiding spirit of W J R is a man of tremendous enthusiasms and many interests. So naturally, the friends who are here with him at this banquet are from many walks of life: For example, the President of Notre Dame, Father Cavanaugh; from the political world, Governor Kim Sigler and Senator Homer Ferguson.

[Ⓜ] The football world is ^(represented) ~~represented~~ of course, because "Dick" Richards and W J R have played a central part in that stormy phase of American life. I see sitting around me such men as George Halas of the Green Bay Packers, Bennie Oosterbaan, the new coach at the University of Michigan; those two legendary figures, Bo McMillan, and Sid Luckman; Frank Leahy of Notre Dame; and so on and so on; ^{— — —} Ty Cobb, Poet Edgar Guest; ^{and —} Captain Eddie Rickenbacker; [^] a host of top figures from

the world of radio, and business. Every way you turn you see a Fisher Brother -- here in the Fisher Building.

Edgar Guest is our most prolific poet.

He has the reputation of being able to turn out

verse at the drop of a hat.

A few minutes ago
~~Edgar, how about an~~
I asked him to jot down
~~some~~ something appropriate for me to use in
sign off ~~with on this occasion~~ *tonight* -- something in
honor of our host, "Dick" Richards, ~~59th~~
~~birthday~~ head of WTR who is celebrating
his 59th birthday tonight. And here
are the lines Edgar Guest has
handed me: -- The poet himself is
harkening back to the time when
he was 59

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GUEST

~~Lowell, it's a joy to be able to do a
little bit for G A Richards on his fifty-ninth
birthday.~~

It was a peaceful world back then.
The flag we loved unchallenged flew.
We all were freedom loving men.
No thought of treachery we knew.
I looked with joy our land about,
Of danger not a hint or sign
And there was neither fear nor doubt
The day that I turned fifty-nine.

Oh would that we who meet today
To honor this devoted soul
Could sweep all bitterness away
And keep our country sane and whole.
Yet this my prayer: that he shall see
That happier land of your's and mine
With all the joys that used to be,
Before he passes sixty-nine.

~~Now saying it for Lowell Thomas:~~

~~Saying until tomorrow.~~

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And now here's Nelson, who isn't
59 - or 49 - or even 39!
March 19, 1948

~~But it's not tomorrow tonight, Edgar,
let's see what Nelson has to say first.~~

GOVERNOR SIGLER

Taken from early 3/19/40 bc.

Sitting beside me is the Governor of the State of Michigan. At this ~~in~~ time when two ideologies are battling for world supremacy, it might be appropriate to tell a little about this Governor and how he rose to the top in this land of opportunity.

Kim Sigler was born on a Nebraska cattle ranch. As a youngster he learned to rope and tie and brand a steer. After finishing high school he rode the rails, lived by getting odd jobs all around the country, and like Jack Dempsey did some boxing and in hobo jungles learned to call a Mulligan stew.

One day he ~~decided~~ ^{he wanted a} ~~xxxx~~ college education. ~~and~~ With forty dollars in his pocket ^{he} turned up at the University of Michigan. There he worked his way, and eventually finished his legal training at the ~~xxxx~~ University of Detroit. He became a trial lawyer in a small Michigan town, prospered, entered politics. became a prosecuting attorney and helped wipe out graft and corruption in State Government. Whereupon the people elected him their present Governor.

To illustrate what a lively individual he is: He flies his own plane, and I was told a moment ago that he is our only flying Governor.

MISHAPS

The news reports a whole series of mishaps -- beginning with an epidemic of tornadoes and windstorms in the Middle West. They struck in eastern Missouri and southern Illinois, with hundred mile an hour winds smashing into Indiana and Ohio. Towns and villages flattened. ~~At least Nineteen lives lost.~~

One twister played a trick by jumping the Mississippi River. In that area, the Father of Waters is the dividing line between Missouri and Indiana - and the big wind sweeping to the northeast, started in by blowing things apart at Union, Missouri. Then across the River the funnel-shaped cloud took a jump, and made a ~~ru~~ wreck of Gillespie, Illinois, -- pushing on to blow the houses down in a couple of other Illinois towns. The latest figure: Thirty-three killed by tornados today.

At Centralia, Illinois, an explosion blew up a cafe, and wrecked the whole building, which included a pool ~~ru~~ room and a couple of apartments. Several lives lost; the cause of the blast a mystery.

At Winslow, Indiana, there was an explosion of the little inch pipeline, carrying natural gas. Today engineers investigating, blamed the blow-up on either too much pressure or a faulty pipe. Which sounds a bit indefinite. But there was nothing indefinite about the blast that left a hole in the ground which the police describe as -- "big enough to hold two houses". The explosion touched off a fire and burned out an area of fifteen acres, including three homes. No lives lost.

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~~And there were no lives lost in~~

And in
Philadelphia, ~~either, where~~ thousands of people were driven from their homes today by a series of gas explosions. Sixteen square blocks in south Philadelphia were shaken by the detonations - windows shattered, buildings damaged, *but no lives lost.*