

C. J. - P. & G. Monday, Sept. 27, 1948.

CRISIS -- LEAD

Walter Bedell-Smith, U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, says that our relations with Russia are in a more critical state now than any time since the war.

Smith spoke at Bonham, Texas, where he was called by Mr Truman to give the Chief Executive a first-hand report on the situation in Russia. Our Moscow Ambassador spent nearly three hours with Mr Truman riding from Dallas to Bonham on the President's special campaign train.

Bedell Smith

Afterwards ~~he~~ told reporters that Mr Truman agreed with his conclusion on the state of our Russian relations. When asked whether this added up to a chance of war, ~~he~~ said "That was a question too deep for him to answer", and he added, ~~"if our policy of patience, firmness and determination holds up, we do not have to expect the alternative of war"~~.

LEAD

How will Soviet Russia react to that "Black Fury Speech" they are calling it, which British Foreign Minister Bevin delivered at the U N General Assembly today? Vishinsky, we are told, listened calmly and then, while the other members of the Assembly applauded he left the Chamber. Perhaps to go to the Russian Embassy and then report to the Kremlin.

Shortly enough Radio Moscow came on the air to describe the British Foreign Secretary's speech as "An attempt to veil his rejection of Soviet proposals for peace and security."

Bevin's speech had none of the temperate tone of the address by Secretary of State Marshall on the opening day, when he warned that Russia would be making a tragic error if she mistook American patience for weakness. The British Foreign Minister, the ex-trade union leader, dropped all pretense

at diplomatic niceties, as he ripped into Russia; with oratory comparable in some respects to that of Winston Churchill. "If the Black Fury" -- if the incalculable *li*saster of an atomic war should fall upon us" said he, "all I can say is that one power will be responsible ~~fo~~ by refusing its cooperation -- responsible alone for the evils which may be visited upon mankind".

~~Bevin made no secret of the fact that he considered the U N had been a failure so far, so far as world peace is concerned. He blamed the East-West split for this, saying that perhaps the western Allies had set their hopes too high. "But", he went on "it is better to have our difficulties now than to live in a fool's paradise."~~

~~Then he gave a hint of future ~~na~~ action in case the Russians ~~xxxxxxx~~ quit the U N as it is~~

suggested they may do, they are expecting just that in Paris and London. "If we cannot proceed on a world basis as we had hoped" said Bevin, "then we must proceed on a regional basis."

He started Vishinsky with bitter sarcasm, asking him if it was not true that the Marxist-Leninist conception of politics is that there can be no final agreement with a non-communist State? That everything the ~~universe~~ *universe* is governed by that concept.

Then the Englishman who educated himself mostly at night school -- and started work as a boy of thirteen quoted from Lenin, Stalin's mentor and predecessor. He quoted Lenin as saying that either Communism or Imperialism must triumph. One or the other. But, that first there must be a "series of frightful collisions between the Soviet Republic and the bourgeois states."

Then came Bevin's final blow at Vishinsky, the Soviet master of invective. Vishinsky flayed by the blunt-spoken Englishman. "If he or his government," cried Bevin, referring directly to the ex-Soviet

Part of the speech was like a personal duel between Bevin and Vishinsky. The British Foreign Minister who spent his early youth loading ships on the London docks, showed that he knows his Marxian philosophy. He queried Vishinsky with bitter sarcasm, asking him if it was not true that the Marxist-Leninist conception of politics is that there can be no final agreement with a non-communist State? That everything the ^{Government does} ~~Soviet government~~ is governed by that concept.

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prosecutor, "if they had any feeling for the simple people of Europe or of the world, if they were animated by anything but an out of date, backward, unscientific doctrine, they would be the first to applaud the great and unselfish contribution of the United States of America to world recovery.

IRON CURTAIN

The only available Soviet reaction is an interview which Vishinsky gave to a London correspondent of the Labor newspaper, the Daily Herald. This on Sunday. "We shall not abandon the U.N.", said he. "We shall stay on and work together with other peoples of the world". But a late despatch from Berlin quotes informed sources as saying that the Soviet Union will withdraw from the United Nations. This rather than face a trial before the world.

GOTTWALD

A mystery in Prague. Where is Czech President Clement Gottwald? Today a delegation waited at Prague Airport to welcome the Red leader back from his vacation in the Crimea, where Gottwald is said to have been in conference with Premier Stalin. But Gottwald did not show up. Which gave rise to the speculation that Stalin is calling other satellite members for a new meeting -- because of the Western Powers' threat to air the Berlin crisis before the U.N. Or that Gottwald, the so-called "Catholic Communist" is being purged.

DIPLOMAT

Early today at Ankara the Rumanian Ambassador to Turkey, one Grigor Moisil, announced that he was quitting his post, to become a political refugee and move to Switzerland to earn his living as a teacher of mathematics. Word is that Moisil thought he was about to be a victim of a Bucharest purge: although he was known as a good Communist.


But Moisil will not go to Switzerland. A few hours after saying he was quitting, he was found dead in the Rumanian Embassy at Ankara. His secretary says his boss died of food poisoning -- after eating poisoned mushrooms. Adding that the body will be sent to Bucharest.

AIR LIFT

(In Berlin today, the Russians moved to stop the Allied Air Lift. They announced a new set of air rules which they say must now govern all flights to the German capital.)

The new rules were solemnly filed today with what is known as the Four Power Air Safety Center, by Sokolovsky's men today. A ban on all instrument flights, day or night. If this were adhered to it would mean that the pilot of a transport plane would have to fly by the seat of his pants -- as airmen did long years ago. Also, the Russians demand the right to turn back any plane wanting to land at Tempelhof Field in the U S zone. Further, that flying through dense clouds no longer be allowed, and, positively no night flights along that air corridor to Berlin.

Then what to any airman is the climax to this Soviet attempt to stop the air lift: a provision forbidding planes to fly anywhere over Soviet territory where there is danger of storm, hurricane, thunder, fog or icing conditions



along the air route, or near landing fields. The Russians of course to decide whether these conditions exist. All ^{of which,} ~~of which,~~ said a spokesman at our air force headquarters at Weisbaden, would make the air lift impossible.

So what are we going to do about it? Here's how General Curtiss LeMay put it at his final press conference before leaving for home to take over the Strategic Air Forces. "A good outfit plans for everything" said he "and this is a good outfit". And he added "Russian harrassing tactics haven't bothered us at all -- as yet"! *said he.*

Apparently all the Air Force needs in Berlin now are a hundred more four-engined transports to bring our air lift delivery up to four-thousand-seven-hundred tons ^{per day,} ~~every single~~ ~~day.~~ Which General ^{Clay says} ~~Clay says~~ "will be *enough.*"

BENELUX DEFENSE

We are told there is a strong rumor in Paris today that France, Britain and the Benelux countries are trying to persuade the United States and Canada to join with them in an Atlantic military alliance -- a two-continent defense treaty. This morning the ^(Defense)~~Defense~~ ministers of the five European nations held a full dress meeting at the French Foreign office -- as the first such meeting since the western European union defense pact was signed in Brussels last April, with American and Canadian observers present.

Word in Paris tonight is that Canada and ourselves will be asked to come in. To help with arms and equipment, ^{also}~~and~~ manpower -- in case of war. France we hear has already outlined her specific demands. She wants equipment for ten armored divisions and for three hundred jet fighters. At the moment, the French air Force has no jet fighters. Her army is so short of modern ^(equipment)~~equipment~~ we are told that she could not put one fully equipped armored division into action.

So, if she is to carry her weight, and mean anything in that Western-European-union-for-mutual-defense, she must have the tools with which to fight.

trying to steal wartime atomic secrets for Russia. They are Mrs. Clarence Francis Hickey, now a chemistry professor, who worked on atomic research at Columbia and Chicago Universities during the war. And Marjorie Sand, Hickey's ex-wife. The committee charged that she helped him to arrange contacts with that notorious Soviet paper-spy known as Arthur Alexanderovich Adams, who has fled the country.

The other two are John Fitzgerald Chaplin, a Vermont-born chemist, who worked with Hickey on atomic research during the war, and Steve Nelson, the Yugoslavian born chairman of the western Pennsylvania Communist party.

The committee so far has blamed the Roosevelt and Truman administrations for failing to prosecute the allegations. Also blaming both administrations for withholding the news of the

ESPIONAGE

In Washington tonight the House UnAmerican Activities Committee ^{demande} ~~is asking for~~ treason indictments against three men and a woman whom it accuses of trying to steal wartime atomic secrets for Russia. They ~~are~~ are Clarence Francis Hiskey, now a chemistry professor, who worked on atomic research at Columbia and Chicago Universities during the war. And Marsha Sand, Hiskey's ex-wife. The committee ~~charging~~ that she helped him to arrange contacts with that mysterious Soviet super-spy ~~is~~ known as Arthur Alexandrovich Adams, who has fled the country.

The other two are John Hitchcock Chapin, a Vermont-born chemist, who worked with Hiskey on atomic research during the war, and Steve Nelson, the Jugoslavian born chairman of the western Pennsylvania Communist party.

The committee we hear ~~will~~ blame the Roosevelt-^{and} Truman administrations for failing to prosecute the alleged spies. Also blaming both administrations for withholding ~~in~~ news of the

spy activities from the public at a time ^{when, they} ~~appeared,~~
^{see} ~~when,~~ it was well known to some members of the government.

The committee further ~~insists that~~ insists that the Justice Department investigate here and now, and to either clear, or prosecute for treason, another atomic scientist who worked on the A bomb project at the University of California in Nineteen Forty-three. He is identified as Scientist X. Scientist X is alleged to have given a secret and highly important atomic formula to ~~Dr~~ ^{who in} Steve Nelson, ~~and~~
^{turn} ~~he~~ is presumed to have turned it over to a Soviet Consular officer in California. This according to information given the committee by Government intelligence agents.

~~all of which, says the committee, calls for the people they have named to be indicted for treason, and conspiracy to commit treason~~

DEWEY

Governor Dewey is in Seattle tonight, after a visit to ~~the~~ Oregon, state where last May he conducted the most effective campaign of his already long political career.

In his Seattle speech Dewey dealt with the development of our vast western water and power resources. He pledged the utmost development of these in order to make this country strong enough to live in peace -- in what he termed "a nervous world". He mentioned the Columbia River and the Missouri River Valleys, in particular, and said he held the view that the people of these areas should have a strong voice in the planning and operation of any project. Total control by men appointed from Washington, in the opinion of Tom Dewey, would be dangerous.

Then he called for the nation to expand its power-producing capacity by almost twenty percent during the next five years; power thus produced to be sold at the lowest possible self-liquidating rates.

The New York Governor also spoke of ~~the~~ ~~XXXXXX~~
(tremendous

importance of irrigation and reclamation, and urged the development of the Columbia River basin; this as part of his suggestion that the development of the West proceed with all possible speed.

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Republicans," he said, "are talking about peace and order
and what a beautiful country this is. But," he went on,
"I am telling you the truth."

POLITICS - TRUMAN

In a major speech at Bonham, Texas tonight Mr Truman conceded that bipartisan foreign policy has greatly added to the strength of our efforts for peace. But, said he, "that peace can be no more secure than the foundation upon which it rests". And he added, "if the Republican Party will not join us in shaping a firm peace for world trade the foundation of peace will be very shaky indeed".

Earlier today Mr Truman told the people of Austin, Texas, that this Republican Congress is trying to tear up the Bill of Rights. He went on to say that as President he is compelled to wage his own campaign and tell the facts, because between eighty and ninety percent of the press is lined up against his administration. "The Republicans", said he, "are talking about home and mother and what a beautiful country this is. But, " he went on, "I am telling you the truth".

POET

In Tokyo, an elderly poet and painter has confessed to wholesale crime. Posing as a public health official, he administered poison to twelve bank officials, and then while they lay writhing on the ground, he helped himself to a small fortune in currency, and escaped. I told that much of the story at the time. And now comes the next chapter:- The gentile poet has confessed. And today's news has a strange oriental turn. It seems the Japanese police bent over backwards to treat him with traditional etiquette -- "the third degree of oriental courtesy," with an elegant tea-serving ceremony thrown in. The police even suggested today that American newsmen give the "old master in verse and crime," a low ceremonial bow when they entered his cell to interview him.

Which the American reporters did. They bowed low. ~~Whereupon~~ Whereupon he told them it was quite true. Yes, he had admitted the mass poisoning. Why? The poet explained that he had confessed because everyone had been so extremely polite; such beautiful consideration,

everything done with the finest courtesy. Even his arrest had been done courteously. And then he added sadly:- "Ah but I lack adequate words to express my regret for committing such a horrible crime."

And that was the way the Japanese poet summed it all up today.

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And now Nelson, what is your message to the world.