

This is a night of excitement on the news wires -- although normally, in peacetime, an automobile or railroad trip to a European capital would not deserve any screaming headline. Yet here is a late dispatch tonight that reads as if it told of some sort of conquest made in nerve-tingling battle.

"This correspondent," says the dispatch, "drove out one-hundred-and-ten miles from Helmstedt to Berlin without seeing a single Russian soldier between the two cities. We were the first automobile to reach Berlin.

When ~~we~~^{we} arrived, it was as if we had liberated the city."

That comes from Walter Rundle, correspondent of the United Press.

Another bulletin from U P Correspondent Joseph Fleming reads: "Aboard a United States signal corp radio car. At one minute past midnight today this car led a mass of American, British, French and German civilian automobiles and trucks along the main highway out of Berlin for West Germany. Right ahead of us loomed the lights of the first Russian checkpoint.

Would we get through? You never know in Germany. We did!

The Russians simply lifted the barrier as we approached. And there was a tingle of excitement as we slid through without even a demand that our papers be checked."

And so it goes - the excitement of the lifting of the Berlin Blockade.



~~At the last minute today, the Russians etc.~~

At the last minute, today, the Russians indulged in some of their usual obstruction - informing the Western authorities that, although the blockade was being lifted, not more than one Western power express train per day would be allowed to go through to Berlin.

Before the blockade the schedule was - three express trains. But the Russians say now that they need the added facilities for themselves. A protest was entered promptly against the restriction. But it applies only to the Express - and ordinary trains are rolling through.

In Berlin a huge celebration was going on.

The schools closed early, and they will stay closed all day tomorrow. Streets and places of entertainment jammed.

The delight of the Berliners is easily explained - the Red Blockade was designed to defeat the West by starving out the Western Sector of Berlin. The Airlift succeeded in defeating that - but the two million people had plenty of privations, depending on our aerial supply line for all their food and fuel.

But now those Blockade privations are over.

Furthermore, the Berliners regard the hardship as their part in the Blockade victory over the Soviets. They figure that two things won the success. The miracle of the Airlift, and their own stoic endurance, the way they cooperated with the Western Powers - by taking it! So tonight they are celebrating what they consider to be, in part, their own victory.

This evening, the end of day at this longitude, is a moment of history - the conclusion of the greatest crisis thus far in the Cold War. So now what of the future? Well, the agreement, which raises the Blockade, also provides for that Four Power Conference of the Foreign Ministers. Which brings up new problems; and in Washington today, Secretary of State Dean Acheson disclosed the number one contention with which the Western powers will go into the parley.

The goal is - a united, democratic, liberal Germany. Any attempt by the Soviets to promote a

totalitarian Germany, will be resisted - any Moscow manoeuvre for a satellite-red-dictatorship in Germany. The success or failure at the forthcoming conference in Paris depends precisely on that.

It is expected that the Soviets will counter with the demand for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Germany. The Western answer will be - no. This, because of the belief that the Soviets, in their eastern zone, have organized a powerful Red Police which might well be able to take over and turn Germany into a Communist Police State.

The Western armies will not pull out - and thereby facilitate the creation of a totalitarian regime by the Armed power of the Communist police.

ISRAEL

The news tonight - Israel voted into the United Nations. The United States joined the majority, while Britain abstained from voting.

The decision was announced by Australian ^{Delegate} Evatt, who invited Israel Foreign Minister Sharett to address the U N Assembly. The Foreign Minister from Tel Aviv declared: "The State of Israel claims no allegiance from Jews in other lands. Its sovereignty rests on the loyalty of its own citizens."

But the vote to admit Israel and the invitation to the Tel Aviv Foreign Minister to address the Assembly, brought about a walk-out of the Arabs.

Delegates from the Moslem states got up and left the Assembly Hall. A delegate from the Lebanon, as he hurried toward an automobile, said: "We have simply left, and we don't know when we'll ~~xxx~~ be coming back". However, it is noted that the Arab representatives took a similar walk-out a couple of years ago, when the General Assembly voted to partition Palestine. They were in their usual places the next day.

SPAIN

The State Department replies to Congressional demands that normal relations be resumed with Franco Spain. Secretary Acheson declared today that the United States will not grant full diplomatic recognition to Spain, until the free Western European nations accept Spain as a partner. He added that he did not see how this was possible, until Franco liberalizes his regime to permit such basic liberties as habeas corpus and trial by Jury.

Last night we heard the contention of Senator Connally of Texas, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, who said he could see no reason why we should refuse to have diplomatic relations with Spain - while, at the same time, having diplomatic relations with Soviet Russia.

Today Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, Republican Chief on Foreign Policy, supported the Connally contention - the Soviets, why not Spain?

TRIPOLI

North Africa

A ~~late~~ dispatch from Tripoli tells of anti-Italian riots and anti-American demonstrations. The character of the crowd may be judged by the shouts - "Long live Russia! down with America! in front of the U.S. Consulate they ripped an American flag to shreds - while at the same time mobs were looting and burning places occupied by Italians. The situation is such that American G.I.'s at a Tripoli airfield were issued firearms today - for self protection.

EISLER

Late news tonight - an announcement from the Department of Justice that information has been received indicating that Gerhart Eisler has been discovered as a stowaway aboard a Polish steamship bound for Europe. Eisler ~~is~~ charged with having been Stalin's Number One agent in the United States, has been convicted of passport fraud and contempt of Congress -- and is out on bail of ~~Twenty-four-thousand-five-hundred-dollars~~. Now, if tonight's report be true, he has skipped bail, sneaking out of the country as a stowaway. The Department of Justice announces that Scotland Yard, London, has been asked to seize Eisler, when the Polish steamship docks at Southampton -- as it is scheduled to do.

SUB LEAD HAGUE

The big political story in the East presents a drama nationwide in importance. In the overthrow of the Frank Hague machine in Jersey City, the victors today announced a full-scale investigation of the rule of the boss, who, more than any other, has represented machine politics in recent years. They are impounding the records of Jersey City City Hall -- and are going to stage a sweeping inquiry. Thus ending the regime of Mayor Hague, who in Nineteen thirty-seven carried Jersey City by a majority of one-hundred-and-ten-thousand to six-thousand. Totalitarian dictators never did much better.

~~In the political drama the Chief protagonists are the seventy three year old etc.~~

~~to quote him as declaring.~~

As political drama, the pattern of the story is richly human. The chief protagonists are the seventy-three year old boss himself and John V. Kenny, who now has overthrown the Hague machine. Long years ago, Kenny's father, influential in Jersey City politics, sponsored the political rise of the young Frank Hague - who started life working in the railroad yards. Then, when Hague rose to power, the son of his one-time patron, became one of his chief lieutenants. Kenny, serving under Hague, held prominent positions in the Jersey City municipal government. (~~But the break came - this largely because of what history calls a prime political sin, nepotism, the favoring of family relations.~~)

Two years ago, Mayor Hague was feeling the burden of the years - he was seventy-one. He decided to lay down the heavy weight of office, and turn it over to a successor. For this he chose

his nephew, Frank Hague Eggers. For years he had groomed his nephew, in the art of politics, schooling him to take over, when the uncle retired. ~~Nepotism, trying to keep it in the family.~~

This caused discontent in the hierarchy of machine politics, others resenting the choice of the nephew, a discontent which came to a head at the approach of the Nineteen Forty-Nine campaign for mayor. Uncle named nephew as the organization candidate, and open rebellion flared, Hague lieutenants in revolt.

The opposition candidate - John V. Kenny, whose father had sponsored Frank Hague's rise in politics. (He was one of those who objected to the nepotism of the boss, but he says that he was forced by Hague himself into the leadership of the Jersey City insurrection. Today Kenny, the victor, stated - "I had no political ambitions, since I retired as freeholder in Nineteen Forty-one. If Hague had not thrown me out of the party, I would still be a member of the Party."

The Hague defeat was accelerated by events in the national political campaign last year. The boss opposed the renomination of President Truman - and in a most outspoken way. The Truman victory left him politically weakened. But the fact is that, after long years of nationwide outcry against the Jersey City machine of Boss Hague, the overthrow came from within, an uprising inside the machine.

FLIGHT

At the Old English harbor of Plymouth today, a great modern American bomber arrived, and dipped its wings in salute - a gesture of homage to an old primitive sort of plane, of thirty years ago. Aboard the bomber today was the commander of that plane of three decades ago. Today he's a Rear Admiral. Then he was a young Lieutenant - completing the first flight across the Atlantic Ocean.

Aviation history tells how in Nineteen Nineteen, a Navy NC-4 flying boat with Lieutenant A.C. Read, No. 1 man of crew, set out hoping to make the first trans-Atlantic hop - in a series of hops, New York via Newfoundland and the Azores, to Lisbon, and then England. It took nineteen days from Newfoundland on.

The bomber today was the Truculent Turtle, which not long ago set the world's distance record - more than eleven thousand miles from Perth, Australia, to Columbus, Ohio. So it was proper, by way of contrast for that Champion bomber of the Navy to take the old route of the NC-4 in Nineteen Nineteen - retracing that

FLIGHT - 2

historic flight.

The Truculent Turtle attempted no speed record - making a long stop in Lisbon for a lot of Portuguese festivities. Even so - it made the jaunt in three days - as compared with the Nineteen when the Atlantic was flown for the first time.

At Plymouth today, Rear Admiral A. C. Read received a royal entertainment - but there were also British complaints. They were complaining about themselves.

London newspapers are asking - why Britain is not doing something similar to commemorate the ⁱⁿ flight made ^{right} ~~after~~ *at that same time as* ~~weeks after the trip of~~ the NC-4? The American crossing, with stops, ~~was followed by~~ ^{the} a British ^a non-stopper.

Strange how little is remembered of Alcock and Brown, the latter an American, who made the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic. Newfoundland to Ireland in Nineteen Nineteen. The London papers today point out with much justice that the importance of that exploit is reflected by the fact that ~~there was no~~ ^{heavier than air} other Trans-Atlantic flight for eight years - until Lindbergh flew from New York to Paris. Yet right now

there's no British plan to commemorate the Alcock and Brown flight. Why not? demand London newspapers.

To all of which I, too, can add a suggestion. This year of Nineteen Forty-Nine happens to mark still another anniversary - the twenty-fifty - of man's first flight around-the-world. So President Truman, Air Secretary Symington, and General Vandenburg, why not commemorate that Air Force milestone in history by a retracting of steps? I was lucky enough to have been the official historian of that first aerial circumnavigation, and I suppose it's only pious duty for me to make the suggestion - and press it, if possible.

Tonight is a good occasion - as the news tells how the Commander of the first Trans-Atlantic Crossing by plane has arrived in England, commemorating the Thirtieth Anniversary of his exploit. So I'd like to say to the Air Force - why not gather the veterans of the First World Flight -- those who made it and those who crashed -- and take them on an aerial jaunt, retracing their steps, a Twenty-Fifth anniversary

FLIGHT -4

celebration of man's first circumnavigation of this planet by air. It could be made into a good-will flight -- in case we are in need of any good will. And I guess we are.

ART

Over in England, a triumph for Modern Art. At Loughborough the town library staged an exhibit of paintings, including the Cubist and the Surrealist variety. And there was one painting that attracted especial notice - a picture of something, but you couldn't tell what. Which is no great fault in modernistic aesthetics. So the picture was described in these words - "excellent modern art."

Of course, some old-fashioned souls, who want a horse to look like a horse, even of another color - they may have tried to figure out what the painting represented. What was it, really, that was pictured? Today they must be embarrassed.

Because now the secret is out. The masterpiece was painted by a six year old boy, Tommy Warbs, with the assistance of his pet cat. The lad's father tells how it happened. Tommy had some paints - and, fooling around on the floor, he simply smeared them on, one color after another at random. Then the cat came along, and sat down in the middle of the smear - leaving an

imprint. So that was the painting exhibited as Modern Art, and it got by.

The founder of the ... was Judge Joseph

... was promptly was called upon to answer a question

... why did he have to live with

In this ... Boston ... replied: "I've decided

... you ... have ... the ..."

... which ... landed ... the ...

... "You ... those ... that ... the

... he said.

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MARRIAGE

In Boston, a judge has handed down another of those verdicts worthy of the wisdom of Solomon. In a domestic case - a triangle. Before the Court, James Johnson appeared, also his wife. James is a negro ventriloquist, and he had with him his version of Charlie McCarthy. So that was the triangle - the ventriloquist, his wife and his dummy.

The Solomon of the occasion was Judge Joseph Riley, who promptly was called upon to answer a question. The ventriloquist asking - why did he have to live with his wife?

To this the Boston Solomon replied: "You married her. Maybe you should have married the dummy."

After which Judge Riley handed down the Solomonian decision: "You must choose between your wife and the dummy," he said.

I wish I could give this story a surprise ending and say - he preferred his wife. But the end is

obvious - James chose the dummy. *Nelson, any comment?*