

TRUMAN

C. J. - P. & L. Monday, Sept. 29, 1947.

This afternoon President Truman held ~~his~~ ^{that} emergency meeting with Congressional leaders -- discussing the Marshall Plan. ^{The President} He told them that December First is the deadline for aiding Western Europe -- the program for American help to supplement European self-help -- the deadline to prevent a sweep of Communism.

The President asked for an early meeting of the Congressional Committees that will deal with the Marshall Plan -- the Foreign Relations and Appropriation Committees of the Senate and ^{the} ~~House of Representatives.~~ He ~~xxx~~ wants them to give prompt consideration to the raising of five-hundred-and-eighty million dollars for emergency food relief. He calls this -- "a necessary first step."

The President left it up to these important Congressional committees to study the Marshall Plan situation, ^{to} ~~and~~ decide whether or not a special session of Congress should be called. He told the leaders of the Senate and the House that only meagre ^{Funds} ~~funds~~ were

available to provide what he called "starvation rations" for France and Italy.-- So, it's up to Congress.

RUSSIA

(The Soviets refuse to take back the Moscow insult calling President Truman a Hitler.) The ^{Stalin} ~~Soviet~~ press and radio have been going into convulsions of evil names cast at this country of ours, and recently hit a high spot - when an article in the Soviet Literary Gazette said that Harry Truman was like Adolf Hitler. Which certainly will surprise most Americans - we believing ~~understanding~~ that Harry Truman is mostly like almost any of us whom you'll find anywhere in the country.

However, he's described as a Hitler - and that aroused the ire of our Ambassador to Moscow, Lieutenant General Walter Bedell Smith. His soldiers used to call him The Beetle, and he certainly can snap now and then - as he did in ~~protesting~~ protesting against the Truman-Hitler identification. The Soviets headed by Vishinsky, are demanding that Americans over here be tossed into jail for war-mongering, talking against the Soviets. But, of course, we have freedom of speech - which is unknown in Soviet Russia, and especially in ~~the~~ Soviet journalism. The newspapers and other publications over there

are owned and run by the Stalin government, and what they say represents what the Soviet regime wants them to say. However, we should be put in jail for war-mongering, if we talk against the Red dictatorship, while it's okay for the official Soviet press to represent the American President as the equivalent ^{murderous} of the Nazi Fuehrer. Truman-Hitler!- I wonder what Harry from Missouri thinks about that. Well, he laughs easily.

JUGOSLAVIA

An invitation from Yugoslavia was turned down today by former Secretary of State Byrnes. He was asked, together with five other prominent Americans - Presidential Candidate Harold Stassen, Clergyman Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, former Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, and Newspaper Correspondents John Gunther and Hanson Baldwin. Tito, the Red Dictator, wants them to come over, and be shown that there's nothing to the charges of Communist aggression against Greece - no Yugoslav incitement of Communist rebellion in Greece.

Former Secretary Byrnes declines on the ground that this kind of inspection is a function of the United Nations - Tito and the other Red regimes, headed by Soviet Russia, having rejected U.N. proposals to patrol the boundary between the satellites and Greece. Also, of course, a U.N. inspection commission has already been over there - and has reported yes, there was Red aggression against Greece.

~~This morning, the New York Times, in commenting on the Yugoslav invitation to the prominent Americans, used the~~

PALESTINE

Today was another black day in the recent dark history of Palestine (a disastrous explosion ^{the} that blew up central police headquarters at Haifa, and killed at least ten Britons and Arabs, injuring fifty-four persons, a number of these expected to succumb. Shortly after the devastating blast at the ancient port on the coast, placards appeared in Jerusalem - announcing that the explosion was the doing of Irgun Zvai Leumi and the Stern Gang.) The posters boasted about a new weapon, the explosion at Haifa produced by - "a flying barrel."

(Today's violence took the British by surprise. There has been a sort of unofficial truce in the Holy Land during the time the United Nations has been considering the question of Palestine. The British feeling of security was the greater, because this week is one of the great Jewish festivals, the feast of Tabernacles. Nevertheless,) the police headquarters at Haifa was vigilantly guarded - as it ² has been ever since the Jewish underground blew up one wing of the building a year ago. The grounds were surrounded by a strong barbed wire barricade,

with guards posted at all entrances. Nevertheless, the terrorists contrived to get in their devastating blow - by the use of "the flying barrel."

They came in a truck, which they backed against the barricade of barbed wire. The guards saw what was happening, and opened fire - but could not stop the rapid action that ensued. On top of the truck was a large barrel. The terrorists lowered a ramp of twelve foot iron bars across the barbed wire, and sent the barrel rolling down. The lay-out of the place was such that the barrel had a clear way to the police headquarters building - and, ~~fast~~ rolling fast, it struck the wall. In it were five hundred pounds of high explosive, which blew up with a shattering blast.

A huge hole was blown in the wall, the building wrecked. Fire broke out, policemen jumping from windows. Fragments of bodies were blown for a hundred yards. An Arab sitting in a coffee house was blown to bits. A bus from Jerusalem was turned over, and burst into flames. The death

list includes four British policemen, four Arab policemen and two Arab civilians, including a woman. Among the injured are British and Arab police, and Arab and Jewish civilians. ^{TR} The police headquarters was on King's Way, in the heart of Haifa's modern business section. The electricity was cut off at the nearby post office and the cable-wireless office, and Haifa was isolated, communications severed with the outside world.

~~The latest tells of the arrest of four suspects, and it is believed that the others of the gang got away from Haifa - not daring to remain in the city. Haifa is a stronghold of Haganah, the moderate Jewish underground army, which is now in active opposition to the ~~terrorists~~ of Irgun Zvai Lemai and the Stern Gang. Ninety per cent of the Jewish population of Haifa are Haganah supporters; ^{so} and perpetrators of the ~~explosion~~ explosion are not ^{so} likely to be given shelter in the city.~~

The extremists, in their announcements, declare that ~~an~~ today's deed was in retaliation for the deportation of refugees, and that it happened as two refugee ships were ^{on their} approaching the Palestine coast, about to be seized by British warships.

(On this side of the ~~an~~ ocean, the Palestine news tells of a ^{menacing} ~~threatening~~ attitude taken by the Arab delegation appearing before the United Nations. The Arabs today threatened to drench the Holy Land with blood, to prevent the formation of a Jewish state over there.) This menace was made by the spokesman for the Arab Higher Committee - ~~was~~ the nephew of the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, who has been so bitterly attacked for dealing with the Nazis during the war. (The Higher Committee spokesman told a special Palestine Committee of the General Assembly of the U.N. - that in resisting a Jewish state, the Moslems were prepared to use what he called, "all means at their disposal." He said he realized the great powers could crush Arab opposition ^{to the} ~~of~~ partitioning Palestine and the establishment of the Jewish state. "But this," said he, "will not deter us from drenching the soil of our beloved country with the last drop of our blood in the lawful defense of all and every inch of it." ^{sounds like} ~~is certainly~~ extremist phraseology.

HAVANA, CUBA

From Havana, Cuba, an extraordinary story -- a full-scale amphibious invasion setting out from Cuba to attack the Dominican Republic. Tonight the Cuban Army announced it had captured two invasion ships crowded with troops -- eight-hundred heavily armed soldiers. Some of them former American G.I.'s, serving as soldiers of fortune.

R Aboard these two ships, trucks and tanks, landing craft, artillery and small arms. Everything for an invasion. A pocket-size landing force headed for Ciudad Trujillo, ^{Pronounced} ~~Three-u-dad Tru-hoo-~~ capital of the Dominican Republic, ruled by the iron hand of Dictator Trujillo since 1930 when a revolution swept him into power. ~~xxxx~~

No news of how the capture of those two invasion ships was brought about. Colonel Oscar Diaz, spokesman for the Cuban Army, simply says the expedition was organized on Cuban ~~and~~ soil, and that the two ships were captured at sea by the Cuban Navy. A million dollar amphibious expedition, defeated before it could go into action.

FLOODS

More trouble for much troubled India. Tonight, in New Delhi the holy River Jumna burst its banks, covering the New Delhi area with the worst flood since nineteen-Twenty-Four. No immediate count of casualties. Just the news that one village five miles from the capital was completely submerged. Stories of swiftly moving currents carrying away people, buffaloes, cows, and houses. Gunboats being pressed into service to save men, women, and children stranded by the flooded river that winds around the ancient as well as the new capital. The Jumna, swollen by the heavy rains of the past two weeks, now adding to India's misery, India's swarming millions.

ROBBERY

From Cleveland we have a story of crime, dramatic, hilarious - sinister with thrills and laughs. A gang of robbers held up a swanky club at an early hour this morning, but the news didn't leak out until much later in the day - because the club refrained from notifying the police. The entertainment included the whirring spin of the roulette wheel, and the galloping rhythm of dice, - not so legal and legitimate in Ohio!!

The moment at which the bandits entered could not have been improved upon. The nightclub show was on in the dining room, the late show, the second one. The act at that moment was a scream, full of gags and slapstick. Singer Mary Healy was right in the middle of a comedy routine with her husband, funny man Peter Lind Hayes, dragging him from one of the tables - when in strode eight men of the most extraordinary description.

The bandits were in disguise. Carrying tommy guns and pistols, they wore green army fatigue suits, and had black hoods over their heads, black stocking caps with eye-holes. Most effective as

hold-up disguise, but you can imagine what the merry-makers thought. -- ^{Surely all a} part of the act. There was a roar of laughter, which grew louder, when the leader of the fantastic hooded figures announced, "This is a stick-up, stay in your seats."

Singer Mary Healy thought the hooded bandits were bibulous customers trying to be funny. She called out indignantly: "You behave yourself, or stay out of here."

All of which was embarrassing for the robbers. They had miscalculated slightly -- not figuring how comical they would look, in their black stocking-cap-hoods, marching in on a comedy nightclub show. ^{well} They solved their dilemma with a burst of gunfire -- shooting at the ceiling with tommy guns.

The cannonade sobered the merry-makers, and the bandits went about their nefarious work. They had planned the robbery with plenty of ingenuity, not to say melodrama. ^{Complicated} ~~They were great at~~ disguise. In addition to their black hoods, they addressed each other by numbers - instead of names. "You do this, Number Three." You do

that, number seven!"

In that numerical style, one robber was left to guard the customers in the dining-room-nightclub, while the others went to the gambling room, where the bulk of the cash was. ^{There} The gamblers were lined up, and robbed.

A woman, who wore a blazing diamond ring, was a little slow in taking off the costly sparkler. One of the robbers spoke through his black mask: "Get that thing off or we'll have to chop off the finger." ~~with~~ She still has her finger, but not the ring.

One gentlemen, in the line-up of the victims, was worried. Digging into his pockets, he found nothing. He had been playing the slot machines all night, ^{and} the slot machines had cleaned him out. So he borrowed forty dollars from the man next to him - and handed the forty to the robbers. "I thought I'd better have something to give them," he said afterward. "They were too short-tempered to suit me."

In their get-away, the bandits went back through the dining^r room, stuffing two-hundred-^{and fifty} thousand dollars

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in money and jewels into their pockets. Just then a bibulous gentleman at a table raised his head. Having slept through the robbery, he now looked up and saw the hooded men, laden with all the money and glittering jewelry, a glance of disgust. "This," he mumbled, "happened in the first show. Let's go home."

By now, the robbers had had enough of the show business -- humiliating for bandit desperadoes to be taken so persistently for comedians. One of them grabbed the bibulous gentleman, and took him into a side room off the dining room. Then a shot was heard - a shot that startled the night club customers with a twist of horror. The bandit in the black mask emerged from the side room, and rejoined his companions for a fast escape in automobiles.

The shocked and terrified customers investigated in the side room. They found the bandit had fired the shot at the ceiling, and left the bibulous gentleman in a state of collapse, scared-sober.

And now my old radio friend and colleague Nelson Case, who is never scared and always sober.

GOOD EVENING, EVERYBODY:-

After many long years of broadcasting nightly over one great network, for one great sponsor, I am transferring to another great network and another great sponsor.

(In coming to CBS, I don't ^{exactly} ~~quite~~ feel like a stranger. When I first came into radio, the man ~~in~~ who first lured me to the microphone was an attractive, ~~and~~ ^{brilliant} ~~energetic~~ young man named Bill Paley, the founder and still the head of this great Columbia Broadcasting System.)

And ~~about~~ about my change of sponsor: After the longest association in the history of American radio, of anyone on the air, with a sponsor, now I am going on for an American firm whose name is almost synonymous with the growth of modern American industry, the great firm of Proctor and Gamble.

The home base of P & G, as it is familiarly known to millions, is the City of Cincinnati. Since I was born only a few miles north of Cincinnati, well, this new radio alliance of mine seems just right. So it's like a homecoming, returning with a lot more experience in dealing with radio news --- bringing to you the pageant of events of the day, the important headlines, the dramatic twists, the cheerful as well as the ominous, the gay as well as the serious. And it happens that this is a vivid news day, with contrasts of the serious, the important, and the dramatic -- and the lighter side, too.

ExtraLONGSHOREMEN'S STRIKE

In San Francisco, tonight, ~~there is~~ danger of another shipping tie-up -- the threat of a strike by longshoremen to end the brief peace between the longshore union and the shipping operators. A threat to shut down Los Angeles harbor at midnight tomorrow. Halting the operation of one of the nation's greatest ports. And all because of the strike of less than two-hundred men.

These two-hundred men -- longshore-foremen, "walking bosses," the union men call them -- are seeking to force recognition of the CIO Longshoremen's Union as their bargaining agent. But the shipping operators say these "walking bosses" cannot use this longshoremen's unit as their bargaining agent because they are supervisory workers. ^{That} as such, they are banned by the Taft-Hartley Act. ^R So, these men went on strike, and for eleven weeks shipping has been partially tied up. Now the employers are making a move. They are planning to shut down the harbor of Los Angeles unless the

walking bosses come back to work. This, say the men -- these supervisory workers -- they will not do. And so, unless an agreement is reached within twenty-four hours, a strike is inevitable.

(Night Show)
September 29, 1947ADD PALESTINE (To follow Palestine 4)

This evening, in Jerusalem the Arab Higher Committee -- the representative body of Arabs in the Holy Land -- ordered Palestine Arabs to demonstrate in a general strike on Friday. Over a million Arabs to strike, protesting a possible United Nations decision which will deprive the Arabs of full control over the Holy Land. Moslem action against the United Nations.