

L.Y. - Sunoco. Wed., March 27, 1946.

Soviet Russia has walked out. The bitter crisis in New York today was played to a relentless conclusion. The dramatic climax was reached when Soviet Delegate Gromyko got up and stalked out of the made-over gymnasium at Hunter College in the Bronx. Thereby he fulfilled his threat of what he'd do unless the Security Council of the United Nations agreed to postpone ~~until April~~ ~~with~~ any consideration of the Iranian protest against Soviet Russia.

The ^{Gromyko} ~~Soviet~~ walkout followed another nine-to-two defeat at the hands of the Council. Only Poland, which has a Soviet-sponsored government, ^{again} supported Gromyko's demand for a delay on the Iranian Council question.

The other delegates were solidly against him -- representatives of small nations like The Netherlands, and Egypt, speaking vigorously in favor of taking up the Iranian complaint -- little Iran against the great Soviet.

The American and British positions were clearcut and straightforward. Secretary of State Byrnes

could not be shaken. He was on the committee of three appointed last night to try to do something to avert the Soviet threat to boycott the Security Council proceedings on the subject of Iran. The other two on the three-man committee were Gromyko of Russia and Bon^{net} of France -- France in the middle. Gromyko argued stubbornly with Byrnes, with no results -- the committee attempt ending in a failure to find any compromise.

The failure being reported to the Security Council this afternoon, the Council debate ~~was on going~~ ^{then proceeded} to a showdown. Byrnes was eloquent, and most effective in stating that the Charter of the United Nations guaranteed the lesser nations the unquestioned right to appeal to the Security Council, and that Iran should be granted that right of appeal. The Secretary of State declared that if the U.N.O. failed in this, it would, in his words -- "die in its infancy, a victim of inefficiency."

Gromyko, fighting a losing battle, repeated his

tactics of yesterday, stubbornly arguing that an agreement has been reached between the Soviets and Iran, a statement ^{contradicted} ~~announcing~~ by the Iranians themselves and by Secretary of State Byrnes. There was a turn of the grotesque about it-- the Russians affirming insistently that there was a Soviet-Iranian agreement -- and the Iranians just as insistently denying it.

Gromyko, pressing his contention doggedly, seemed ~~to be~~ determined to make it a matter of the veracity of Stalin. Yesterday he had referred to Stalin's declaration that a Soviet-Iranian settlement had been reached. Today he went further than that, and made it more precise. He cited, for example, Stalin's message to the United Press. This message had been in response to questions asked with reference to a statement made by former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Today Gromyko read what Stalin had cabled to the United Press. Responding to ^a ~~the~~ Churchill ^{protest} ~~remark~~ about the presence of Red Army troops in Iran, Stalin had replied: "I cannot

admit, as convincing, Mr. Churchill's argument. On the question of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Iran," he had continued, "it is known to have already been positively settled by agreement between the Soviet government and the government of Iran."

Having read this, Gromyko stated: "The reply was not only published in the United States, but in other countries of the world."

STALIN STATEMENT

The Stalin statement, as a reply to Churchill, takes us to a story out of the newspaper shop. A central fact in the world crisis today, the whole thing began as a bit of news-gathering enterprise, an example of - the direct approach.

Winston Churchill, after having completed his American tour, was on his way back to London - boarding the Queen Mary. Britain's war-time leader had been chary about seeing the reporters, not wanting to get tangled up in a lot of time-wasting interviews. The United Press wanted a statement from Churchill - the more so as Stalin, shortly before, had given a series of declarations to the rival news agency - the Associated Press. And the question was - how to persuade Churchill? Often, the method would be to try to bring influence to bear - by going to this personage or that one. But one of the United Press vice-presidents, Jack Bisco, decided to try something

else, something simpler - the direct approach.

Churchill was aboard the Queen Mary, the liner getting ready to sail, Bisco went aboard, went to Churchill - and asked him for a statement. And the former Prime Minister agreed ^{readily -} on condition that this be withheld until the Queen Mary had sailed, so that he wouldn't be besieged by reporters flocking down on him.

The interview was had, with Churchill's woman secretary taking it down on the typewriter. She typed Bisco's questions as ~~he~~ he asked them, and Churchill's replies as he gave them - after which Churchill revised the typewritten sheets. ^R Then Bisco went ashore, the Queen Mary sailed, and the Churchill statements were put on the news wire. ^R In the interview, Churchill repeated his criticisms of Soviet Russia, and emphasized the question of why Red Army troops had not been withdrawn from Iran, according to treaty.

So that was that, a newspaper scoop - after which the thing went further, with the President of the United Press having an inspiration. ^{Thought Hugh Baillie, -} If Churchill had responded to the direct approach - maybe Stalin would too. Why not try that same simple way on the Soviet Generalissimo?

So Hugh Baillie fixed a cablegram to Moscow, to Stalin, asking for comments on the Churchill statement. And it worked. Back came Stalin's answers, ^{including} ~~one of which~~ ~~was a reply to the former Prime Minister's remarks about Red Army troops remaining in Iran. Stalin called attention to the fact that they were being withdrawn, and made his~~ ^{the} statement that an agreement had been reached between Moscow and Teheran - the declaration that today was cited in headline fashion by Soviet delegate Gromyko in his argument ~~in~~ before the Security Council.

COUNCIL

The latest is - a formal invitation tendered by the Security Council to Iran. The Iranian delegate is asked to state his country's complaint against Soviet Russia. The vote on this was eight to two. Soviet Russia was absent. But, Poland was still there, supporting the Soviet case. And Australia, rather surprisingly, cast a vote against the call for Iran to present its argument.

Australia wanted the Iranian protest to be made in writing.

All though the session the Iranian delegate, Hussein Ala, had waited for ^{his} chance. ~~to state his case.~~ He had been waiting ever since the Security Council ~~had~~ began its present session in New York. And now his chance has come, as the Security Council proceeds - minus Soviet Russia.

SPIES

The Russian response to the arrest of a Soviet Navy Lieutenant as a spy was given this afternoon by an official at the Russian Consulate in San Francisco. He characterized the arrest of Lieutenant Nicolai Redin in these words - "Unquestionably a frame-up, obviously designed to create a damaging impression against Russia in the world press." Which, however, is not the attitude of the F.B.I., which took the Soviet Lieutenant into custody.

We hear that ^{federal} ~~xxxxxxx~~ agents had their eye on Nicolai Redin for some time, and were watching his activities in gathering secret information. The word is that the focus of his interest was on what would seem to be a rather unimpressive object - not the atomic bomb, but a ship, a tender for destroyers. The vessel is the U.S.S. YELLOWSTONE, formerly a Liberty ship, which was transformed ^{into} ~~as~~ a sort of

service station ^{at sea.} ~~for destroyers~~. Additional information is that the YELLOWSTONE was not assigned to any part of the atomic bomb tests, has no atomic significance whatever. Then why the espionage attentions dedicated to the YELLOWSTONE? The answer is that the destroyer-tender is a veritable workshop laboratory, loaded with all sorts of mysterious navy gadgets - a storehouse of naval secrets.

~~The case of Lieutenant Redin has, apparently, no connection with the Soviet spy sensation in Canada. And one statement is - that it's of secondary importance.~~

~~However, the arrest is a further build-up for spy headlines that are common these days - ^{with} ~~and~~ the F.B.I. is not saying much about the arrest of the Soviet Lieutenant.~~

MANCHURIA

Civil war is raging in Manchuria. This was officially confirmed at Chungking today, with a statement that battles on a large scale were being fought in the neighborhood of Mukden. ^{Which} ~~this~~ follows the withdrawal of Red Army troops from Manchuria, ^{when} ~~after which~~ the Chinese Communists poured in - while the Nationalist government was trying to take over.

The situation in Manchuria has been peculiar, because of the official peace agreement between Chiang Kai-shek and the Chinese Reds. This applies to the rest of China, where the civil war is at an end. Nationalist leaders and the chiefs of the Communists are collaborating in China proper - while their factions have been plunging into a civil war in Manchuria.

The news from Chungking tells of ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ joint Nationalist and Communist efforts to end the trouble - with an American lieutenant general as

mediator. "Cease fire teams" are to be sent to Manchuria to end hostilities - as the two parties, Nationalists and Reds, maintain peace in China proper, but to carry on a war in the northern province.

London noted a grim anniversary today, an anniversary to remind the British people ^{of} what a narrow escape ~~they~~ had in World War Number Two. This reverts to the ominous thought of the Nazi secret weapons. What would have happened if German scientists had developed their mystery devices of destruction a little earlier. - The V-1 and V-2 projectiles, for example, ~~were~~ ^{went} into action only after the tide of war had definitely turned against Hitler, Nazi Germany approaching its collapse.

Well, the anniversary in London today was that of the last V-2 rocket. It was just a year ago today that the final giant projectile came out of the sky and exploded in the British capital. It was a military secret then, but we are now informed - that the last V-2 rocket killed a hundred and thirty-four people.

LEND-LEASE

In Washington, signatures were appended today to a document that makes Lend-Lease to Britain a matter of history. Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson and British Lord Halifax signed the final settlement. Lend-Lease aid was given to many nations, but the largest share went to Britain - and the British deal is the first to be concluded.

British Lend-Lease came to a stupendous total of twenty-six billion dollars, and this has now been written ^{down to} ~~off for~~ six hundred and fifty million - a little more than two per cent. And, in fact, the six hundred and fifty million dollar settlement turns over to Britain five hundred and thirty-two million dollars' worth of surplus and unused stocks of Lend-Lease that are still ^{over there.} ~~in Britain~~ What it amounts to is that the Lend-Lease the British actually used in the war is written off - for free.

COAL

In Washington, there is optimism about the chances of averting the coal strike. That is, government optimism. The Department of Labor is drafting a compromise, its own version of a contract, for the companies and the union to sign. The belief is expressed in government circles that the compromise contract is likely to be accepted. That's the basis for the optimism.

We are not told what the terms are, but they have to do with the demand made by John L. Lewis for greater safety in the mines, improved safety regulations and the establishment of a welfare fund for the miners, a fund to be financed by the companies. Lewis makes this a crucial point of the labor dispute - the companies being willing to grant increases of pay of from seventeen to twenty cents an hour, the equivalent of pay boosts awarded to workers in other industries.

The Department of Labor expects to have this proposal ready for the companies and the union in plenty of time to avert the walkout of four hundred thousand soft coal miners ordered for midnight on Sunday. They expect to present their plan by noon tomorrow, sixty hours before the deadline.

At latest reports, the government optimism was not shared by either the companies or the union - both sides declaring that they know nothing about the terms of the compromise contract, ~~and haven't any idea whether these will be acceptable either to John L. Lewis or the management.~~

AUTO WORKERS

The Auto Workers Union has elected - Walter Reuther. Today at Atlantic City there were scenes of bedlam, reminiscent of a hot presidential convention - as delegates to the Union Convention staged ^{a fight} as bitterly and closely fought ^{as any we can recall.} ~~a fight as was ever seen anywhere.~~

^{TP} It was Reuther - against Thomas. The fiery red-headed Reuther, as Vice-President of the Auto Workers Union, had directed a long and stubborn strike against General Motors. And now he was running against the Union President, burly, tobacco chewing R.J. Thomas - leader of the Auto Workers since Nineteen Thirty-Eight.

For days, the convention witnessed ^a uproars of debate and electioneering. Thomas had the support of the C.I.O. leadership. Curiously enough, we were told that he was backed by conservatives plus the Union Left Wing, including Communists. Reuther is on record as a Socialist.

Well, a showdown came today, and in a wild pandemonium, the two thousand delegates gave the victory to Reuther by the narrowest of margins. *Each*
~~The count was complicated by the fact that each~~
delegation cast votes proportionate to the strength it represented. The final count was Reuther four-thousand-
five-hundred-and-forty; Thomas four-thousand, two-hundred
and-ninety, a margin of ^{only} two-hundred-and-fifty.

And now Hugh, I've left ~~less~~
~~than~~ a margin of less than a
minute for you.