



CAPTURED BY REBELS — This exclusive photo shows one of two U. S. Marines who were captured in Beirut, Lebanon, this week. Here, he is being pushed along a street in the Basta quarter of Beirut, as residents of the area look on. The two Marines were released a few hours later.

Washington Skeptical About Changes Of Summit Conference on Middle East

Editor's note: Kingsbury Smith, vice president and associate general manager of United Press International, assesses the prospects of high level agreement on Middle East problems in the following dispatch. It is based on conversations with diplomats at the United Nations and with experts on Middle Eastern affairs.

By **KINGSBURY SMITH**
United Press International

New York — (UPI) — What hope, if any, is there of the western powers reaching an agreement with Russia at a summit meeting on the Middle East?

That was a leading question in the chancelleries of the world today.

Washington remained skeptical. President Eisenhower and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles were known to be highly doubtful that Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev was ready to come to any reasonable settlement with the west over the Middle East. They feared the Red ruler

would use such a meeting as a propaganda sounding board to harangue the U.S. and Britain for military intervention in the Lebanon and Jordan, and to make Russia appear as the champion of Arab nationalism.

Some Western European diplomats at the United Nations, however, told this correspondent they thought there was a slight chance Khrushchev might be willing to come to terms acceptable to the West on a formula for neutralizing the Middle East, or at least part of it, in the cold war.

A Lesser Evil
These diplomats felt there would certainly be disadvantages for the West in any neutralization plan for that vital, important oil-rich and strategic area, but they foresaw the possibility that the western governments might

consider it a lesser evil than allowing the Middle East to continue as a dangerous cockpit in the cold war.

An effective neutralization plan that might be acceptable to the western powers, Russia, the Arabs and Israel would, in the opinion of some U. N. diplomats, have to include the following:

1. A limitation on the shipment of arms to the Arab states and Israel, with an effective U. N. system of inspection and control;
2. Creation of a strong, permanent U. N. police force that would be subject to immediate call to seal off the borders of any Middle East nation threatened with aggression, including infiltration of arms and "volunteers";
3. A pledge by all the great powers not to resort to military intervention in any Middle East state unless that state was declared by the U. N. to be the victim of aggression;
4. Replacement of American and British forces in Lebanon and Jordan by a strong U. N. police force for at least six months or a year;
5. A big powers' guaranty of the borders of Israel to relieve the fears of both the Jews and the Arabs over the possibility of future aggression;
6. A guaranty by all the Arab states concerned that the flow of oil to the West will not be disrupted by governmental action, and that any disputes concerning western access to the oil will be settled by international arbitration;
7. Creation of a U. N. economic development project for all the Middle East nations, to which the U. S. and Russia would be pledged to contribute equal funds;
8. A cessation of Arabic-language "cold war" propaganda broadcasts to the Mid-

dle East by government-sponsored agencies of the Communist world and the West.

A spokesman for the Arab League told the writer a neutralization plan that took the Middle East out of the cold war would be welcomed by the Arabs. Such a plan, he thought, would facilitate Arab unity, but as long as the flow of oil to the West was guaranteed he did not see why the western powers should object.

Longshoremen Approve Pact

San Francisco — (UPI) — West coast longshoremen have approved a new contract calling for a wage increase of 10 cents an hour and cutting the work shift from nine to eight hours.

The agreement between the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and the Pacific Maritime Association is retroactive to June 15. The contract was negotiated July 3.

The ILWU said the voting among 18,000 longshoremen and clerks approved both ends of a split ballot. The shift reduction was separated from the rest of the contract, which included a 10-cent hourly raise for longshoremen and 11 cents for clerks.

Although the shift reduction was approved in the coast tally, San Francisco Local 10 opposed it by a 420-vote margin while favoring the rest of the agreement.

In Seattle, the reduced hours were approved by a vote of 903 to 367 and in Portland by a vote of 555 to 401. Seattle dockworkers approved the rest of the contract 891 to 361 and Portland dockworkers by a vote of 595 to 364.

Lightning Starts Several Fires in Eastern Oregon

By United Press International
Sun-seared Eastern Oregon was spotted with fires today after severe lightning storms lashed the region Monday night.

Lightning combined with very high, gusty winds, and very little rain produced at least a dozen fires in the land and forested areas in the La Grande area and in Malheur county.

Scores of volunteers were pressed into service by the

Bureau of Land Management to combat four range fires in Malheur county.

State Forestry officials and Forest Service personnel were hard pressed to provide fire-fighters for at least six lightning-kindled forest fires in the La Grande area.

Thousands Acres Burned
At least a thousand acres of range land was burned over Monday night south of Harper by one blaze. Three other fires burned valuable grassland in the Rome area of Malheur county.

Two forest fires were visible from La Grande as they burned on the slopes of Mt. Harris.

Other fires were reported in the High Valley area, on federal forest land near Cove, and two were reported in the Texas Bar area on the North fork of the John Day river.

Winds of 20 to 30 miles per hour fanned the blazes, officials reported.

Smoke jumpers at Walla Walla, Wash., were alerted for possible action.

Numerous lightning strikes were reported in the Wallowa Lakes region east of La Grande.

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Timber Appraiser Ends Testimony

Salem — (UPI) — Testimony of Wallace Eubanks, timber appraisal supervisor of the State Tax Commission, was concluded here Monday as fact-finding hearings being conducted

by the commission concerning variations in timber taxation entered the fourth week.

The hearings, open to the public, are held in the Capitol building here.

In his fifth day of testimony Eubanks completed a detailed account of how he and his staff cruised and evaluated timber and timberland in Coos, Benton, Lane and Douglas counties.

Eubanks again declared that lack of detailed information from timber operators as to logging costs has proven a handicap in the valuation process.

He said that in Lane county, for instance, seven of the major timber operators provided mass cost figures but declined to break them down for his purposes. As a result, he said, the information was virtually useless.

Quotes From the News

United Press International

Cedar Rapids, Iowa: Eugene Murphy, whose wife gave birth to their third set of twins in 27 months, describing the cumulative effect on his nerves:

"Occasionally I want to sit down and shoot somebody."

Bismarck, N. D.: Police Magistrate I. M. Oseth, imposing a stiff fine of \$30 and lecturing himself for driving through a red light:

"I felt I couldn't let myself get off any easier than the people who come before me."

New York: An authoritative source predicting that Manager Walter Alston's days as manager are numbered unless the baseball Dodgers start winning in the next ten days:

"That recent vote of confidence the Dodgers gave Alston was tantamount to handing him his hat."

Moscow: American Coach George Eastment, protesting the lumping together of total scores in men's and women's events in the current Soviet-U.S.A. track competition, as violating an agreement in writing from the Russians not to do so:

"Without that letter we wouldn't have left the United States."

Attorney Defends Aly Khan's Status

Reno — (UPI) — Moslem Prince Aly Khan cannot be sued in District Court because he has diplomatic immunity, his attorney argued Monday.

Two Reno attorneys filed motions seeking to force Khan to pay fees amounting to about \$21,000 as a result of a legal battle between the prince and movie star Rita Hayworth over visitation rights regarding their daughter, Princess Yasmin. The red-haired screen siren and the princess subsequently visited Khan in Paris in 1956.

Khan and Miss Hayworth were divorced in District Court in 1953. The prince made a formal appearance in court a year later, at which time a property settlement was approved.

The fees were sought by New York attorney Bartley Crum and William Forman of Reno.

However, attorney Kenneth Dillon of Reno argued District Court was without jurisdiction because the prince is a Pakistani ambassador extraordinary and the Moslem nation's permanent representative in the United Nations.

District Judge A. J. Maestretti took Dillon's argument under study. He said he would rule in a few days.

Lightning Kills Five Californians

United Press International
More thunderstorms were predicted for central California Tuesday following an outbreak of violent electrical storms that killed five persons and injured two others.

The victims were killed on Monday when a lightning bolt struck a tree where they were picking peaches. The storm touched off at least a dozen fires in the Sierra Nevada foothills as it rolled up the San Joaquin Valley.

Thundershowers also hit the East, with the heaviest rain during the night occurring in the Southeast.

At Cleveland, Ohio, police rescued four teenage boys who were swept into a storm sewer during a heavy rain Monday and were carried nearly four miles down the sewer tunnel. The youths escaped with minor cuts and bruises.

A light but steady drizzle accommodated tradition at Waynesburg, Pa., Tuesday. It was the 73rd time in the last 82 years that rain fell in the town on July 29.

Man Tells Truth, Gets Two-Year Term

Jackson, Miss. — (UPI) — Although it cost him a two-year prison sentence, Paul Edwards showed no regret for having told the truth.

Edwards was before Judge Leon Hendrick Monday for sentencing on charges of forgery and writing bad checks. He had no local record and was eligible for probation.

But the judge inquired whether the defendant had been in any previous trouble.

"I'm not going to lie, your honor," Edwards replied, and revealed that he was under probation on similar charges in another city.

The judge said he had no choice. He imposed an active sentence.



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