

Troops Of Four Nations Ready To Attack Jordan

Editor's Note: Tom Masterson of the Associated Press has provided from Amman comprehensive news coverage on the crisis in Jordan. Wednesday he went to Beirut in Lebanon and filed this "gossamer" appraisal of the Jordan situation. Masterson is AP chief of bureau in the Middle East.

By TOM MASTERSON
BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Troops of four countries occupy or surround hapless Jordan. They are ready to pounce the moment Jordan appears too puny to put up effective resistance.

Syrian troops have established a solid beachhead in north Jordan. The 3,500 troops firmly entrenched with their families and household goods in the Mafraq area were reinforced last week by an armored regiment.

Military sources estimate Syria now has more than 5,000 troops in the area.

Saudi Arabian troops have set up three bases in Jordan. In the south they have taken over the Agaba area. On the west bank of the River Jordan, once Palestine, they have set up two bases in the Jericho district. The Saudis 3,500 troops are equipped with American weapons. This gives them better firepower than the Syrian soldiers.

Just across Jordan's northeastern border, a regiment of Israeli troops commands the old invasion route at a place called H-3. It is a desert, so Iraq cannot maintain more than a regiment for any length of time.

Finally, across Jordans, 400-mile frontier with Israel, the Israeli army, biggest fighting force in the Middle East, is poised for action.

Israel government officials say they cannot look the other way if any of the three Arab states make a move on Jordan. Israel long has coveted the territory west of the Jordan River with the cities of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jericho, Hebron and Nablus.

A foreign diplomat remarked: "It is difficult to distinguish who are Jordan's friends and who are her enemies."

Jordan is visibly weakening day

Canada Council To Meet April 30

OTTAWA (CP) — The newly-appointed, 21-member Canada Council to aid Canadian culture will hold its first meeting in parliamentary chambers April 30 with Governor-General Massey officiating.

Council Chairman Brooke Claxton announced Wednesday that following a brief opening ceremony, the council will go into private session for two days to work out preliminary policy.

He said it will be some time yet before the council will be able to provide financial aid for the arts, humanities and social sciences.

The new organization will have its headquarters in Ottawa and preliminary work on setting up administrative machinery is "well advanced," Mr. Claxton said. The council will have only a small staff.

N.B. Vice-President To APEC Named

SAINT JOHN, N.B. (CP) — R. Whidden Ganong of St. Stephen was elected New Brunswick's vice-president of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council at a New Brunswick committee meeting here Wednesday.

He succeeds the late L. W. Simms of Lancaster. H. A. Fredericks of Sussex was named APEC membership chairman for the province.

Trotsky Widow Admitted To U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Natalia I. Trotsky, the aged widow of old Bolshevik Leon Trotsky, has been admitted to the U.S. temporarily "in the interests of the United States government," the immigration service said Wednesday.

The admission is cloaked in some mystery. Presumably she was allowed to enter from Mexico, where her exiled husband was assassinated 17 years ago.

In response to inquiries, immigration commissioner Joseph N. Swing said:

"The circumstances, data and place of admission and her present whereabouts will not be disclosed."

Asked whether Madame Trotsky is here to appear before a congressional committee, Swing said this was "a possibility," but added:

"Naturally, the service has no control or knowledge of congressional committees' proposed actions."

Stalin Statue Not Replaced

BUDAPEST (Reuters) — Visitors to this capital flock to look at the empty pedestal on which once stood the figure of Stalin.

So far, no move has been made to replace on the faded, red limestone base the 26-foot-high bronze statue which was hauled down during the October revolt by demonstrators using ropes attached to trucks.

As smouldering discontent flared into open rebellion, 13 demonstrators dragged the statue away and broke it into pieces. Nothing now remains of it but the twisted fragment of a metal support on top of the 33-foot-high pedestal, standing in a large square in the heart of Budapest, with sculptured reliefs showing Soviet soldiers, workers and peasants damaged and defaced.

At Sinai Canadian Soldiers Visit The Oldest Monastery

By JACK BRAYLEY
Canadian Press Staff Writer
SINAI, Egypt (CP) — The monastery of St. Catherine, a fourth-century edifice that is the oldest in Christendom, lies in the fold of three granite peaks. At first glance inaccessible, it can be reached by camel track over the Wadi Feran, the high plateaus and boulder-strewn passes.

Capt. Ormond Hopkins of Perth, Ont., one of the Canadian UNEF contingent's chaplains; Pte. Al Hewitson of Owen Sound, Ont., and I were welcomed by Father Nikiforos at a heavily armored porticulis at the end of our Lenten pilgrimage.

In difficult English he asked and answered his own questions. "You Canada? Good. You stay? Good. You hungry? Good. You want nice bed? Good."

SOLICITOUS GUIDE
For 48 hours he introduced us to the story of the monastery, directed our explorations, supervised our comfort—and in the meantime looked after a newly arrived patriarch and a detachment of Egyptian sappers looking for water holes for neighboring Bedouins.

Nikiforos, a small bearded monk with thick glasses, is the practical man of the monastery, looking after everything from unplugging the ancient drains to food supplies, grown at a beautiful oasis 25 miles away. He has even installed an electric lighting system. His work leaves his 12 brother monks to study their precious manuscripts and meditate.

St. Catherine's contains some of the oldest relics, manuscripts, and religious art in the world. It was established to perpetuate the tradition that this is the site where Moses received the Ten Commandments.

Further Nikiforos shows in reverence the peak where Moses is said to have talked with God, the burning bush which grows behind a wire fence and a green tree

which he says is kept alive by the stream of water which gushed from the spot when Moses performed the Miracle for the children of Israel.

UNTOUCHED BY WARS
Our arrival was one of a long line of military visitations that have left the beautiful old pile undisturbed for more than 1,600 years. Older institutions having been pillaged—St. Catherine's, in the heart of a mosque world, has escaped by virtue of its hospitality and diplomacy.

Within its walls is a mosque, seldom visited but open to any passing Moslem. In the 11th Century the Crusaders stayed for 20 years and hand-carved the beautiful outer doors of the chapel and the ornate table and coat of arms of the refectory—among them the arms of Richard the Lion Heart.

We made the 240-mile trip from the Canadian base at Abu Suweir in a Jeep, following a deteriorating highway that ended in a camel track into the Wadi Feran. The last 60 miles were jolting, swerving misery as we crossed an arid, desolate land.

In former times visitors were admitted to the monastery only by a cage lift pulled over the battlements by a four-man captain and winch. A narrow entrance porticulis now has been cut through the thick wall behind a gate of the primary defences.

Ducking low, you pass through three heavy iron-studded doors into the cobbled passageways of the monastery. You wind through a maze of alleyways until you reach the double-deck residential galleries. Off the galleries are the monks' cells and accommodation for visitors. Our padre, feeling his hard pallet, was not consoled when I told him that the man who played Moses in the movie "The Ten Commandments" used the same bed when the cast visited here with producer Cecil B. de Mille two years ago.

The monks were summoned to

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4 a.m. devotion by a wooden clacker and a peal of bells. The next service was at 6 a.m. The monks then ate breakfast while one read from a Greek testament. The original fourth-century chapel of Moses still stands, attached to the larger sixth-century chapel. Over the altar is the second oldest mosaic in the world. The Codex Sinaiticus, a fourth-century Greek manuscript of the Bible, was discovered in the monastery in 1844.

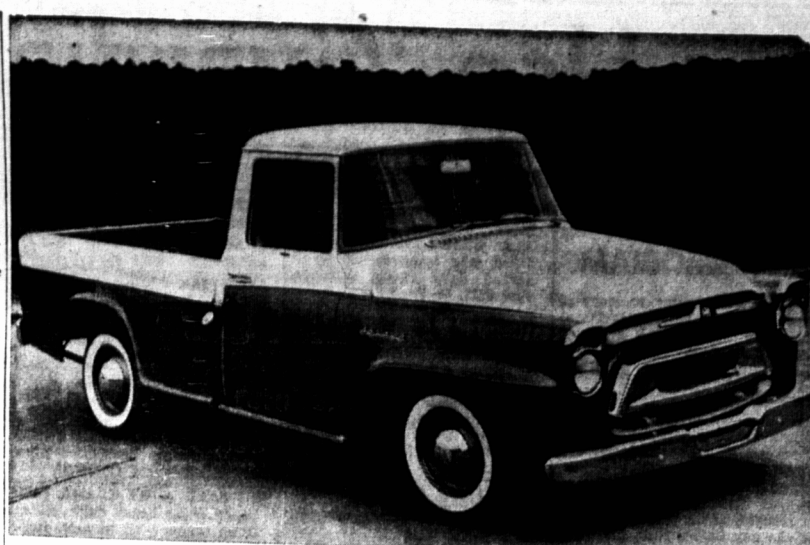
A grisly part of the monastery is the charnel house, where the whitened bones of thousands of monks and 245 bishops are piled in neat rows. In this land where earth is at a premium, monks are buried for six years and then their bones are dug up and put into the charnel house.

Highlight of our pilgrimage was an arduous climb on foot up the last 2,000 feet of 9,000-foot Jebel (Mount) Moses. Our reward was a graphic view of the Sinai peaks and a look at the shrine in which the mountain-top protrudes into the altar and in which there is a portrayal in beautiful mosaic of the resurrection scene.

The padre repeated the Ten Commandments in the sharp wind outside. Then we started the long climb down to the monastery again and the peace and quiet of the ages.

RANIERI WILL SEE POPE MONTE CARLO (AP) — Prince Ranieri III and Princess Grace of Monaco said Thursday they will visit the Pope this month. The former Grace Kelly will be the first American citizen ever received by the Pontiff under the circumstances of such a state visit.

FOUR DIE IN MINE PANTHER, W.Va. (AP) — Four of six men in a small coal mine were killed Thursday by a rock fall. The men were hit by the fall 2,000 feet inside the mine, located in the southwestern corner of the state near the Virginia border.



Celebrating their 50th anniversary of motor truck manufacturing this year, International Harvester Company of Canada Limited are marking the occasion with the introduction of a completely new line of light and medium duty International trucks. They incorporate new, high-efficiency truck engines and a host of new styling and design features, including a cab with greatly enlarged inside dimensions and a Sweep Around windshield that offers 1,188 square inches of unobstructed visibility. The new International "A" line trucks are offered in GVW ratings from 5,000 to 33,000 lbs., and include a complete range of 4-wheel and 6-wheel models as well as a complete range of all-wheel-drive models, in conventional and new cab-forward design.

A-Tests May Cause Cancer

LONDON (AP) — A group of British atomic scientists estimated Tuesday night that "one nominal high-yield nuclear test" may eventually give bone cancer to 20,000 persons throughout the world.

They said, however, their calculations were based on a hypothesis that has yet to be proved. The estimate was contained in a technical report on radiation hazards issued by the Atomic Scientists Association, a non-political body whose members include university professors and experts on nuclear physics.

The scientists said damage may result to the present generation mainly from the release of strontium 90, a radioactive substance which enters the body in food and accumulates in the bones.

"Depending on the assumptions made about the distribution of strontium in bone," the report said, "we calculate that by the year 1970 the radiation doses to bone from all the (nuclear) tests carried out up to the sum of 1956 will range from nine to 45 per cent of the dose received from all natural sources, including the radium which is normally present in bone."

On this basis, they said, "an H-bomb of the type tested at Bikini in 1954, if exploded high in the atmosphere, may eventually produce bone cancers in 1,000 people for every 1,000,000 tons of TNT of equivalent explosive power."

"These 1,000 casualties would be spread over all the world and occur in the course of several decades."

Scientists said that applying their findings to the world population "we obtain that the number of bone sarcomas (Malignant growths) from one nominal high-yield nuclear test may amount to 20,000 all over the world."

HISTORIC AIRLIFT
The Berlin airlift, when Russians blocked routes to the divided capital in 1948, moved 2,325,500 tons of food and fuel.

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