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GUY FAWKES WEEK

More than three hundred years ago a man was caught in the cellars of the House of Commons with enough gunpowder to blow up the heart of the British Government. That idea has occurred since to some of His Majesty's faithful subjects. But being British, they've stuck instead to the annual symbolic festival. And so this year Pathe cameras went to Rye in Sussex for the year's Bonfire Night. For the spectators, it's the best and biggest fire they've seen since last November.

The sky lit up as fireworks made it a brilliant finale to Guy Fawkes night.

In the field of international politics, Guy Fawkes' week switched the spotlight to the Syrian-Palestine border. A Pathe cameraman went to investigate world-wide rumours of Arab troop concentrations. He found Syrian soldiers on manoeuvres at El Quneitra - a few miles from the frontier. They were equipped with many of war's latest weapons.

At the United Nations assembly, America and Russia for once agreed and supported the recommendation to partition Palestine. Britain had already stated her determination to evacuate the country as soon as possible. Arab leaders meeting at Beirut have declared that they would fight partition enforced upon them by the United Nations. The Jews, too, are reported to have mobilized a defence force. Will the Palestine story repeat the Indian tragedy? There, beyond the snow-capped Himalayas, forming a barrier to all invaders, lies Kashmir. It is the largest of the Indian states and the latest to which conflict between the two Dominions has spread. On Srinaga airfield Sikh troops prepare to repel advancing Pathan tribes, while British families are evacuated by the R.A.F. to Pakistan. Four fifths of Kashmir's population is Muslim - but the ruling class is Hindu. When tribesmen from the North West frontier invaded the state, the Maharajah joined the Indian dominion. Pandit Nehru has promised a plebiscite to determine the people's choice as soon as fighting has ceased. While India suffers from her birth-pains, Europe remembers a famous battle.

For centuries, water has been Walcheren's enemy. The islanders had to fight the sea for every acre of their soil. Three years ago to hasten the country's liberation, bombs destroyed the protective sea

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wall. The land was inundated, and many estates were again swallowed up. When peace came, the Dutch battled on against the old enemy. Today a lot of the ground has been drained but reclamation cannot be completed until trees grow again. Princess Juliana came to Walcheren to plant the first of a million and a half trees. Prime Minister Attlee was with the Princess Regent. Paying tribute to the islander's work, Mr. Attlee said:

At Westkapelle, scene of the landing by No. 4 Marine Commando Brigade, the Prime Minister planted the first of the British trees, to be followed by Mrs. Attlee.

Before the war, there were 20,000 houses on the island. Today, only two thousand are undamaged. The new trees will make the island once again the garden of Zeeland. Their planting is symbolic of a people's effort for reconstruction.

Back in Britain, the nation's biggest dollar earner was in the news.

It was Guy Fawkes night too, on Southampton dockside, as the crew of the Cunard White Star liner Queen Mary went on strike. While the nation let off steam at its annual fireworks display, 300 seamen came out in sympathy with Merseyside crews who struck earlier in the week. The liner's Turkish bath attendants put on chef's gear to cook passenger's meals, and the gangway was hoisted as skeleton crews prepared to sail. In the morning, strikers met again while the ship still lay by her moorings.

Addressed by their strike leader, the men decided to go back to work.

Their demands for representation on the negotiating committee, and abolition of the present hiring system having been met, the men returned to the liner - 18 hours after the Merseyside stoppage had ended.

Total cost of the delay may be about £10,000. The Queen Mary used 500 extra tons of oil fuel, 6,000 extra meals were served to the 2,000 passengers, including the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, who already pay up to £150, for the trip. Cast off, the liner finally sailed 25 hours late.

It was essential that the Cunarder sailed on time for she is due back in Britain with American personalities for the Royal wedding.

And the week ended with Britain's foggiest day of the year. At St. Margaret's, Westminster, Princess Elizabeth and Lieutenant Mountbatten arrive to plant their wooden crosses in the British Legion field of Remembrance. Away from the crowds usually present on Royal