

THE BATTLE OF BRIXTON:

Here is a communique from G.M.Q., Brixton School of Building: "An unprovoked attack by units of the Polytechnic forces was launched against the School's frontiers at 14.30 hours today. Our artillery engaged the raiders. Thanks to the efficiency of our intelligence service, the attack had been expected, and our frontier units were prepared. Brixton has appealed to the Security Council."

G.M.Q. Polytechnic announces: "Brixton-inspired rumours that Polytechnic forces were guilty of aggression are quite unfounded. They were engaged on a liberation mission, to recapture a mascot - to wit, one stuffed owl - stolen by commandos of the Brixton regime the day before. The Polytechnic has appealed to the Security Council".

First reports of the fighting are confused; both sides accuse each other of violating the Geneva Convention, which lays down that soot or flour may be used, but not both at once. It seems clear, however, that Polytechnic units have succeeded in establishing a bridgehead inside Brixton territory.

With typical disregard for their own safety, our fearless war correspondents bring you on-the-spot pictures of operations in this vital area, known throughout history as the powder-barrel of South London. Usually well-informed sources report that both sides are reluctant to use the nuclear deterrent, unless the other side uses it first; meanwhile, every kind of conventional weapon is being employed. As we go to press, the Prime Minister is hurrying back from Chequers, and the Leader of the Opposition has demanded the cancellation of the Christmas recess. The Security Council is in continuous session, debating a Nicaraguan proposal that pending an armistice, both armies be instructed to refrain from any action which might be construed as an affront to human dignity.

Neutral powers send medical aid to the battle area. As the fighting sways to and fro, a United Nations Emergency Force arrives on the scene - with orders from the Security Council to separate the combatants, before the conflict assumes the proportions of a world war.

Despite an incident involving U.N. forces which nearly starts a new flare-up, peace is restored, and the two sides declare they are ready to discuss armistice terms. Total casualties - one wounded, not seriously. The armistice is signed, and both armies adjourn to the canteen for tea and cakes; thanks to the preempt U.N. intervention, the canteen is still serviceable. Peaceful reconstruction will begin immediately after tea - by order.