

Train Inspection Move By Russia Laden With Peril

By DeWitt MacKenzie
(AP) Foreign Affairs Analyst
Russia has made a daring—and dangerous—move in decreasing presumptions and obnoxious inspection of American, British and French railway trains bound for Berlin, which lies inside the Soviet zone of occupation.

By taking this drastic step the Muscovites have, of course, made a direct challenge to the other three allies. It is a sort of school-yard bully's "I dare you knock the chip off my shoulder" affair.

The purpose of this move, as viewed by authoritative sources in Washington and Berlin, is to create a situation calculated to force the Western powers to move out of the German capital, which has been in joint occupation ever since the war. The Bolsheviks if successful would thus have complete possession of the rich eastern portion of the Reich, including its capital, which not only is the hub of European transportation but is the apple of the German eye.

The reaction of the Western Allies was that the Russians must have anticipated refusal to submit to such inspection. However, Gen. Lucius D. Clay, the two-fisted American military governor, put after his refusal an exclamation point which the Reds scarcely could have expected. The general announced, without fuss or feathers, that the Americans would use airplanes to carry passengers and freight into Berlin to the U. S.-controlled Tempelhof airfield.

Russia in Hot Spot
That very neatly puts it to the Russians to declare their intentions. They now must take the initiative. So far as one can see, the only way they could prevent the Americans and other Western allies from employing airplanes would be to use anti-aircraft guns—an act of war.

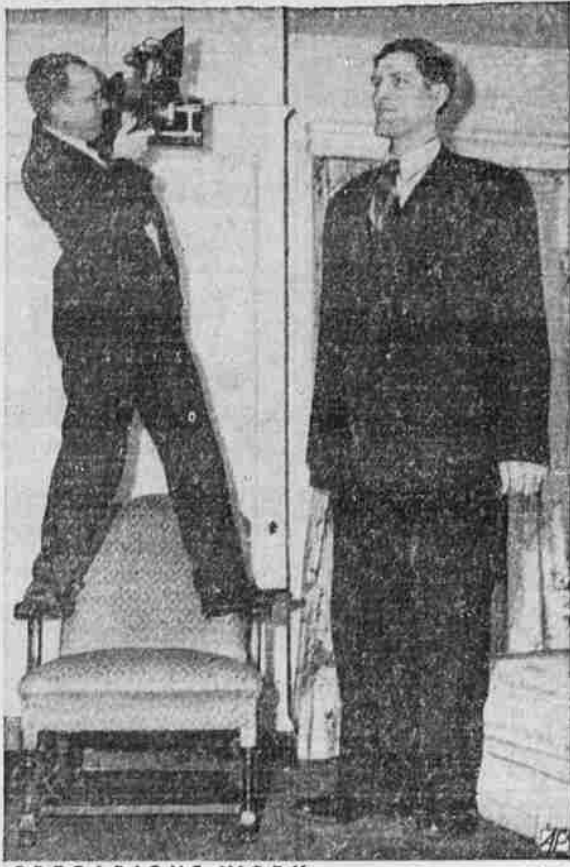
It certainly would be stretching the imagination to believe that the Reds intend to perpetrate an outright act of war against any of the allies. There is no indication that Russia wants war, though she intends to grab all she can short of embarking on armed aggression.

So I think we are safe in assuming that this latest gratuitous affront was intended mainly as another move in Moscow's war of nerves against the democracies. However, we shouldn't overlook that the Bolsheviks may have some anxiety regarding the nature of allied railway traffic. In any event, General Clay has adroitly handed them the hot end of the poker, and it's now up to them to declare their intentions.

Actually inspection of passengers on allied trains, passing through Soviet territory to Berlin, has been going on for a long time and has caused much feeling. I encountered it myself on a British train in 1946.

MAY DAY RULERS NAMED
YONCALLA—At a meeting of the student body of Yoncalla high school, held recently, Miss Anna Marie Huntington was elected May Day queen. Miss Alice Case is senior princess; Miss Frances Harding, junior; Miss Joanne Brant sophomore, and Miss Joanne Phillips, freshman princesses.

Daetylbomacy—divination by means of finger rings—was practiced through the seventeenth century.



PRECARIOUS WORK—Matthew Zimmerman, 5 foot, 7½ inch AP photographer, stands on a chair to make a closeup of 8 foot, 8 inch Olaf Petursson in a New York hotel. The giant arrived from Iceland to make first U.S. circus appearance.

Crow Daily, Distracting Attendant at School

VANCOUVER, Wash. (AP)—Mary's little lamb should be tied at home, but Black Billy Crow is so persistent he should get a report card from Washington Grade School.

He comes to class every school day.

Principal Elsie Johnson wishes Billy would play hookey. He clowns on the window sills, heckles any chasers from a roof-

top refuge and usually manages to get inside once, twice, or many times a day.

His home room is the fourth grade class. There he is near Patsy Rancore, his owner. But he wanders around the building when shut out of there.

"Imagine trying to get class attention on arithmetic," says Miss Louise Harter, the teacher, "when a crow is a visitor." If a ventilating window is open slightly, Billy's ebony head goes inside—and his cawing is a recital of his scorn.

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Promotions Given Two Roseburg Men In Marine Corps

Promotions for two Roseburg men at Camp Pendleton, Calif., were reported Saturday by the U. S. Marine Corps.

Sgt. LaVerne E. Marsters, 19, son of Lou Marsters of Roseburg, was recently promoted from corporal to his present rank, while Pfc. Larry W. Anderson, son of Mrs. and Mr. Arthur C. Anderson, has been assigned to "Pendleton Scout," post newspaper, as a sports writer.

Pfc. Anderson first enlisted in the Marine Corps on September 10, 1946, and received his "boot" training at San Diego. He was attached to the Third Marine Brigade as a mortarman, first at Camp Pendleton and then at Barstow, Calif.

Upon his return to Camp Pendleton he joined the 6th Marines, an infantry regiment, and was later transferred to the 7th Marines. After his long stint in line companies, Pfc. Anderson found his new duties to be "a very pleasant change."

Prior to entering the Marine Corps, Anderson attended Roseburg Senior High School, graduating in 1946. A three-year letterman in football, he played left

half on Roseburg's 1945 district championship team.

Sgt. Marsters enlisted in the Marine Corps shortly after his graduation from Roseburg High School, where he made his letter in football for two seasons and also served as student body president. He is now on duty with the Signal Battalion, at the world's largest Marine training center.

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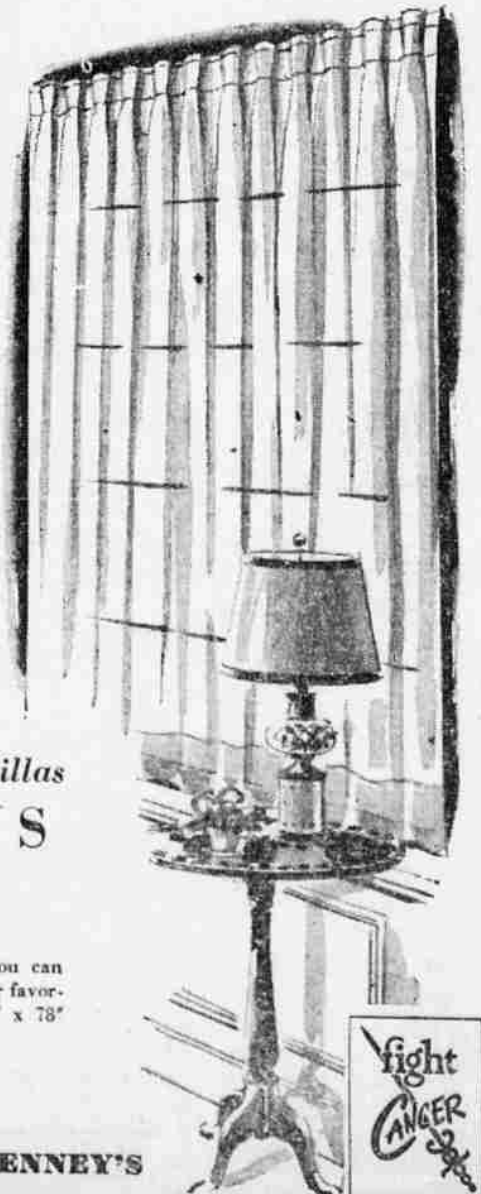
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