

Military Assistance Nothing New To United States Foreign Policy

By PETER EDSON
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WASHINGTON.—Efforts to oppose new Military Assistance Program as a radical departure in U. S. foreign policy won't stand up. Anyone who will take the trouble to look at the record since the end of the war will find half a dozen precedents for doing what it is now proposed to do under the MAG legislation.

When the House Foreign Affairs committee was considering Marshall Plan legislation last fall, the idea of backing up the European Recovery program with some military assistance was presented by Rep. John M. Vooris, Ohio Republican. The State department was then asked to draw up legislation to carry out such a program. A draft bill was submitted and considered. But it never saw the light of day.

Ever since the end of the war, the U. S. armed services through the State department have been sponsoring three bills to facilitate military assistance to foreign countries. The first was a request that Congress grant authority to transfer surplus U. S. arms to Latin-American countries. Another version of this same idea would have provided for standardization of arms in Western Hemisphere countries. This would have been achieved by permitting the U. S. to give its surplus equipment to Latin-American countries in exchange for similar equipment that might have been furnished by another foreign government. For instance, a German-built destroyer might be traded in for a surplus U. S. destroyer. The German-built ship would then have been scrapped.

The second bill proposed was to authorize the detailing of U. S. military advisory missions to foreign countries. The third bill was to authorize the training of foreign military missions in the U. S. All these things were done during the war. They are still carried on to a limited extent—particularly in Latin America—under hemisphere defense and the 1948 Rio de Janeiro Reciprocal Assistance Pact plans. The newly proposed Military Assistance Program would merely extend this authority for peacetime operations and wrap the whole business up in one bill.

The same principle would be applied to continuing postwar military assistance to Greece, Turkey, Iran, Korea and the Philippine Islands. Aid to Greece and Turkey has of course been supplied under legislation since May, 1947. To date about \$500,000,000 worth of such aid has been furnished. The new Military Assistance Program bill would add another \$50,000,000 or more—previously requested—to that endeavor. Including the new aid for the Philippines, Korea and Iran, the total of new money under the Military Assistance Program for these countries would be \$300,000,000.

Military surpluses having an original cost of \$680,000,000 were transferred to the Philippines under the Rehabilitation Act of 1946. The new Military Assistance program would continue this effort to set up the now independent islands on a firm basis.

There has been less publicity about U. S. aid to Iran. But beginning with the sale of U. S. surplus in the Middle East to Iran, there has been continuing aid through police and military training missions. This aid would be formalized under the Military Assistance Program.

What the Military Assistance program legislation would do, in summary, is put into one law a number of related activities which have been proposed or which the United States has actually been carrying on in one form or another ever since the days of World War II.

The legislation would cover assistance to other countries than those mentioned above, if that should be found necessary. In effect, passage of the Military Assistance program would extend the Truman Doctrine—originally propounded for the benefit of Greece and Turkey—to the whole non-communist world. The advantage to the government in having all these loose ends wrapped up in one omnibus bill, with a clear statement of policy and authority, is obvious.

Aeronautics Head Declines Talk On Charges Of Waste

SALEM, Aug. 2.—(P)—W. M. Bartlett, state director of aeronautics, refused to comment today on charges against him and the Truman Board of Aeronautics. He said it's up to the board to make any statements.

Oregon's Flying Farmers and other aviation enthusiasts charged that the board was wasting money, and that Bartlett is not qualified for his job. Former Governor Charles A. Sprague, Salem publisher, wrote in his newspaper column today that he thinks the board should be abolished. He said many states don't have such boards because the federal government does a competent job through the Civil Aeronautics Authority, Civil Aeronautics Authority.

When Sprague was governor, he also had his troubles with the board. He fired all five members because they hired an employee



OUT OUR WAY THE REINFORCEMENTS By J. K. Williams



PEELED POTATOES IN A PACKAGE—Ed Hughes checks bags of potatoes peeled in Chicago and treated to keep fresh without refrigeration. Clyde Miller, who's developed the idea, hopes to have the skinless spuds in groceries all over the country within the year.

Jet Planes Due For Germany Duty

GRAFENWOHR, GERMANY, Aug. 2.—(P)—The United States joint chiefs of staff disclosed today that jet planes will replace all standard type American fighter aircraft in Germany. The military leaders also declared that American troops here are ready for any emergency. Army Gen. Omar N. Bradley told reporters there will be no reduction of American troops in Germany "that I know of."

Bradley, Air Force Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg and Adm. Louis Denfeld of the navy reviewed American combat troops at the former German army training ground here. Bradley, Vandenberg and Denfeld arrived in Germany Saturday for a 10-day study tour under the Atlantic pact. They will leave today for London to continue discussions with British defense chiefs and other European leaders.

MOSCOW, Aug. 2.—(P)—The Communist party newspaper, Pravda, today headlined the U. S. Joint Chiefs of Staff's visit to Europe as "American Pressure on Countries in Western Europe."

Woman Dies In Iron Lung After Birth Of Girl

COVINGTON, Ky., Aug. 2.—(P)—Mrs. Robert G. Davis, 24-year-old iron lung mother, died Monday. Infantile paralysis killed the Covington woman 24 hours after she gave birth to a girl in an iron lung. Hospital attendants said five-pound, four-ounce Margaret Methilda was "doing fine."

Dr. Thomas Huth, hospital resident, said Mrs. Davis was in a serious condition when admitted to the hospital Saturday. He said it was necessary to open the iron lung and shut off the motor for 15 seconds during the last stages of the birth.

He emphasized the birth was not the cause of death. Mrs. Davis is survived by her husband and two other daughters, Carol Ann, 1, and Linda, 2.

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Bartender Gets Biggest Surprise Of His Career

PETERSBURG, Alaska, Aug. 3.—(P)—After 50 years in Alaska, bartender Jim Brennan says he is seldom surprised by any of the "strange happenings under the midnight sun."

But Brennan reflected frank amazement at the discovery of a plumber's crew after he could not get water from the faucet. (Brennan explained that the stuff is necessary even in a bar.)

"The crew discovered a six-inch trout firmly wedged in the water pipe."

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Dancing "Satira" In Fresh Trouble

CLEVELAND, Aug. 3.—(P)—Dancing Patricia "Satira" Schmidt of Toledo is in the limelight again. The 24-year-old creator of exotic dances was named correspondent in a separate maintenance suit filed by a Cleveland housewife.

Mrs. Louise Ann Salupo, 34, mother of three children, said in a petition that her husband, Sebastian, 35, spent this last weekend with Miss Schmidt in Calumet City, Ill.

Last October, Miss Schmidt was released on a presidential pardon from the Guanabacoa women's prison in Cuba after serving more than a year for killing her married lover, John Mee, Chicago attorney. The slaying occurred aboard Mee's yacht, "Satira," as it lay in Havana harbor.

Informed of the current court action, "Satira" said she does not know Salupo and does not "recognize the name." She is now appearing at a Calumet City night club.

Clark, McGrath Likely To Receive Senate O. K.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—(P)—The double appointment moving Attorney General Tom Clark to the Supreme court and Senator J. Howard McGrath (D-Ri.) into the Justice department seemed today to have a clear path to Senate approval. President Truman sent his formal nominations of the two men to the senators Monday, after receiving word they would accept the posts.

McGrath's Rhode Island successor remained in doubt. Associates said Gov. John G. Pastore probably won't take the place now, although they forecast he will run for the senate in a 1950 special election. The state senate is equally divided among democrats and republicans and election of the demo-

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