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Idea Of Mighty V-2 Rocket Came To German Scientist From Son's Toy

By DOUGLAS LARSEN
NEA Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON—(NEA)—Due to military security regulations some of the details of the following story cannot be revealed. It involves the inventor of the German V-2 weapon, the incredible manner in which he stumbled onto the idea, his work on its initial development and finally Hitler's part in the project.

The man is now in the United States, working for Uncle Sam. At least he was in the U. S. up until early this summer when a security cloak was suddenly thrown around him—after it was discovered that his part in creating the V-2 was known outside of tight official circles.

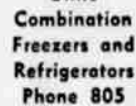
This German scientist is working on classified projects. Thus, where he is employed now or what he is doing can't be told. He does have relatives in Europe who might possibly be injured if his proper name is revealed, so for purposes of this story a fictitious one, Hans, will be used. So much for security regulations. Here is his story:

In the early part of 1935 Hans was a struggling young physics instructor and father of a healthy young boy. One of his son's favorite games consisted of whittling a point on a straight stick of wood and throwing it into the ground to see how many times he could make it stand upright.

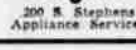
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First he cut a smooth version of the toy. He fixed it so he could put a rod through it and still have it swing free on one plane. With this arrangement he got in his car and drove down the road, the pointed stick out of the car window on the rod. As he drove faster the stick tended to plane out and point straight into the wind.

At this point Hans had no idea what this gadget was leading to. It was just a sort of new idea in aerodynamics that interested him. He continued his automobile testing and finally worked up to a stick with fins. This activity took place over a period of several months. Sometimes he would forget about it for awhile. But the idea intrigued him and he kept going back to it.

Obtains Hitler's Aid
Hans interested a couple of other instructors at the school in his unusual project and it became a sort of hobby for all of them. They figured out the thing on paper as far as they could, but were stymied by the lack of a good wind tunnel. But by the time war loomed this group of young scientists had the idea of a rocket-like missile pretty well thought out in theory.

They agreed that the only way they could go any further in their study was to experiment in a fast wind tunnel, the likes of which had never been built. They went so far as to draw up some specifications on what kind of a tunnel they would have to have. It was so big and new in design that only their government could afford to build it.

Hans and his fellow scientists realized this and decided to see what could be done to get funds. As Hans laid out his theory for the revolutionary mission before succeeding German army officers, interest mounted in the idea. News of it got to Hitler and he sent for Hans. Hans sold him a full bill of goods. Hitler gave Hans unlimited money, men and materials to start the tunnel.

The rest of the story is on the open record. Many minds other than Hans' contributed much to the final V-2. In fact he sort of got lost in the later stages of the project, when attention was centered on trying to find some satisfactory electronic device to actually guide the missile in flight.

And that is how one of the deadliest weapons in history, destined to revolutionize warfare, came to be born from a child's toy.



MIDNIGHT IN THE ZOO—Eyes of a baby black bear and several raccoons glow in this picture taken at midnight on their island reservation in the Brookfield Zoo, Chicago.

CIO Heads See Communist Split For Convention

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Top CIO leaders have indicated today they expect the split between anti-communist and pro-communist groups within the CIO to erupt in convention next month. A third labor federation may be created as a result, they speculated.

The showdown may come when the CIO meeting is held in Cleveland the last week of October.

The pro-communist groups, such as those leading the United Electrical Workers, now are forcing the issue in the struggle which has raged in CIO ranks for more than two years.

The U. E. claims more than a half million members. It has laid down certain demands to be made on CIO President Philip Murray, giving Murray little choice but to bring matters to a head.

The U. E. has threatened to cut off payment of an eight cents per person levy to the CIO except under certain conditions. The conditions were forwarded to the CIO this week, following the election of U. E. officers in convention at Cleveland.

Murray now must lead a fight to kick them out—or yield to the U. E. demand that CIO officers who have criticized U. E. leadership be ousted and expelled. The CIO convention, at which the fight is certain to explode

into a noisy, head-on clash, begins October 31 in Cleveland. The issues will be cleared at the executive board meeting starting Oct. 26.

DUST DIARY TAGS THE ATOM
LOS ANGELES—(AP)—A new gadget will tell how much the air is contaminated in atomic energy work. It was invented at the Uni-

versity of California atomic laboratory here. Jets of air are shot at a revolving glass disc. It is so sensitive it will collect ash in the air from a building five miles away. It also records dust stirred up when someone goes near it and changes in the weather which change the amount of dust in the air.

Red Army Begins Drive For Canton

By SPENCER MOOSA
CANTON, Sept. 28—(P)—The Chinese Communists Monday hurled three armies into Kwangtung province. It was the long expected big-scale drive for Canton, the Nationalist refugee capital.

The Red force—75,000 strong, if at full strength—was from Kiangsi province in a 50-mile thrust that carried within 90 miles of Canton and confronted this uneasy capital with its greatest threat of the civil war.

The Reds struck after weeks of probing national defenses. From the hard pressed island

seaport of Amoy dispatches had only bad news for the government.

They reported the loss of several points in mainland areas near the best port still remaining in Nationalist hands. These included Tszim, 12 miles north of Amoy.

(In Shanghai, the Communist press announced the end of resistance in Hingsia in the Far Northwest with the province accepting Red peace terms.)

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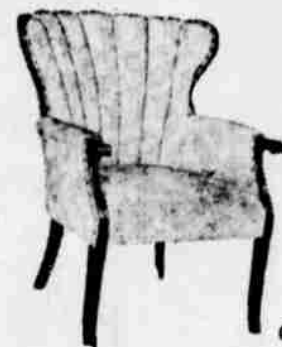


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Children Of Czechs Turn To Industry

PRAGUE—(AP)—The official Czech press agency reports that Prague children nearing the age of finishing school are expressing a preference for working in industry. This reported preference is hailed by a government which has been working hard to channel manpower into production jobs. In answer to a "what would you like to be?" circular, the children were reported to have expressed the following choices: 4,343 would like to go into industry, where an estimated 5,560 new hands are needed from the school; 1,210 wanted to work in stores, where only 651 are required; 739 preferred the transport services, where only sixty age wanted; 523 wanted to enter the trades where 1,805 are required; 25 wanted forestry work, which needs no new young manpower.

Boys Confess Breaking 10 Parking Meters; Loot \$2

BAKER, Sept. 28—(AP)—Two 16-year-old boys confessed here Monday to breaking open ten downtown parking meters, valued at \$650, Friday night in a robbery which netted them about two dollars.

The act of vandalism took place, they said, between 8:30 and 10:30 on one of Baker's main downtown streets.

They were picked up in Ontario where, they said, they had gone to hunt boys taking the parking meter money along to tide them over. They were returned here for a hearing. Their names have not been released by the police.

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News Views

By SHERMAN PLIMPTON

Sprague, Wash., is a town that is afflicted with rats, so a clarinet player named Norm Lindgren has offered to pipe them all out of town the way the Pied Piper of Hamelin did. Only Lindgren says he'll blast his horn with such finesse the rats will head for the hills faster than a jet-propelled jackrabbit. Sounds like a fellow we heard playing on the radio recently. Lindgren didn't say whether the rats would follow him or run from him. If the clarinet player can get rid of pests by blowing his horn, he's got a lucrative future ahead of him.

Mr. J. R. Bagshaw, 1105 Union, has a FREE LUBRICATION waiting for him anytime he drives his car in.

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