

Military, State Department Heads Wrangle Over Threat Of Global War With Russia

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WASHINGTON—(AP)—Not since Lincoln's troubles with his Civil War generals and cabinet members has the government been entangled in as bitter a wartime family wrangle as that involving administration and military leaders today.

The schism between military and State department thinking began to develop obscurely months and even years ago. But the break now, unfortunately, becomes visible to the friends and enemies of the United States when the nation is fighting in Korea what could be a prelude to another world war.

It is, indeed, this possibility of global conflict with Communist Russia that has generated the friction. The intra-government controversy is complex, made more so by the different ideas even within the military camp.

Powerful men and grave domestic and international questions are involved, among them these:

President Truman, caught in the middle of the conflict of views of the military and the diplomats. At direct issue now is the problem of Far East policy and the question of neutralizing or fortifying the island of Formosa, held by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and his Nationalist government against the menace of Communism on the mainland.

The President decided for neutralization and against the military's proposal for fortification. Aside from international effect, he had to consider the impact of his decision on the forthcoming congressional elections.

Secretary of State Dean Acheson, advocate of a policy aimed at containing Communism within Russia and the satellite states without embarking on new steps that might be seized upon by Moscow as pretext for propaganda or war. He opposes the military's ideas about Formosa—and what the State department considers intrusion by the military into foreign policy making fields.

Stymied By Truman
General Douglas MacArthur, upon whose shoulders are five stars and a legend, has operated in and fought wars in the Western Pacific. Alone of all the generals and admirals, he has not returned to the United States—an independent, almost autonomous figure who has conferred with Washington officials and Presidents only when they visited his part of the world.

MacArthur obviously has disagreed with the White House-state department views about Formosa's strategic position in Far East defense against Communism. He flew to Formosa recently to talk with Chiang, a visit which disturbed the State department. Then he prepared a message for reading to a convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, setting forth his views about Formosa and other

things.

At the last minute, he canceled the message, telling the veterans "I regret to inform you I have been directed to withdraw" the message. The only man who could have issued such directive to a man in his position was President Truman.

Other Figures In Feud

Defense Secretary Louis Johnson, who has conducted behind-the-scenes tests of strength with Acheson over military-political policies. Johnson, unlike MacArthur who has been subject to little criticism in Congress, has frequently come under fire from various Law-makers. Moreover, he was involved in a controversy a decade ago when an assistant secretary of war—and lost out. Whatever thoughts and support he has for MacArthur and the defense of Formosa, he has been careful about uttering them publicly at this particular time.

Navy Secretary Francis P. Matthews, newcomer to the military family. Matthews landed in the middle of the military-State department feud with a speech at Boston in which he raised the question of preventive war. He said that "to have peace we should be willing, and declare our intention to pay any price, even the price of instituting a war, to compel co-operation for peace."

The State Department, agguished, rushed out a statement which asserted Matthews' remarks "do not represent United States policy" and that "the United States does not favor instituting a war of any kind." Up to now, Matthews was sticking by his statement which he said represented only his views and was "not intended to be any expression of administration policy."

Vets Planning On School This Fall Are Given Advice

A round-up of GI bill rules and regulations has been issued by the Veterans administration to help veterans plan ahead for their school terms this fall. The VA stressed that now is the time veterans should do their planning, because several weeks sometimes are required to get preliminaries out of the way.

Veterans who intend to go ahead this fall with the same course at a school they have previously attended need not contact the VA at all. They should, however, make certain the school has room for them.

Those who want to continue in the same course but at a different school should obtain a supplemental certificate of eligibility from the VA. On the certificate, they must name the school and course. Then, at the time of enrollment, they present the certificate to the school.

Veterans who wish to make their first change from one general field of study to another (from law to engineering, for example) may do so simply by applying for a supplemental certificate.

Veterans who already have changed general fields of study under the GI bill and now wish to change again should apply to the VA. They may be required to undergo advisement and guidance to determine whether they are in need of the course and have the aptitude necessary to complete the training.

Veterans who have not yet trained under the GI bill, and plan to start this fall, should apply at the nearest VA office for an original certificate of eligibility. The name of the school and course must be included in the application which, together with a photostatic copy of discharge papers, should be sent to the nearest VA regional office. After veterans receive their certificate, they should keep it until they actually enroll.



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