

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

Italian President To Back Ike On Cold War Thaw

Drew Pearson, on a 20-day tour of Europe and Asia to interview the leaders of the 11 countries President Eisenhower will visit, and to report on what they will talk about.

ROME—If European and Asian leaders speak as frankly to President Eisenhower as they have, Europeans have to me, he will find far more opposition to his thaw of cold war than he ever dreamed. However, one man who will vigorously support him is President Giovanni Gronchi of Italy.

I talked to President Gronchi in the Quirinal, once the residence of popes, then of King Victor Emmanuel and, after World War II, the American Embassy. Its high ceilings and stony corridors are a little too formal for an Italian president who lived underground during the war, has taught school, sold neckties, and was a traveling salesman for a paint factory. So he lives in his own home.

Gronchi has friendly blue eyes, white hair, and a ruddy face that doesn't show the 70 years he has spent battling for democracy. When he receives President Eisenhower, he could well thank Ike for appointing an ambassador who elected him president. Obviously Gronchi won't do this, but it was Ambassador Clare Lucie's widely known opposition to Gronchi when he was speaker of the Chamber of Deputies that backfired and caused Italian deputies to rebuff American interference by electing a man the U.S. Ambassador opposed.

Mrs. Lucie had opposed him because Gronchi was "to the left." He still is. He more than fulfilled her fears by proclaiming in his inaugural address ambitious policy for helping the working classes.

He still believes the only way to lick Communism is to steal its thunder by winning over the masses. Moreover, he's a militant believer that the president of Italy should be no figurehead. So, practicing what he preaches, in one year he delivered more important speeches than any other European president in a whole term.

In doing so Gronchi hasn't worried about disagreeing with his own government leaders and is in vigorous disagreement with them right now regarding the Eisenhower policy of closer cooperation with Russia.

Similar Differences

The difference between him and Premier Antonio Segni, both leaders of the Christian Democratic party, is similar to the difference between President Eisenhower and the Goldwater-Bridges wing of the Republican party. It's also similar to the split running right through Europe on the question of thawing the cold war. On one side Eisenhower and Britain's Macmillan favor the thaw, or the other side France's De Gaulle and West Germany's Adenauer believe such a thaw would be deceptive and dangerous and they want to continue the cold war. Italy's leaders are divided between the two.

Unlike Eisenhower, who would not go to the National Airport to welcome President Gronchi when he arrived in Washington, Sept. 30, Gronchi went to the Rome Airport to welcome Ike. When the two men find some time alone, Ike will learn some interesting things from the former schoolteacher who now heads Catholic Italy.

The U.S. president will learn first of Gronchi's own plans to visit Moscow Jan. 8. Almost immediately after Khrushchev arrived in Washington in September, the president of Italy decided to visit Moscow, even though his decision brought great opposition from within his own cabinet. The cabinet finally decided it couldn't stop Gronchi from traveling wherever he wished, but it voted categorically that Khrushchev should not be invited to return Gronchi's visit.

To have Khrushchev visit Rome, the cabinet decided, would mean thousands of wildly cheering Italian Communists, led by Communist leader Palmiro Togliatti, lining the streets. Italy has the second largest national Communist party in the world and the cabinet didn't want to encourage it. Gronchi sincerely disagrees. He believes that, when an exchange of visits with Khrushchev becomes commonplace and relations with Moscow are friendly, all the steam will evaporate from the Communist party. It would have no reason for being.

Many Christian Democrat leaders agree with Gronchi, but certainly Premier Segni doesn't. Foreign Aid Gronchi will also tell Ike that Italy is delighted to cooperate in giving aid to underdeveloped countries on an international basis and he'll doubtless diplomatically remind Ike that Foreign Minister Giuseppe Pella proposed exactly this to John Foster Dulles two years ago and got a brush-off.

But, regarding foreign aid on a cooperative basis, Gronchi will

make an important, perhaps a revolutionary, proposal—namely, that Moscow cooperate too. The only way to cut out risky competition between the USA and the USSR is to get them working together. Instead of competing with each other to build dams and bridges, supply doctors and technicians to Africa and Asia, Gronchi believes, they should pool operations. Since Russian and American scientists are pooling efforts on peacetime atomic energy, radiation, cancer and other dread diseases, they should also cooperate in improving the world. Gronchi believes the thaw with Russia is already here. It's a fact that we must recognize. Therefore we should use it, not oppose it. Russia has made tremendous headway economically since it quit using force and, with atomic war so catastrophic as to be impossible, we have no choice but to work at peace.

Those sentiments, essentially similar to Eisenhower's, are what Ike will find when he talks to the president of Italy.

The two men will also find something else in common—fishing.

"I like fishing," Gronchi told me, "because it requires the virtue of knowing how to wait. It's a quality fundamental in a political man. I fish a lot."

Gronchi has been fishing in troubled waters ever since, as a young Catholic leader, he bucked the Mussolini regime. He has waited a long time, but his patience paid off.

Elgin People Are Visiting Kin In Portland Area

ELGIN (Special) — Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Gibson, Albany, have left for their home after spending the hunting season with their cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Glasgow.

Mr. and Mrs. Kip Kendall, Minnam, have left for Portland for 10 days visiting relatives. Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Burton and Mrs. Dorothea Lea Davis attended an OES reception in Condon recently, honoring Mrs. Florence Jaeger, Associate Grand Conductress of the Grand Chapter. Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Anson, Stanfield, accompanied the group.

Ernest Adams and Frank Showers left recently for Salmon, Idaho, where they will be employed several weeks.

TO TEST ATOMIC DEVICE BONN, Germany (UPI) — Federal Press Chief Felix Von Eckardt said Thursday West Ger-

WALLOWA COUNTY VIEWPOINTS

Short Course For Stockmen Planned For WSU Dec. 7-11

By ELGIN CORNETT And JOHN KIESOW Wallowa County Agents

WALLOWA (Special) — Washington State University will hold the 10th annual Stockmen's Short Course Dec. 7 to 11. After this year it will only be held every other year. Those who keep intending to go can stay home again this year, but won't have anything to stay away from next year.

Both babies and bonds show more interest with age. Uncle Sam now pays higher interest on new E and H Savings Bonds. Starting last June first, they earn 3 1/2 per cent interest regardless of the printing on the bond—a one half per cent raise. Old bonds will draw the same increase above the going rate reached according to date issued.

From low attendance at Wallowa County Wheat Growers annual meeting recently it would appear there is little concern in what goes with the half cent promotion tax paid on each bushel sold. Guessing from the wheat yield, Wallowa county will contribute about \$2,500 this year.

Oregon Wheat League annual meeting is to be in Pendleton 4 and 5 and a few of the home folks may attend. We have one conflict in the Grain Growers annual meeting set for Dec. 5 at Enterprise.

Beef promotion is another program going on for one commodity. Ranchers voted down a tax system but a program is about ready to handle ten cents a head on sales for any rancher who cares to pay it along with his brand inspection fee.

Most popular use for beef promotion funds now is through the Cowbelles (women's cattle association auxiliary). They have been able to spark a lot of expensive beef advertising by retail stores. They also advocate beef for Father's Day, for Christmas and any other time.

It is all part of a game to find which package a food shopper will pick up before she reaches the bottom of her purse.

We read about contaminated cranberries, then about the cancer



BIG GAIN—Kleo Halm (83), Texas end, flies through the air after being hit by Texas A&M's Robert Sanders (30) in the annual Texas-Texas A&M Thanksgiving-Day game at College Station, Tex. Halm was downed on the A&M ten-yard-line after catching a 15-yard pass. Texas won 20-17 and thereby earned a chance to meet Syracuse in the Cotton Bowl.

REMEMBER WHEN

... 25 years ago, Mrs. C. E. Lewis and her two children, Belva, 13, and Jack 11, residents of Marr Flat in Wallowa County, were lost in a snow storm for three days and two nights. Their auto became stuck in a high drift and they had only a few apples to sustain them. They managed to hike to the Mat Isley farm residence after the ordeal.

The La Grande Rotarians planned a Christmas party for 35 youngsters here, with each Rotarian to bring along a boy between the age of six and nine to a club luncheon. J. Donald Myers and Angus McAllister were in charge of the program.

... 15 years ago, an Island City serviceman, Cpl. George Taylor, 21, was awarded the Air Medal for his action as an engineer-gunner in a B-17 Flying Fortress with the Eighth Air Force in Europe. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Taylor.

Tribute was paid to Orval Ward Truitt, 22, U.S. Navy man stationed in the Atlantic area. He was scheduled to receive a medical discharge for service injuries. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Truitt and husband of the former Grace McVay.

Clarence Carter was installed as master of the Blue Mountain Grange for the sixth consecutive year.

many will not oppose French plans to test an atomic device in the Sahara Desert next year.

Recall Terse Eisenhower Letter To Russia When Hungary Invaded

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Staff Writer

"We have been inexpressibly shocked... I urge in the name of humanity and in the cause of peace that the Soviet Union take action to withdraw Soviet forces from Hungary immediately..."

"We shall never forego our ideological principles. We are waging and shall wage an impracticable struggle for the Marxist-Leninist ideology, for the triumph of the ideals of Communism..."

Ike Will Give NATO Much Thought On Overseas Junket

Foreign News Commentary By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Staff Writer

How much longer can NATO be held together? It's a real question, and one that President Eisenhower must ponder in the coming days as he moves along the route of his 11-nation good will tour toward a Western summit meeting in Paris on Dec. 19.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization, put together in the Spring of 1949 as the backbone of Western defenses against Communist expansion, is getting tattered. Last week, a powerful newspaper voice in Britain, Lord Beaverbrook's Daily Express, said edi-

MUDDY

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where people of a school district have not been allowed to vote on their wishes, if such a request has been made, on the disposition of their school so long as all the legal steps had been properly taken within the framework of the school law.

"Baker and Union County records have been checked, by writing to county officials, asking for evidence of any such denials. We have a reply on file from the county school superintendent of Union County and the county judge of Baker County, and, according to these replies, there never has been an instance where a school district has been denied the right to vote when such a vote was legally requested.

"We do not feel that we have received a fair shuffle and that the law did not intend that the Reorganization Committees should take matters in their own hands and disregard the wishes of the people."

(The Observer is compiling material for an informative series of articles on school reorganization and the many problems that face this state legislative-enacted measure.)

County Extension Agents To Confab

Union County Extension agents and members of the staff of the Eastern Oregon Experiment Station at Union will attend the annual conference for extension workers and experiment station personnel in Corvallis next week.

County Agents Ted Sidor, Chuck Gavin and Jim Huber and Dr. J. A. B. MacArthur and Vance Humphrey of the experiment station will attend the sessions at Oregon State College. The conference will open Tuesday and continue through Friday.

Elect Director For Union Fire District

UNION (Special) — Election of a director for the Union Rural Fire Protection District and a director for the Union Cemetery Maintenance District will be Monday.

The polls will be open between 2 and 7 p.m. at the Union Sportsmen's Club.

Yank Kidnaping Showed Chinese Commies' Contempt For India

Foreign News Commentary By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign Editor

The Red Chinese kidnaping of an American Marine sergeant in Bombay was more than just another pin-pricking attack against the United States. It was another way of showing the Reds' contempt for India.

It also seems to have a parallel to Red Chinese tactics at the time of Premier Nikita Khrushchev's visit to the United States last summer.

At that time it seemed Russia's Asia ally deliberately was stepping up its attacks and threats against India's border in an attempt to muddy the Eisenhower - Khrushchev Camp David talks.

The Bombay incident, coming only days before Eisenhower's visit to New Delhi, also seems designed to muddy the talks between Eisenhower and Indian

Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

It seems entirely probable now that the Red Chinese double-dealer who appeared at the U.S. consulate in Bombay asking asylum and who then changed his mind, was part of an elaborate plot with several ramifications.

It enabled the Red Chinese to bring their own charges of "kidnaping" against the U.S. on Indian soil.

Probably more by luck than planning, it also enabled them to lay hands on the American sergeant assigned to guard him, and then to man-handle him in a way unthinkable in most civilized countries.

Since the United States government has a right to expect that its nationals will be protected by

the nations of whom they are guests, a U.S. protest to India, would be inevitable and thus a source of friction.

Nehru Remains Cautious Nehru, in his usual cautious way, so far has refused to accept the story of either side, and has noted only that there appears to be a conflict.

Indian newspapers, however, have not been so restrained. The Times of India said that the manner in which the U.S. Marine was detained and threatened with bodily injury was "nothing less than blatant violation of Indian sovereignty."

Other Indian comment expressed concern that the cold war between the United States and Red China now had been carried within the confines of India.

CRASH KILLS 74

HUANUCO, Peru (UPI) — A bus plunged into the Huallaga River near here Tuesday, killing 12 women and 2 children.

HOT DOG! LOOK AT THE SUNDAY ONLY SPECIALS AT PAYLESS PRICES EFFECTIVE Tomorrow—Sunday, Dec. 8th

APPLES STARTING SUNDAY Until Supply Is Exhausted—Last Chance! 10 lb. Box Fancy Grade Red Delicious APPLES Reg. 1.49... 69c

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The better your home the better your living Shop Candy Cane Lane Christmas Season In Full Swing In La Grande Bright street decorations and store windows highlight the Christmas theme in downtown La Grande's business district these days. Adding to the color and activity of the season are the Friday night store openings. For all your Christmas gift giving needs this year shop Candy Cane Lane.

THE NEW Sunbeam STEAM OR DRY IRON With exclusive steam flow vents that give an... ALL-OVER CUSHION OF ROLLING STEAM WEIGHS LESS—Holds more water and steams longer—yet weighs only 3 lbs. net. LARGE IRONING SURFACE—Over 30 square inches of ironing surface for more ironing in less time. HEATS FASTER—Hot in 30 seconds—steam in 2 minutes. OPEN SUNDAY 12 Noon To 5 \$12.77 REG. 19.95

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