

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

U.S. Congressmen Hurting Relations With Philippines

MANILA, P.I.—The Philippines are our best friends in the Far East and we can be proud of the democracy we have helped build. But we seem to have an irresistible proclivity for kicking our best friends in the seat of the pants.

This is especially true of congressmen. They no sooner get off their free government plane and check into their hotel, usually paid for by the government, but they issue statements calculated to undercut the American-Philippine alliance.

The tactics of some "ugly" American personnel in shutting themselves up in exclusive groups along Dewey Boulevard or in military reservations has the same effect.

The Filipinos are patient people. Despite the congressmen and the "ugly Americans" the alliance is still strong. The Filipinos were taught for years to buy American products and they still do. They were taught to speak English and they are now the third-largest English-speaking country in the world—next after the United Kingdom—with six English-language newspapers, only two in Tagalog and two in Spanish.

The Philippines also have a literacy rate surpassed only by Japan and Taiwan, with a craving for education that sends colleges and night schools sprouting all over Manila. Within a few blocks of ancient University of Santo Thomas, founded in 1611, I saw the more recent East Asian College, the Guzman School of Technology, the Filipino School of Fashion, Far Eastern University, the University of The East, the Polytechnic Institute of the Philippines, and the Far Eastern Technical Institute.

English is the language of instruction in all of them, which caused the correspondent of Moscow's Izvestia, while touring the islands, to urge the Filipinos to give up English and go back to their "Beautiful" Tagalog native language.

Moscow's Best Allies

Izvestia's best allies in trying to alienate Filipino affection recently have been Congressman Phil Weaver, Nebraska Republican, and Sen. Steve Young, Ohio Democrat. The former demanded that American bases be moved to Thailand because of "thievery, looting, blackmail, extortion and assault" of American personnel—all winked at or openly approved by perhaps the most corrupt government in the world.

Senator Young in turn announced that he had been forced to pay \$25 for a room at the Manila Hotel and warned American tourists to stay away from the Philippines.

I told Filipino newsmen who queried me that Senator Young had a fine record in Congress and doubtless had been suffering from a touch of the usual bug that hits congressmen in the Philippines—"headlinitis." The senator from Ohio had checked into the hotel on November 13 with Sens. Frank Moss of Utah and Howard Cannon of Nevada, both Democrats, on an alleged trip of reserve officers. With them were 16 Senate functionaries supposedly putting in their reserve training by a pleasant tour of the Far East at Uncle Sam's expense.

Senator Young occupied room 550 and his bill, No. 4436, showed that he paid not \$25 for his room, but 25 pesos, which is about \$12. However, the hotel manager told me that when the senator paid his bill he wanted to exchange his dollars for pesos at the black market rate which would have made his room about \$6. Black marketing is a criminal offense and the hotel manager refused.

So the senator then warned

REMEMBER WHEN

... 25 years ago, Max Baer, king of the heavyweights, scored a knockout against King Levinsky in the second round of a heavyweight fight. The blow put the "King" a way for five minutes.

A former Cove man, Dean Smith, was identified as the famed flier who discovered four survivors of a plane crash in the Adirondacks of New York state. Smith was a member of Admiral Byrd's first trip into the Antarctic.

... 15 years ago, 13 local boys enlisted in naval service from here. They were Robert H. Carey, Sherman Shinsel, Lucian Whealy, Robert Shepherd, Erwin Carpenter, Peter Russell, William Bailie, Richard Weigel, Donald Baker, John Beeson, Melvin Keltz, John Marrs and W. G. Bailey, Jr.

Tribute was paid to the two sons of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Martin, 1305 N. Ave., Capt. Patrick A. Martin, 22, serving with the Air Force as a B-17 pilot in England, and Ensign Howard E. Martin, 20, U. S. Merchant Marines. Both were students at Eastern Oregon College when they entered service.



EDITORIAL PAGE

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

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"Without or with friend or foe, we print your daily world as it goes"—Byron.

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Date With Death Beckons

A soul-searching question has been asked by the Oregon Traffic Safety Division.

The department asks: "Who will be Oregon's first 1960 traffic victim?"

With the coming year bearing down on us at the speed of a recklessly driven automobile, it is a good question to kick about for a moment or so.

The Observer also can ask a question along this line.

It is: Will Eastern Oregon again rate high up in number of auto accident fatalities and will this area boast of the first, second or third victim of the new year as it

did in 1959? A Wallowa County man was Oregon's second traffic death with 1959 not two hours old at the time.

So far, this year, 13 motorists have been killed violently on Union and Wallowa County roads. Seven of them died in Union County highway mishaps.

Whoever the first Oregon victim is, whenever and wherever it happens, officials say it will pave the way for an expected death toll of more than 400 on the state's streets and highways. In addition, more than 17,000 persons probably will be injured and some will be permanently crippled.

Hope For Co-Existence Held With Russia

If it seems that Russia and the United States are too far apart ever to solve their differences, consider our relations with Spain, a country like visited recently. During World War II Axis submarines and planes found safe haven in Spanish territory. All free nations deplored the totalitarian government set up by Franco.

But despite Spain's being on the black list 10 years ago, she is today a trusted ally of the West. U.S. naval and air bases

are allowed in Spain. We have sent considerable aid to help the impoverished Spaniards. Relations between France and Spain are improving. Spain has been accepted as a member of the United Nations.

We still don't approve of Spain's government, no more so than Russia's but we get along. Spain and the U.S. are on friendly, co-operative terms. It is conceivable that a similar relationship could be worked out with the Soviet.

Mafia Gets First Strike Out

A strange "Summit Conference" occurred at a rural residence in Appalachia, New York in 1957. Many of the big names of the underworld, some from foreign countries, gathered in the home of the late Joseph Barbara. Police became suspicious and raided the place. The big-time gamblers scattered and fled, literally, in all directions.

The twenty or so who were caught were questioned, of course, as to why they were meeting. No one would talk. This conspiracy of silence led to something that none of the gangsters expected—indictment on the charge to conceal the real purpose of their get-together.

The case was carefully prepared by the Justice Department and was finally brought to trial. When the verdict came in the 20 delegates to the infamous conference three years ago were convicted.

This conviction is called by Attorney General William P. Rogers as "a landmark in the government's fight against organized crime and racketeers."

Still no one knows what the true purpose of the meeting was. It is believed that the Mafia—the oldest crime organization in the world—was behind the meeting and that the purpose was to divide up territories and perhaps divide the proceeds of various rackets, including those in organized labor. It is understandable why none of the 20 avoided prosecution by talking. Punishment for "talkers" is reputed to be swift and sure in

the Mafia. It may be that now, facing prison terms, one among this group will be willing to tell at least a part of the story in exchange for a shorter prison term. But that is not likely. The Mafia is as strange and as sinister a thing as any of the fiction writers ever dreamed of. This is one of the few times that the organization has suffered a really serious setback at the hands of the law.

Barbs

A movie star claims she is the victim of typing. Like the girl who spends years as a stenographer.

When some TV personalities take a vacation it gives us a chance to have a nice one, too.

Your chances for safety are better in an auto that won't start than in one that won't stop at the proper time.

One of the saddest things about long arguments is the way they shorten married life.

When we think of Santa having only Jack Frost as a pal, aren't we forgetting Tom and Jerry?

When there's plenty of snow, look out for those hit and run kids. Snowballs bluff.



"You say we were dancing on the desks?"

Photofun - Some Holiday Foolishness



"Good King Wenceslaus looked out . . ."



"Humph! We sent them to her last year."

Russia Never Had It So Good As During Past Year

LONDON (UPI) — The year 1959 was one of "hard shocks and unpleasant surprises" for the West, but not so for the Kremlin with three space rockets and Nikita Khrushchev's visit to America, Radio Moscow said Sunday. Commentator Viktor, Shradgin, in a summary of the events of the year, declared "Three Soviet

space rockets launched to the sun and the moon have firmly endorsed the superiority of Soviet science and technology in the conquest of outer space."

He told home service listeners: "For the capitalist West, which quite recently smiled skeptically and sniffed scornfully, the year of 1959 has been a year of hard shocks and unpleasant surprises. It has realized that it has been overtaken and has been compelled to admit it's lagging." Shradgin termed 1959 "A year of great beginnings, bright hopes

and good sowings." He said Khrushchev's visit to the United States had "opened the path for a whole series of conferences of heads of governments of East and West."

EXPLORERS RESUME TREK

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (UPI) — Sixteen Soviet Antarctic explorers who spent three days at the American station at the South Pole resumed their trek Tuesday. The group was headed for the Russian "Vostok" station, 762 miles north of the pole.



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