

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Europe's Socialists Oppose Communism

While communists have been so badly rebuffed in France that one may regard the threat of their access to full power definitely over for the present, that is not quite true in Italy. In France the great body of the socialists maintained strict party independence of the communists. In fact it was Socialist Paul Remadier who kicked the communists out of his cabinet. In Italy however, there has been a working agreement between the socialists and the communists, and the latter are still a menace in Italian affairs. Just now the socialists are holding a party meeting in Rome to decide on their policy for the coming year.

Will the coalition continue? Nenni, great socialist leader, has been favorable to the alliance, partly out of opposition to reaction within the government. But there is an anti-communist wing in the socialist party, with strong leadership, which is working to end affiliation with the communists. The decision in this matter will have a pronounced effect on the future of Italian politics. Communist strength would greatly be impaired if the socialists decree separation.

Scheduled for March 21st in London is a meeting of socialist leaders from the 16 countries which are participating in the Marshall plan. This is the particular subject of their meeting, and the purpose evidently is to develop party policy for advancing Europe's recovery. In itself this will further divide the socialists from the communists.

Americans need to know the difference between the two parties, both of which stem out of the writings of Karl Marx. Socialists are those who believe in government ownership of the tools of industry and in government on democratic lines. Communists believe not only in state capitalism but in the dictatorship of the proletariat (communist party). Communist writers have reserved some of their most withering scorn for application to the socialists of western Europe. Cominform's initial declaration joined the United States and socialists in its castigation.

Some days ago our state department in a press release, recognized the part which the socialists of Europe are playing in supporting measures of recovery. There are, however, many citizens and many members of congress who lump socialists and communists together and cast both into outer darkness. That is the outgrowth of ignorance or prejudice.

From a political standpoint Americans will find much more in common with the socialists than with most of the rightist parties. The latter are often deeply conservative, protectors of vested interests that need extinction, uninterested in the welfare of the people. Our own standing in Europe has been compromised at times by our military and diplomatic support of these elements.

Instead of being fearful of European socialists and hostile to the Marshall plan on the false theory that our money is being used to support the socialist economic experiment, Americans should recognize that in the "cold war" with the communists, the socialists of the west are a welcome and powerful ally.

We Defend a Neighbor

The time we never thought would come is here. We herewith speak in defense of California, weatherly speaking. But we shall demand reciprocity, for sure. After this piece gets in the paper, provided our printers find space for it, we shall expect, and promptly, that California hereafter will relinquish all claims to Mt. Hood, Crater Lake and perfection.

We have two points to make.

First, our news operatives in Miami are quoting an Armenian faith healer as saying he is glad to get out of California because of climate and wild parties. It may or may not be coincidental that at the time he was quoted, the healer and his entourage were getting free keep at a Miami hotel. Regardless, we must comment, first, that even including California there is no better all-around climate than on the Pacific coast, and second, that while we certainly don't condone wild parties on the part of Californians or anyone else, we still haven't heard of any wings sprouting in Florida, either.

Then there is this unseasonal drought in the lower climes of our libeled southern neighbor-state. Not since December 29 has a drop of rain blessed that area (or it hadn't until we wrote this piece, anyway), and less than two inches has fallen since July 1. Such fact is an undeniable affront to those millions of native sons and otherwise (mostly otherwise) who have been assured for years that they needed no practice in apologizing for anything Californian. This great mass-of-the-misguided definitely need something done about it. If the California chamber of commerce can't work up a good apology, the weatherman should. Both are falling down on their job sadly. But even so, if the state weathers its present adverse-publicity crisis, it may be for the best to find, after all, that at least life can be sustained without support from either.

In short, California is being ganged up on and we resent it. If anyone is going to gang up on California we want to do it ourselves. In the meantime, we demand without equivocation that the City of Angels get wetted, and wetted thoroughly, and we demand also that the California chamber provide free keep for both the faith healer and the weatherman so that more kindly treatment from them may be forthcoming. It's one thing to have too much sin and sun, but it's another to have outsiders squawking about it.

Prices for Farm Products

Not much prospect for lower food prices is held out by the Oregon Farmer Union, which cites instances—turkeys, eggs produced at current feed costs, some vegetables and fruits—where producers are making little or no profit. The paper goes on to say:

Consumers might as well face the fact that they are going to continue to pay high prices for food. Farmers are entitled to an 8 hour day as well as city workers. Farm laborers are entitled to an 8 hour day. The time may come when dairy farms will have to employ two shifts of farm laborers to cover a 16 hour day. Farmers are going to continue to demand parity in living conditions with city dwellers. And this means that they will insist on a larger share of the national income. This larger share should not come out of the pockets of the masses of the consumers. It must come from the upper income brackets to whom too large a share of the national income is now going in the form of excessive profits.

That prospect, particularly two shifts for dairy farms, is enough to make city dwellers tremble. If ever the farm workers get unionized and set up requirements of man-power per dairy, all-the-same Petrillo, and farmers go on an 8-hour day themselves, the cow will actually go over the moon in the way of prices of bottled milk. Maybe then we'll need "high income groups" in order to buy the produce.

This \$200,000 a year for Elizabeth and Philip makes it very clear to us now that the Russians aren't the only people we can't entirely understand.

It is all very well for Admiral Blandy to say there is a defense for atomic bombing, but so was there for the bow and arrow.



'Bulwarks of Democracy'

A Russian Journal

Ruined Stalingrad Still a City of Cellars

(Editor's Note—John Steinbeck and Robert Capa flew from Moscow last summer to the airport outside Stalingrad, the city on the Volga where the Nazi invasion of Russia was checked at its deepest point in the autumn of 1942. This is their report on how the city looks at present.)

CHAPTER IX

The road to Stalingrad is the roughest area in the whole country. It was miles to the city from the airport, and if we could have gone off the road it would have been comparatively easy and smooth riding. This so-called road was a series of chucks and holes and great deep gushers. It was unpaved, and the recent rains had translated part of the road into ponds. On the open steppe which stretched away as far as you could see, there were herds of goats and cows grazing.

The railroad track paralleled the road, and along the track we saw lines of burnt out gondolas and freight cars which had been fired and destroyed during the war. Indeed the whole area for miles, on all sides of Stalingrad, is littered with the debris of war: burnt out tanks, and half tracks and troop-carriers, and pieces of broken artillery. The salvagers crews go about the country to draw in this wreckage and cut it up to be used as scrap in the tractor factory at Stalingrad.

Need Both Hands

We had to hold on with both hands while our bus bumped and leaped over the country. We seemed to go on endlessly across the steppe, until at last over a little rise we saw Stalingrad below us and the Volga behind it.

On the edges of the city, there were hundreds of new little houses growing up, but once in the city itself there was little except destruction. Stalingrad is a long strip of a city along the bank of the Volga, nearly twenty miles long, and only about two miles wide at its widest part. We had seen ruins cities before, but most of them had been ruined by bombing. This was quite different. In a bombed city a few walls stand upright. But this city was ruined by rocket and by shell-fire. It was fought over for months, attacked and retaken, and attacked again, and most of the walls were flattened. What few walls stand up are pitted and rotted with machine-gun fire. The destruction is different from any we have seen.

Turning Point of War

We had read of course about the incredible defense of Stalingrad, and one thing occurred to us in looking over this broken city, that when a city is attacked and its buildings knocked down, the fallen buildings offer fine shelter to the defending army—shelter, and holes, and nests out of which it is almost impossible to drive a determined force. Here in this ravine ruin was one of the turning points of the war. When, after months of siege, of attack and counter-attack, the Germans were finally surrounded and captured, even their stupidest military men must have felt somewhere in their soul that the war had been lost.

German vehicles and weapons of all kinds lay rusting in the fields about the ruined city. In the central square, there were the remains of what had been a large department store, and here was the last stand of the Germans when they were surrounded. This is where Von Paulus was captured and where the whole siege crumbled. And across the street was the repaired Intourist Hotel where we were to stay.

Get Large Rooms

We were given two large rooms and a concrete bath. Our windows looked out on acres of rubble:



The strange and heroic travesty on modern living which is Stalingrad today. The banner advertises a wrestling match.

broken brick and concrete and pulverized plaster, and in the wreckage the strange dark weeds that always seem to grow in destroyed places. Gradually during the time we were in Stalingrad, we grew more and more fascinated with this expanse of ruin, for it was not deserted. Underneath the rubble were cellars and holes, and in these holes many people lived. Stalingrad was a large city, and it had apartment houses and many flats, and now has none except the new ones on the outskirts, and its population has to live some place. It lives in the cellars of the buildings where the apartments once were. We would watch out of the windows of our room, and from behind a slightly larger pile of rubble would suddenly appear a girl, going to work in the morning, putting the last little touches on her hair with a comb, the way our girls do. She would be

dressed neatly, and her clothes clean, and she would swing out through the weeds on her way to work. How they could do it we have no idea. How they could live underground and still keep clean, and proud, and feminine. Housewives came out of another hole and went away to market, their heads covered with white head-bags pile, where melons, boxes, and potato-peelings, and such things were thrown out. And a few yards farther on, there was a

One Strange Exception

There was one strange and rather terrifying exception to these. Directly behind the hotel, and in a place overlooked by our windows, there was a little garbage pile, where melons, boxes, and potato-peelings, and such things were thrown out. And a few yards farther on, there was a

GRIN AND BEAR IT



"Everywhere they hound us—Soon, this country will be as uncomfortable to live in as Russia!"

MATTER OF FACT

Soviet's Radar-Proof Sub, Jet Plane Said Threat to U.S. Security

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, Jan. 22—Amer- ical strategic planning is still hagg- ridden by the debate between the air and sea power advocates. In a nutshell, the air power spokesmen insist that the air arm is the real guar- antee of American security, and the admirals cor- rectly reply that this is all very true, pro- vided the air arm is partly controlled by the navy. And this squabble over air and naval roles and missions is still preventing the joint chiefs of staff from dis- charging their primary function, which is to prepare an agreed, over-all strategic plan for the United States.



Joseph Alsop

There is nothing new in this failure of the joint chiefs, which has endured since the end of the war. There is novelty, however, in the proposals and arguments of the admirals. And these are also singularly inter- esting in the con- text of the present congressional and world situations.

Very briefly, the sea power

spokesmen admit that the atomic bomb and other air-born weapons of total destruction are the heart of the modern offensive. But they argue that these weapons of total destruction cannot be derived by land-based aircraft over the great ranges of inter-continental warfare against modern air defenses. War planning must obviously chiefly involve a possible future conflict with the Soviet Union. The admirals correctly point out that there are very few bases around the Soviet periphery which will be available for use by swifter, less vulnerable bombers of shorter range.

Battleship Navy Urged

The admirals argue, therefore, that a great battleship navy is necessary, in order to seize and hold such bases. And they also argue that the navy must also use its vessels as supplemental mobile air bases, capable of taking on part of the job of strategic bombing in any future war. For this purpose, the admirals wish to build gigantic new carriers, capable of launching very high speed bombers big enough to deliver atomic bombs. It is reported that the tentative proposal is for flush deck carriers of about 80,000 tons, which would cost in the neighborhood of \$200 millions apiece.

The air power advocates reply to the admirals that the available land bases may be few and insecure, but that the insecurity of the navy is still greater. Obviously, the big new carriers would be terribly vulnerable to air attacks. Then too, by the end of the war, the Germans had completed and tested a new, high speed submarine of great range, with virtually complete defense against radar detection. Under the guise of reparations, the Soviet secured virtually all the installations used by the Germans in building this submarine. They also secured over 150 of the submarines in disassembled form.

Submarines Now Assembled
It is known that the disassembled submarines have now been assembled. It is known that new submarines are being built. And it is known that almost all the leading German scientists and engineers who worked on this revolutionary underwater craft are now under contract to the Soviets.

In short, these submarines are the unseen, but extremely dangerous weapon of Soviet sea power. Furthermore, the naval facticians frankly admit that great naval forces will be defenseless against this form of attack, unless some system of detection can be devised to overcome the new submarines' radar-proofing. But while the admirals agree to this note in the navy's eye, they reply in kind to the airpower men. It is also known the Soviets got the men and equipment for building the German high speed, high altitude jet fighter, which is a grim threat to attacking aircraft. In fact, the display of superior fighter strength at the most recent Red Army day celebration amazed and horrified American expert observers. Thus the debate goes on.

Security Threatened

This debate has very practical meaning for the senatorial haggling over the European recovery program. In the first place, the debate discloses that we shall be much less secure than most Americans suppose, if and when we let the rest of the world go smash. Even in this present brief interlude, when the weapons of total destruction are still probably an American monopoly, it is infantile to assume that "we'll be all right whatever happens, because we've got the bomb."

In the second place, the debate in the joint chiefs gives a pleasant notion of the cost of genuine security in a world arrayed against the United States by the Soviets. Obviously, in this situation, air, ground and naval forces will all have to be built up to maximum strength; and the inclusion of a few new carriers at \$200 millions apiece will then be only a trifling item in the new defense budget. A qualified expert among the American planners has placed the

the square to a little park near the river, and there under a large obelisk of stone, was a garden of red flowers, and under the flowers were buried a great number of the defenders of Stalingrad. Few people were in the park, but one woman sat on a bench, and a little boy about five or six stood against the fence, looking in at the flowers. He stood so long that we asked Chmarsky to speak to him.

Chmarsky asked him in Russian: "What are you doing here?" And the little boy, without sentimentality, in a matter-of-fact

The Safety Valve

LETTERS FROM STATESMAN READERS

MORE PLAY FOR OLDER PEOPLE

To the Editor:

In Sunday's Statesman in your column you commented on the report given at the Town Meeting on "Is It Fun to Live in Salem?", and I could not understand your easy dismissal of the adult recreation problem.

In the talks given at the Town Meeting it was made clear that it was not recreational facilities on a silver platter that Salem residents want and need, but that all-important item, a place to pursue their sports, hobbies and recreative activities. Not unimportant is the opportunity to meet others in their age group with similar enthusiasms, whether with an eye to romantic developments or in the furtherance of satisfying friendships.

Your reaction to the question of adult entertainment would lead a newcomer to Salem to think of this city as a tight little satisfied closed unit, and would be most discouraging to the many people transplanting their families to Oregon, who are seeking the friendships and activities to bring themselves into the life of the community.

I urge you to consider where in Salem a young man and his date can spend an evening if both live in rooming houses, where young married couples can continue their participation in athletics like badminton, swimming, table tennis and kindred sports; consider also what Salem offers to adults young or old who do not own automobiles. Another question brought up at the meeting was the recreational facilities such as horse shoes, quito, etc. for older people; if you have had the opportunity to watch city parks in other towns you will recognize the very obvious good features of such simple equipment.

Admittedly the question of youth recreation and the problem of youth recreation for the young business woman are of primary importance, but it seems to me sheer cruelty to suggest that what adults need is more staying at home when there are so many in any community and increasingly in Salem who have no real home, and who must hope to find life-enrichment through hobbies, play and sports in the community.

Sincerely,
Ethel M. Bowes
1928 Hazel Ave.
(President Salem League of Women Voters.)

Grenade Explodes Near U. S. War Crimes Staff

NUERNBERG, Germany, Jan. 22—(AP)—A grenade exploded last night into the dining room of the Grand hotel, headquarters of the American war crimes prosecution staff, and shattered the windows of a score of lawyers and army officers.

U. S. army investigators said the weapon was capable of killing a person who was close enough, but that only two or three persons were scratched.

SON TO KAY KYSER

SANTA MONICA, Calif., Jan. 22—(AP)—A seven pound, 12 ounce daughter was born to Mrs. Kay Kyser in St. John's hospital last night. The bandman and his wife, the former Georgia Carroll, singer, are the parents of another daughter, 20 months old.

minimum American defense budget in a world gone to smash at between \$40 billion and \$50 billions annually.

That makes the appropriations of the European Recovery program look pretty trivial. But the great mass of the congress now seem to have revised the famous old brag. Nowadays, the watchword is no longer: millions for defense but not one cent for tribute. It is, rather: "billions for defense, but not one cent to save ourselves."

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voice said: "I am visiting my father, I come to see him every night."

It was not pathos, it was not sentimentality. It was simply a statement of fact, and the woman on the bench looked up, and nodded to us, and smiled. And after a while she and the little boy walked away through the park, back to the ruined city.

Tomorrow John Steinbeck will report here on the Russian attempts to rebuild the factories and homes of Stalingrad.

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'Visiting My Father'
In the evening we walked across