

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Lifting of Berlin Siege Forecast By Observers

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, Aug. 10

Through the impenetrable curtain of secrecy which surrounds — as it should surround — the current conversations in Moscow, two facts emerge. It is now pretty certain that the Soviet blockade of Berlin will soon be lifted. And it is also pretty certain that a new four-power conference on the future of Germany, and perhaps of all Europe, will ensue. Indeed, Sen. Arthur Vandenberg, republican foreign policy chief, has already been alerted to accompany Secretary of State George C. Marshall to such a conference.



From these facts it is possible to draw a further conclusion. The terrible shadow of another war, which has darkened the world since the Berlin blockade was imposed, has at least for the immediate future been lifted. Whether it will descend again depends on the results of the impending conference. And that in turn depends in the end on the decision the always shrewd and ruthless, sometimes affable Russian dictator, Joseph Stalin.

No one can know what goes on in Stalin's mind. Yet the facts of the situation with which he is confronted are known. And these facts will certainly affect the decision which Stalin now must make.

Stalin Disappointed

As he muses behind the Kremlin's grim walls, the aging dictator must sometimes feel the pang of bitter disappointment. When the war ended he had every reason to believe, and undoubtedly did believe, that Russian military preponderance on the continent, combined with the political pressure of his communist allies, would soon give him control of most of Europe and the Middle East. Yet nothing of the sort has happened. On the contrary, Soviet power has been stopped dead in its tracks where the Red army stopped when the war ended.

It is now clear that the communists in western Europe cannot take power either by legal or illegal means. Moreover, the west is showing real signs of recovery, thanks to American aid, and an effective military alliance between western Europe and the United States is in the making. When the Kremlin's pressure to expand has been most direct and open, in Iran and Greece, there has been failure too; long ago in Iran, and within the last few days in Greece, where the Soviet-sponsored revolt has all but disintegrated.

Trouble in Own Sphere

But what must weigh more heavily than these disappointments on the dictator's mind is the mounting evidence of real trouble within his own sphere, the great area held by the Red army at the end of the war. It is daily more evident that Tito's defiance was only one symptom of a greater disease.

In Berlin, incredibly, the youth section of the communists' own socialist unity party has condemned the Soviet blockade of the city as a "crime against humanity." In the Soviet zone of Germany, factories are closing and the economy is near collapse, while only the presence of the Red army keeps unrest in check. In Poland there is real evidence of the Tito disease, with the communist party itself showing signs of splitting into "nationalist" and Moscow wings. Before the Warsaw government at length announced its support of the communist and denounced Tito, there was a bitter row between Bertram, Moscow's grey eminence in Warsaw, and Vice President Gomulka, a "nationalist" communist. Bertram had his way — but Gomulka is still vice president.

In Czechoslovakia, Premier Gottwald and Foreign Minister Klementis, always known as "Czech communists," have shown signs of similarly disturbing independence. For this reason they are believed to be marked men, due for purging, although Gottwald has taken the precaution of marrying the daughter of Justice Minister Copicika, a Moscow favorite. From Hungary there are reports of real trouble; only the presence of the Red army there prevents open resistance to the regime.

Nationalism Showing

And so it goes. Everywhere, the inbred nationalism of the people — even within the communist parties themselves, is weakening the Kremlin's embrace. Even the Chinese communist party, most powerful of all communist parties outside the Soviet Union, has developed obvious symptoms of the Tito disease. It is possible, of course, to exaggerate the meaning of all this, and to leap to the conclusion that the whole structure of Soviet power is disintegrating, which it is not. The Red army is still infinitely the most powerful military force on the continent, and the Kremlin has millions of loyal and obedient communist servants the world over. Yet in this time of decision, the dictator in the Kremlin, together with his subordinates in the Politburo, must surely take into account such weaknesses in



Man About Town

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

but a congress committee cites for contempt (which the court upholds) the Hollywood contingent which refuses to answer the question "Are you a communist?" The house passed the Mundt-Nixon bill which it was said would not outlaw the communist party — but which clearly puts them outside the pale. Its theory was like the policy of King James with reference to the Puritans: to "harry them out of the land."

The senate refused to pass the bill. It is all very confusing. Just what is our national policy toward the communists as individuals and as a party? Now it seems inconsistent.

Perhaps it must be inconsistent. No government will tolerate treason, spying, disloyalty; but our constitution guarantees political freedom. How can we reconcile the two with special reference to the communists?

Stassen evidently was right when he said the commies already operate underground as well as above-ground. But is there no such thing as a communist who is also loyal to the United States?

These are grave questions which concern not only the country's safety but the integrity of its political principles. In raising them I am merely thinking out loud — and thinking out loud probably for a good many loyal Americans, non-communists, who are confused over the present performance and confused also over what ought to be our national policy toward communists.

Authorization For Alterations On Hotel Given

A \$30,000 permit for alterations on the Senator hotel building, to provide a dining room, coffee shop and kitchen, was announced earlier, was issued by the city building inspector's office Tuesday to Chadwick hotels. The project is expected to be completed by November 1.

Other permits were issued to James T. Crowder re-roof dwelling at 244 W. Wilson st., \$100; J. W. Semster to alter dwelling at 205 N. 23rd st., \$75; Weldon Looney to repair dwelling at 1560 Bellevue, \$50; O. L. Holmes to alter porch at 825 Breya ave., \$500; Mick Sign Co., to alter shop at 3085 Silverton rd., \$1,700.

Reese to Spend 2 Weeks At Air Reserve Post

Dr. Seward P. Reese, dean of the Willamette school of law and a colonel in the officers' reserve corps, is leaving by car for Los Angeles today to spend 15 days at the air materiel command, procurement field office, under army orders.

He will be accompanied south by his daughter, Donetta, who will be a senior this fall at the University of Southern California.

The Soviet position as those outlined above. No one can tell what Stalin's ultimate decision will be. He might decide to retreat, to consolidate his position, to give the world at the least an uneasy breathing space. Or his very weaknesses might impel him to press ruthlessly forward. Whatever his decision may be, we shall soon know, for better or for worse.

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33 Flat Tires Fail to Deflate Spirit of Chemeketa Campers

Salem Chemeketas, now on their annual two-weeks outing at Mowich lake on Mt. Rainier, are having an enjoyable time despite 33 flat tires, it was reported Tuesday.

Adolph Greenbaum, Salem merchant and outdoor enthusiast who attended the group last week end, said about 30 Chemeketas are attending the outing which ends Sunday.

The 33 flat tires — all on autos owned by the local group — occurred last Saturday night, Greenbaum explained. He said the Chemeketas parked their cars 4 1/2 miles below Mowich camp and hiked in by way of forest roads.

Saturday night, while the weary hikers were taking a deserved sleep, a band of youthful vandals decided the parked vehicles would be good material for a prank. They let the air out of nearly every tire and added injury by stealing the valve cores from the deflated tubes.

The situation was discovered Sunday morning by Lee Crawford, a member of the party. The problem was solved later in the day by forest services men who drove to a nearby town to secure replacements for the missing parts. Greenbaum said the Chemeketas were spared the labor of pumping up the tires by hand when a ranger arrived with a power pump. The vandals escaped, Greenbaum said.

Fishing, poor during the first week, has improved, Greenbaum reported. Most successful in the angling department have been Lee Crawford and his wife who hooked a nice mess of trout Sunday.

Non-fishing members of the club have kept hiking numerous peaks in the area, Greenbaum said, but no attempt will be made to scale Mt. Rainier proper because of adverse snow conditions.

Bob Keudell, 23-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Keudell, has engaged in extensive swimming activities, falling in the lake on three separate occasions.

This year's outing is being supervised by Art Seelander while Burt (Pop) Crary is serving his 19th hitch as camp cook. The group plans to return to Salem Sunday night.

One half the mass of the air is below the three and one-half mile level.

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"We're takin' things easy for your own good... you want the lumber aged by the time we finish the house, don't you?"

New State Democratic Chairman



SACRAMENTO, Calif., Aug. 10 — California State Senator Oliver J. Carter (right) of Redding and James Roosevelt, former state democratic chairman, chat after Carter was elected state chairman by the party's central committee at Sacramento. (AP Wirephoto to the Statesman).

Highway 99 Group to Raise Publicity Fund

The U. S. 99 Highway association met in Eugene Monday to discuss plans for making the Willamette valley a widely advertised tourist attraction and to establish a Eugene unit of the organization.

Salem representatives attending the session were Clay Cochran, manager of the Salem Chamber of Commerce; Carl Hogg, president of the association; A. A. Larsen, chairman of the Salem unit, and Marion County Judge Grant Murphy.

Principal business discussed in the meeting was a campaign to raise about \$20,000 to publicize the highway route as a number one tourist area. He told members that Victoria, B. C., business men raised a similar amount several years ago and received \$2,000,000 of tourist money in return the following year.

Cochran said the campaign will be started this fall and continue through the winter in preparation for next summer's tourist business.

Because of fires Americans lost enough work time during 1946 to make 920,000 autos.

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Women's Price Boycott

The women—God bless 'em—are on the right track. If enough of them boycott goods with high price marks, prices will come down. The test is one of endurance. Can their determination to reduce their buying of meats for example hold out until results are apparent?

As a rule these popular reactions taper off in a little while and are forgotten. In this case the pressure of prices on purses may have a prolonged effect, even if the advertised agitation dies.

It is when the money isn't at hand that boycotts really work. Given full employment as good wages and the demand persists. Let employment slacken and wage envelopes get lighter and the effect is quickly felt in the marts of trade.

In the end it is the consumer that fixes the prices in an open market. He has the final decision to take it or leave it. When Mrs. America starts leaving it then the signal is flashed back quickly through retailer to wholesaler to manufacturer to producer and the market moves to adjust itself to the consumer reaction.

The trouble is that the classic market is no longer "free." Government puts props under prices of commodities. Manufacturers of specialty products cut down production—even lay off crews—rather than reduce prices. In the end though the pulling and hauling of the various parties at interest determines the price and the consumer still has the say. At the store Mrs. America gets in the last word—but she still must feed her family.

Congress has approved a loan of \$65,000,000 for building the U. N. capitol in New York City. It might be well to insist that the plans be drawn for multiple use buildings in case Uncle Sam has to foreclose on the mortgage.

Britons are permitted to suffer a little less austerity. Shoes have come off the ration list and coupon requirements for clothing have been reduced. They still can't live up to their old reputation as beef-eaters.

Hop pickers will get in on the ski-lift this year, with wages set at four cents a pound. Quite a change from the time when they were 80c a hundred.

An exchange reports that prospective car purchasers wonder where the new autos go. They might take a look at the "used" car lots.

The Bible says the love of money is the root of all evil. In Berlin the kind of money is the root of a lot of trouble.

You can hardly call what the restaurants serve as "square meals" now. The corners are all cut.

A power shortage this fall is promised. What, after we've saved all this daylight?

President Truman calls the senate spy chase a "red herring." It may not be herring but it shows up red.

Terminal Leave Bonds Available Now to Relatives

The Oregon department of veterans affairs reminded Tuesday.

Department officials said an important amendment passed by congress makes it possible for brothers, sisters, nephews and nieces who survive a deceased veteran to receive payment for his unused leave. Heretofore the only eligible survivors were the spouse, children or parents.

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