

Acheson Opens Door for Spain To Join West

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst
WASHINGTON, March 11—(AP)—Secretary Acheson has cracked the door for Spanish entry into the western anti-communist front.

He was speaking of Greece and Turkey, and some of the objections

that have been made against American aid for them, but he laid down a policy which, if it is applied generally, certainly could cover Spain.

"We are not dealing here," he said in his belatedly published advertising council speech, "with the kind of situation where we can go from one country to another with a piece of litmus paper and see whether everything is true blue, whether the political, economic and social climate is exactly, in all its details, the kind we would like to have either for them or for us. The only question that we should ask is whether they are determined to protect their independence against communist aggression and if they are we should recognize our basic unity with them on this point."

Might Not Apply
Acheson may not have been thinking of Spain at all. The policy might not apply unless there was a threat which involved Spain's determination to protect her independence against communist aggression. But the policy has been stated.

Already the United States has decided that the U. N. decision calling for a withdrawal of member nation ambassadors from Spain was a mistake. And it is fairly clear that, when and if sufficient pressure develops, American objections to the Franco regime will give way to expediency.

May Correct Practices
In the meantime there may be some hope in the state department that, by holding back, Franco may be prevailed upon to correct some of the totalitarian practices which have alienated other nations.

Acheson has been sincere in opposing admission of Spain to the western family on moral grounds. He feels, such things deeply. Franco's attitude toward the protestant churches, toward civil liberties and his fascist practices have capped his wartime association with the Berlin-Rome axis. Britain and America would like for him to clean his feet before he steps on the parlor rug.

Police, Sicily Peasants Fight Pitched Battle

PALERMO, Sicily, March 11—(AP)—At least 500 land-invading Sicilian peasants carrying communist banners fought a bloody hand-to-hand battle with armed police near here.

Police said at least five of their men were injured by gunfire and hand grenades and another 25 by flying sticks and rocks.

They said the peasants disarmed two Carabinieri and then accidentally shot two other peasants. Another nine peasants were bruised in the melee.

It was the bloodiest outbreak of violence in the continuing wave of land invasions since six were killed several months ago.

The police reported the newest outbreak followed acts of vandalism by peasant bands roaming the countryside near here setting the torch to piles of brush.

When the police appeared, the peasants attacked.

POLISH JEWS MOVE

TEL AVIV, Israel—(AP)—Nearly all of the Jews still in Poland have registered with the Israeli legation in Warsaw for immigration to Israel. Newspapers said 40,000 Polish Jews had asked permission to leave the country. Poland's Jewish population presently is estimated at between 50,000 and 60,000.

Editor Replies To Klansmen With Gunfire

CLAXTON, Ga., March 11—(AP)—A crusading weekly newspaper editor said Friday he used gunfire as his answer to Ku Klux Klansmen trying to intimidate him.

Editor Milton Beckerman of the Claxton Enterprise reported 25 or more automobiles loaded with robed klansmen drove by his house Thursday after a Klan rally. Several cars whirled across his lawn, horns blaring.

"In order to protect myself I figured it was best to fire a shot

at the caravan," Beckerman said. He added he fired once at the rear of the third car that crossed his lawn. The cars then disappeared.

A Klan rally was held at a Claxton tobacco warehouse last night. About 100 or more klansmen, robed but without masks, attended. Beckerman said he was told Samuel Roper, imperial wizard of the association of Georgia Klans, denounced the editor's writing against the robed order.

In his weekly paper, Beckerman has been urging abolition of the Klan. He said there have been numerous beatings of whites and negroes in this section recently.

Roper's Atlanta office said the imperial wizard was out of town, but said it did not know whether he spoke at Claxton.

Court Ignores Dalton's Bid As Jesse James

UNION, Mo., March 11—(AP)—A Missouri circuit judge has dismissed J. Frank Dalton's request to be known as Jesse Woodson James—the notorious outlaw of seventy years ago.

In ending a one-day hearing, Judge Ransom A. Breuer gave a crowded courtroom a brief oral sermon in home state pride. He said for 25 years in the last century the James gang went unapprehended and Missouri had become known as a place—"where

criminals run at large and go unapprehended."

He said if the 102-year-old Dalton really is Jesse James let him "retreat to his rendezvous and ask his good God to forgive him."

If Dalton is not James, Judge Breuer added, he is "trying to perpetrate a fraud."

But, the 80-year-old judge said, "there is nothing for this court to pass on here."

Judge Breuer noted that Dalton's petition asked that his name be "changed" to Jesse Woodson James. But, the judge pointed out:

"If Dalton was James in the old days and has never had his name legally changed, it's impossible to change his name back to what he already had."

The white-haired old man feeble but cantankerous, claimed

in court he was the real Jesse James. They brought him in on a stretcher.

History records that James was killed by a member of his own gang back in 1882.

The year 1950 is the year 1369 in the Mohammedan calendar, 2610 in the Japanese era, 5710 in the Jewish calendar and 2708 in the old Roman calendar, based on the founding date of Rome.

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