

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

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Another Miss for Intelligence

The surprise of the North Korean attack is reminiscent of Pearl Harbor, though the results were not so disastrous immediately. One consequence is similar to the reaction after the fateful Dec. 7th, 1941—where was our intelligence? Why didn't we know what was being cooked up above the 38th parallel?

These questions are being aimed at Rear Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter, director of the central intelligence agency. They are also aimed at the state department and at the defense department. Note is made of the fact that Secretary Johnson, General Bradley and John Foster Dulles of the state department had just returned from visiting the orient purposely to check up on the situation there. As with Pearl Harbor none was informed or apparently suspicious of North Korean intentions. Hillenkoetter however does refer to his reports as late as June 20th which noted army concentrations in North Korea.

Government authorities have been conscious for a long time of shortcomings of its intelligence organization. In 1948 President Truman appointed a special committee headed by Allen Dulles to probe into the whole subject. With the resignation of Secretary Forrestal and other changes in the higher echelons of power the recommendations in the report were sort of sidetracked. President Truman was reported as searching for a new head for CIA but apparently he didn't move with much diligence—at least none has been found. Probably the former conditions of uncoordinated effort and too casual interpretation of data prevail.

This is not to say that had the committee's report been applied in full the North Korean gap might not have opened. Other powers have notions of secrecy too—and it might easily have been that the decision lay not with officials in North Korea but with the master minds in Moscow—and penetrating the Kremlin has always been an impossible assignment.

It is safe to assume that now (nearly nine years after Pearl Harbor) there will be another overhauling of our intelligence organization. To be a world power requires maintaining a worldwide net of espionage and great ability in utilizing information.

The Potato-Bug Controversy

The solemn and formal Russian diplomatic protests alleging that American planes sprinkled potato bugs over East Germany to ruin the spud crop there sounds funny to us. But then, it isn't intended for us at all. It was obviously put out for the benefit of the people behind the iron curtain who may have been—secretly—laughing up their sleeves at the mighty commissars.

It seems that about the time it became apparent that East Germany hasn't raised enough potatoes to provide some for every pot this year, the East German communist authorities hatched the potato bug plan. About two weeks ago they started to complain that it was all America's fault, that insects imported by the U. S. via a latter-day airlift had all but destroyed the crop.

Meanwhile East Germany concluded a very hush-hush deal whereby the communist government bought 50,000 tons of surplus American potatoes for \$1,000,000, or a penny a pound.

Harriman's Early Return to Washington Has Significance in Study of New U. S. Policies

By Joseph and Stewart Alsop
WASHINGTON, July 5 — W. Averell Harriman, newly appointed special assistant to the President, has returned to Washington several weeks before he was scheduled to return. And this simple fact is not without significance. For Harriman has returned to take part in the searching, wholesale reassessment of American policy which has now become the first order of business.

The simple fact is that the Kremlin-sponsored attack on Korea has knocked the basic assumption underlying American policy into a cocked hat. This assumption was that the Kremlin was not now ready and would not be ready for some years, to risk a world war. Yet the Kremlin has now clearly and consciously risked a world war. This in turn means that Washington has been mistaken about Soviet capabilities and intentions. Thus a new and unexpected situation has arisen and a new policy must be quickly fashioned to fit this new situation.

Harriman and the other Presidential advisers who must devise the new plan of action will not find their task an easy one. For complacency, muddling and self-delusion now make it necessary for them to start virtually from scratch.

They will find very little to build on. As far as our relations with our allies are concerned, the Atlantic powers have yet failed to agree on any realistic plan for the defense of the Atlantic community. This is for a simple

reason. At the Hague meeting this spring, the Atlantic defense officials wrapped the maximum requirements of every participating country into a huge, gainfully bundled, and called the monstrous result a "plan." At the subsequent Brussels meeting, the European finance ministers took one look at what this "plan" would cost, and threw up their hands in horror. There the matter now rests. Joint American-European defense planning is stalled at dead center.

Since this fiasco, the American Joint Chiefs of Staff have been assigned to make a unilateral assessment of the extent of the American contribution to the defense of Western Europe. This is being done without close consultation with the Europeans, which is a nonsensical way to do business. And meanwhile the joint chiefs themselves, as the National Security Board chairman, Stuart Symington, has repeatedly and bitterly pointed out, have not even yet agreed to a long-range strategic plan for the United States alone.

Thus Harriman and his colleagues will find themselves groping in near-darkness. There is, to be sure, no mystery about the general outlines of what is now really required—indeed, outside the Pentagon, there is almost unanimous agreement on this point. A great effort must now be initiated, both here and in Europe, to erect a real, rather than a sham, defense for Western Europe, while Far Eastern defenses are also greatly strengthened. This cannot be done unless the American effort is immediately stepped up from the current, phoney, billion-dollar level to something like two or three times that sum.

At the same time, the policy of reducing American armed strength in the name of "economy," initiated by Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson, must be abandoned as quickly as possible, and at least the \$18,000,000,000 re-armament level projected by James Forrestal before his death must be restored. Moreover, this increased effort at home and abroad must be initiated here

The U. S. agriculture department has since confirmed the sale.

So the explanation for Moscow's potato bug charge would be something like this: The German communists could never admit that they have failed to grow their quota of potatoes; much less would they want it known that they've had to import potatoes from those capitalist American farmers who produce so much they can't get rid of the surplus fast enough. Thus the Reds dreamed up a way to blame the U. S. for the potato shortage, i.e. flown-in bugs, and got Moscow to issue a protest so that the people would be more likely to believe the bug alibi. Of course, they'll not tell the people about importing all those potatoes from the U. S., instead they will probably say the spuds came from the U.S.S.R.

Polk School

Edward Majek who has just completed a term on the Salem district schoolboard, made the suggestion that the name Polk be applied to the school in West Salem. That seems a very good suggestion and if it is agreeable to those in the section of the district served ought to be adopted.

As Majek says the name would do two things: recognize Polk county in which the school is located, and honor James K. Polk, who as president obtained a settlement of the Oregon boundary question with Great Britain. Both reasons are good, especially the latter. Polk's pressure for a decision, with real risk of war with Britain, finally produced the agreement for a boundary along the 49th parallel. There never had been much question but the part of Oregon lying south of the Columbia river would go to the United States; but Britain would like to have retained the portion north, including valuable Puget Sound. The state of Washington whose land was saved to the union during the Polk term, has no Polk county and has done little to honor him. Oregon has a Polk county—and perhaps Salem will have a Polk school.

Fireworks Should Be Banned

It is time to end the orgy of Fourth of July celebration with fireworks. One Oregon boy is dead, numerous fireworks stands have been burned, and probably there were many minor accidents as a result of this general sale and use of fireworks.

It is mistaken leniency toward youth which permits fireworks, except under special permit as at formal celebrations. While laws limit the size of firecrackers the new explosives are more powerful than the old plain black powder so the small cracker carries a big wallop. Oregon should grow up and put a ban on the sale and use of fireworks, city and country. The commercial interests and juvenile sentiment ought not to override common sense at the risk of life and property.

General MacArthur has called for the marines, — and they will not wear their famous dress uniforms when they cross the Pacific. But when they go into combat MacArthur should put the two Smith generals together as on Saipan, one army, one marine. The Korean job must be a toughie though to cut in the marines.

Hank Visits Moslem Sect Of Dervishes

By Henry McLenore

CAIRO, Egypt — Twenty minutes from the heart of Cairo, hewn into the Mokattam hills on which still stands the fortress built by Napoleon Bonaparte when he conquered Egypt, is what must be the oddest monastery in the world.

It is the home of the twenty leaders of the religious sect headed by Sirry Baba, who corresponds to the Pope in the Roman Catholic faith.

Not many visitors are privileged to visit the monastery, but thanks to the help of Salah Eddine Fadel Bey, Director of Press of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we spent a pleasant two hours being shown about this unique establishment by Baba (Father). He is a venerable old gentleman in his middle seventies, and he greeted us as if we had been Whirling Dervishes ourselves.

This mountain monastery is nearly 500 years old, having been founded by Sheikh El Mahawri, who came from his native Albania in 1465. Sirry Baba lives in the same room as did the founder centuries ago. It is cut from solid rock and when Sirry Baba served us coffee we sat on stone benches covered with beautiful oriental rugs and mounds of pillows.

The twenty high men of the church have not been content to live solely in the mountainside. Around the monastery are wide green terraces, fruit trees, vegetable and flower gardens, flowing streams and reflecting pools, all of which is in sharp contrast with the desert that surrounds it.

There is a small but lovely mosque in the confines of the cavern-like monastery, a restful, beautiful place of worship.

For centuries all the men who have lived there have been buried in the mountainside. The twenty who live there now already have carved out their own tombs, and it is part of their daily labor to beautify their tombs with relief work. The King of Albania's sister is buried there and the King, a devout Whirling Dervish, has his tomb all prepared.

I asked Sirry Baba how many Whirling Dervishes there were in the world and he said that as close as he could figure there were more than 7,000,000. Most of them are in Turkey, Albania, Egypt and the Balkan countries. I asked if there were any of his sect in the United States and he said yes, about 3,000.

Sirry Baba's living room, where we were served coffee, is jam-packed with relics of the past. Ancient arms hang by the hundreds on the walls, and there are beautifully illuminated passages from the Koran. Mixed with these things, many of them priceless, is also a fine collection of junk bric-a-brac as anyone ever saw. Light is provided by a massive brass chandelier, whose sixty-five shades of beautifully brown glass cast a restful light on the white-washed walls.

A visitor literally feels that he has stepped out of this world, but modern conveniences bring him back to the 20th century. While we were there a telephone buzzed half a dozen times, and nothing has ever seemed so out of place.

We asked Sirry Baba if he would pose for a picture with us and he readily agreed. But he didn't pose before taking off his odd-shaped white felt hat, stroking his white beard into place, and apologizing for not having on his robes of state. He explained that he had been working when we arrived and therefore had only his every-day outfit. It was a pretty gaudy work garment, what with a flowing coat and a massive belt of velvet with a giant jewel for a catch.

The Egyptian government is very kind to the order, and for nearly 500 years the monastery has known nothing but peace and quiet.

(McNaught Syndicate, Inc.)

Safety Valve

Retirement Rule Should Be Uniform To the editor:

The report by state officials that a few over age civil service employees would soon be retired is very unfair, in my estimation. The retirement act is an Oregon law and we all respect it as such but I don't like the idea of picking one man for retirement and classifying another as indispensable, doing the same work. The only way, with no ill feeling, is to show no favoritism and retire us all at the age of 65. Due to the fact that a great many have been retired in the past, and in fairness to all concerned our state officials have but one alternative — either enforce the retirement act 100 per cent or ask the next legislature to repeal it.

Geo. E. Davis
Rt. 3, Salem

UNCLE SAM'S HOLE CARD



Comes the Dawn

A group of Salem boat fans have rediscovered the Willamette river this summer. Their idea of an outing is to pack lunches (and frequently entire families) into their power boats and cruise up and down the river. These boat nuts (as they call themselves) have already made watery pilgrimages to Albany and Corvallis in their putt-putters. About 20 boats scooted up river Tuesday to the Santiam boat races. They operate from Willard Taylor's Salem boat house and next Sunday they intend to make a trip down-river.

Speaking of rivers and bars the gravel bar in the Willamette river is causing no end of trouble for rivermen. Boatmen, raftsmen and sportsmen alike are being constantly hung up on the bar which is growing steadily. It threatens to change the whole course of the river here and so far federal engineers have cursed and discussed it but have taken no action.

Independence day celebrated hardest by group of men here who don't have much independence... annual Pen relays held at state prison here July 4th rank right next to a low wall in popularity with inmates... outsider taking in the athletic events is impressed by youthful and healthy appearance of athletes and spectators... one kid watching races couldn't have been over 16... only white-skinned individuals were outsider officials.

Relays start early in a. m. and finish just before bedtime. Just about every track event in the book except the pole vault—although with new, higher walls even that event is no longer risky... only thing outlawed in baseball is a real home run and authorities would probably frown on quarterback sneak during football games.

Fascinating to outsiders was the wagering among inmates on contests... money a rare (and useless) item within the walls so men place their bets in tobacco, candy bars and ice cream bars... convicts given tickets during day for the confections and competition gets keener as the day gets warmer... and the con athlete who lets his backers down gets told off by his betting buddies in no uncertain terms... but Warden George Alexander says the annual event is one of institution's biggest morale-builders.

Salem bakery union locals are watching with interest outcome of Portland bakery strike... union men say that results of Portland bargaining will probably be basis for new contacts negotiations here... three of Salem's largest bakeries are unionized.

GRIN AND BEAR IT



"Seems a big price for something that in a few weeks will be just an old rag that isn't fit to wear..."

Learn-to-Swim Program Sets Monday Start

The annual two-week Learn-to-Swim campaign in Salem's playground pools will open Monday, City Recreation Director Vernon Gilmore announced Wednesday. Most children's classes have been moved to later in the day than usual, to assure more warmth of air and water. Gilmore urged that children slated for early afternoon should eat earlier than usual.

The free program is sponsored by the city-school playground program and Marion county chapter of the Red Cross.

Instructors at Leslie pool will be Cole Stephens, assisted by Donna Lambert and Bill Estep, and at Olinger, Dan McCall, aided by Ann Carson and Ray Comstock. All are graduates of water safety courses.

Registration blanks will be secured at the close of the first day's class and returned the second day. Those entering the younger classes must be tall enough to stand at the shallow end and keep their heads out of water.

The schedule, Monday through Friday, includes:

- 10 a.m.—Open swimming.
- 11 a.m.—Boys, beginners and intermediates, 12 years and up.
- 11:30 a.m.—Girls, beginners and intermediates, 12 and up.
- 1 p.m.—Boy beginners, 5 to 12 years.
- 1:30 p.m.—Girl beginners, 5 to 12.
- 2 p.m.—Boy and girl swimmers for advanced instruction.
- 2:30-6 p.m.—Open swimming.
- 6 p.m.—Junior and senior life-saving.
- 7 p.m.—Adults, beginners and swimmers.
- 7:30-9 p.m.—Open swimming for adults.

S. W. Larsen Dies on Trip

Funeral services for Selmer W. Larsen, Albany businessman and former Salem resident, will be today at 2 p.m. from Fortmiller-Fredrickson chapel in Albany. Larsen died Monday in Everett, Wash., following an emergency operation there while on a vacation trip to Canada with Mrs. Larsen.

Larsen attended Salem schools and resided here until about 15 years ago. In Albany he owned the Jack and Jill shop.

Survivors are the widow, Eudora; son, Gerald, and grandson, Steven, all of Albany; father, L. T. Larsen of McMinnville; sister, Mrs. Irene Burrell of Salem; brother, Harold Larsen of Seattle.

Band Concert Slated Tonight

Salem municipal band concerts will be resumed in Wilson park at 8 o'clock tonight with the following program:

- "Colossus of Columbia" march... Alexander.
- "Sakuntala" overture... Goldmark.
- "El Capitan" march... Sousa.
- "Suite in E Flat"... Holst.
- "Drummers Delight"... Edwards.
- "Mississippi Rhapsody"... Weinberger.
- "Blue Moon"... Rodgers and Hart.
- "Chattanooga Shoe Shine Boy"... Stone and Stapp.
- "Fairest of the Fair" march... Sousa.

Valley Obituaries

Efraim Anderson
SILVERTON — Efraim Anderson, a local resident, died at Silverton hospital Tuesday night following a brief illness. He was 66. Surviving is a brother, Edwin Anderson, Oregon City. Services will be announced later by the Ekman mortuary.

Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "Robert is over six foot tall."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "chapeau"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Paraphernalia, parenthesis, parliamentary.
4. What does the word "abnormal" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with eff that means "impudent"?

- ANSWERS
1. Say, "Robert is more than six feet tall." 2. Pronounce shap-oh, as in ask unstressed, o as in no, accent second syllable. 3. Paraphernalia. 4. Not according to rule; unnatural. "He was a man of abnormal strength." 5. Effrontery.

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