

Ike in London On European Military Tour

By Glenn Williams
LONDON, Jan. 13 (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower flew into London tonight to draw together more of the threads of his supreme European defense command against communism.

Waiting in a cold RAF hanger to receive him at Northolt airport were old war-time buddies and high officials. Among them were Defense Minister Emanuel Shinwell, Air Marshal Sir William Elliott, the RAF chief of staff, U.S. Ambassador Walter Gifford and Charles Spofford, American chairman of the Atlantic Pact's council of deputies.

"Ike" as he was known here during the war, flashed a grin for the cameras and was quickly driven to Claridge hotel. Guests in dinner jackets applauded as he entered the foyer.

British communist leaders, publicly committed to disrupting British rearmament, were prepared to demonstrate against the Eisenhower mission here. They were in conference all day.

'Peace' Council

Thirty persons presented to the U.S. embassy a letter signed "London Peace Council" and "The Youth for Peace Council." It urged the general to "please stay away from our shores and let us live our lives in peace and decide on our future."

This was Eisenhower's third visit to England since 1945, when the invasion he planned here led to Germany's defeat. It was his sixth stop on a circuit to find out why European military preparation ticks too slowly.

He landed directly from Oslo, where he received the brightest picture of western defense he had so far found on his tour of the capitals of Norway, Denmark, The Netherlands, Belgium and France.

In Norway he found a country which believes it has a geographical chance of defending itself, given aid in time, and is determined to do it.

Norway Program

Norway has laid out a program of spending \$60,000,000 a year for six years for armament, is calling up more men for training and is purging its labor unions of communists. A defense line has been organized in the north which would call for the initial sacrifice of part of the country. Norway is the only country among the 12 members of the Atlantic alliance with a direct frontier with the Soviet Union.

In Norway, too, Gen. Eisenhower received his warmest welcome. About 2,000 persons stood in the snow in front of his hotel and cheered on his arrival.

In calls on King Haakon and Crown Prince Olav and a long conference with Premier Einar Gerhardsen and defense chiefs, he was filled in on the Norwegian defense picture.

French Gain Defensively in Indochina Area

By Kenneth Liks
HANOI, Vietnam, Indochina, Jan. 13 (AP)—The French defensive position in strategic north Indochina has taken a decided turn for the better in the last three weeks.

Three factors have helped brighten military prospects in the long war against Ho Chi Minh's communist-commanded Vietminh rebels:

1—Indochina's new high commissioner and commander in chief, Gen. Jean de Lattre de Tassigny, who whipped through a lot of changes in his first inspection of French posts.

2—Arrival of long awaited reinforcements—fresh battalions of Foreign Legionnaires, Moroccan and Senegalese colonial troops from Africa, new tanks, planes and artillery.

Assaults Blunted

3—Blunting of massive Vietminh assaults on the Red river delta defense system and a French counter-offensive which cleared threatening concentrations from the coastal salient to the northeast. The rebels fell back to mountain hideouts.

Harassment of the French continues. A communique announced tonight a pro-French Indochinese platoon garrisoning a post in the Bac Ninh sector, 20 miles northeast of Hanoi, was overpowered in a night attack and only one man escaped, but the post was retaken by a relief column yesterday.

The general attitude in this gateway between communist China and southeast Asia, however, contrasts sharply with a recent belief of dispirited civilians and soldiers that Ho Chi Minh was in a position to set the future timetables of the war.

"No, Another Inch"

Gen. de Lattre said: "No, the French will not give another inch." He shook up staff and field commands, brusquely snapped the army out of its cynical slouch, pushed construction of new defensive works and wiped out his predecessor's order for evacuation of French women and children.

Instead of retiring to the sunny capital of Saigon, 700 miles to the south, the general spent most of his time in the bleak north. The long-term effect of his campaign probably will depend on how resolutely he is backed up by France and the United States, which is furnishing arms aid.

SHOWER GIVEN ROSEDALE

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