

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us No Fear Shall Ave"
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Crisis Now Commonplace

The gradual unification of the free world into a force capable of countering the strength of the communist world has been a succession of crises. And there is no reason to believe that any more sensible system is going to be utilized.

Right now the entire Western European defense system is in danger of collapse. The newest threat comes from such important French leaders as Edouard Herriot and Edouard Daladier who have renounced the unified European Army proposal because it provides for German army units. Without West German manpower, any plan for a unified defense of Western Europe seems sure of failure.

French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman and Defense Minister Rene Pleven have sent a frantic plea to Great Britain's Anthony Eden to "do something" to help convince wavering Frenchmen that England intends to support the European army plan.

The whole crisis will be brought to a head in the near future, perhaps this week, when the proposal is placed before the French Assembly. If the proposal is defeated, the cabinet of Premier Antoine Pinay will fall, carrying with it Foreign Minister Schuman who has sparked the European unification movement.

If France says "No," the Western Europe army scheme is doomed, unless a miraculous substitute is evolved which will satisfy everybody's overlapping interests. If the Europe Army plan fails, the North Atlantic Pact Nations are left with a defense agreement but no army with which to carry it out. And America's entire foreign policy, as regards Europe, is based on the success of NATO.

Thus the internal troubles of France have a very real bearing on our own security.

What's more, if this tight-rope is spanned, there still is the threat of rejection by the West German parliament at Bonn. And then there is the West European crisis, the one in Iran, where the Key to the Middle East is in danger, and the new Red drive in Indochina with its possibility of sweeping through Southeast Asia.

We have truly become crisis-saturated. As our Alsop brothers once pointed out, living on the edge of a precipice year after year may make it commonplace, but it doesn't reduce its danger.

A Distinguished Visitor

A visit in Salem by Philippine representative Dominador R. Aytona, winding up a six-month study of finance and budgeting in this country, couldn't have come at a more revealing time than in this our election year.

With recent economic chest-baring on the part of candidates flooding newspapers, radio and television, Mr. Aytona has a wealth of material before him daily, at least in the study of candidate affluence.

Naturally, the representative from the islands in the far Pacific is utilizing his time in our country for more extensive study than that found in political furor, however. His stay here is made possible by an act of the 80th Congress creating the Department of State's International Exchange of Persons. Representatives of underprivileged countries are invited to tour the United States, studying means of budgeting and finance in this country so they can take back suggestions and ideas gleaned from first-hand nationwide perusal.

Mr. Aytona comes to us with a wealth of back-

ground for this study. Besides a private law practice in Manila and a professorship at the University there, he is also financial adviser to the Philippine Senate. He is a most welcome visitor in our capital city. We trust his findings will be of benefits when adapted to the needs of his own country.

The Pollsters Are Shy

One of the reasons that election forecasters are wary of making all-out predictions can be seen in the fact that out of the nearly 49,000,000 people who voted in 1948, if a certain 25,000 had changed their votes, Thomas Dewey would have been elected. If Dewey had won the electoral votes of Ohio, Illinois and California, he would have won the election. The combined democratic plurality in those three states was less than 50,000 votes, and if over half of those voters had changed their minds before election day it would be the Republicans instead of the Democrats chanting "Don't let them take it away."

Despite the unseasonably-mild fall, the office cynic bets a lot of householders are still procrastinating about their fuel supply, faucet-wrapping and that leak in the roof. And it was surprising how many people didn't ask her who she meant.

Many a prominent Democrat has jumped to the Eisenhower camp and some Republicans are switching to Stevenson. Looks like the long-talked-of party realignment is pretty well taking care of itself.

Democrats accuse Republicans of double talk, and Republicans accuse Democrats of double deals. What all this may mean is that the voter is playing "double or nothing" without knowing it.

The guy who I like to be first can now anticipate getting the first ticket for going over Salem bridges the wrong way of one-way traffic.

Editorial Comment

THE ORACLES OF OREGON WON'T TELL THEIR SECRETS

CROOK County has clammed up.

The county is in Oregon and has voted for the winner in every presidential election since 1880. It has replaced Maine in the affections of the poll takers as a political weather-vane.

But Crook County has had to pay for its magic touch. Ever since the national convention reporters and hopeful prophets have been knocking on doors, ringing telephones, and peering in windows trying to learn the political sentiments of Crook County.

The population has revolted. They won't answer doorbells or telephones, and they won't talk. They're sick of being questioned and of being treated like guinea pigs.

The last poll taker to escape from the county brought these results to the rest of the world. Eisenhower 68, Stevenson 36, and undecided, 39. That big bloc of undecided votes is what tripped the big professional forecasters last presidential election.

Since Crook County has taken the vow of silence, we guess we'll have to wait until Nov. 5 to find out how the election comes out.—(Atlanta, Ga., Journal and Constitution.)

Ike's Campaign Promise of Budget Cutbacks To Conflict With Need for Costly Air Defense

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON — Leading figures in the Defense Department, who are sincere admirers of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, are nevertheless worried about his promise to cut back very heavily on government expenditures in the next four years.

The kind of cutbacks Eisenhower has talked about could only come out of the defense budget. To understand why Eisenhower's promise has caused so much concern in the Defense Department, consider the recent report of "Project Lincoln." Project Lincoln consists of a study group of distinguished scientists and technicians, recruited by the Defense Department. These men were asked to consider the vulnerability of this country to atomic attack, and to propose means for improving our air defense.

Very recently, a report from Project Lincoln was submitted to the National Security Council. This report warned bluntly that the United States would be wide open to "crippling" atomic attack by the Soviet strategic air force within two to three years. The United States, in fact, does not now have an effective air defense. Moreover, the United States is not likely to have a really formidable air defense in the foreseeable future, on the basis of present plans and appropriations. On both these

points, those in the Defense Department who know the most about the air defense problem sadly agree with the scientists of Project Lincoln.

Yet the Project Lincoln report is by no means all gloom. For the report also holds out the heartening hope of a really effective air defense against atomic attack. This hope is based on certain "technological breakthroughs," particularly in the mysterious realms of long-range warning systems and vastly improved target-seeking guided missiles. A new approach to the whole air defense problem, the scientists believe, could transform the continental United States into a veritable hornet's nest, which the Soviets would certainly hesitate to attack.

The trouble—it is a familiar trouble—is that a truly effective air defense will cost money. If the recommendations of Project Lincoln are accepted, the cost for the first year, which will be devoted largely to experimental work, will be relatively trifling. But when the production stage is reached thereafter, an annual expenditure of at least \$4 to \$5 billion, over and above current air defense expenditures, is envisaged.

Nor is this all. For reasons previously reported in this space, this country is in danger of losing its capacity of overwhelming atomic retaliation. Very large sums, the experts believe, must also be spent in order to make certain that we do not lose this power to strike back, on which our security squarely rests.

Gen. Eisenhower's promise to reduce expenditures massively within the next four years reads strangely in the light of such facts. Oddly enough, there is reason to believe that Secretary of Defense Robert A. Lovett caused Eisenhower and some of his advisers to be briefed on these and related matters. At any rate, the essential nature of

the problem is certainly well known to the General.

The fact is that Eisenhower's promise to reduce expenditures heavily is a compromise between two conflicting views. Sen. Robert A. Taft urged Eisenhower to promise a very rapid cutback of over \$20 billion, in order to provide immediate tax relief.

This Taft proposal caused a bitter argument in the Eisenhower inner circle. Certain Eisenhower advisers strongly urged against any specific commitment at all, on the ground that this would tie Eisenhower's hands in advance if he were elected. In the end, Eisenhower made his own decision, to promise a heavy reduction of expenditures, but over a four-year period, which is much too long to please Taft and his followers.

It may be that Eisenhower, if he is elected, will be able to make good on this commitment, without impairing the national defense. No responsible defense official believes that this country is now getting a maximum return on every defense dollar spent. Once the defense peak is reached, moreover, considerable reductions in certain areas will undoubtedly become possible. And Eisenhower is, of course, a genuine expert on defense matters, which is one of the most cogent arguments for his candidacy.

Yet, if Gen. Eisenhower becomes President Eisenhower, he will immediately be faced with a decision of immense gravity—whether or not to go ahead with the great build-up of our defensive and offensive air strength which the experts now fervently and unanimously recommend. It will not be an easy decision in any case. And Eisenhower's campaign promise to reduce government spending very heavily will make it a good deal more difficult than it would otherwise have been.

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EGGS AIN'T CHICKENS SEASON



A Statesman staffer bought a teevee set and here's his sad tale... TV comes to Salem. The man of the house takes a quick look at his bank account and gives the word. But Mom and the kids finally argue him into it. The family spends days going from one store to the other checking sets. They listen to salesmen extoll the merits of various sets and get the LATEST lowdown on antenna. Finally they make a choice and hurry home to await the installers.



Couple days later the crewmen and the set is installed, the antenna proudly raised and the test-pattern is coming in clear. Now everybody waits around for 5 p.m., when the first program is due. While waiting literature which came with the set is read by Dad, who understands very little of it. Then the set is turned on, the picture comes in and everybody settles down to an evening of teevee. Five minutes later the doorbell rings and there is an almost-totally-strange family from down the street. They saw the antenna and want to see the show.

The program goes off late in the evening, the visitors leave and a good neighbor policy has been established. The weeks that follow are hectic with Mom trying to re-arrange her household chores to fit the TV schedule; Dad neglects his workshop and other task in house and yard; the kids gulp their meals in order to see the programs and later they have to be put to bed in a forceful manner. All in all though, things will gradually work back to normal and — oh, oh, excuse us while we watch that crime program.

We always knew, of course, that old elephants stagger off to a secret graveyard to cash in their chips. But we've often wondered what happened to those old turkeys Hollywood used to cast out to die. Well, now we know. We saw one on teevee the other night. This movie was so old that the heroine didn't once show up in a sweater and the villain was the straight-forward sneerful type, whom nobody had to psychoanalyze to hate. He even sported a monocle. It was a chatty plot about the South Sea.

A high point comes when Helen (the girl), Tom (the hero), Bannister (one of the nasties) are all shipwrecked on an island. Wet and bedraggled they stagger up on the beach. There they are met by Kelly, another nasty. He looks them over. "Shipwrecked, eh?" he asks sagely... Later Kelly goes to Helen's palm-leaved cabin with a purpose other than to show her how to crack coconuts. He enters, she gasps, he moves forward like a UCLA fullback. At this point Tom raps on the door. "Open up, Kelly," he shouts politely, "or I'll break down this door." Kelly doesn't, Tom does, Kelly lets fly with a chair, Helen backs up against the wall, Tom slugs Kelly... Romance!

GRIN AND BEAR IT by Lichty



"Comrade agent reports remarkably infiltration into capitalist educational system... is getting seat on 50-yard line for 'big game' of season..."

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1)

his accusations. It was a typical jury lawyer's plea, selecting the evidence to support his case and ignoring everything else.

All this is old stuff to those who have attended previous sessions of the UN General Assembly or meetings of the Security Council. It is the Soviet line to pose as the peace-loving people and to brand the western powers as the warmongers. It was my baptism of propaganda which the veterans say we shall have through the session if past experience is a criterion. As for me I'm glad it is Saturday afternoon so I can go over to Jersey and see my two grandsons—Mehitabel left this morning. One needs to get away for some fresh air after such a deluge of abuse and vituperation.

One cannot fathom the Soviet intentions, but Vishinsky did not cut all his ground away to leave him no room to maneuver. His endorsement of Poland's proposals which are largely repetitions of past proposals and not acceptable to UN at least keeps the Korean affair in the area of negotiation.

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The Safety Valve

Okays Morse's Action
To the Editor:
O.K. let Mr. Morse leave the Republican party. The party will be much better off without him. I am speaking for many voters in Oregon. He has always been a wolf in sheep's clothing anyway, so, Mr. Morse, feel at perfect liberty to do as suggested. Such folks who call themselves Republicans are what temporarily put the wolves in leadership of our nation. If it wasn't for just such folks in our Government we wouldn't had the outbreak of the communists.

C. M. Clark
Salem, Oregon

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