

Berlin Parley Shows Current Soviet Interest Is Asia

No U.S. Troops For Indochina

By WARREN BENNETT
Associated Press Writer

SECRETARY of Defense Wilson predicted this week that a military victory is both possible and probable in Indochina and that he saw no reason to think Indochina might become another Korea.

Wilson spoke in Washington as Red Vietminh forces unleashed a fresh drive toward Luang Prabang, the royal capital of Laos, and French and Laotian defenders fell back under cover of heavy air bombardment.

"The war is going fully as well as we and the French expected it to at this stage," Wilson declared. He qualified this a few moments later by adding, "Of course, it always depends on who shows up as an enemy."

Communist Question

This was a reference to Red China which had intervened in the Korean war. Thus far in Indochina, Communist China had not taken direct action although it had been furnishing the bulk of arms and materiel with which the rebels carry on the war.

Wilson said he didn't think it necessary to give the French any American aid at a higher level at this time although, he admitted, Lt. Gen. John W. O'Daniel, commander of the Army Forces, Pacific, might be sent to Indochina to head the U.S. Military Advisory Group there. Gen. O'Daniel was in Washington last week, having just returned from an inspection trip to Indochina.

Nor would he advocate, Wilson said, the use of American atomic weapons, such as the 280 millimeter cannon or tactical bombs, because "that isn't the kind of place to use them and the people there don't know how to use them."

President Eisenhower said every move by this government in respect to aiding the French was calculated to keep the United States from getting involved in a hot war.

Earlier, Senate Republican leaders had reported the Eisenhower administration has no present plans to send American ground troops to Indochina. Senate leader William F. Knowland of California and Sen. Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, gave this "categorical assurance" after Sen. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) called for a clarification of administration policy.

U.S. Technicians

Reports have been published that the French want American pilots to fly the C119 "Flying Boxcar" transport planes which have been lent them in substantial numbers.

About 125 U.S. Air Force technicians are reported to be in Indochina servicing American equipment. Last week the Defense Department announced it was sending some B26 bombers of World War II vintage and about 200 additional technicians to Indochina.

The President said the 200 technicians would not be in combat and would be brought home by June 15.

Dates

- Monday, Feb. 15**
U.S. Army-Navy Arctic maneuvers start, Alaska.
- Tuesday, Feb. 16**
Anniversary (35th), American Legion.
- Wednesday, Feb. 17**
National conference on highway safety, Washington. Anniversary (87th), Suez Canal.
- Friday, Feb. 19**
Chinese Nationalist Assembly to elect president and vice president, Taipei, Formosa.
- Sunday, Feb. 21**
Brotherhood Week starts.

Church

Negro Crusade

Negro churches throughout the country have launched a yearlong, united evangelistic crusade to "strengthen the spiritual power of America."

An unusual feature of the program is the recruitment of a million church members, across the nation, to pray simultaneously each day for these objectives:

"Human redemption, greater Christian fellowship, lasting peace, and world brotherhood."

The crusade is being sponsored by the National Fraternal Council of Churches of the U.S.A., Inc., embracing 13 Negro church denominations with nearly eight million members.

Dr. J. W. Golden, of Nashville, Tenn., chairman of the Council's commission on evangelism and director of the campaign, said such a concerted effort was essential "to meet the challenge of our time."

"Half of our people are out of church," he said, "and subjected to influences that are hurting them into ways of unrighteousness, ruin, despair and shame."

"If we are to serve the present age and under God fulfill our calling, we must bring these people back to the church."

In Short...

Confessed: Harold Weinberg, 25, ex-convict dishwasher captured in a Manhattan basement, to the murder of novelist Maxwell Bodenheim.

Warned: By Egypt's ex-King Farouk from Rome, that bidders on his collection of art and jewelry, put up for auction by the Cairo government, will face legal action.

THE WORLD THIS WEEK

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PRESIDENT



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A NEW official photograph (left) of President Eisenhower has been selected by the White House to replace the one (above) taken before his inauguration. This superb new camera portrait is a character study in the fullest sense of the term. It catches a fleeting mood of pensiveness and dedicated purpose. The arc of stars in the upper right background lends an air of symbolism. The stars are on the presidential flag which stands just behind the desk. The photograph was snapped in the White House broadcast room on Aug. 7 just before the President made a report to the nation on the Korean Armistice.

Reds' 'New Look' Is About Ended

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
Associated Press News Analyst

THE Big Four conference in Berlin may well mark the beginning of the end of that tantalizing "new look" of Soviet relations with the outside world.

If the Russians operate true to form, before long there should be another withdrawal into the shell. They did not go to Berlin to bargain because they had nothing to bargain about. They went there in an attempt to persuade as much of the outside world as possible that they were willing to bargain.

Hosiery

Tough Sock Problem

Men's socks that refuse to wear out are causing furrowed brows these days in the nation's billion dollar hosiery manufacturing business.

Last year the industry sold about 159 million dozen pairs of hose, ranging from women's full-fashioned sheers and men's argyles to teen-agers' bobbysocks and infants' anklets. This compared with nearly 165 million dozen pairs in 1952—a decline of 3.3 per cent.

Sales of men's socks showed the biggest drop—6.3 per cent, according to the National Hosiery Manufacturers Assn. There's a strong suspicion that the decline was partly due to the longer wearing qualities of certain newer types of nylon hose. While older types of socks would, in the course of time, develop holes at the toe and heel, the super-tough nylon socks seemed destined to outlast the wearer.

To counter this threat to the industry's vital replacement market, the men's hosiery manufacturers are relying on a formidable weapon—style. New patterns, designs and colors are being aggressively promoted; the trend is away from such staple solid colors as navy, maroon and gray.

Another innovation that shows a tremendous sales potential is the nylon stretch sock, which eliminates the problem of choosing the correct size. It comes in a single size guaranteed to fit almost anybody.

The result of all this, manufacturers hope, should be a greater variety in Papa's wardrobe.



William L. Ryan

It was a foregone conclusion that any proposal offered by Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov would have a joker of some kind in it. The Russians put off the four power meeting as long as they thought they could and then, finally agreeing to talk, plodded doggedly on to a new series of deadlocks. The only real thing to be gained by Moscow in all this was more time.

What the Russians demonstrated quite clearly was this: Their main interest at the present time is Asia and this preoccupation will continue for some time. This means only one thing for Europe—deadlock.

Deadlock No. 1

Could the Russians make any real concessions on Germany? Obviously the only concessions acceptable to the West would be those offering a fair chance of loosening the Communist grip on East Germany. The Russians were not going to concede that much. Deadlock No. 1 was shaping up.

Could the Russians offer any real concessions on Austria? Unfortunately for that little nation, her present situation—one of division among four occupation powers—was more important now for the Russians than at any time in recent years.

The new stirrings of unrest in the satellites, dramatized by evidence of open revolt in East Germany, made the Soviet military communications line provided by the Austrian occupation essential from Moscow's point of view. Soviet concessions on Austria would be welcome, but in the long run, Deadlock No. 2 was shaping up.

Deadlock No. 3

The whole Red plan for expansion of Russian-dominated Communism was based on the Orient. The Chinese may have a tiger by the tail, but they won't be able to let go if Moscow has anything to say about it. There could be minor retreats and jockeying for time and position, but Deadlock No. 3 was pretty much a foregone conclusion.

Feints and gestures hinting at the possibility of peace in the East were to be expected. Armed truce could be achieved in Korea because at the moment it suited the Soviet Union to play safe and retreat. But world Communism would not lightly toss aside the situations it had built up for years—those interminable wars of attrition in Southeast Asia.

I was in Moscow at the time the Russians were jockeying about trying to avoid a Big Four meeting. They would have liked to put it off much longer, so they could let the "new look" sink in among the gullible abroad.

There was still an ace or two up the Kremlin sleeve. It held out an alluring prospect to France that the cruel war in Indochina, going into its eighth year, might be ended. A long look at the results of the Big Four conference should convince even the French that if the Indochina war is ended on Russian terms it will be for the price of eventual Red domination of the whole Southeast Asian peninsula.

Trade Bait

The Kremlin also had the bait of rich East-West trade to dangle before the British, though it would not be without great benefits to the U.S.S.R., too.

At Berlin, the Russians were attempting to draw to an inside straight. They played the hand close to the vest. The card they sought was a wedge to divide the Western European Allies from the Americans.

With the end of the Big Four meeting, it should be fairly obvious to the rest of the world what the Russians were up to. When the Russians realize their game is perfectly clear to the Western world, the affable smile of the "new look" can be expected gradually to fade into the old familiar scowl.

CRIME: A Record Year

One Every 14.9 Seconds

FBI director Hoover reported last week that when the returns are all in, 1953 probably will set a record high for crime, with a major offense being committed every 14.9 seconds.

Statistics for the first six months last year showed that every 4.3 minutes a murder, manslaughter, rape or assault with intent to kill occurred.

Hoover cited these figures to the House Appropriations Committee while testifying about the new FBI budget.

Cost of Crime

Hoover declared crime costs each family in the nation an average of \$495 a year.

For every dollar spent on education, he estimated, \$1.82 is

spent indirectly paying for criminal activities, and for every dollar donated to churches, \$10 goes to crime.

Hoover voiced concern over the increase in the crime rate among youths. He said 7.8 per cent of persons arrested in 1952 had been under 18 years, 13.3 per cent were under 21, and 23.1 per cent were under 25.

The group under 18, Hoover said, accounted for 19.4 per cent of all robberies in which arrests were made, 36.9 per cent of all larcenies, 47.8 per cent of all burglaries, and 52.6 per cent of all auto thefts.

Other categories of crimes were rising too but, Hoover said, the increase in juvenile delinquency was the most significant.

Hot Shots

The British Brewers' Society reports that Britons drank 899 million gallons of beer last year—an average of 19 gallons per person. But that's only a drop in the bucket compared to the thirst of old timers. A half century ago Britons averaged 32 gallons a year.

In Detroit, Mrs. Carrie Wherritt, 86, who lived alone in a house filled with antiques and junk, was beaten severely by robbers when she refused to give them the combination of a safe in her bedroom. She foiled them but was taken to the hospital. Police said the aged woman, dressed in rags, had \$291,800 in bills of large denomination and securities valued at even more in the safe.

CARTOON FORUM



SAME STUFFED DOVE



A READING IN TEA LEAVES

U.S. STARTED ON PATH OF DESTINY 56 YEARS AGO

By J. M. ROBERTS JR.
AP News Analyst

FIFTY-SIX years ago, Feb. 15, 1898, the U.S.S. Maine was destroyed in Havana Harbor.

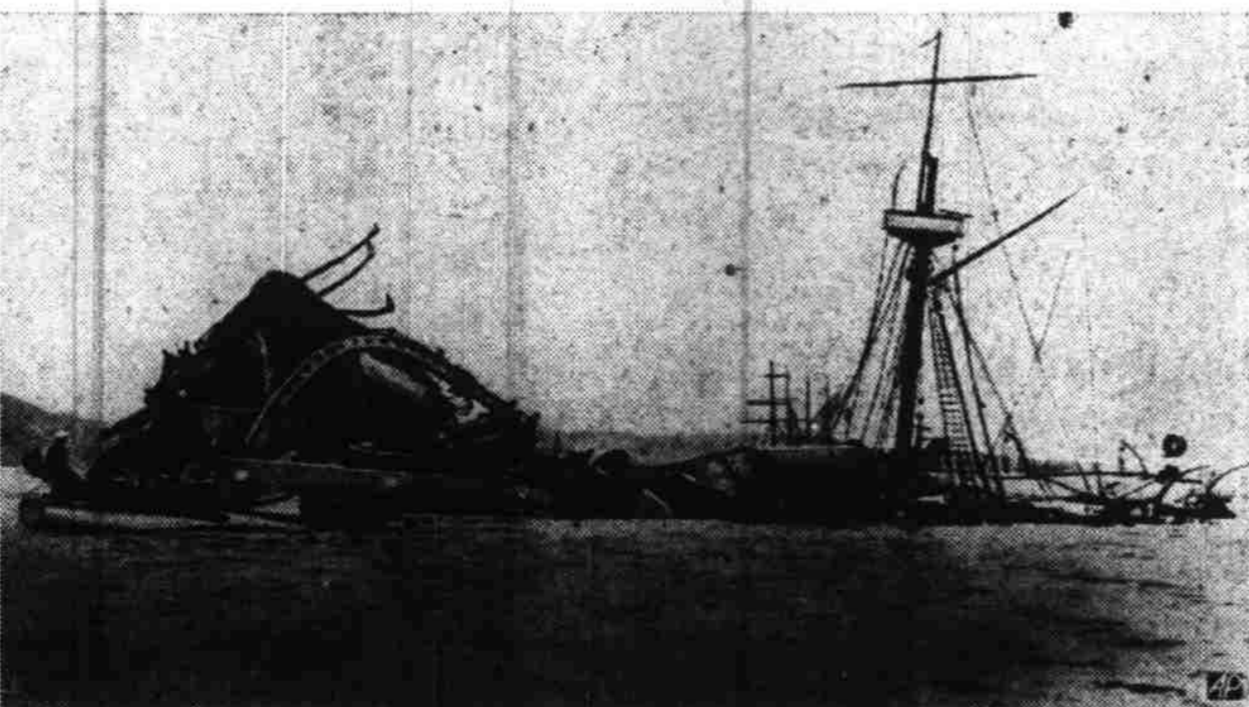
And thereby hangs one of the most momentous tales of history.

When people don't know where they're going, orientation is sometimes aided by a look backward at where they've been.

Sporadically for years the people of Cuba had been seeking independence from Spain, until finally a full-fledged rebellion was under way. Many adventurous Americans were either fighting with or supplying the insurgents. The Spaniards had resorted to the most brutal forms of repression. American interests were frequently touched.

There were other pressures beyond the irritation caused by this, beyond the sympathies aroused for the rebels. Incredible as it may sound today, there had been heard even in the halls of Congress, the argument that American business could use a nice war boom.

Negotiations with Spain were under way which probably would have produced Cuban independence without war. The



REMEMBER THE MAINE!—That slogan precipitated this country into a war with Spain. The United States planted her flag beyond continental borders for the first time and started down the trail of destiny that led to her present position as a world power. The photo shows how the battleship Maine looked the day after it exploded, Feb. 15, 1898.

United States, 75 years before, had proclaimed in the Monroe Doctrine its stand against European expansion in the Americas, but at the same time had promised not to interfere with European possessions already established.

But the Maine incident lighted the fuse.

Cuba was liberated. Puerto Rico was captured. Admiral Dewey was sent out to get the Spanish fleet in the Pacific and wound up with the Philippines as an unexpected prize at a cost

of 20 men killed and 105 wounded. The United States had planted her flag beyond her continental borders in both the East and West.

Stumbled Toward Destiny

And she had stumbled onto her path of destiny.

Until the summer of 1898 the United States had pursued the insular course laid down by the Founding Fathers. To be sure she had, in 1823, intervened against European expansion in Latin-America. But that was primarily an isolationist move,

the change in American thinking brought about in 1898 catapulted her into world councils from which she had stood aloof. A charge up San Juan hill in Cuba thrust Theodore Roosevelt toward the presidency.

A few years later Teddy Roosevelt was to send the Great White Fleet first to Japan, and then to Europe and on around the world, as a demonstration that the United States had become a powerful entity which could not be ignored.

