

# U.S. Once Planned To Give Strategic Bombers to Russia

By ELTON C. FAY  
Associated Press Military Affairs Reporter

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States, whose greatest military menace today is the Soviet long range bombers, planned a decade ago to present Russia with a strategic air force.

The proposal to deliver heavy bombers for organizing a strategic air force during the latter part of World War II included an arrangement to have American Air Force personnel teach the Russians the technique of using a heavy bombardment fleet.

This long-secret plan has now been disclosed by publication of the Yalta documents.

If the proposal, which was for use in the war against Japan, had been carried out, Russia would have had a long range bomber force almost five years before she managed to build one—copied in the Soviet Union when American crews landed crippled B29s on Russian territory.

Pre-Yalta Plan

The idea developed several months before the February 1945 Yalta meetings of Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill, at a time when preliminary conferences were being held to consider the possibility of Russian entry into the war against Japan.

A message from Maj. Gen. John R. Deane, who headed the wartime U. S. military mission in Moscow, and another from W. Averell Harriman, then ambassador to Russia, contained the first references to the proposal. Both were dated Oct. 15, 1944.

Harriman cabled President Roosevelt that "Stalin said he would be glad to receive four-engined bombers and instructors to train a strategic air force for Soviet use in the war against Japan."

The ambassador informed the President that "I understood training of crews could commence and planes be provided promptly, as soon as an understanding was reached regarding their use."

Gave Objectives

Deane, in a message reporting to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington on a meeting with Stalin, Churchill and other officials of the Big Three powers, said:

"I then gave them the strategic objectives which you authorized me to suggest to them as coming

## School Plans Gain Ground At Olympia

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP)—A move to put the state school building program on a pay as you go basis was approved by the Washington Senate Saturday.

The solons also adopted the first half of a program to pay for new buildings at the state colleges, university and public institutions on a current basis.

Meanwhile the House killed and buried a proposal for a graduated net income tax and removed the "breakage" clause from the recently enacted abandoned property act.

Despite the flurry of action, the legislators still were not far enough advanced with their major problem of balancing the state budget to conclude their work and windup the special session before sometime next week.

A new tax-raising proposal was presented, however. It would authorize a boost in the state sales tax from 3 to 4 per cent.

The proposal was presented to the Senate with bipartisan support of Sens. Roderick Lindsay, Spokane Democrat, John Happy, Spokane Republican, and Francis Pearson, Port Angeles Democrat. Because the special session will have to continue, the Senate went along with the House in appropriating additional funds to pay for the legislators board and room allowance at the rate of \$15 a day through Sunday.

## Probe Planned Of Vandalism Of Nike Site

SEATTLE (AP)—At least one investigator from the Portland office of Army Engineers and possibly more will arrive Monday to investigate vandalism at a Nike guided missile installation at Young's Lake, southeast of Seattle, Col. Norman Matthias, district Army engineer, announced.

We don't believe it was sabotage, but there will be a thorough investigation," Col. Matthias said.

The vandalism, which damaged about \$4,000 worth of electrical equipment and forced a halt in construction work, was discovered Saturday. Two electric transformers were heavily damaged and cables cut leading to the site's substation.

Members of the Seattle district council of carpenters have been on strike at the site since last Oct. 28 over travel and Saturday overtime pay and welfare benefits.

FBI Agent Richard Auerbach said his office had been advised but they had no word of violations under their jurisdiction.

The Cisco Construction Co. has had the contract for work at the site. The equipment was being installed by a subcontractor, the Schultz Electric Co., of Pasco.

# State College Weed Specialist Outlines Low-Cost Control Measures

By LILLIE L. MADSEN  
Farm Editor, The Statesman

It's getting spring weed control time, says Rex Warren, Oregon State College farm crops specialist. In order to get the most effective weed control at lowest possible cost, the farmer should work out his weed control schedule very carefully, Warren warns.

The crop specialist has just completed a schedule for some of the state's most common weed pests. The most popular spray still will be 2, 4-D, which is recommended in "amine form" for Western Oregon and in the "ester form" for Eastern Oregon. Since the ester form vaporizes rapidly and is more likely to cause drift damage to nearby susceptible plants, Warren recommends using it only for the more open areas of Eastern Oregon. There are times, as noted below, when ester form is recommended even for Western Oregon.

Here is the schedule as given by Warren:

Weeds in all winter grains: Western Oregon's common weeds include mustard, French pink and vetch. Apply 1/4 to 1 pound (normally 1 1/2 to 2 pints) per acre of 2, 4-D amine after the grain is well tilled but before it reaches the boot stage. Normally spray about April 1.

Canada thistle: Apply 1 to 1 1/2 pounds (2 to 3 pints), 2, 4-D per acre while thistle is in the early bud stage. It should not be sprayed out of grain until the grain is six inches tall but before it reaches the boot stage. On non-cropland, the 2, 4-D rate may be increased up to three pounds.

Weeds in beans and sweet corn: Apply 3 to 6 pounds of dinitro amine per acre in enough water to get coverage, 30 to 60 gallons. Apply one or two days before crop emergence. Use 3 pounds of chemical on sandy soil, six pounds on heavier soils.

For best results, apply on a smooth seedbed. The soil surface must be moist at time of spraying. Severe plant burning can be caused if a heavy irrigation follows application of the chemical to a dry soil surface.

This control may be less effective where furrow irrigation is used since sprinkler irrigation or rain help carry the chemical down to the germinating weed seeds.

Morning glory: On fallow or uncropped land, apply two pounds 2, 4-D per acre when morning glory starts to bloom, about mid-June. Spray morning glory out of grain with 1 pound 2, 4-D per acre after grain heads have filled.

Brush control: Apply three to four pounds of 2, 4-D, or 2, 4, 5-T (or a mixture of the two) in 100 gallons of water. Spray enough to wet the brush when it is in full-leaf.

Tansy ragwort: Apply three pounds 2, 4-D ester in 100 gallons of water. Spray before flower stalks form. Good control can usually be obtained from the first of April to early June.

How to reduce spray "drift and vapor" damage to susceptible plants when spraying with 2, 4-D and 2, 4, 5-T:

1. Spray only on calm days.

2. Use nozzles that deliver a large-sized droplet. In an OSC experiment, small "fine spray" drops drifted 16 times as far as a normal droplet when released at a spraying height of 2 1/2 feet in a four-mile wind. The larger ones drifted 59 feet, the smaller ones only 3 1/2 feet.

3. Use only enough pressure so that the nozzle operates properly. Under most conditions, this means 20 to 40 pounds pressure per square inch with each nozzle fixed to deliver not less than one quart per minute. Sprays applied under higher pressure tend to form a fog or mist which increases "drift" hazard.

4. Use non-volatilizing materials whenever possible, such as 2, 4-D amine-type or low volatile forms of 2, 4-D ester. But remember, even though a product is low in volatility, it still vaporizes.

## Seattle Red Probers Seek Lost Witness

SEATTLE (AP)—The House American Activities Committee continued a search Sunday for a Seattle Symphony Orchestra pianist who dropped from sight about the time a subpoena was issued for her appearance.

Rep. Harold Velde (R-Mt) said the subpoena for the witness, Mrs. Helen Taverniti, will "be returnable in Washington, D. C., if necessary." The committee completed its three-day sessions here Saturday night with more than 150,000 words of testimony on the record.

Velde also disclosed that steps have been taken to have its own doctor examine Jerry O'Connell, former Northwest political figure, to determine if his physical condition was such he could not attend.

An ex-Montana congressman and former secretary of the Democratic Party in Washington State, had informed the committee he was suffering from a heart condition and was unable to make the trip from his Great Falls, Mont., home.

Evaluating the testimony of the 19 witnesses heard, Velde said most of the information obtained and useful for legislative purposes was already in the committee's files.

But he added that the "communist menace comes home to the public with greatest impact at local-level hearings, involving their neighbors."

Instead, copies were made, appearing under the Soviet model designation of TU4.

from you. This of course included the part they might play in securing the lines of communications across the North Pacific.

"I told them that the United States was prepared to assist the Soviet Union to the extent consistent with our commitments in the war against Germany by supplying munitions and particularly B24 aircraft for building up a Soviet air force.

In a message from Harriman to Roosevelt on Oct. 17, 1944, the ambassador said Stalin "unqualifiedly asserted that this strategic air force would be built up for use only in the Far East."

Deane, in a message to the Joint Chiefs on the same date, said Stalin was ready to begin receiving planes as soon as fields were prepared, but meanwhile thought 20 planes should be delivered for training purposes.

No Strategic Planes

The B24s of World War II were one of two types then classed as heavy bombers. They were used by this country for strategic bombardment missions in Europe and the Southwest Pacific.

The Soviets had no strategic bomber force, as such. They used tactical-type light and medium bombers only. Stalin and his military chiefs had displayed no known interest in strategic bombers until the United States offered to supply them.

The Yalta papers and accompanying documents do not make clear why the plan was not carried through. (Available Air Force records today show delivery of only one B24 bomber to Russia, and that apparently was made sometime during 1942-43, presumably under lend-lease).

Any one or a combination of several factors may have caused the plan to be dropped.

Very Heavy Bombers

The United States, which by 1944 was bombing Japan with B29s (then classed as very heavy bombers) from far-away islands in the Mariana group, sought to conclude an agreement with Russia for American B29 bases in Siberia or the maritime provinces.

The American proposal was pressed during military staff meetings at the Yalta conference. Tentative agreement came from Soviet commanders, subject to approval by higher Russian authorities.

But the final approval failed to materialize, and the United States presumably lost interest, then, in any plan to provide the Reds with their own strategic air force.

There was a second development which could have chilled the idea: During the latter part of 1944 and early 1945 five U. S. B29s made emergency landings on Russian fields in Siberia after bombing runs over Japan. Russia refused to release any of them.

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