

THE WORLD THIS WEEK

Free World Strength Seen Forcing Red Policy Changes

Reds Shooting for Chain of Neutrals

By MAX HARRELSON
Associated Press Writer

THE signing of the Austrian state treaty created the first link in what Russia hopes will become a chain of neutral nations stretching across central Europe. The forthcoming visit of top Soviet leaders to Belgrade appears to be aimed primarily at adding Yugoslavia to the chain.

Both events are generally regarded by diplomats as part of a master plan, which also includes unification and neutralization of Germany as another section of the buffer zone between East and West.

Although the Soviet moves have caused a few cases of nerves in the Western countries, there doesn't seem to be any real basis for worry. The initial reaction to the Soviet overtures in Germany and Yugoslavia has been quick and blunt.

West Germany is clearly linked with the Western Powers in the North Atlantic Treaty

Organization and apparently is not even giving any serious consideration to the Soviet idea of a neutral Germany.

Yugoslavia, while not in any alliance with the West, is definitely against becoming a member of any neutral bloc.

The position of Yugoslavia can best be described, perhaps, as one of political independence, based on cooperation with all other countries regardless of ideology.

President Tito felt called upon to re-state this policy last week to reassure the West and to warn the Russians against hoping for too much. But even before Tito's statement, the Russians undoubtedly realized that the Yugoslav leader would be in a position to drive a hard bargain—if, in fact, he was willing to bargain at all.

That may be the explanation for the fact that Russia's two top men, Premier Nikolai Bulganin and Communist party boss Nikita Khrushchev, are going to pay personal visits to Tito instead of sending lesser officials.

The Russians, in announcing plans for the Belgrade talks, did not state any reason other than the rather vague aim of improving relations between the two countries, which have been steadily on the mend since the death of the late Premier Stalin.

Quick Followup
Within 24 hours after the announcement, however, Moscow radio offered the prospect of "peace and independence" to any nations willing to adopt "permanent neutrality." This, of course, could apply to Germany, the Scandinavian countries and others, including Yugoslavia.

Why is Tito receiving Russian leaders, if he genuinely wants to keep his country free of Soviet ties? One Yugoslav source put it this way:

"The visit of the two top Soviet leaders to President Tito is a complete vindication of his defiance of Stalin, which led to the break with the Cominform in 1948. Unless you were a Yugoslav, it would be impossible to understand the impact of this visit. Tito's prestige has been given a powerful shot in the arm."

Although Tito has declared that there is no question of "changing sides" or of any secret agreements with the Russians, it is only natural that Western leaders should watch for concessions which might damage the Western position.

There is some concern, for instance, over the future of the Balkan treaty of mutual assistance among Yugoslavia, Turkey and Greece. This is the one major military tie that Yugoslavia has with the non-Communist world and it is sure to be a target of the Russians.

Strength Pays Off

In the past, however, Yugoslav leaders have insisted on the correctness of the pact and declared it was "fully in harmony with the spirit and aims of the United Nations Charter. Yugoslav sources also have told this correspondent that the basic reason for the improvement of relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviet bloc was because President Tito insisted on keeping the country's defenses strong.

According to these sources, Bulganin and Khrushchev can expect nothing more from Tito than assurances of his will to cooperate with all countries and to be dominated by none.

Thus, it appears doubtful that the Soviet leaders will leave Belgrade with anything as tangible as Austria's pledge of neutrality. But they may score one more in the propaganda war just as they did recently in their disarmament proposals.

The present Soviet aim seems to be to convince the world that Russia has turned over a new policy leaf and is sincerely trying to ease world tension. And many Western leaders, including Sir Winston Churchill, are now stating cautiously that maybe the Russians really mean it this time.

In Short . . .

Extended: A formal invitation to a delegation of Soviet farm experts to visit America this summer to learn how Iowa farmers raise corn and hogs.

Convicted: By a federal court in Washington, turnabout witness Marie Natvig of lying under oath in a Federal Communications Commission hearing.

Announced: By Adlai Stevenson, upon his return from a tour of Africa, that he still is undecided about seeking the Democratic nomination for the presidency next year.

BUSINESS: Historic Peak

Statistical Support

Optimists counting on a record year for U.S. business could find statistical support this week in a first-quarter economic report by the U.S. Commerce Department.

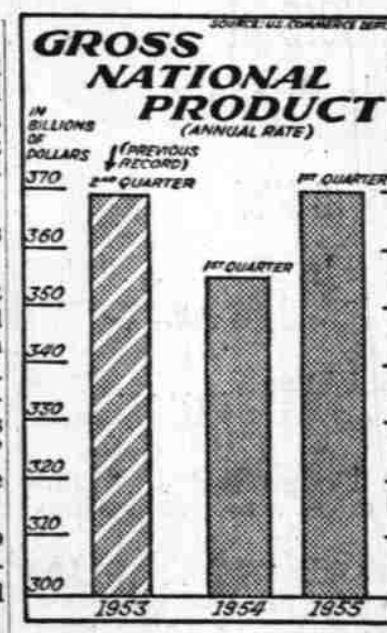
Here's what the official figures showed:

American business, in the first three months this year, turned out more goods and services than in any other quarter in history. Total volume of goods and services produced (the economists call it "gross national product" or "GNP") was at an annual rate of 370 billion dollars.

That was just enough to top the previous peak of \$369,900,000,000 recorded in the second quarter of booming 1953.

In the first quarter of last year, when business was in a slump, GNP was at an annual rate of 356 billion. Thus, total business activity has increased by about 4 per cent in one year. Three factors accounted for the rise: stepped up purchases of consumer goods, particularly new cars, record-breaking construction of new homes, and increased spending by businessmen on inventories and new equipment. The report pointed out that in the first three months this year, businessmen started building up their inventories instead of cutting them down.

The increase in consumer



spending was made possible by a sharp gain in factory wages and employment. What the economists call "disposable personal income"—the total amount of money people have left after paying taxes—was at a record high in the January-March quarter, and bigger factory payrolls contributed substantially to the rise. Income from corporate dividends was higher, too.

With the statistics pointing to a banner year for business, there were some who complained that the new prosperity was passing them by. By and large, big companies showed more impressive gains than the little fellows.

Austrian Treaty Signing: Rebirth of a Nation



For the U.S.: JOHN FOSTER DULLES



Jubilant crowd outside Belvedere Palace cheers wildly as independence is finally regained.



For Russia: V. M. MOLOTOV

Historic Turning Point May Be Near

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER and Secretary Dulles gave the impression this week of men who, earnestly searching for peace, were cautiously placing their hands on the lower rungs of a ladder which just barely might lead them to it.

There was no disguising the pleasure with which Dulles reported to a nationwide radio and television audience that the world may have reached a turning point in history, or the President's comment that it might mean a new dawn of peace.

Dulles said that didn't mean Russia had got religion, but that she might be arriving at the conclusion that the pressure was too great, and that she'd better conform a little better to the "rules and practices of the civilized community."

"We find for the first time," the secretary said, "a softening of the Soviet attitude." He was only two days away from conferences in Europe, some with Molotov.

Past Reborn

The broadcast from the President's office took on something of the flavor of a town meeting—a demonstration of the willingness and necessity for the chosen administrators of the nation's foreign policy to report, after a series of important events, to the real rulers, the people. It was a spectacle which, it is counterpoint ever presented to the Russian people with the same earnestness by Russia's leaders, would do more than all the peace talk they have ever put out to convince the

People

Justice Robert Dies

Until last weekend retired former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Owen Josephus Roberts had been a patient at a Philadelphia hospital. But, feeling death was near, the 80-year-old "Great Dissenter" insisted on going home to his farm near historic Valley Forge in Pennsylvania. He told friends he preferred to die among familiar surroundings.

On Tuesday his widow and his only child were at his side when he succumbed to a heart attack, 15 days short of his 80th birthday.

An impassioned and eloquent debater in the courtroom, Roberts reputedly gave up a \$150,000 annual income to accept a Supreme Court appointment by former President Hoover in 1930. He retired from the bench in 1945.

In his first seven years as an associate justice, Roberts occupied a unique position: his vote on many cases held the balance of power between the so-called conservatives and the liberals—Chief Justice Hughes, Holmes, Brandeis and Stone.

Roberts cast the deciding vote to reject the old Agriculture Adjustment Administration (AAA) as unconstitutional. But he also cast the deciding votes when the Supreme Court approved 5-4 the Wagner Labor Relations Act and the unemployment compensation provisions of the social security law.

In his latter years Roberts very often disagreed with the majority. At his retirement he had more than 200 dissents.

world that, in these recent days, they have been doing more than setting pitfalls for West German rearmament.

Dulles mentioned again, as he did last February, and as Winston Churchill did Monday, the possibility that there will emerge in Russia a group of patriots who will eventually put that country's national interests and the welfare of its people ahead of the interests of international communism.

Skips Big Four

The secretary would not prejudice the projected Big Four conference by mentioning it, but that will be the day when there will be a real possibility of meaningful settlements.

The secretary did not go into details about the basis for a possible German settlement, which is the key to European amity, merely saying that, now there is a foundation of real Western European unity.

As he spoke, there were all sorts of reports about what Russia might offer specifically for reunification of Germany, and what she might expect in return. There was a repetition of the report heard off and on for some time that she might even be willing to sell Poland down the river on the German boundary question if she could get a neutralized Germany in return. Some observers even thought she might agree to a "fixed term" neutrality if Germany and the Allies would agree not to activate those so-far paper divisions.

Freedom Is Contagious

Dulles struck pointedly at one of Moscow's major problems by pointing out that the Austrian treaty gave the satellites an open window on a free nation for the first time in many years, and that Austria's happiness and welfare was bound to spur the desires of subjugated peoples. Dulles has stressed the need of that since long before he was secretary.

Listeners quickly noted an air of partisanship and a proprietary feeling when Dulles and Eisenhower referred to the policy of attaining a position of strength which they had been following for two years, giving it credit for producing whatever is bright in the current situation. Observers remembered that this was an American policy, heavily underwritten by the Acheson-Truman administration through a bipartisan legislative approach, and many felt it was something which belonged to the nation, not just to one administration.

New Direction

While emphasizing the caution with which future developments must be approached, there was one line in the Dulles exposition which inspired hope in all.

After 10 years of refusing to sign an Austrian treaty because they could not bring themselves to remove their troops, Russian forces turned their backs on the West and were marching home, even before the treaty is ratified.

But there was no assurance that, in case their new diplomatic front failed of its purpose, that they would not come back—or try to.

Quote

Former Prime Minister Winston Churchill, referring to the planned top-level Big Four conference: "A united and strong Western Big Three can go to the meeting seeking the peace of the world, the welfare of all mankind, and that period of relaxed tension, disarmament and all-around prosperity which is within our reach and may soon be within our grasp."

Atomic

New Dimension

"The underwater explosion of a small nuclear device in the eastern Pacific Ocean has been successfully completed."

That's how the Atomic Energy Commission and the Defense Department this week revealed the opening of a new phase of atomic weapon testing: the use of the atom's energy in anti-submarine depth charges.

The underwater test presumably occurred some hundreds of miles off the West Coast.

The explosion took place against the background of reports that Russia has built up a fleet of about 375 U-boats. While none of them is known to be atomic powered—the USS Nautilus is believed to be alone in that field—they constitute the bulk of Red naval power. Few doubt that sooner or later Russia will have A-subbs.

Whereas the conventional depth charges dropped against submarines in World War II carried a force of about 300 tons of TNT, a small nuclear charge might release energy equal to 1,000 or more tons of TNT.

Voluntary Plan

Urging "maximum precautions" in continued testing and "vigorous enforcement" of federal laws to prevent black-marketing operations, the administration this week made public its plans for handling the Salk polio vaccine.

Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, secretary of health, education and welfare, asked for and obtained endorsement of a plan which among other things would utilize up to 28 million dollars in grants to states to make sure that children in families unable to afford Salk vaccine would get the anti-polio shots.

Specifically, the plan set forth that:

1. All present supplies of vaccine should go toward fulfilling the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis' program of inoculating all first and second grade children throughout the country. Dr. Leonard A. Scheele, surgeon general, said that because of production delays it was questionable whether enough vaccine to take care of National Foundation requirements would be available before mid-August. The Foundation, however, later announced it has almost completed shipments for first shots throughout the country. In some Southern states, where the polio season begins early, some second shots have been given.

2. After all first and second graders have received two shots, available supply would be divided among the states on the basis of the number of children each has in the 5 through 9 age group not covered in the National Foundation's program. Additional priority groups would be announced as vaccinations progressed. An official indicated the third group would be children 1 through 4, the fourth, children 10 through 19, and the fifth pregnant women.

3. Each state would supervise its own distribution through a single agency designated by each governor.

4. The distribution to the states would be directed by the government, which already has a promise of complete cooperation from each of the vaccine manufacturers.

The 28 million dollars in federal funds would be used after the National Foundation completes its program. The money would be used to buy vaccine for the states or in repayment after the states made their own purchases. This carried out President Eisenhower's earlier promise that no child would be denied the vaccine because of inability to pay.

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FAR EAST: Island Problem Unsolved

By FRED HAMPSON
AP Foreign Correspondent

HONG KONG—Although historic Cold War maneuvers in Europe have caused the world to momentarily forget the problem of Quemoy and Matsu, if the West and the Communists sit down to discuss problems of the globe they sooner or later will return to the question of these tiny remnants of Gen. Chiang Kai-shek's once extensive chain of offshore islands.

And if the Reds appear to be offering real concessions to eliminate "tensions" in other parts of the world, it is a safe bet that a rising wave of opinion—no small force even before the current round of diplomatic activity began—for permitting the Reds to take these rocky bits of territory will swell into a crescendo.

However, the risks in giving up Matsu and Quemoy without a fight are considerable. Mostly

they evolve around the feeling of the Asiatic man-in-the-street that the Western powers are backing down in Asia and that he had better swing in with the Reds.

The Tachen evacuation months ago, although far north of Formosa Strait, had a bad effect on Chiang's position. Police controls on Formosa are noticeably tighter, political officers more in evidence, even reporters are sometimes watched.

What will happen if Chiang is talked into backing up again? Extremists say he couldn't survive. I think he could, but controls would be tighter, the Reds would try to flood the island with more infiltrators, discontent would be high. A danger point would be the Nationalist soldier himself.

Chiang's troops, few of them professional soldiers, did not flee the mainland to become islanders. They ran away because they wanted to fight another day. To keep faith, stay strong for the

Lead Expands

The Russians, who earlier surprised American aircraft experts with the large number of MIG-15s they were able to turn over to the Communist Chinese during the Korean War, have caused some additional eyebrow lifting at the Pentagon.

Recent intelligence reports indicate that Russia has increased her lead over the United States in supersonic jet fighters—planes like the Air Force Supersabre which can exceed the speed of sound in level flight.

The total number of Air Force and Navy planes with this capability can be counted in the hundreds. Information received in

Washington indicates the Red Air Force has several thousand new MIG-17s, which are considered to be in a class with the Supersabre.

The Russians are also known to have developed a counterpart for the B47 medium jet bomber.

In a third category, the Soviet Air Force apparently has taken strides in production of heavy bombers.

Democratic Sen. Symington of Missouri, a former Secretary of the Air Force, immediately asked a Senate study of the relative strength of Soviet and free world military forces. He claimed Secretary of Defense Wilson has underestimated Communist strength all along and failed to take steps necessary to obtain "adequate arms" for the United States.

Symington continued that the new intelligence reports make it clear that "in quality as well as quantity of planes, the Communists are at least in the process of surpassing the United States—and I am confident they are well ahead with the production of the possible ultimate weapon, the intercontinental ballistic missile."

"In any case," Symington continued, "we should now be given an accounting, a balance sheet as to our strength as against that of the Communists. . . . It is time to put an end to this game of blind man's bluff."

MILITARY: Red Challenge

Both Sides Stall

What is going to happen? A common guess on Formosa is that both sides will avoid an open clash as long as the United States stays around in strength and the control of the strait rests with the Free World. Both sides hope that time will incubate new opportunities. They are stalling, and building strength.

Beyond that, the picture is too murky. The Reds undoubtedly hope the U.S. will grow weary and pull out or somehow hamstring itself into ineffectiveness, and that communism will inherit Asia. Undoubtedly the West hopes first for a collapse inside China from pressures, historic weaknesses, recent adversity and over-ambitions. The second best hope is for a hardening against communism by those who have so far escaped it.

This latter can best be encouraged by no more retreats.

Dates

Wednesday, May 25
Opening American Iron and Steel Institute, New York.

Thursday, May 26
General Elections in Britain.

Monday, May 30
Memorial Day.

POLIO: Federal Blueprint

Sidelights

● Somewhere between Mississippi and New Hampshire is a heroic but unassuming railway mail clerk. Roger Larson, a New Hampshire bee keeper, received fragments of a bee shipping box from the South along with a tightly sealed and angrily buzzing mail bag containing some of the 15,000 bees originally sent. His question: What must it have been like when 15,000 bees escaped in a closed railway car . . . and what mail clerk, without veil, smokepot or regard for personal safety, got those bees into the mail sack?

● Fishermen Frank Ames and Royce Angell of Elmira, N. Y., brought home a catch they can really toot about: two shining, playable cornets they snared in the Chemung River.



THE WALLS OF JERICHO Philadelphia Evening Bulletin



DIFFERENT CALLING CARD Tampa Sunday Tribune