

THE WORLD THIS WEEK

Moscow Is Pushing Cultural Offensive Harder Than Ever

China Duplicating The Russian Line

By J. M. ROBERTS
Associated Press News Analyst

RED CHINA took a firm hold on the International Communist tactical line this week, with continued stalemate as the most probable result.

Let's get together, said the puppet government of North Korea to the itchy South Koreans, and see what we can do about reunification.

Let's get together, repeated Red China to the Western world and other Asiatic nations, and see what we can do about the broad general issues which divide us.

In Geneva, the Reds were trying to trade American prisoners for commitments to negotiate.

But the United States was sticking to the subject on the table, release of the prisoners, after which she was willing to talk about other things.

Peiping had not met the demand of John Foster Dulles for renunciation of force as a prerequisite for negotiations.

North Korea did propose such a local arrangement.

In Pyongyang the North Koreans (and their Chinese masters) had not accepted free elections for unification, any more than Russia had done so with regard to Germany.

Peiping reiterated its forces would remain to "help" in North Korea. Dulles, in Washington, reiterated a U.N.-supervised election was essential.

Dulles Reiterates

Meanwhile, in Korea, Syngman Rhee was almost as embarrassing to American policy as were the tactics of the enemy.

He said Communist members of truce supervisory teams in South Korea were nothing but spies, but called off the violent demonstrations designed to oust them. He said he had American assurances that something would be worked out to end the menace.

Dulles said the United States had made no commitments. It seemed obvious Rhee had piped down under pressure, not promises.

The South Koreans kept saying the puppets were preparing a new attack.

The Chinese Nationalists on Formosa also kept up their efforts to create an attack scare.

Red air reinforcements were reported on the mainland. The Reds had their own reports about repulsing Nationalist commando raids.

Little Prospect

There seemed to be little prospect of arranging an Asiatic peace conference such as Peiping and Pyongyang proposed.

The South Koreans promptly turned down the proposal for an all-Korean meeting, saying what was needed was to throw the Communists out of North Korea.

The United States would not accept Red China's renewed proposal for a vast Pacific security system which would do away with SEATO and other regional defense agreements.

There still was a possibility, however, that the Geneva negotiations over prisoners would lead to discussion of other matters.

Hurricanes

One-Two Punch

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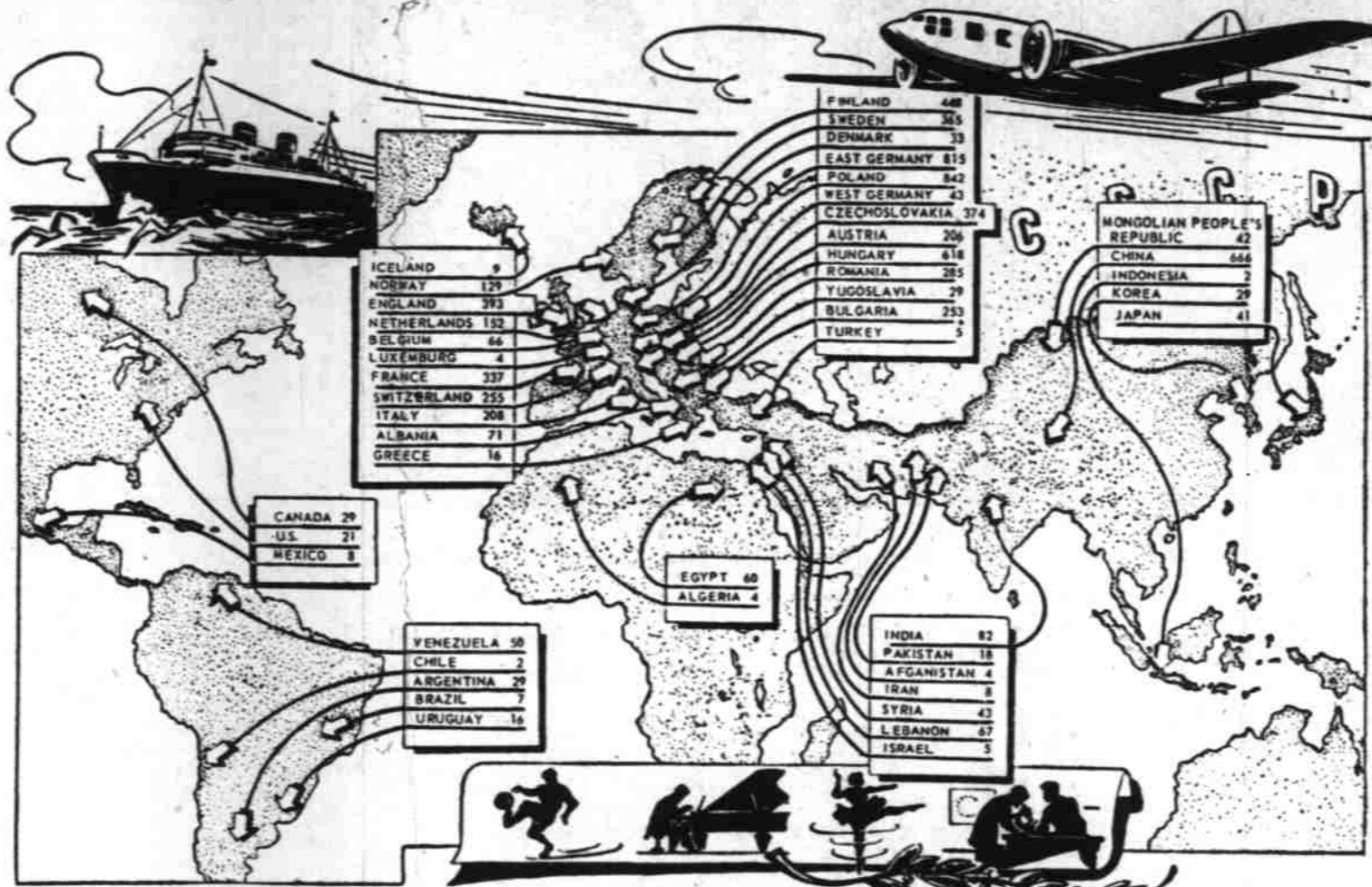
High winds and tides lashed beaches of upper South Carolina and lower North Carolina but early damage estimates ran lower than the havoc wrought by Connie last week or Hazel last October, whose footsteps Diane apparently sought to follow.

Profiting from their previous experience, coastline residents had made careful preparations for Diane—which undoubtedly contributed greatly in holding damage down. Military and naval installations had moved planes and ships out of the hurricane's path days in advance.

Earlier in the week President Eisenhower had allocated one million dollars to the Civil Defense Administration out of emergency funds for hurricane relief in North Carolina.

The action followed by one day a presidential declaration naming North Carolina disaster areas as a major disaster area, making them eligible for federal assistance.

A Sample of Red "Peace Offensive" Propaganda



HERE IS a reproduction of a map which appeared this month in Moscow's "Literary Gazette," illustrating an article which attempted to show that Russians were travelling freely all over the world. English has been substituted for Russian in the boxes. The Russian caption read: "This schematic map shows each of the foreign countries visited in 1954 by Soviet cultural and social delegations, artistic and sporting groups. The figures indicate the general number of persons visiting a given country in various Soviet delegations."

May Bring Future Trouble in Russia

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
Associated Press Foreign News Analyst

EVIDENTLY the Soviet regime considers its increasingly bold peace and cultural offensives a whopping success. In the short space of a few months in which the Soviet tone changed from pugnacious to peaceful there has been a notable slackening of tension, which is what Moscow wanted, for its own purposes, in the first place.

Now the cultural offensive is being pushed harder than ever before. The reasons for it remain the same as ever—primarily the breakup of NATO and the Western European Union.

What could not be accomplished by threats, the Soviet regime seems to calculate, most likely can be brought about by smiles.

But the cultural peace offensive has other uses, too. Abroad it stresses the theme that increasing cultural contacts can lead to understanding and then to peace.

At home it becomes a part of the carrot-and-stick technique. This has reached the point now where the internal propaganda machine boasts proudly about the number of persons it has sent junketing about the world to spreading the word.

Delegations Under Control

Evidently the regime calculates there is more to be gained than to be lost by subjecting a limited number of Soviet people to the impact of foreign ways.

Thus far, most Russians travelling abroad have been members of "delegations." In that sense they are selected persons and under control.

What must be kept in mind, however, is that there are very few persons in the Soviet Union who know what the peace and cultural offensive is all about.

Peak Passed?

The Bureau of Labor Statistics announced this week a sharp drop in home building during July.

Non-farm housing starts dropped to 115,000 units, 11 per cent under the June mark. The seasonal decline from June to July usually is reckoned at less than 1 per cent. It was the first month since the beginning of this year that the number of starts fell below the same month of the previous year.

The bureau attributed the decline to a voluntary tightening up of housing credit money. It said the mortgage regulation changes announced July 30 by the Federal Administration and the Veterans Housing Administration could not have affected units started in July.

These VA and FHA changes reduced the maximum repayment period on mortgages from 30 to 25 years and increased the minimum cash down payment by 2 per cent in all cases. Formerly no down payment was required for a GI loan.

One bureau official suggested that the high level of construction last winter and spring may have had some influence in the July decline.

Part of the Meaning

The Soviet cultural-peace offensive will succeed if it can persuade a large section of world opinion that the basic causes of tension have been removed on Soviet initiative.

That was part of the meaning behind the meeting of Soviet-Yugoslav relations, the granting of a treaty to Austria and other moves. But the basic causes of tension are still with us. One of these is the activity of international communism, which the Russians refuse to discuss.

Others include the division of Germany, Korea and Viet Nam and the Soviet domination of satellite nations. The Communists will settle these only on Communist terms. The cultural offensive is aimed at breaking resistance to those terms.

Sidelights

They have been naming hurricanes after girls for years, but the Rev. and Mrs. Swan Bush of Knoxville, Tenn., pulled a switch. Their baby girl arrived at Baptist Hospital late last week, and they named her Connie Diane.

Janice Marshall is only 6, but she's not afraid of mice. Her fearless parent paid off in cash. Her father said she saw a mouse disappear into a hole in a smoke house in Elkin, N.C., and Janice promptly stuck her hand in the hole to drag him out. She didn't catch the mouse, but she did find \$160 in old bills.

Quote

Secretary of State Dulles, in commenting on the Russian announcement that armed forces of the U.S.S.R. will be cut by 640,000 men: "The reduction appears to reflect Soviet recognition of the peaceful purposes of the United States and its allies and of the fact that the United States will never be a party to aggression."

ATOMIC: More Conferences Proposed

Meeting Successful

The scientific "swap shop" ending its two-week stand in Geneva is likely to be only the first of many on the road to universal application of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and chief delegate at Geneva for the United States, put this country firmly behind the drive to make it a regular affair. He announced that President Eisenhower favored a second world conference on peaceful uses of atomic energy within two or three years.

Boon to Scientists

Strauss predicted the official discussions among atomic scientists from all over the world at Geneva, along with informal contacts, would produce much progress and many new discoveries in the next two years.

Exact details as to when and where the next meeting will be held have not been worked out, but there appeared to be an almost unanimous feeling among scientists at Geneva that such meetings should be held at regular intervals.

Recommendations Prepared

Dag Hammarskjold, United Nations secretary general, was said to be drafting recommendations on the subject for consideration by the U.N. General Assembly opening in New York Sept. 20. Because the Geneva meeting was designed to be purely scientific, no provision was made for delegates to express themselves officially on anything other than scientific questions.

On those matters, delegates heard a solemn warning that hereditary damage from radiation is potentially the most dangerous of all problems accompanying the extensive use of atomic energy.

Leading experts in the field of genetics agreed that the present danger is not serious, but they declared that precautions must be taken to prevent a threatening increase of radiation as the world finds more uses for this new energy.

Potential Hazard

Prof. Tage Kemp of Denmark, chairman of a session on the effects of radiation on heredity, said there is no doubt that radiation causes changes in hereditary processes and that the effect will increase in the future as human beings are exposed to larger doses of radiation.

If radiation goes beyond a certain intensity—which is at present undefined, he said—it would present a "potential hazard to the human race as well as to plant and animal life."

Kemp said scientists have not yet determined the danger "threshold" of radiation, but he expressed belief that radiation from present peaceful uses of atomic energy is well below that level.

President

Restful Duels

President Eisenhower laid aside the cares of office this week and, like thousands of other vacationing Americans, went fishing.

On a ranch high in the Rockies on the western slope of the Continental Divide in Colorado, Ike broke out his fly rods and matched wits with rainbow trout in a restful duel to last the remainder of the week. He had youthful assistance from his 7-year-old grandson, David.

The two Eisenhoweres were scheduled to remain on the secluded ranch of the President's close friend, Aksel Nielsen, until Sunday when the party was to return to Denver and the home of Mrs. John S. Doud, the President's mother-in-law.

There Ike will resume the "part-work" schedule he put in abeyance for the fishing trip, dividing each day between official duties and relaxation on the golf course. Later he will fly East to deliver a speech before the American Bar Assn. convention in Philadelphia Aug. 24. He plans to return to Denver following the speech, bringing along Mrs. Eisenhower who now is at the Eisenhower farm at Gettysburg, Pa.

BRITAIN: Irishmen Strike

Daring Raid

A tense air of alertness hovered over England this week, reminiscent of wartime.

The War Office clamped a tight guard on British army arsenals. In some cases sentries challenged all visitors and called for passwords. Special guards reportedly were assigned to protect Queen Elizabeth II, vacationing in Scotland, and Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden. Inspections at points of departure all around the island were intensified.

The security measures were touched off by a daring raid by members of the Irish Republican Army on an armory in Berkshire, England. After overpowering guards, the raiders seized 68 weapons and some 80,000 rounds of ammunition.

This temporarily successful venture was followed by abortive attempts to secure additional arms at two other depots.

The avowed aim of the IRA—which is outlawed in the Irish Republic as well as in England—is to unite the six Ulster counties of Northern Ireland with the 26 counties of the republic. The six northern counties are a part of the United Kingdom, just as Scotland and Wales are.

Historically, the IRA is an offshoot of Irish patriotic groups which led the successful uprisings against British rule early this century. After the truce with Britain in 1921, resulting in partition, successive Irish governments have declared the IRA illegal.

London newspapers speculated that the IRA had plans for adopting guerrilla tactics in Northern Ireland.

Feverish police activity in the wake of the arsenal raids resulted in the arrest of several men and recovery of what police described as "most of the haul" made by the IRA at the Berkshire armory.

In Short . . .

Announced: By the Argentine government, that it had uncovered another plot to assassinate President Juan D. Peron.

Sworn In: Donald A. Quarles, former assistant secretary of defense in charge of new weapons development, as secretary of the Air Force succeeding Harold E. Talbott.

Buried: Author Thomas Mann, in the Swiss village of Kilchberg where he spent the last months of his life. He died last week following a heart attack.

Approved: By the Parliament of Sudan, a resolution calling for the evacuation of British and Egyptian troops within 90 days. The aim is to clear the way for Sudanese freedom after 56 years of foreign rule.

Dates

Tuesday, Aug. 23

Gubernatorial primary runoff election, Mississippi.

Wednesday, Aug. 24

President Eisenhower addresses American Bar Assn., Philadelphia.

Japanese Foreign Minister Shigemitsu arrives at San Francisco for visit to United States.

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