Twining Wary Of 'Surprise' Soviet Weapon

By WILMOT HERCHER

WASHINGTON (A – Gen. Na-than F. Twining, Air Force Chief of Staff, warned Tuesday that Russia may give the West a "technological surprise in new weapons."

While he got only a glimpse of Soviet air power on his recent vis-It to Russia, Twining told the Sen-ate Armed Services Committee, it was enough to put him on his guard. "I feel that our visit substan-

tially strengthened our previou assessments that the U.S.S.R. while certainly not abreast of us today, can and is progressively narrowing the technological lead of the West generally and of the United States in particular," he said.

The Air Force chief reported the Russians are putting emphasis on thorough training of carefully selected personnel, squeezing the maximum potential from a jet en-

maximum potential from a jet en-gine of western origin and devel-oping powerful new engines of their own. He added: "We must in prudence reckon on the possibility of their achiev-ing scientific break-through and consequent technological surprise in new weapon." Given to Reporters

Twining talked with the senators privately, but a copy of his pre-pared statement was given to re-porters waiting outside the hear-ing room.

Sen. Symington (D-Mo), who has been directing a Senate study of comparative American and Russian air strength, said the gener-al's report justified the congressional decision to give the Air Force nearly a billion dollars more than President Eisenbower asked for the current fiscal year. Best Air Force

Twining reiterated that the Uni-ted States still has the best air force in the world.

"We must protect this qualita-tive lead by continuing heavy investment in research and develop ment," he counseled the commit

Twining will go before Syming-ton's five-man inquiry group for extensive questioning Friday. Again it will be a closed session. Twining and a small group of staff officers spent eight days in Russia last month at the invitation of Soviet authorities.

"Though the welcome mat was laid out with a flourish, a careful

and out with a flourish, a careful hand was kept on the door," he told the senators. Twining reported he and his fei-low officers ran into "a blank wall" when they tried to learn something about Soviet bomber production, guided missiles and nuclear weapons.

nuclear weapons. Completely missing from the equipment arrayed for them, he said, "were any guided missiles, even the most elementary kind.

Brink's Case Suspect Dies

NORFOLK, Mass. 47 - Protest-ing his innocence to the end, Brink's robbery suspect Stanley A. Gusciora, 35, died in the cell of a prison hospital Monday night, just a month before he was to stand trial with eight others.





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