

Denmark Seeks A Bomb Safety Defense Program Headed by General

COPENHAGEN, Denmark—(AP)—A military committee with far-reaching authority has been appointed to prepare Denmark's defense against atomic, biological and chemical warfare.

Members of the committee are eight officers from the army, navy and air force and one from the medical corps. The chairman is Maj. Gen. V. Bennike, a resistance leader known as the "sabotage general" during the German occupation.

The committee was authorized to procure information from all civil and military institutions as well as from private citizens concerning problems related to defense against atomic, biological and chemical warfare, and to request assistance when needed, authoritative sources said.

One of the main tasks of the committee would be to supervise the training of Danish forces for defense against "ABC" attacks.

Denmark is the homeland of the nuclear physicist, Prof. Niels Bohr, member of the Princeton Institute of Advanced Studies, who during the second World War assisted American and British atomic scientists in developing the atomic bomb.

Bohr directs a nuclear research center in Copenhagen. Bennike confirmed that his organization would cooperate closely with Bohr and his assistants.



(AP Wirephoto)
SUPERIOR JUDGE Harry Borde (above) has been given the job of deciding whether Walter Wanger, Hollywood motion picture producer, is guilty in the shooting of his wife's agent. Wanger, seeking to avoid a jury trial with attendant sensational testimony, asked that the case be decided on the basis of testimony before the grand jury.

13 Germans Die In Mine Blast

BERLIN—(AP)—A coal mine explosion behind the Iron Curtain in East Germany has killed at least 13 miners and injured 27. An undisclosed number of miners are listed as missing.

An official statement by the East German government said the blast Saturday was in a shaft of a hard coal mine in Zwickau in Southern Saxony, an area closed to Westerners.

The announcement was the first of its kind to come from the Communist government although it is known that copper and uranium mines have exploded in the past.

This fact led to speculation that the latest disaster was so great it was felt it could not be kept secret.

State security police, who normally investigate political matters—including sabotage, have been called to seek the cause of explosion.

Bullet Parts Pilot's Hair

TOKYO—(AP)—A Communist bullet parted the hair of a downed U. S. jet pilot Monday as he scrambled into a rescue helicopter.

Far East Air Forces Headquarters said the pilot spent Sunday night in enemy territory after his F-80 Shooting Star jet was damaged by ground fire and he was forced to bail out.

Early Monday a helicopter piloted by Capt. Gail W. Poulton, Twin Falls, Idaho, reached him as Communist troops opened fire. Several bullets hit the aircraft. One bullet grazed the head of the F-80 pilot, leaving a long red welt. The Air Force withheld his name. Poulton piloted the damaged helicopter to friendly lines with considerable difficulty.

Kaiser-Frazer Cuts Prices on Models

DETROIT—(AP)—Prices of Kaiser-Frazer's Henry J. automobiles were cut \$100 to \$168 Monday, effective immediately, in the first motor industry price slash since the Korean War.

Edgar J. Kaiser, president, announced that advertised delivered prices of Henry J. "Corsair" models were slashed \$180 to \$168 and prices of Henry J. "Vagabond" models lowered \$100.

Story of Strange Lotus Related

This is the case of the Bountiful Weed, one of the strangest stories of American agriculture. Lane County seed growers are sharing in the story.

It began, writes Norris Paxton of Associated Press, when dairymen on the placid slopes of the Helderberg Mountains near Albany, New York, marveled at the gusto with which cattle ate some unidentified yellow blossoms in rocky fields. Some of the farmers noted that these same animals put on more weight and gave more milk than usual.

The puzzle continued for several years, until a county farm bureau agent brought in an agronomist from Cornell University. He collected samples, took them back to Cornell, and there identified them as Lotus Corniculatus, popularly known now as Birdfoot Trefoil.

Thus began in 1933 the saga of how a legume forage crop, new to America, but not to Europe, was put to work in the New World.

Development of new or better crops usually requires a lot of patience and a lot of time. The best seed must be screened carefully, planted and replanted. This is the history of the Helderberg weed. Its cultivation has spread slowly but steadily, until it now is grown in at least 14 states.

AGRONOMISTS at Cornell, who have experimented with the legume ever since, praise it enthusiastically. Prof. H. A. MacDonald considers "the recognition and use of this legume one of the most important agricultural developments in recent years."

The plant has long tap roots, reaching far underground, hence is unusually drought resistant. Its root nodules collect nitrogen from the air and store the element so it becomes available for use by other plant life.

Birdfoot Trefoil is grown by farmers in Lane County and other parts of Oregon as a seed crop. It's not used for forage out here, explains County Agent O. S. Fletcher, because of its slow recovery once it is grazed down.

Apparently, he said, Eastern growers don't have the same troubles as far as grazing goes because of their enthusiastic market for seed.

Experimenters at Oregon State College are trying to go Cornell University one better by developing a superior lotus strain which carries all the good qualities of Birdfoot Trefoil plus quick regrowth besides.

THEY ARE staking their claims on the new Granger Lotus which is still being planted only experimentally. Last year Fletcher succeeded in getting four pounds of seed from the Experiment Station for two Lane farmers—Bart Flanagan and E. H. Vogt.

Vogt didn't plant his, though, because of the extremely dry season and will have it to plant this year. Flanagan succeeded in getting a stand on 3/4 of an acre despite the dry weather because he had irrigation available.

There is no seed at all available from the Experiment Station this year because of poor yields due to last year's dry season. Requests are coming in "for even a couple of tablespoonful" of seed from farmers who are anxious to try the new variety. By another year, providing a seed crop is harvested this fall, limited amounts of the new Granger Lotus seed will be available. Then local farmers will be able to test its remarkable claims.

JUST HOW did the original Lotus Corniculatus immigrate to the United States?

No one knows with certainty, but interesting speculation concerns a few German families who reached New York City in 1710. They contracted a plague while on the Atlantic, and the city fathers

shooed them immediately 100 miles up the Hudson River.

They earned food and shelter by making tar from the pine forests but yearned for the good earth. A year or two later they were permitted to cross the Catskill Mountains and settle in the fertile Shoharie Valley. They farmed successfully, multiplied, fought Indians, and many moved on Westward.

Legend has it that these Palatine Germans brought bags of seed from Europe. It would have been natural for them to include Trefoil, which has been known in Europe and Asia since the days of ancient Greece. If they planted Trefoil for hay and pasture, they gradually lost interest in it.

LATER NEW YORK agriculturists knew nothing about the crop.

Other Helderbergers have another theory. They recall that in the early 1920's seed grain was imported from Europe. The farmers who planted it knew nothing of Trefoil. But, since Trefoil grows in both a wild and domesticated state in Europe seed could have arrived mixed with other grain.

Trefoil has become almost a religion to men like Herbert Miller, C. W. Goodfellow and Leland Cooke. In 1935 Goodfellow, now a graying but active fellow, rallied his wife and children and hand-picked six pounds of tiny seeds. They came from pods resembling a bird's foot, which explains the name. Most of the first Goodfellow seed went to Cornell where it was planted experimentally.

THE HELDERBERG farmers organized a seed cooperative in 1941 to produce and market certified seed. It has been successful. The seed is sifted, blown through the air, re-sifted again and again to eliminate impurities. Then it is bagged and marketed all over the country.

As Trefoil has won favor, other cooperatives and private growers have entered the seed field. "We help them," explains Harry Garry, another member of the cooperative. "Trefoil is such a wonderful legume we want everyone to grow it."

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Oatis Case Cited by AP

NEW YORK—(AP)—The board of directors of the Associated Press said Monday it is confident the United States government "will explore and exploit any opportunity to end the unjust confinement" of AP reporter William N. Oatis in a Czechoslovakian jail.

Oatis was jailed a year ago this week—April 23—on charges of espionage. He was sentenced last July 4 to 10 years imprisonment.

The AP directors said the trial showed he was guilty "only of endeavoring, honestly and objectively, to gather and report information which in the western world is legitimate and essential news."

One effect of retaliatory measures invoked by the United States against Czech trade, the directors said, has been a substantial decline in exports from Czechoslovakia.

These dropped, the board said, from more than \$9 million in the first quarter of 1951 to slightly more than \$2 million in the last three months of 1951.

Wild Animals Flown to U.S.

LONDON—(AP)—A Pan American Clipper left London Sunday for New York carrying 95 wild jungle animals and 189 birds. An air line official said it was the largest assortment of wild life ever to fly the North Atlantic.

The cargo includes two baby elephants, two tiger cubs, two leopards, eight bears, two tapirs, 43 monkeys, 25 gibbons and a black panther in addition to the birds. They are destined for the Seattle Zoo.

The aerial zoo flew at 30,000 feet above the weather, housed in a special pressurized cargo Clipper. The total fare London to New York was over \$3,600.

Girl Admits Setting Fires

CHARLOTTE, N.C.—(AP)—A pretty, 13-year-old bobby-soxer with a desire to "get even" told police Sunday she set several fires at Charlotte churches causing damage estimated at \$75,000.

Police said blonde, blue-eyed Margie Davis, an eighth-grade junior high school student, admitted her guilt when questioned about her report that neighborhood youths were turning in false alarms.

Sad-eyed and unsmiling, she told police she set the fires because she wanted revenge after being refused permission to play ping-pong at one of the churches.

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