



ABDEL KARIM KASSEM
Strongman of Iraq

With Moscow Money and Arms

Kassem Keeping Firm Hold on Iraq

By GEORGE McARTHUR
Of the Associated Press

BAGHDAD—In sweltering Iraq, diplomats mop their brows and wonder how long strongman Abdel Karim Kassem can defy political gravity and maintain control of this historic land that sweeps up from the Persian Gulf.

With guns or words, Kassem is fighting a Kurdish revolt, imperialism, the Arab League, the Western-owned Iraq Petroleum Co., Kuwait, Egypt's President Nasser and Israel.

Four years ago Kassem overthrew King Feisal and turned street mobs loose to dismember Premier Nuri Es Said. Now his uneven smile gleams from portraits everywhere. A visitor counted 18 in Kassem's own reception room.

He drives through the streets in a bullet-proof sand-yellow Cadillac. Increasingly he depends on police state measures at home and Moscow abroad. He caters to his army with housing scheme and Moscow weapons.

He has tried to woo the peasants with land reform—but the scheme is only beginning to feebly itself after two years. Actual farm income has dropped and Iraq buys wheat abroad.

It is accepted in Baghdad—despite Kassem's frequent contrary claims—that rebelling Kurds control much of the countryside in the north. No travel permits are issue for that area.

His claims against Kuwait in the south have alienated other Arab states and caused him to ask the recall of U.S. Ambassador John Jernegan after Washington recognized Kuwait's independence. Similar moves threaten to worsen Iraq's world standing. Kassem shows no signs of caring.

He points to a glass case holding the uniform he was wearing when he survived an assassin in 1959.

"You see," he explains. "I was spared by Allah to complete my task."

The ancient streets of Baghdad hold few reminders of the fabled days of Ali Baba and the 40 thieves.

Despite the efforts of a minister of guidance and a controlled press, the citizens show a notable lack of enthusiasm for Kassem. He is apparently aware that the seven million people are not wholly on his side. When he staged a massive parade on the fourth anniversary of his revolution, a mile-square section was tightly cordoned to insure his safety.

With afternoon temperatures soaring to 125, the population disappears to sleep fitfully through the afternoon. At dusk they begin to gather along the Tigris to eat roasted fish in one-man restaurants.

Kassem himself used to come in the days when he was a soldier. Now he sticks to a special apartment in the ministry of defense.

He governs largely through four trusted army cronies—the heads of military intelligence, military police, internal security and the army itself. He largely avoids his civilian ministers but work is going ahead on a magnificent new parliament building (started by the old regime). He has promised elections for 1963.

Although the police state regime makes the population restive, economic problems are likely to prove more troublesome in the long run. In concentrating on survival, Kassem has allowed the economy to stagnate, despite a massive income from oil.

Inflation is creeping in and the cost of living is going up. The Soviet bloc has given him about \$230 million in credits for his five-year industrial plan, ending in 1966. It includes factories that will help the economy marginally while committing Kassem to Moscow for spare parts, technicians and further financing.

He must also pay back to Moscow some \$400 million in military credits—for which he has received a vast stock of tanks, trucks and artillery plus a jet air force that lacks the MIG21 Nasser has.

Kassem leans heavily on \$250 million he receives annually in oil revenues. This sum also must serve his domestic economy and help pay the \$100-million defense budget at home.

This is one reason Kassem is trying to pressure the Iraq Petroleum Co. into raising payments, and why he also wants the oil-rich kingdom of Kuwait.

The Russians are not above using these ambitions to tighten their grip on Kassem. The Baghdad press is under ironclad instructions to say nothing that might possibly offend Moscow.

Crusade To Open In Recife

RECIFE, Brazil, (AP) — The Roman Catholic priest who originated the slogan "The family that prays together stays together" is bringing a crusade to Brazil's Communist-ridden, poverty-stricken northeast area.

The Rev. Patrick Peyton's Family Prayer Crusade will start Aug. 15 amid a heated parliamentary election campaign among Communists in the area are seeking to pick up parliamentary strength by basing their campaigns on the misery among the northeast area's 22 million people.

We are finding there are four classes of people in the Brazilian northeast—rich, middle poor and miserable," said a crusade advance man, the Rev. Joseph Quinn. "The majority of the people belong to the last."

Father Quinn said the northeast appears the most difficult situation the priests will have encountered in their tour of 44 countries.

Father Peyton, Father Quinn and a third priest, the Rev. Phillip Higgins are members of the Holy Cross Fathers of Albany, N.Y.

The aim of the crusade is to encourage better family life through daily family prayer sessions. Father Quinn said 82 Brazilian young men have been recruited to travel in pairs throughout the area.

The crusaders will show movies in barrooms and on building walls.

S. Africa Prevented U.S. Film

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa (AP)—A veteran South African showman writes that the government prevented an American company several years ago from filming a story depicting miscegenation.

Jack Stodel, in "The Audience Is Waiting," autobiography of 50 years in show business, said the company was Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, the story Stuart Clote's book "Turning Wheels," banned in South Africa. It tells a story of miscegenation when Afrikaners left the cape province more than 100 years ago to escape British rule.

Stodel said Morris Davis, MGM representative in South Africa, at first balked at the threat by Foreign Minister Eric Louw to ban all MGM films from the country. But at a requested audience with Louw, said Stodel, Davis backed down and production of the film was cancelled.

Spotlight

Classroom Brainwashing

Japanese Teachers Follow Red Line

By CONRAD FINK
Of the Associated Press

TOKYO—The question before the class was the demand that the Soviet Union return islands it seized from Japan after World War II.

"Teacher," the Japanese boy asked, "Why won't the Soviet Union give the northern islands back to Japan?"

"Because," the teacher replied, "the U.S. imperialists would build rocket bases on them."

An expert who has watched Japanese education closely cites this classroom dialogue as an example of Communist propaganda presented to Japanese children.

The pipeline, he says, runs through members of Nikkyoso (Japan Teachers' Union). This union often shows more concern with the "class war" and "American imperialism" than with teachers' wages or hours.

DIVERSE OPINIONS PERMITTED

The Japanese Education Ministry reports 3,000-5,000 Nikkyoso teachers are known to be Communist party members while thousands more sympathize with Moscow or Peiping. The union has 570,000 members.

"Generally, the line is that 'U.S. imperialism' represents the warmongers and the Communist countries represents the 'peace camp,'" a ministry official said.

A union spokesman said no attempt is made to exclude Communists because diverse opinions are permitted in Nikkyoso's drive for "neutrality of education...and truth." He denied that members teach Communist propaganda.

The ministry official, however, said Nikkyoso members pass the Red line to teachers in union seminars ostensibly designed to improve teaching methods.

U.S. officials, far from sure about Japan's future course in international affairs, do not conceal worry about pro-Communist teachers. On occasion some of these teachers have turned out for anti-American demonstrations—taking students with them.

The Education Ministry says it is powerless to crush Communist elements within the union. It lacks police powers due to fears of a return to pre-war control of education. Before the war a centralized bureaucracy brainwashed students in favor of aggression.

Today courses of study and teaching methods are in the hands of prefectures (states).

ANTI-LABOR ACCUSATION

Ministry officials who poke around in the prefectures chance being accused of trying to dominate education in the old manner. When they attack Nikkyoso, they are accused of being anti-labor.

Nikkyoso became powerful after World War II. U.S. occupation authorities inspired formation of strong labor movements to balance economic interests. Most primary teachers joined.

Non-Communist teachers hold a slim majority on the union's ruling board and top officers are not Communists. Government officials, however, say a noisy minority often assumes control and whips non-Communist teachers into line with the argument that Japan's labor movement will suffer if Nikkyoso is divided.

Nikkyoso has bitterly fought an Education Ministry plan to rate teachers on efficiency, and the plan has made no significant headway. The teachers average \$80 a month.

Nile Source Discover Remembered

JINJA, UGANDA (AP) — Just 100 years ago the English explorer John Hanning Speke discovered here the main source of the Nile, the world's longest river.

The centenary was marked by a trade fair and pageant, attended by Nicholas Speke, great-grandnephew of the explorer.

Jinja, population 30,000 sits astride the river as it pours from Lake Victoria past Ripon Falls.

Over 4,000 miles to the north, the Nile reaches the Mediterranean. The mystery of its source intrigued scholars for centuries before Speke reached it July 28, 1862. His claims, in dispute for several years, were confirmed after his death in 1864.

The spot Speke reached now is covered with water backed up for a hydroelectric project. Queen Elizabeth II in 1955 opened the Owens Falls dam project which turned Jinja into an industrial center.

UGANDA, a British protectorate, will become an independent nation Oct. 9.

U.S. Envoy for Five Years

Thompson's Tour Ends in Moscow

By STANLEY JOHNSON
Of the Associated Press

MOSCOW—Llewelyn E. Thompson is home after a 5-year mission as U. S. ambassador to Moscow—the longest any top American diplomat has spent in the job since U.S.-Soviet relations started 29 years ago.

It also seems to have been the most successful, at least as far as personal relations with the Kremlin go.

Premier Khrushchev at one stage, in assessing Thompson, exclaimed:

"What a fine man!"

He absolved Thompson of any blame for Soviet-American crises like the U2 incident. At a reception, Khrushchev was overheard telling Thompson:

"I know you had nothing to do with it."

Thompson and his striking, husky-voiced wife Jane, were aces too with three other important groups—the diplomatic corps, the embassy staff and the press.

"You Americans have been very lucky," says a Western diplomat who has been here for years.

"You had George Kennan, then Chip (Charles E.) Bohlen and then Tommy. It's impossible to say which was the most brilliant."

All three of them inspired the embassy staff to such a level that a former British ambassador, Sir William Hayter, wrote that the American mission was the best-informed in town.

Counting dependents and clerical staff, there are about 250 persons at the U.S. embassy in Moscow. Most of them live in a compound on Tchaikovsky Boulevard.

What with Russian suspicions of all American diplomats and a completely unrealistic exchange rate, their social life is pretty much restricted to entertaining each other and fellow diplomats.

They buy virtually all their food and other requirements at the embassy commissary. They have an embassy doctor, an American priest, garage, other service facilities and an American school.

The State Department would like to change all this but has not figured out how.

Thompson went home in rather a pensive mood, but Mrs. Thompson was delighted.

"There are plenty of ambassadors, but he is the only husband I've got," she said recently. She wants her husband in some less trying job.

Like other top ambassadors here, it is understood Thompson anticipates a relatively quiet period in West-Soviet relations until after Khrushchev has had his August vacation and the Soviet Union has run off its new series of nuclear tests.

Then, the general speculation in the diplomatic corps goes, there may be another crisis over Berlin about Oct. 1.

Thompson and the other ambassadors are concerned that Khrushchev may not take seriously enough the United States' expressed determination to remain in Berlin. Miscalculation on this could touch off a serious threat to peace, they feel.

As to Soviet developments in general, Thompson is guardedly optimistic.

Private conversations give the impression he feels this country has passed the point of no return as far as mass terror is concerned, and will inevitably have to devote more and more of its resources to increasing living standards. He is understood to feel that the young people coming along have lost the revolutionary fervor of their forebears and will be looking more and more to their own and their country's advantage.

Thompson's success, his colleagues believe, lay in the fact that he managed to keep the channels of communication open.

There was never a time during this period that the United States and the Soviet Union couldn't talk—even though they violently disagreed.

1,700 Tourists On Way to N.Y.

SOUTHAMPTON, England (AP)—The British liner Canberra sailed for New York Saturday with a record number of passengers on a low-fare voyage that made crossing the Atlantic cheaper per mile than riding a London bus.

The 45,000-ton vessel carried 1,700 passengers and a crew of 892.

Minimum tourist class fare is 72 pounds (\$201.60) for the 6,325-mile round trip. This works out at about three cents a mile or less than it costs to cross London by a double-decker bus. Passengers will use the ship as their model while in New York.

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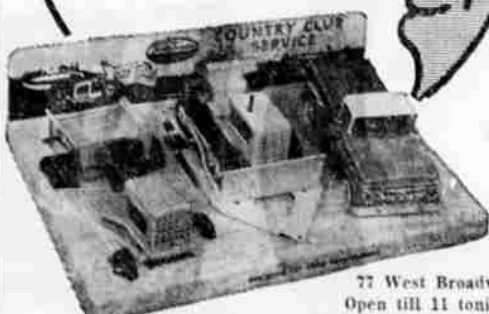
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