

Will Long-Range Bombers or Carrier Planes Win Defense Spot?

(Editor's Note: This is an article summing up and analyzing the armed services controversy.)

By **BARNEY LIVINGSTONE**

Trial Nears for Capt. Crommelin

Washington, Oct. 25 (AP)—The navy moved a step nearer a decision today on whether to court martial Capt. John G. Crommelin for releasing navy documents which touched off the congressional inquiry into Pentagon policies.

This, very much in brief, is the thorny question which has been arising in all its pros and cons before a perplexed nation in recent weeks.

On the solution of these differences—strategic versus tactical airpower—may rest the course of initial U.S. defense strategy in case of war.

The navy's admirals touched off the explosive dispute with the assertion that too much dependence is being laid on unproven strategic bombing (the raiding of distant targets as contrasted with air attacks in close support of other fighting forces).

Underlying the whole dispute is the universally held assumption among our military planners that the next war—if it comes—will pit the United States against the world's greatest land power, namely, Soviet Russia.

Sir Francis Bacon laid down an old rule of war: "He that commands the sea is at great liberty, and may take as much or as little of the war as he will."

But time effects changes in war as in all else. Bacon's aphorism has now been amended to provide that he who would command the course of war must first command the air.

And how to command the air is what is bothering the admirals and the generals.

Our strategic air planners, in their testimony before the house armed services committee, have stated that the long-range strategic bomber is:

1. The prime retaliatory weapon upon the outbreak of war.
2. The best weapon to destroy the war-making potential of the enemy.
3. And finally, the only weapon by which we can strike into the heart of Russia—the nation occupying the greatest land mass in the world.

Some insight into what these army and air force planners think is furnished by Gen. Omar Bradley, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. He told congress:

"Ultimately . . . we will have to carry the war back to the enemy by all means at our disposal. I am convinced that this will include strategic air bombardment, and large-scale land operations."

"I also believe that after the initial phases are over, there will be little need for any campaign similar to the Pacific island-hopping that took place during the last war . . . I also predict that large-scale amphibious operations, such as those in Sicily and Normandy, will never occur again."

This conception relegates the navy, it says, to the "second priority" air role of anti-submarine and convoy duty.

What, then, is the navy's appraisal of strategic bombing? The admirals say that high-flying strategic bombers, by the very inaccuracy of their bomb drops, cannot constitute a major factor in the war picture.

In contrast with the precise tactical bombing of carrier fighters, the navy says:

1. The strategic bomber is vulnerable to fighter defense, and must take unacceptable losses.
2. The inaccuracy of high-level bombing serves only the end of civilian mass slaughter.
3. That strategic air warfare, without ability to secure essential forward fighting bases, can end only in a stalemate and a war of attrition for both sides.

Admiral Arthur W. Radford, the navy's top air admiral, summed up the differences between strategic and tactical concepts this way:

"It is my opinion that the air force is concentrating on slow, expensive, very vulnerable, single-purpose, heavy atomic bombers at the expense of small fast bombers and extremely high performance fighters for which we now have such an urgent need in great numbers.

"These smaller, faster types are much more efficient in destroying such key targets of strategic air warfare as bridges, canal locks, tunnels, and transport equipment. Further, these types will give us real air power and that flexibility which is the key to the full application of air power . . . we will not then have so many eggs in one basket."

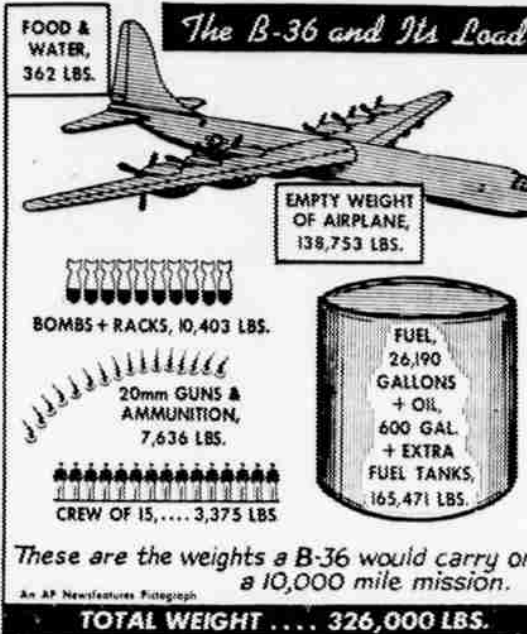
With the fast carrier task force—mobile floating air fields—the navy says it holds the ace of mobility and surprise. With these it contends it can secure forward bases and win strategic ends denied to the unescorted bomber.

But the air force's top man, Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, says tactical short range naval air power—no matter how good it is—won't get at Russia's heartland.

"Can you put wings on an aircraft carrier?" he inquires.

Target in House Hearing

The B-36 and Its Load



These are the weights a B-36 would carry on a 10,000 mile mission.

AN AP Newsphoto Photograph

Nevertheless, Vice Admiral R. B. Carney, the navy's logistics expert, calls it "foolhardy to exclusively commit the safety of the entire United States—and possibly the Democratic world—to one prohibitively costly weapon."

"Of all methods of conducting strategic bombing, the intercontinental method would be by far the most costly," he says.

Regardless, General Vandenberg says the strategic bomber is cheaper in the long run.

He says it is a deterrent to Soviet aggression, forces the enemy to build up costly defenses, and permits destruction of the war-making potential after the fighting starts.

Tactical aviation, he declares, serves only to support ground troops and divisions.

"Is it supposed that we build and maintain a standing army capable of meeting the masses of an enemy on the ground in equal man-to-man, body-to-body, gun-to-gun combat?"

"This alternative is militarily unsound. A prime objective . . . must be to find a counterbalance to the potential enemy's masses of ground troops other than equal masses of American and Allied ground troops."

These are the issues: On the one hand, the intercontinental bomber operating independently against strategic targets. On the other, the potent punch of carrier air power operating at the tactical level closer to the theater of fighting.

Cited for Help; Then Go on Strike
 Hazleton, Pa., Oct. 25 (AP)—Friday the 1,500 workers at the Duplan corp., were given a citation for their importance in Hazleton's economic life.

Red Quits Bridges; Must Go to Jail Soon
 New York, Oct. 25 (AP)—Richard Gladstein, San Francisco attorney in the trail of the 11 convicted communist leaders, said today he has withdrawn as counsel for Harry Bridges, west coast union boss, in order to begin serving a six months prison term for contempt of court on Nov. 15.

Walter Norblad Plans Early Return to State
 Astoria, Oct. 25 (AP)—Rep. Walter Norblad and his family are to arrive here in about five or six days. A. W. Norblad, father of the Astoria congressional representative, said today.

Bridges is scheduled to stand trial in San Francisco Nov. 14 on charges of fraudulently obtaining citizenship. Gladstein and five other lawyers were given prison sentences by Federal Judge Harold Medina immediately after a jury found the 11 communist leaders guilty of conspiring to teach and advocate the overthrow of the United States government by force and violence.

But the air force's top man, Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, says tactical short range naval air power—no matter how good it is—won't get at Russia's heartland.

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YOUNGER SET BEST MOVIE-GOERS

Good Word for Teen-Agers: Serious-Minded and Spiritual

By **PATRICIA CLARY**

Hollywood (AP)—A movie producer finally has come out with a kind word for bobby-soxers. Sam Engel says today's teen-agers are serious-minded and hepped on the spiritual side of life.

"Teen-agers are remarkably mature in their interests and preferences," Engel declared, and he didn't have his fingers crossed. "We have miscalculated their tastes in movies."

Most movie makers have assumed that young folk want only wildly colored musicals, westerns and horror pictures. Now Engel says he has a stack of letters saying they really prefer "cerebral and spiritual subjects."

The letters came after Engel produced "Come to the Stable," a religious story about two nuns, Loretta Young and Celeste Holm.

He said 65 percent of the letters from people who identified themselves as being young commented on the "spiritual" qualities of the picture.

Now that he thinks about it, Engel says, he's not surprised that teen-agers like serious, thoughtful themes.

"They are comparatively new at the business of living," he said. "They feel things intensely. They are capable of profound emotional reactions. Maybe after one gets too mature, one gets a little numb to the emotional impact of the drama."

The way ticket-buyers are streaming to "Come to the Stable" has convinced Engel that it's all wrong to wait that the bobby-soxers are giddy, light-hearted and ignorant of the problems and values of life.

The younger set makes up most of the theater-goers, he pointed out. It's a picture's going to do well at the box-office, it has to be with their help.

"The fact that more serious screen efforts have been successful is a real surprise."

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they were driving when seized by detectives. The other count was vagrancy.

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Thurs., Community & Good Neighbor Night Sub. "An old Fashioned Hell for New Fashioned Sinners."

Friday, Sunday School Night Sub. "The Next Great Event in History"

Sat., Youth Night Sub. "Mother & Home"



Air Force Chiefs Raps Navy—Testifying before the house armed services committee in Washington, Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg (right), U. S. air force chief of staff, charged that the navy seeks to repudiate the national war plan which "is in fact" now preventing Russia from aggression. At left is Air Force Secretary W. Stuart Symington. (Acme Telephoto)

Demonstration Given At Silverton Hills

Silverton Hills — Miss Betty Boettcher, Salem, assistant to Miss Eleanor Trindle, Marion county home demonstration agent, was guest speaker at the week end meeting of the Silverton Hills extension unit at the community hall in an all day session. Miss Boettcher's talk was on "Window Treatment."

A 9 o'clock forenoon meeting is announced for Tuesday, November 1, with special practice on better-cotton-dress work shop at the Victor Hadley home. Those interested are urged to take advantage of this opportunity in preparation for the general meeting of the unit during February for "Better Dress Work Shop" day, when special help from Salem is furnished.

Gervais Grade School Observes Halloween

Gervais — The fifth and sixth grades of the Gervais grade school under the direction of their teacher, Miss Caroline Zu-

ber presented a Halloween program for the entertainment at the meeting of the PTA at the grade school building.

Guest speakers were Mrs. Ralph Sippell, Marion county school president who gave a short talk and Mrs. A. F. deLapina, of Hubbard who spoke on juvenile delinquency and customs in Holland. In the near future the organization will sponsor a cake sale.

The November meeting will be preceded by a 7:30 o'clock potluck supper at the grade school building. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Bruce Barber, Mrs. Bert Knowles and Mrs. Frank Coats.

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