

WHAT DID U. N. ACCOMPLISH?

West Bloc Gained Support Against Russ on Major Items

By FRANCIS W. CARPENTER

New York, Dec. 12 (AP)—The western powers gained support against Russia in the 1949 United Nations assembly on the major propositions of world peace and control of atomic power. But no let-up in the cold war was evident at the end of the 12-week session. The grave and urgent questions of atomic energy, the Stalin-Tito row and the China issue went unresolved along with a host of old items.

On the credit side, the assembly acted for the first time as a world legislature. It approved independence for all of Libya, former premier colony in Mussolini's African empire, by Jan. 1, 1952.

It also approved a ten-year waiting period for Italian Somaliland before independence, with Italy returning there as trusteeship administrator. It set up a committee to study former Italian Eritrea and come up with proposals at the 1950 assembly.

In a rare unanimous vote, the assembly approved a broad program of technical assistance to under-developed countries, carrying out further the point four project laid down by President Truman last January in his inaugural address.

The assembly started Sept. 20 with expressed hopes it would be a "Peace Assembly," just as the Paris session the year before was the "Human Rights." But President Truman's disclosure three days later that the Soviet Union has cracked the secret of the atom changed the whole tenor of the meeting. It never was the same for the rest of the 12 weeks.

Yugoslavia's election to the security council over Czechoslovakia further strained the peace, and Nationalist China's charges against the Soviet Union so angered the Russians they refused to take part in debate on the case.

The delegates labored long over the atom. Assembly President Carlos P. Romulo appealed personally to the six atomic powers to try a new approach. The best the assembly could do, however, was to approve, on Nov. 23, a resolution instructing the six atomic powers to continue consultations to see if they could agree on anything. These powers are Russia, United States, Britain, France, China and Canada.

The West picked up votes on this issue. At the Paris assembly, the Western plan for atomic control was approved on Nov. 4, 1948, by 40 votes to 6 (the slav bloc, with Yugoslavia a member at that time). This year, the assembly approved the resolution for further talks, which amounted to a reaffirmation of the Western plan, by a vote of 49 to 5. Some small countries went over to the majority and Yugoslavia abstained this time.

The other important point where the West gained was on peace. By 53 votes to 5 (the slav bloc) with Yugoslavia again abstaining, the assembly approved a 12-point statement of the "essentials of peace" put up by the United States and Britain as a counter to the Soviet Union proposal for a so-called peace pact among the five great powers.

The delegates voted down by thumping majorities the Soviet plan, which would have blamed the United States and Britain as plotters for a new war and then would have urged them to join with the Soviet Union, France and China in a new peace pact. The 53-vote approval was the biggest majority ever gained by the West on a major issue. Some key delegates said this amounted to a personal repudiation of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Y. Vishinsky and his blustering tactics. Vishinsky threatened, argued, cajoled, pleaded and used all of his old oratorical tricks. This was the third assembly where he has taken this role and some



Five Saved from Watery Grave—Five persons plucked from the ocean after their small plane crashed and sank off the Florida coast, thank their rescuers at the Miami Coast Guard base. The three adults and two children clung to two air-filled gasoline tins for two hours before their Coast Guard-intercepted SOS brought help. Left to right, are: Lieut. Don Cough, whose search plane sighted Mrs. A. K. Henneken, holding Robert, 2; T. G. Jungerson; Mr. Henneken, holding A. K. Henneken, Jr., 5, and Ray Huff, co-pilot of the PBV which picked up the five crash victims. (Acme Telephoto)

Groves Says U. S. Threatened With 'Complete Annihilation'

New York, Dec. 12 (AP)—Lieut.-Gen. Leslie R. Groves says that the nation today is threatened with the possibility of "complete annihilation," but that the people aren't really worried about it. The wartime head of the atom bomb project has told American business leaders that the public has not awakened to the danger posed by Russia's possession of the A-bomb.

"Never before in history," Groves said, "have we been threatened with complete annihilation." But, he said, the American people "are not convinced in their hearts there is anything to worry about."

The retired army general told a closing session of the National Association of Manufacturers that the nation's security is "not as sound as I would like to have it."

He said that the mere threat that an atomic bomb might be used against this country means that a decision will have to be made on the question of decentralizing the nation's industrial plants.

"This can not be accomplished as painlessly as 'irresponsible planners' suggest, he said. He added that it would mean total disruption of the industrial economy and a lowered standard of living for the American people.

The alternatives, he said, were either to keep industry intact and incur the risk of multiple destruction, or to partially decentralize it by better placement of new plants. He advocated the latter course.

Groves said the only safe way to regard the recent reported atomic explosion in Russia is to assume the Russians have an atomic bomb as good as the first one the U.S. exploded in New Mexico.

Groves made only slight reference to congressional investigations of reports that atomic

information leaked to Russia during the war.

He called for a thorough sifting of evidence relating to such reports.

Groves was the last of the afternoon speakers at the closing business session of the NAM's 54th annual congress of American industry.

At the closing dinner, Carlos P. Romulo, of the Philippines, president of the United Nations general assembly, said that the assembly "has kept aflame the torch of freedom and peace."

"The torch shall remain lighted," he said, "for there is an inexhaustible reservoir of hope and endeavor by which the flame shall be nourished like vestal fire."

He declared that "mankind's desire for peace will not be denied."

The assembly's meeting this fall, he said, has "fulfilled its primary duty to mankind" by "affirming that desire" and by "proceeding resolutely to lay the solid foundation of that peace."

Speech Honors Won

Willamina — Members of the speech class at Willamina high school winning honors at the Forest Grove contest last week were Linda Riley, Betty Watt, Glenna Magers. Linda won second place with her oratory on Student World Consciousness. She was also one of the top six in interpretive reading. Glenna and Betty reached the semifinals as partners in a debate. The girls competed with students from 20 schools.



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delegates indicated they were tired of Vishinsky. Name-calling was a characteristic of the assembly. Vishinsky called the Nationalist Chinese delegation "these pygmies" and scornfully hit at the Yugoslav delegation as the "Tito clique." Dignitaries flocked to this assembly.

President Truman came to an open air session on October 24 to dedicate the cornerstone of the permanent headquarters in New York City. The Shah of Persia visited the assembly at Flushing Meadows—and started out on the wrong speech. Prime Minister Nehru of India paid a call to the headquarters at Lake Success. The average American glocked to the UN by thousands. When the assembly adjourned it had completed action on 68 items, the longest work sheet ever put before the U.N.

Bishop of Nassau Dies in Bahamas

Nassau, Bahamas, Dec. 12 (AP)—This British colony today mourned the Most Rev. Bernard Kevenhoester, bishop of Nassau, who died Friday at the age of 80. Bishop Bernard was the first head of the Catholic church in the Bahamas to bear the title of bishop. Under his direction, Catholic Missions and education in the colony were developed and expanded. Bishop Bernard was born in Alten-Essen, Germany, on Nov. 1, 1869. When he was seven, his parents were forced to flee the country during the prosecution of the church by Bismarck. He was ordained a priest at St. John's Benedictine monastery, Collegeville, Minn., in 1896 and was pastor of St. Anselm's church, the Bronx, N. Y., for 17 years. He was appointed Prefect Apostolic of the Bahamas in May, 1931, and made titular bishop of Camuliana in 1933. In 1941 he was appointed Vicar Apostolic and on the golden jubilee of his ordination in 1946 Pope Pius made him an assistant at the pontifical throne.



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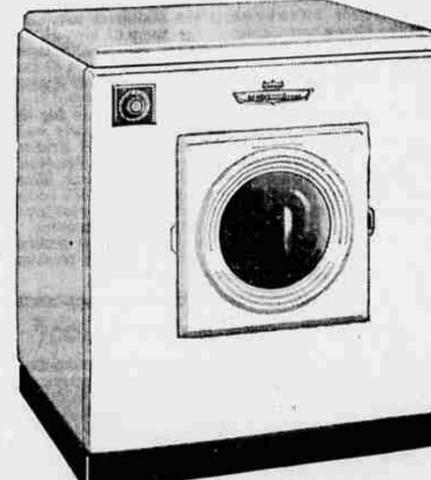
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