Red Threat Brake For German Resentment of U.S. Occupation

By Lyle C. Wilson
United Press Correspondent

Frankfurt, Germany, Mar. 21—(U.P.)—It has taken western Germany nearly five years to recover from the shell shock of military disaster and to begin to challenge occupying forces with words and occasional violence.

It was in May, 1945, that Hitler's third reich collapsed under attack of the allies in the west and the Russians in the east. The German of five years ago was punch drunk with disaster and distress.

In the weeks after the war ended, cocky GI's commandeered cameras, motorcycles and other loot which suited their fancies. The phrase was that they were "liberating" these articles.

No GI or American civilian would dare do such a thing today.

Didn't Last Long

The practice, in fact, did not last long beyond the end of the war. But now the situation is more than corrected. It is beginning to be reversed.

There is scattered evidence here that many Germans are sufficiently fed up with occupation to attempt occasionally to do something about it. Liquor often is a contributing cause.

The most powerful brake against German resentment of the American occupation no doubt is the Russian threat to the east. At the worst the Americans, British and French of western Germany are preferable to the police state which the Soviet union hopes to extend over the entire country.

There is little or no open resentment in the occupied sectors of Berlin where free Germans under French, British and American administration live neighbor-like and desperately afraid next door to the awesome Russians.

Incidents Turn Up

But incidents of violence, threats of violence and spoken challenges to the occupation do turn up in the west, suggesting a trend and perhaps a pattern. It is notable that these symptoms of German hatred or dislike of the occupying foreigner are limited to the occupied zones of western Germany.

The military police office said today that there had been no increase in the number of incidents in recent months. But an officer added:

"The Germans are becoming a little more aggressive."

A colonel of intelligence told me in a nearby military establishment that he and other Americans disliked driving over German roads for fear of deliberate smashups. These can be achieved by German truck drivers without much danger to themselves.

German truckers haul three loaded trailers. Even momentarily careless driving can cause these links of fast moving freight to weave, causing the rear trailer to sway several feet from side to side while moving forward at high speed. The colonel said the chance was always present that a German trucker would deliberately sideswipe a foreign car. There are many such, easily identifiable because of their size.

Not Much Evidence

I do not find much supporting evidence for the colonel's fears. Yet some months ago an American GI attempted to pass a truck-train near Wiesbaden. The trucker swung his front end sharply left and right twice. The last of his three trailers whiplashed against the American jeep. The GI was killed. Witnesses said it was deliberate. The colonel said other attempts had been made.

The Germans have a record of prewar street violence. The nazi gangs were street fighters first and politicians afterward. Implements of street violence are freely on sale in some German cities.

Stuttgart sports shop windows display rubber billies, spiked brass knuckles and a vicious instrument made of steel wire. This little dandy is collapsible.

It has a butt fiiting the hand. One end of the weighted butt holds two steel wire coils measuring in diameter from half an inch at the butt to about three-eights of an inch at the tip.

It is an easily concealed, pliable wire billy designed not only to slash jagged wounds in the face or neck but to crush a skull.

I bought a wire billy and spiked knucks for the German equivalent of 40 cents each.

Automobiles speeding today on the through roads which Hitler built have been fired on occasionally. Walter C. Rundle, United Press manager in Germany, was strolling with his wife near their home at night a few weeks ago. A group of Germans on a balcony three stories above threw a bottle which missed the Rundles but spattered them with glass slivers. German police virtually sabotaged investigation of the incident. American military police are not permitted to enter a German house.

Violence against foreigners usually does not seem to be planned in advance. There was an incident recently at Marburg in which a known prostitute picked up a 19-year-old GI, escorted him to a nearby dark areaway and soon began screaming "rape!"

The crowd which collected attempted to beat up the GI. A German was killed in the ensuing brawl. Marburg citizens thereupon staged two big anti-American demonstrations.

Many German restaurant owners in and about Frankfurt and Stuttgart have asked permission to bar American soldiers and civilians from their premises. American authorities rejected their requests.

Restaurant owners did not attempt to conceal their strategy. They explained that many Germans were prosperous again and wanted to spend their money where they would not have to elbow for space with the occupying foreigners.

Widely distributed in the mail-boxes of Frankfurt Germans last week was a new Germon wehrwolf or "fighting wolf" proclamation. The wehrwolf organization bloomed briefly as the war ended as an underground German resistance movement. The handbill circulated here said:

"German people, we call you. Be on the alert. The wehrwolf lives again, becoming stronger every day. Our battle moves on. We battle for Germany. Americans, Englishmen, Frenchmen, Russians, we warn you."

Youngsters In Act

The young fry are getting into the act. In almost any German community the American youngsters keep much to themselves. German youngsters, sometimes operating in packs, occasionally pounce upon them, tear their clothing, push them around a bit and if they can get away with it, take their playthings.

None of this suggests that western Germany would welcome American withdrawal right now. There is too much fear of the Russians for that. But resentment against the occupation is growing, and anti-foreign violence is likely to increase with it. Even though only a minority of Germans are responsible for it, the violence is no less dangerous or deadly.

(Acme Telephoto)

ROUGH SITUATION—Referee George Hayes (center) finds himself in a rough situation as he separates Elmer Lach (left) of Montreal and Ted Lindsay (right) of Detroit in the riotous first period of the Detroit Red Wings - Montreal hockey game in Detroit. Lach and Lindsay were engaged in a wild fencing duel before Hayes skated in. The Red Wings shut out the Canadiens, 2-0.

....AROUND HOLLYWOOD

By VIRGINIA MacPHERSON
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood, Mar. 21—(U.P.)—Sultry sirens and fancy gigolos are losing their grip as movie menaces. Hollywood's discovered a new villian — a baby in the love seat.

Virginia MacPherson

Guaranteed, say the folks who're tired of husband - vs wive - vs. - secretary plots, to raise all kinds of devilment with the hero and heroine.

The woman behind this startling twist on the age-old triangle is Jean Rouverol. There aren't many writers around who would dare be so irreverent about a blessed event, but Miss Rouverol's long since lost that starry-eyed attitude. She has four of 'em tearing around the house.

"They're wonderful," she said. "They also create a problem nobody's touched on the screen. There's plenty of conflict in the idea of a new baby. It starts fights . . . it leaves the husband feeling neglected . . . it even leads to divorce.

"All this is a natural for a movie. And I get every mother and father in the audience will agree with me."

Miss Rouverol is one of those rare things around Hollywood: an actress who turned writer.

Nothing Left

"Had to," she said. "After four kids wasn't anything left of my figger."

She comes by her writing naturally, though. Her mother, Playwright Aurania Rouverol, dreamed up the "Andy Hardy" series.

"I'm still a radio actress," Miss Rouverol added. 'I play Betty on "One Man's Family.' And I blame that show for my last couple of kids. I hadn't planned 'em—but Betty kept getting in the family way in the script and darned if I didn't follow through."

Miss Rouverol's movie might start a whole new cycle of villains. It'll also give a lot of casting directors ulcers.

Have To Hire Six

For grown-up menaces one actor or actress'll do. When you start working with the diaper set you have to hire at least six.

"The plot goes through the baby's first year," she explained. "So we'll need a new born baby, a four-mouths older, one at the sitting-up stage, the crawling stage, a walker and a talker."

Word of this has sifted around town. All her friends — and people she never even heard of —are already pestering her for screen tests for their offspring.

Rogue River

Rogue River, Mar. 21—The potluck family supper was served to a record crowd of 65 persons last Wednesday evening in Fellowship hall. One of the many desserts served was a large decorated cake bearing Easter greetings which was brought by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Kilbourne and family of Central Point, who were special guests of the evening. Two piano solos were played by Mrs. Barns and the high school trio sang. Following the devotional, led by Barbara Feuerhelm, Kara Lee Irwin and Laralee Morris, Mrs. William Speers sang. By special request Annie Laurie Kilbourne and Mrs. Lewis Kilbourne favored with two piano duets.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil Strahan returned Friday from a week's visit at San Francisco and Modesto, Cal.

Postmasters of Jackson and Josephine counties held their quarterly meeting and banquet Friday evening at the Live Oak Grange hall in Rogue River. Speakers of the evening were Col. C. L. Williams, retired postal inspector, and Postmaster Massey of Grants Pass. Special greetings were extended to Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Hargitt, it being the date of their 29th wedding anniversary and also their son, Harold Hargitt's 25th birthday. The tables were decorated in the St. Patrick's day motif combined with spring flowers. Special souvenirs for the occasion were pieces of hand-made wooden money cut from limbs of the old maple trees which were planted on Main street in Woodville days. Each piece bore the three names of the town, Tailholt, Woodville and Rogue River, with the dates 1850 and 1950. They were made by Grange members as a special tribute to Harold Laws, postmaster of Rogue River, whose parents were pioneers of the community.

George Murray of the whistle factory at Eureka, Cal., was a guest at the A. G. Sheppard home on West Evans creek last week. Murray has been manufacturing redwood novelties for the past four years and designing and setting aside models of wooden toys to add to his line. Previously the output of the little factory has been sold through other dealers, but when Murray, with the help of his wife, Flora, and a neighbor, was unable to keep up with the demand, he decided to contact retail stores up and down the west coast and sell direct to them, and also contact customers and learn their reactions to his new line of toys.

He reports he was very encouraged by the large orders he received for toys and for special Oregon souvenirs such as the "Came Man's Love Call" club. Murray was accompanied on the trip by Dorothy Sheppard, popular Girl scout leader of Eureka, who helped demonstrate the toys.

Barbara Black, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emerson Black of Pine street, returned home Saturday from Oregon State college. Other students home from the spring vacation are Raymond Frantz of Foots Creek and Bill Blair of Wimer.

Mrs. Earl Hazen of highway 99, left last week on a combined business and pleasure trip to Los Angeles.

The Al Pearson ranch home on West Evans creek was the scene of a surprise party Friday evening when friends and neighbors quietly gathered to celebrate Mrs. Pearson's birthday. Mrs. Al Ebeling as hostess and instigator of the party, baked four large cakes which were served with ice cream. Canasta was played throughout the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Black of West Evans creek are moving to Long Beach where he will continue in his former business.

New emblems were presented the Rogue River Pistol club last Thursday evening. They were made by Le Rae Dennis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Dennis.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Campbell, cattle ranchers of Bly, Ore., were visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hess at Trailerland, over the week-end.

Rogue River businessmen met Thursday evening at the Rogue Riviera on highway 99. Bob Gail was elected vice-president of the organization by unanimous vote. Mayor and Mrs. Fred Denglar were special guests and Mayor Denglar suggested a paint-up and clean-up campaign in Rogue River before the tourist season. The public relations board reported they will contact Mel Price, publisher of the Rogue River Record, regarding advisability of starting a local newspaper. Inquiry on the matter was made by a former west coast newspaperman. "We merchants of Rogue River do not believe in high pressure salesmanship," stated Dave Gelvin. "We want to give everyone inquiring about our community the exact facts."

Wooden toys and novelties were displayed by George Murray of Eureka, who uses tree limbs and scrap plywood to construct attractive articles.

William Morton, consulting engineer, now at Cave Junction, offered a suggestion regarding an industry that would have a good payroll. Robert Worrell, who is experienced in city planning, offered his services to the city.

On suggestion of Bob Gail it was decided to request a blinker light be installed at Rogue River junction to lessen the traffic hazard at that end of the bridge. Special notice was called to the trailer which R. W. Randleman has patented and to the models displayed at the Carl Meyers store. Date of the next meeting will be announced later.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Friedenthal have returned from Eugene where they attended the ball game and visited Ed's sister. They report they saw many Grants Pass people at the game.

The Rev. D. F. Barnett is recovering from an attack of acute indigestion. He was quite ill over the week-end and Sunday services were conducted by Jeff Irwin.

JUST NORTHERN LIGHTS

Sandpoint, Ida. — (U.P.) — The North Idaho Rural Electric Rehabilitation association had a title that was quite a mouthful. Now it's known as Northern Lights, Inc.

BUS KIDNAPS AUTO

Boston—(U.P.)—A bus "stole" an automobile here. During a snowstorm, William Orphanos parked his new car in the street. When he returned a half hour later it was gone. A bus had locked bumpers with the automobile and carried it several blocks, where the car was found undamaged.

Atlanta, Ga.—(U.P.)—A young woman who showed up at Grady hospital with a fractured thumb blamed it on "shaking hands with an ex-husband."

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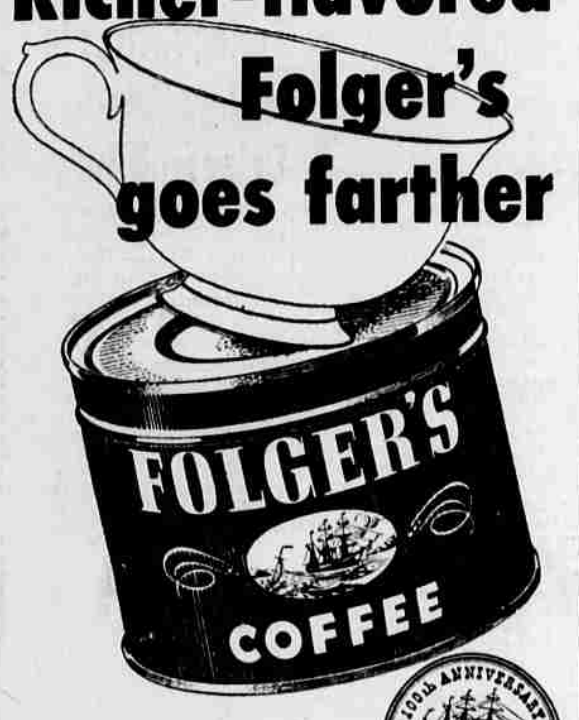

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*Photo of French movie-star Fernandel from current best-seller, The Frenchman. Copyright 1948, 1949 by Philippe Halsman. Simon and Schuster, publishers.

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