

# Russia Throws Military Weight Onto Scales of China Civil War

Here is the first of three dispatches by Blake Gearhart, U.P. bureau manager in Shanghai, who has just made his way out from behind the "bamboo curtain". He brought with him the latest news from Red China, where he has been a virtual prisoner since October. He writes from Nantia where he arrived aboard the SS. General Gordon.

By Blake Gearhart  
United Press Correspondent

Manila, May 8—(U.P.)—Russia has thrown the weight of her military might onto the scales of the Chinese civil war.

She is supplying the Chinese communists with the latest type of fighter planes, and Russian military advisers are streaming into communist China. In the Pootung area, across from Shanghai, Russian mechanics and engineers are helping the Chinese communists build landing craft for an assault on the island of Formosa where Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and his nationalist army have dug in for a last stand against the reds.

Jet  
In the last six weeks there has been an unfamiliar sound in the Shanghai skies. It is the roar of jet planes—Russian jet planes.

As many as 11 have appeared in a single flight. The presence of these Russian jet planes is one reason that the nationalists have not been able to make effective raids recently from their island bases against Shanghai's Lungwa airport. The last big raid was in March when nationalist pilots dropped 50 bombs on the airport.

The best estimate is that there are between 200 and 300 communist fighter planes of various types defending Shanghai's air fields. They are mostly the Japanese-Zero type of plane, manufactured by the Russians. There probably are about 25 jet planes available and the best guess is that they were sent to Shanghai from the Russian zone in east Germany.

I cannot say with certainty how many Russian technicians and "advisers" have made their way into Shanghai, but the number is somewhere between 500 and 3,000. There are about 25,000 in all China. They began moving into the city in small

groups last fall and in the last few months the number has increased.

**Secrecy Attempt Made**  
Every attempt is made to keep their presence secret from foreigners. Early this year some residents in the wealthy section of Hungiao on the west side of Shanghai were ordered to leave their homes. Soon a bamboo fence was built around the district and guards were posted at the gates.

The next development was that Chinese employees of a big restaurant, which was about to close, suddenly were ordered to report to the bamboo compound to serve the Russians as cooks.

## Artists in Germany Paint Without Arms

Deisenhoffen, Germany (U.P.)—Two crippled German artists have achieved success without the use of their hands. They paint by holding a brush in their mouths.

They are Arnulf Erich Stegmann and Bruno Schmitz-Hochburg, partners in an art publishing firm and well-known painters themselves.

Stegmann, 38, was paralyzed when he was two years old. He never regained the use of his arms. As a boy he began sketching by holding a pencil in his mouth, leaning over a piece of paper tacked flat on a board and moving his head back and forth.

Schmitz-Hochburg, 47, lost his arms in an accident 30 years ago. He became interested in art and learned to paint with the brush held between his teeth or tied to his left foot.

The two men employ several war cripples in their publishing firm.

writers and houseboys. One Chinese employee received a year's pay in advance, but was required to agree that he would not attempt to see any member of his family in that time.

**Chinese Pay Salaries**  
The Chinese communists are paying the salaries and expenses of the Russian advisers and technicians. Everything I heard indicated the salaries were large and the expense accounts liberal. Some of the technicians are German prisoners, particularly at Kiangwan airfield, ten miles north of Shanghai. Recently two Germans entered a night club on Avenue Joffre. On their wrists was an ink stamp which read "USSR."

Most of the Russians in Shanghai are concerned entirely with military affairs, but the problem of indoctrinating the Chinese with the Moscow type of communism has not been neglected. One Russian appeared at a Chinese school in the Pootung area and tried to make friends with the students. He was hand-capped by the fact he did not know much Chinese but he kept repeating: "Mao Tse-tung, Stalin, ding, ding hao." Translated it meant: "Mao Tse-tung, Stalin—very, very good."

## English Pupils to Learn About U.S. From Comics

Philadelphia—(U.P.)—Pupils at the Cheigley School at Thewall, England, will learn about America from 900 comic books selected for them by American youngsters of their own age.

The books were gathered by the 11-year-old boys and girls in the sixth grade of the Oak Lane country day school of Temple University at the request of Howard Jones, an instructor at the English school.

The children decided "there's nothing wrong with sixth grade children reading comics because we are big enough and old enough to decide for ourselves what is good in comics and what is bad."

However, the 11-year-old admitted certain comics might give the impression that America is full of bandits. So they carefully selected the comics and are



(Acme Telephoto)  
**TOP SPOT**—Otto A. Seyferth of Muskegon, Mich., was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States at its three-day annual meeting in Washington. Seyferth, a union organizer turned big businessman, is the first man so closely linked with the union movement to be elected head of the nation's biggest businessman's organization.

sending along a long letter explaining the American point of view concerning the comic books.

After all, they agreed, "English children might get a different impression from certain comics than we do because they have less understanding of American life."

Lake Mead, formed by Hoover (Boulder) dam on the Colorado river, was named for Elwood Mead, chief of the United States reclamation service, when the dam was built.

New Orleans avoids flooding by the Mississippi river only by an expensive levee and spillway system, and the world's largest concentration of drainage pumps.

Pueblo, Colo., has been termed the "Pittsburgh of the West."

**CARD OF THANKS**  
To those who expressed their sympathy in so many beautiful and practical ways during our recent bereavement, we express our heartfelt thanks.—May Glend

# 1950 Dimes March Fund Apparently Up to 1949 Total

Portland, May 8—Oregon's 1950 March of Dimes apparently raised as much money for the continuing battle against infantile paralysis as did its 1949 predecessor.

Preliminary totals for this year's campaign were released today by Dr. E. T. Hedlund, Portland, state March of Dimes chairman, and they indicated a 1950 campaign figure of approximately \$410,000, despite the bitter weather that Oregon had experienced in many winters.

Figures—some final, some partial and some based on close estimate—were made available to Dr. Hedlund by Joe F. Kievit, Portland, state representative of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Kievit predicted that when the last confirmed reports are in from all 36 Oregon counties, "we might even do better than last year's \$410,000 effort."

**Lane Up Most**  
The 1950 campaign brought better results in some counties, poorer results in others, with Lane county showing the greatest gain over 1949. Lane turned in about \$6,000 more than it did the previous year, but it was Crook county that registered the largest per capita advance.

Crook's final report is expected to show an increase of nearly \$5,000 and its indicated total of about \$7600 may give it laurels as the county with the highest per capita record in the state.

Other counties which improved on their 1949 totals included Douglas, up \$4500; Jackson, up \$5,000; Malheur up \$2,500; and Deschutes up \$1,000. Both Kievit and Dr. Hedlund intimated

# Portland Pastor to Address Methodists

Dr. Laurence Nye, pastor of the First Methodist church at Portland, will address the Methodist Men's club on Monday, May 15, at the First Methodist church here.

His subject will be "Priesthood of Christian Men." The meeting, set for 7:30 p.m., will be the last one of the season for the group. C. R. Adamson will have charge of the devotions and community singing will be led by Dr. G. A. Dierdorff. There will also be special music. Members of Circle 1, Women's Society of Christian Service, will serve pie and coffee.

That certain Oregon chapters of the foundation might need help from the national level in spite of the generally good showing. They pointed out 28 cases had been reported in the state so far in 1950, or eight more than had been counted in the same period in 1949—Oregon's fourth worst polo year.

Tulare lake, which gave its name to Tulare county, is now in Kings county.

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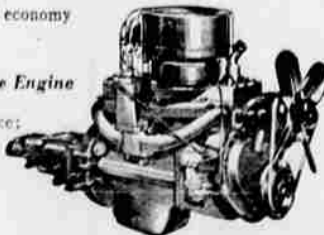
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2. NUMBER
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2. For best service, place your call with the operator like this: First, tell her the name of the town you're calling... then the telephone number (or the name and address if you don't yet have the number on your list). Next, if it's a person call, give her the name of the one you want to reach. And if you've made notes ahead of time, you'll find you can say as much in three minutes as in an average letter.

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