

Free World Declared Too Strong Now for Any Potential Enemy

Navy Secretary Sees Lessening Of War Danger

Riverside, Calif.—(U.P.)—Navy Secretary Charles S. Thomas said last night the threat of global war has lessened because the free world now is too strong for any potential enemy to hope to win.

"Our strengthening and multiplying alliances, our massive retaliatory capability, our industrial superiority and our sea power make the prospect of global atomic war in the near future unlikely," Thomas declared. He credited the free world military buildup for what he termed an "era of lessening tensions between East and West" and said the Communists now appear to be depending chiefly on subversion and economic warfare.

The Navy secretary warned, however, that there is "no room for complacency or relaxation of our efforts."

"We must never forget the Communist system of 'three-steps-forward, two-steps back,'" he said. "We seem to be in the 'two-steps-back' phase just now."

Because of this lessening in tensions, Thomas told the Institute of World Affairs, "I do not believe a danger of a global war is now great." He said he feels the danger of war in Europe is less than at any time since 1948.

Thomas said that while "we should explore every avenue of peace that offers itself, Russia so far has taken no positive or concrete steps" to support its talk of peace. The long-range Communist goal apparently still is "world revolution and world domination," he said.

The Navy secretary said that "by far the greatest danger to the free world in the next decade is not hot war but continued cold war, with perhaps the danger of fringe wars wherever and whenever we fail to maintain a posture of strength and a program for resistance."

He said the biggest danger now is that the Communists will try to undermine the free world economy, "burrowing into our national structures and weakening them through subversion and dissension."

At a press conference earlier, Thomas warned the Chinese Communists they "will get a bloody nose walking over the U.S. Seventh Fleet if they try to invade Formosa."

The Navy secretary said the United States Navy now is in a position "to carry out any assignment that the President would give us."

However, Thomas reported that the American navy has only 165 submarines of all types as compared to Russia's 400.

"The Russians are building one submarine a week," Thomas said. "And they now have seven times as many submarines as the Germans had at the start of World War II."

Merger of CIO, AFL During 1955 Predicted

Pittsburgh—(U.P.)—David J. J. McDonald, head of the CIO United Steelworkers, has predicted that in 1955 the 16,000,000 members of the CIO and AFL will merge in a "new united labor union."

The 53-year-old head of the nation's 1,200,000 organized steel workers, who was named to a "unity" committee at last week's Los Angeles convention of the CIO, declared in a statement issued upon return to his headquarters here:

"We can work all our problems out, every single one of them, as men of good will, as men believing in one another, as men believing in fundamental principles of American trade unions."

A "realistic appraisal" of the problems involved, he said, would show no unsurmountable barriers or unsolvable problems. The United Mine Workers and seven other big unions walked out of the CIO contending that workers should join unions on an industry-wide basis rather than according to their job, or craft. Subsequent merger efforts have hung up on resulting jurisdictional questions.

John L. Lewis and his United Mine Workers subsequently quit the CIO in a political dispute with the late Philip Murray, McDonald's predecessors as head of the steel union; rejoined the AFL, and then "disaffiliated" to become an independent.

McDonald, a close friend of Lewis, kicked off the current "unity" drive at the USW convention last September. He carried the battle to last week's CIO convention where a "unity" resolution passed unanimously.

The steel union head said his optimism of an early merger of the AFL and CIO was based on "many factors, the first and most important of which is that the people want labor unity."

"And when I say the people I mean the people who are now members of the American Federation of Labor and the people who are now members of the Congress of Industrial Organizations," he said.

Among the "other" goals, McDonald listed "maximum political, social and economic effectiveness on federal, state and municipal levels."

Speaking at a luncheon meeting at the Jackson hotel, Chief Pryde said that, despite predictions that Washington's strict enforcement of traffic laws would discourage tourist travel, tourist business is booming and visitors to the state have been vocal and enthusiastic over the state's sane and sensible driving practices.

People Made Change Viewing a toll of 636 deaths from traffic accidents back in 1936, Washington people were not happy with a situation in which citizens were struck down and drivers passed off fatal accidents as "unlucky incidents."

They decided to do something about it, the speaker said, and today's enviable record of fewer fatalities on Washington highways is the result of years of careful study and effort. The public was made to know and understand the traffic problem after exhaustive research into the causes of accidents.

Drivers' licenses involve both a privilege and responsibility, so Washington's policy is to conduct rigid examinations. A renewal program brings all applicants before trained officials for practical, periodical tests. Few have lost entirely the privilege to drive, but some have been restricted, Chief Pryde said. The public has learned that they have nothing to worry about if they obey the laws.

Education Important Washington's comprehensive traffic regulation program entails vitally important education in schools, an annual governor's conference and new techniques in traffic control. This year over 1,100 officials from all sections of the state reviewed the highway accident problem at the state's governor's conference.

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Survivors were the pilot, Lt. Cmdr. Frederick A. Hancock, 34, Reading, Va., and Lt. William P. Butler, 25, Hyattsville, Md. Also surviving was U. S. Deputy Marshal Darrell Miller, Juneau.

Butler's condition was reported "critical" and Hancock was in fair condition. Miller was unharmed.

Xavier Cugat Sued By Theatrical Agent Hollywood—(U.P.)—Theatrical agent Franklin D'Amore demanded \$21,500 from bandleader Xavier Cugat today, charging the rumba king reneged on a contract to pay 10 per cent of profits from a European tour.

D'Amore, also a Hollywood restaurateur, said in his suit filed in superior court yesterday that he had received nothing from Cugat.

He asserted Cugat's band made more than \$200,000 on its tour and he demanded \$20,000 as his share of the profits plus \$1500 reimbursement for telephone calls and cablegrams.

Writing materials, including stationery, fountain pens and mechanical pencils were recommended, as were shaving materials, hair brushes, combs, lotions and other toilet items.

Ricker said that books, playing cards and games are supplied to members, so that gifts of this nature would be less useful than others he mentioned.

KILLED BY TRAIN Vancouver, Wash.—(U.P.)—Isaac K. Braatz, 64, of Vancouver, Wash., was killed yesterday afternoon when his car was struck by a passenger train at the Biddle crossing, eight miles east of here near the Evergreen highway.

Miller, of Southern Oregon, will preside over two meetings—one on district problems and one on individual chapter problems. Among plans to be discussed in his groups.

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Clooney, Sinatra Top Singers; 'Hey There' Most Popular Song

New York—(U.P.)—The nation's disk jockeys have picked Rosemary Clooney and Frank Sinatra as the most popular vocalists of 1954 and "Hey There" as the record most demanded by their listeners.

That's the outcome of a poll taken by the United Press of record spinners at radio stations across the country. A total of 726 ballots were received.

Edges Eddie Fisher The 37-year-old Sinatra pulled the big surprise by barely edging out Eddie Fisher as the top male vocalist on the disk jockey list. Miss Clooney won by a sizeable margin as top female vocalist with Kitty Kallen second.

The top records were "Hey There" (Rosemary Clooney-Columbia); "Little Things Means a Lot" (Kitty Kallen-Decca); "Young at Heart" (Sinatra-Capitol); "Wanted" (Perry Como-Victor); "Secret Love" (Doris Day-Columbia).

The male vocalist outcome, with total votes, was: Sinatra 195, Fisher 190, Como 142, Nat Cole 48, Bob Manning 21, and bunched closely behind in order, Bing Crosby, Don Cornell, Tony Bennett, Tony Martin, Gordon Macrae and Frankie Laine.

The female vocalist outcome was Rosemary Clooney 202, Kitty Kallen 112, Doris Day 86, Patti Page 50, Kay Starr 30, and behind them, Jo Stafford, Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, June Christy, Dinah Shore, Peggy Lee and Joni James.

The winners in other divisions polled were: Top vocal group—Four Aces, Big Band—Ray Anthony. Small instrumental group—George Shearing.

Rhythm and blue—Bill Haley. Country artist—Eddy Arnold. Other Song Votes Other songs which drew a

sizeable vote included "The High and the Mighty," "This Ole House," "Sh-boom," "Three Coins in the Fountain," and "Mr. Sandman."

"Hey There," composed by Dick Adler and Jerry Ross, is from the score of the Broadway musical "Pajama Game."

Columbia Records' Mitch Miller used an intriguing gimmick in the Rosemary Clooney recording—an answer-back version using a multiple tape in an echo chamber. The record has passed the 1,500,000 mark in sales.

School Board Gets School Locker Bids The board of directors of School District 49, Medford, accepted bids for lockers in the new east side junior high school at its December meeting last night.

Six bidders made offers with various alternatives, which are being compiled and prepared before the contracts are awarded. Two sets of lockers, for the school corridors and for the shower rooms, are contemplated.

Bidders included Bruce Bauer Lumber company and Jewett Office Supply, both Medford, and Frank D. Cohan and Associates, Lyon Metal Products company, Northern School Supply, and Allied Building Specialties, all Portland.

The board also discussed three formulas proposed for the distribution of the basic school support fund which will be considered at the 1955 meeting of the state legislature.

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Washington State's Good Traffic Record Valuable, Chief Says

Favorable publicity for the state of Washington for the best accident-free traffic record in the U.S. has been invaluable, James A. Pryde, chief of the Washington State Patrol, told members of the Medford Rotary club in an address here Tuesday.

Speaking at a luncheon meeting at the Jackson hotel, Chief Pryde said that, despite predictions that Washington's strict enforcement of traffic laws would discourage tourist travel, tourist business is booming and visitors to the state have been vocal and enthusiastic over the state's sane and sensible driving practices.

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Dismissal Sought On Assault Charges Oregon City—(U.P.)—Clackamas County District Attorney Winston Bradshaw yesterday moved for dismissal of assault charges against three Portland men and District Judge Paul C. Fisher cancelled the felony counts.

Bradshaw asked for the dismissal after the three victims of the alleged assault said they were not certain of details of the incident. The charges arose out of a fight at Milwaukie 10 days ago.

The court dismissal freed Jonathan C. Olney, 20, Clifford L. Timm, 22, and Richard N. Olney, 30, all Portland.

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