

Morse Announces Switch To Democrat Party

Communist China Calls for Parley On Formosa Crisis

Wants Talks on Lines Of Russian Proposal

London — (U.P.)—Communist China admitted today the Formosa crisis had reached the "dangerous" stage and called for a ten-nation conference as proposed by Russia to ease the tense inter-national situation.

The Chinese request was made in an editorial in the Peiping People's Daily, official organ of the Peiping regime, and broadcast by Red China's New China News Agency.

It followed soon after reports of a Nationalist naval victory over a Communist fleet of 14 vessels, several of them landing craft with troops, in the Formosa Strait near Nanchi, north-eastern Nationalist island out-post.

At the same time Moscow Radio broadcast a commentary in the official Communist newspaper Pravda rejecting as a "swindling maneuver" reported British attempts to reach a cease fire in the Formosa dispute by getting Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek to withdraw from Quemoy and Matsu Islands.

Moscow called the maneuver a "swindle" on grounds the Chinese Communists had every right not only to the off-shore islands in dispute but Formosa and the nearby Pescadores as well.

The Peiping Peoples Daily backed to the hilt the Russian Feb. 4 proposal for a ten-nation conference sponsored by India, the Soviet Union and Britain to be held either in Shanghai, or New Delhi before the end of the month.

Britain, which has taken an active role in trying to ease the tense situation, rejected the Soviet proposal because it barred Nationalist China from a seat at the conference table.

"The Soviet proposal for an international conference on the dangerous situation in the Taiwan (Formosa) area opens a new road for easing tension in the Taiwan area and the Far East," the Chinese Communist editorial said.

Welcomes Support
"This is a further effort by the Soviet Union to ease tension in the Far East," the editorial said. "The Chinese peoples welcome and support this Soviet proposal."

Russia suggested Red China, the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union, India, Burma, Indonesia, Pakistan and Ceylon attend the conference. Peiping said the five Asian nations had a "special interest" in Asian peace.

But at the same time Peiping accused the United States of "evading responsibility for aggression" and seeking "to bring to life the myth of 'two Chinas'" — a proposal already rejected by the Taipei government.

Peiping made it clear the conference would have nothing to do with the "traitor Chiang Kai-shek" clique but only the subject of what it called United States "aggression" and "interference" in China's internal affairs.

Senate Lifts Ban On Emergency Clause

Salem — (U.P.)—The Oregon Senate voted today to lift the ban on putting the emergency clause on tax raising measures. There were only seven dissenting votes, two of them Republican.

The resolution, introduced by Sen. Lee Ohmart (R-Salem), if approved by the House and signed by the governor, would be referred to the people at the 1956 general election, since it involves a change in the state's constitution. Should the people pass it, the 1937 Legislature could pass a new source of revenue act—such as the sales tax—which would go immediately into effect. Even if it should be referred, it would remain in effect at least until the 1958 general election.

Sixth Fireman's Body Found in Fire Debris

Baltimore, Md. — (U.P.)—Another fireman's body was dragged from the rubble of a downtown building last night, bringing the toll in the Fire Department's worst tragedy to six dead and 21 injured.

The bodies of five other firemen were recovered earlier from the ruins of the Tru-Fit Clothing Co., which was gutted by fire Wednesday night. They were killed when the roof and back wall of the building caved in on them.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire
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Weather

FORECAST: Fair and cold through Saturday. Low tonight about 18. High Saturday 48.
Highest Yesterday 43
Lowest this Morning 20
Prec. to 4:30 a.m. Today, Trace

ATOM BOMB SET OFF IN NEVADA

Dulles To Hold Diplomatic Talks In Thailand Soon

Formosan Crisis, Strategy To Be Aired

Washington — (U.P.)—Secretary of State John Foster Dulles departs for the Far East late today for high-level diplomatic talks on the Formosa crisis and Allied defense strategy in Southeast Asia.

Dulles will fly over the Pacific to Bangkok, Thailand, where he will meet next Wednesday with diplomats of Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Thailand. The meeting was called to get the new eight-nation defense pact against Communist aggression ready for operation in any emergency.

Opportunity for Talks
Diplomats said Dulles also will have opportunities while there to talk behind-the-scenes with British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and other officials on new Allied strategy in the China crisis. The diplomatic-military jockeying over Formosa has placed new and heavy strains on American-British relations.

Eden and other British officials were reported upset by Dulles' new warning to Red China against attacking the Nationalist-held Quemoy and Matsu Islands off the China coast. Britain has been promoting a plan to surrender these islands to the Reds in exchange for a Formosa cease fire. Dulles didn't say no to that scheme in his foreign policy address Wednesday night. But he said it was doubtful that such a surrender would promote peace or freedom.

Talks Seen Best Chance
Diplomats believe the best chance of solving the Formosa crisis may center on talks through diplomatic channels between Washington, London, Moscow, Peiping, New Delhi and other capitals. These talks, if profitable, might form the basis for more formal negotiations either inside or outside of the United Nations.

State Services Curtailment Asked
Salem — (U.P.)—Sen. Gene Brown (R-Grants Pass) today urged the Joint Ways and Means Committee to adopt a policy of strict curtailment of state services to avoid the need for tax increases.

Sen. Brown said "it is time for the people to realize that they can't have services unless they're willing to pay for them."

He said the basic school support fund could be reduced by approximately \$20,000,000 by basing it on the number of children between the ages of 6 and 19 instead of on the present 4 to 20 age group. The Board of Higher Education's budget could be cut by some \$3,000,000 and the welfare commission budget by perhaps \$12,000,000 by cutting out some of the present services and programs, Sen. Brown said.

Soviet Submarine Base On Albania Coast Told
London — (U.P.)—The London Daily Telegraph reported today Russia has established a submarine base on the coast of Albania only 25 miles north of the Greek border.

A dispatch from Vienna said three Soviet submarines of small displacement are already reported stationed at the base of Dri-mades "more or less permanently."

Earthquake Rattles San Diego Windows

San Diego — (U.P.)—A sharp earthquake rattled windows in the eastern sections of San Diego county today. No damage was reported.

Seismologist Fred Robinson said the quake began at 7:28.15 a.m. (PST) and lasted only 45 seconds. He estimated the center to be in the El Cajon valley, east of here.



ATTEMPT TO BLUFF REDS FAILS—Romanian Charge d'Affaires Emeric Stoffel carries the 8-year-old son of a Romanian legion official to safety after anti-Communist Romanian refugees had driven out the legion staff at Bern, Switzerland. The three anti-Reds defied 100 Swiss troops and police for nearly two days in their desperate bid to force Communist Romania to release five anti-Communist political prisoners held in Red jails. They surrendered after a priest entered the building and talked with them for 15 minutes.

Nationalists Sink 21 Red China Ships

Taipei, Formosa — (U.P.)—The Nationalist Chinese Navy and Air Force announced today, in an official communique, that 21 vessels of a Red Chinese fleet have been sunk in a furious air-sea battle off Taishan Island, 120 miles northwest of Formosa.

The communique said Nationalist planes also attacked the Communist Taishan Island base itself, destroying eight barracks and a tented billeting area, and inflicting "heavy casualties" among Communist troops.

It said 1800 Red troops, intended as reinforcements for the Communist Taishan Island garrison, went down with their transport vessels in the attack on the Communist fleet.

Listed as sunk by the Nationalist combined air-sea arm were:

Pineau Asks for Confirmation to Post
Paris — (U.P.)—Socialist leader Christian Pineau asked the National Assembly to confirm him today as France's 21st postwar Premier.

The 50-year-old Pineau staked his hopes of ending a 14-day-old government crisis on a pledge to obtain approval of the Paris pacts for West German rearmament "in the shortest possible time."

As he mounted the speakers' stand to face the tense, faction-ridden Assembly, Pineau faced strong right wing opposition that made the outcome of his bid to replace the fallen government of ex-Premier Pierre Mendes-France unpredictable.

Pineau, pledged to economic and social reforms as well as greater freedom for French North African possessions and closer West European cooperation, was given only a 50-50 chance to win office.

Final preparations were being made today for the Heart Fund's community-wide house-to-house collection, which is scheduled for about 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, according to Miss Laura York, Heart Sunday chairman.

Assisting with the drive will be volunteers from Altrusa, National Secretaries association, Medford Parents Extension association, Methodist Women's club, Wesleyan Service Guild of the Methodist church, Credit Women's Breakfast club, and Delta Kappa Gamma sorority.

Kits for the workers were assembled by Girl Scouts under the direction of Mrs. Michele Rossi. Mrs. George L. Watson, president of the Business and Professional Women's club, has served as an assistant to Miss York.

Five Communist gunboats, eight landing craft and eight armed junks.

In addition, the communique said, a number of other Red vessels were damaged.

The Nationalists pounded the Communist reinforcement fleet for eight hours, the military announcement said.

It was reported that two Nationalist destroyers took part in the attack.

Col. Lu Ta, Nationalist military spokesman, said the landing craft which were sunk ranged from 300 to 400 tons displacement.

Carry Reinforcements
The spokesman said the Nationalists intercepted a fleet of 14 Communist gunboats and landing craft carrying reinforcements from Peikuan-shan Islands to the Taishan Islands. The Taishans are 30 miles south of Nanchi and 63 miles north of Matsu Islands.

The intercepting Nationalist force opened fire and quickly threw the Communist fleet into confusion, it was claimed. The Communists broke off contact after two hours of fighting but were overtaken by the Nationalist warships, Lu said.

Bulletin
Moscow — (U.P.)—Russia today proposed complete destruction of all existing atomic and hydrogen weapons of all nations.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES
New York — (U.P.)—Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 411.63 up 1.22; 20 railroads 146.61 up 0.96; 15 utilities 62.65 up 0.05, and 65 stocks 152.41 up 0.55. Sales today were about 3,660,000 shares, compared with 3,030,000 shares traded yesterday.

DR. INSKEEP SELECTED
Salem — (U.P.)—Gov. Paul L. Patterson said he had reappointed four doctors to the State Board of Health. They are Dr. C. C. Burkes and Dr. O. T. Wherry, Portland; Dr. N. E. Irvine, Lebanon, and Dr. L. Inskeep, Medford.

No citations were issued, they added.

PLANE DROP OPENS NEW WEAPON TEST

Las Vegas — (U.P.)—An atomic bomb dropped from an Air Force bomber exploded over the Nevada Proving Grounds today to mark the opening of the 1955 winter-spring nuclear tests.

The Atomic Energy commission confirmed the air burst went off at noon (PST) over Yucca Flat, 75 miles northeast of this desert gambling city.

It was the 32nd nuclear blast in Nevada and the 33rd in the United States.

The explosion, apparently of a nuclear weapon in the "small" category, was heralded here by a small lightning-like flash. Minutes later a rumble was heard as the sound wave arrived.

Within five minutes, the signature of the A-bomb, a towering boiling mushroom cloud, wrote its way vertically 10,000 feet into the sky.

An aircraft from the Special Weapons Center at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., delivered the postponed first "shot" in the test series, dubbed "Operation Teapot."

Troop Maneuvers
Cancelled for Air Drop
It was the 17th air drop of an A-bomb over Nevada, all delivered by crews of the 4925th Test Atomic Group of the Special Weapons Center.

Troop maneuvers were cancelled for this air drop, which was a substitute for a bigger, tower explosion postponed since last Tuesday morning by unfavorable weather that made radiation fallout a potential hazard to ranching and mining communities near the test site.

Soldiers had been scheduled to go into trenches two and one-quarter miles from the base of the tower.

But the 1100 troops and officers, including Marines, Navy and Army personnel, observed today's detonation from a safe distance of several miles. Observers included Lewis L. Strauss, AEC chairman.

Approximately 50 aircraft, including the delivery plane, took part in the operation. They sampled the atomic cloud for radioactivity, tracked and charted its course and provided a small plane air-lift support for scientists.

Weather Jinx Continues
Bad weather which plagued the test and forced postponements since last Tuesday continued a jinx today, causing the air drop set for 7:30 a.m. to be moved back to 10:30 a.m. then to 11:30 a.m., then 11:45, and finally to noon.

In opening its tests, scheduled to include detonations of 10 or 11 atomic devices, the AEC emphasized it would take exacting precautions to avoid exposing humans or livestock to a rain of radioactive particles.

Medford Woman Hurt In Car-Truck Mishap
Mrs. Lana B. Philpott, 43, of 917 South Holly st., was reported in good condition today after suffering injuries to her left leg in a car-truck collision at 6:38 a.m., according to city police and hospital attendants.

Police said the injuries were confined to the woman's left leg and that no fractures were found.

Mrs. Philpott was driving a station wagon which struck a parked Jorgensen's dairy truck near 635 South Holly st., police said.

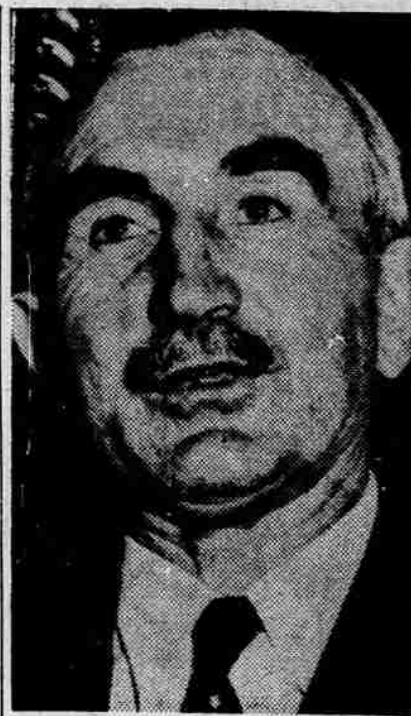
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upon as an investment made for self, family and community."

Each volunteer worker will call at between 15 and 25 homes in her own neighborhood. Receipts will be given those desiring to have them for income tax deduction purposes.

Volunteer workers will seal all contributions in a large envelope, taking it to an area collection point where it will be picked up by a route collection and taken to U. S. National bank, where it will be deposited by Dwight Houghton, assistant bank manager, who is serving as Heart Fund treasurer.



SEN. WAYNE MORSE Registers as Democrat

Hatfield Calls For Democrats To Join Republicans

Salem — (U.P.)—Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Salem) today answered Sen. Wayne Morse's switch to the Democratic party with an invitation to Democrats to register in the Republican party.

Hatfield, who won both Democrat and Republican nominations to the state legislature in Marion county, said Morse's switch is the signal "for an exodus from the Democratic party of those who are alert to the Trojan horse which has been wheeled into their midst by their state's chairman."

Democrat Chairman Howard Morgan accompanied Morse to Eugene yesterday when the senator's registration was changed.

Hatfield said "the Democrat primary for 1956 was held in Portland Thursday night. Other pre-primary nomination announcements from headquarters may be expected in the next few months."

Nothing New Seen In Morse Switch

By UNITED PRESS
Gov. Paul Patterson said today the switch of Sen. Wayne Morse to the Democratic party "did not add anything to what we already knew."

"He simply made the formal change," Patterson said.

Philip S. Hitchcock, who has been mentioned along with Patterson as a possible candidate in 1956 to oppose Morse, said "I expect that we will pick a good candidate and beat him."

He said, "If Paul Patterson runs, I will support him. If he doesn't, then it will be wide open. I think he will run, however."

Edward Geary, speaker of the House of Representatives, said, "We feel no loss." Elmo Smith, Senate president, said, "they are welcome to him. I regret they haven't had him sooner." Both Geary and Smith are Republicans.

George Tomlinson, Portland attorney who heads the Oregon Young Republican Federation, described the switchover as "the first evidence of political honesty the senator has exhibited in two and one-half years."

Meanwhile, in Washington, D.C., Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.), applauded Morse's enrollment. He pledged his support to Morse in 1956 and predicted that Oregon would reelect Morse as a Democrat next year.

Lausmann Criticizes 'Lunatic' Drivers

Redding, Calif. — (U.P.)—A. A. Lausmann of Medford, Ore., criticized yesterday a "lunatic fringe" of logging truck drivers for carelessness on the highways.

Lausmann spoke to more than 1,000 delegates to the Sierra Cascade Logging Conference here.

"Our industry by its very nature of having timber, rough ground and steep mountain walls is hazardous, and management provides the best possible equipment," he said, "but this won't amount to a hill of beans unless every man who works in the woods does his part."

Four The Dalles Men Indicted for Theft

Portland — (U.P.)—Four men from The Dalles were indicted by a federal grand jury here yesterday on charges of theft of government property.

Accused of stealing more than \$5000 worth of copper wire from The Dalles dam project were Thomas C. Kennon, 28; Henry E. Doyle, 30; Donald Wetmore, 29, and James C. Murphy, 30.

Action Seen Best Way To Advance Liberalism Cause

Senator To Seek Reelection in 1956

Portland — (U.P.)—Sen. Wayne L. Morse, who bolted the Republican party in 1952, announced last night that he has joined the Democratic party and will seek reelection next year as a Democrat.

He said in a speech at a cheering Multnomah county Democratic rally here that he was joining the Democrats because he believes that is the best way to "advance the cause of liberalism in American politics."

Morse had registered as a Democrat in the afternoon in the Lane county courthouse at Eugene.

Count Now 49-47
His official switch to the Democratic party leaves the Senate with 49 Democrats and 47 Republicans.

"It is because I have become convinced that I can make my best contribution to a legislative program that will best serve the people of Oregon, and the nation, under the banner of the Democratic party that I now announce my intention to run for reelection to the Senate in 1956 as a Democrat," he said.

Morse campaigned for Adlai E. Stevenson, 1952 Democratic presidential nominee, after he broke with the Republican party. He also voted with Democrats this year for control of the Senate and sits on the Democratic side of the aisle.

First Official Word
But last night's announcement was the first official word that he would seek reelection in 1956 as a Democrat. His announcement ended his two-year tenure as the Senate's lone Independent.

Outlining his reasons for switching party alignment, Morse told the Democratic rally it "is a great fallacy" to consider "party regularity . . . synonymous with party responsibility."

"The highest order of party responsibility is to be found in the exercise of intellectual honesty by an elected official," he said. "One of the greatest evils in American politics today is the growing practice on the part of too many politicians to let party officials and economic pressure groups tell them how to vote."

He said he broke from GOP ranks in 1952 because the Republican "convention platform was a grave disappointment to me and thousands of other liberal Republicans."

'Steamroller' Charged
"It was disheartening to see the victorious Eisenhower forces embrace steamroller tactics to push through the nomination" of Sen. Richard M. Nixon (R-Calif.) as vice president, he said.

Morse disclosed that he had been working with others to advance the vice-presidential nomination of Sen. Leverett Saltonstall (R-Mass.). But he said "we were told that Gen. Eisenhower wanted no nominee in competition with Nixon."

"During the 1952 campaign, Gen. Eisenhower's campaign tactics were increasingly disappointing," he said. "His Morning Inside Heights agreement with Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-O.) in which Taft's program was embraced, made it clear that the Republican candidate's slogan was 'anything to win.'"

Demos for Business
Morse said the Democratic party has demonstrated that it "is the party of liberalism. Their program is in the best interests of the independent farmers, small businessmen, working people, white collar and civil service workers."

He said "it is not true that the Democratic party is against business. To the contrary, its record is in staunch defense of enlightened capitalism manifested in private enterprise."

"In the last campaign," he said, "I supported and campaigned for the candidates of the Oregon Democratic party because of our common belief in the necessity of a bipartisan program of international cooperation with free nations, and a domestic program for constant expansion of economic opportunities and strengthening of the competitive private enterprise system."

GOP Liberalization Hopeless
"It is my considered judgment that I can best contribute to such a program by working within the Democratic party," he said.

Earlier at Eugene, Morse told reporters "there is no question that during the last eight years I have tried to liberalize the Republican party, but the task was hopeless."