

Civilian Defense Bosses Swayed by 'Political Expediency,' Ridgway Says

Complaint Aired In Second Article Of Magazine Series

Washington — (U.P.) — Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway protested today that the civilian bosses of the Defense Department too often are swayed by "political expediency."

He said a tendency to substitute political for military judgment was "manifest many times" during his tour as Army chief of staff.

Ridgway, President Eisenhower's Army chief of staff, until his retirement last summer, aired his complaint in the second of a series of Saturday Evening Post articles entitled "My Battles in War and Peace." The articles have touched off a sharp congressional debate on administration defense policies.

Balked at Proposal

The former Army chief also: 1. Disclosed that he balked at Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson's proposal — never carried out — for a reduction in combat troops overseas on the grounds it would expose U. S. troops to "the possibility of annihilation." He said "many" other "suggestions" came from Wilson's office that would have "seriously impaired the Army's capability."

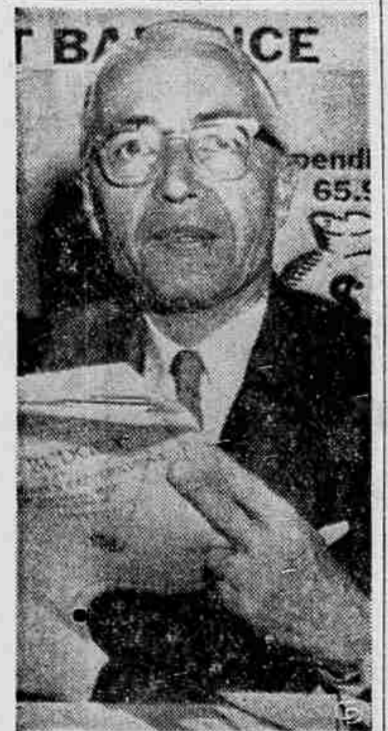
2. Expressed fear that President Syngman Rhee of South Korea, unless restrained by the United States, still might "set the whole world aflame" by sending his 600,000 ROK troops north to drive the Communists across the Yalu river.

3. Said that the "most dangerous doctrine" of all is the belief that Russia and Red China could be conquered "by mass bombing alone." He termed "such mass destruction . . . repugnant to the ideals of a Christian nation."

Falling Into Costly Errors

4. Declared that those who claim the foot soldier is obsolete and naval and air power alone can insure peace are "falling again into the error which cost us so much blood and agony in Korea."

Calling on the nation to "keep the Army out of politics," Ridgway said the nation should insist that men who accept top civilian jobs in the Defense Department be "as completely divorced from politics as possible."



TAKING over U. S. budget director job, Percival Brundage looks over budget for 1957. Brundage moved up to top on resignation of R. R. Hughes, effective April 1. (International)

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Back Stairs: Ike's Grandma Moses Art

Washington — (U.P.) — Backstairs at the White House: The Grandma Moses painting of the Eisenhower farm at Gettysburg — presented by the cabinet to the President last week on the third anniversary of his inauguration — probably cost between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

The painting probably will be hung at the farm. It would look somewhat out of place around the more formal art of the White House.

Most of the reporters at Mr. Eisenhower's news conference last week had not seen him close up since before his illness. What seemed to strike the group as different about Mr. Eisenhower was his restrained tone of voice; his slower rate of speech.

In Mr. Eisenhower's pre-illness press conferences, he talked so rapidly it was difficult for many reporters taking notes in long-hand to keep up with him. Last Thursday, he was relatively easy to follow. The same situation prevailed at the Jan. 8 meeting.

Jet Voodoo Fighter Passes 1000 MPH

Washington — (U.P.) — The Air Force F101 Voodoo fighter, one of the jets marked for a production speed-up, has topped a speed of 1000 miles per hour and more.

The Air Force F104 daytime fighter is considered the fastest combat plane in the world. It is believed to have flown close to twice the speed of sound or 1320 miles per hour at high altitude.

The Navy's F8U Crusader is described as the fastest carrier-borne plane in the world. It has flown 1050 miles per hour and reports say it can do better. The plane has been ordered into quantity production.

The Voodoo flights, like those of all new supersonic planes, were made at the Edwards Air Force base, the California desert test center used by both the Air Force and Navy.

Patterson Urges Highway Bill Study

Portland — (U.P.) — Oregonians were urged by Gov. Paul Patterson yesterday to study carefully the highway bill that is certain to be introduced in this session of Congress, and to make their wishes forcefully known.

The highway bill would have far-reaching effects in Oregon, although only two major highways in the state would be directly involved, Gov. Patterson told the Portland Chamber of Commerce forum luncheon.

The governor said President Eisenhower's program for national highway improvement "is very important to Oregon. Under this program highways No. 30 and No. 99, now in the national system of highways, would be improved with the federal government paying approximately 90 per cent of the cost."

New York — (U.P.) — Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.) has been asked to come to New York to testify for the government in the perjury trial of Paul H. Hughes.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day

with newsmen in Key West. ammunition by saying it would be "idle to pretend" that he could regain the excellent state of health he enjoyed before his heart attack.

Officials of the Alfalfa club were so set on having the President at their dinner here last Saturday that three weeks ago while the chief executive was in Florida, they sent an emissary to Key West to sound out the President's staff on possibilities.

Through the emissary, word was sent back to the club that if the social organization issued an invitation to the President he would have to decline. Therefore, no invitation was issued. But the club sent a message to the President saying how much the members wanted to see him and how sorry they were that he could not come.

Eight Persons Arrested In Roseburg Burglaries

Roseburg — (U.P.) — Police Chief Stan Olson said yesterday 8 persons have been arrested in connection with a wave of burglaries, vandalism and destruction of property in the Roseburg area during the past few months. Five of these arrested ranged in age from 18 to 35 and the other three are juveniles, Olson said.

Olson credited officer Gail Carnine with breaking the case. Carnine was scheduled tonight to receive the mayor's award for outstanding public service in the city of Roseburg for previous police work.

Since 1859 the United States has produced two-thirds of the world's cumulative production of oil.

Prisoner Dies in Klamath County Jail

Klamath Falls — (U.P.) — A county jail prisoner died here yesterday of natural causes, Sheriff Murray Britton reported. The victim was identified as George Masingill, 53, a native of North Carolina who had been sentenced to 90 days on Dec. 1 after he was found guilty of petty larceny. Britton said Masingill was the victim of heart trouble.

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