Eisenhower To Work To Prevent Outbreak of War in Middle East

Washington —(U.P.)— President Eisenhower declared today that he will do everything within his constitutional powers to prevent an outbreak of hostilities in the Middlle East.

Mr. Eisenhower also told his news conference there is always a faint hope that his correspondence with Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin may develop something of peace value.

This possibility exists, the President said, as long as his exchanges with Bulganin are what he described as non-bitter.

The President's determination to do everything possible to avert further conflict in the Middle East was expressed when a reporter asked him for an "assessment" of stopping or avoiding conflict as a result of his talks with British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden.

Diplomats Meet

The President noted that U.S., British and French diplomats will meet at the State Department this afternoon to determine what measures can be taken in the Middle East either inside or outside the United Nations.

Mr. Eisenhower then said that everything he could do constitutionally to prevent an outbreak of hostilities in the Middle East would be done.

He did not elaborate, but some observers believer that he thus left the way open for strong action, apparently including military force if necessary.

There have been unconfirmed reports that the administration might ask Congress for standby authority to use force in the Middle East Arab-Israeli crisis. But this possibility is not under active consideration at this time.

Russian Proposal

Administration officials said earlier that the U. S., British and French diplomats meeting this afternoon will consider quick use of U. N. machinery and possible military and economic sanctions to counter any large scale hostilities in the Arab-Israeli dispute.

In his first letter, Jan. 23, Bulganin proposed a 20-year non-aggression pact with the United States to promote peace. Mr. Eisenhower politely but firmly rejected the proposal in a letter Jan. 28. He said such a pact would be worth no more than "a stroke of a pen" unless Russia proves its peaceful intentions by deeds, not words.

In his second letter, last week, Bulganin renewed his plea for the non-aggression pact and said Russia would be willing to sign similar agreements with Britain and France. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles yesterday branded this a propaganda gesture and said this country would be in no hurry to reply.

Avenues Toward Peace

Despite Russia's past records of treaty breaking and the like, the President said we must never stand in the position of blocking any tiny or tortuous avenue toward peace.

Eden had noted last week in brushing aside Bulganin's suggestion for a 20-year non-aggression pact with Britain that Russia had denounced a similar treaty only last year.

Today's Middle Eastern talks grew out of the recent conference between Mr. Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Anthony Eden. The two leaders called the lower-level diplomatic conference with France. Mr. Eisenhower and Eden also announced they would "favorably consider" any moves to increase the number of truce guards between Israel and the Arab states.

Officials said the Allied diplomats would block out possible courses of action "in event anything big happens in the Middle East." They will consider over the next few weeks what military forces might be used if necessary, including the U. S. Sixth Fleet.

Prineville Creates Post Of City Superintendent

Prineville— (U.P.) —Prineville will hire a city superintendent as the result of a special city council meeting at which the post was created.

Mayor Dick McRae named a three-man committee to interview applicants for the job which will be concerned with sewer and street activities.

Postponement Granted In Ex-Policeman's Case

Portland — (U.P.) — An eight-day postponement of trial was granted today to Orville Quincy Mitchell, a 32-year-old Portlander accused of drawing a $600 check without sufficient funds.

Mitchell, for a brief time, chief of police at Sweet Home, was granted the time to find an attorney.

Police said Mitchell also has been accused of bilking an Oswego, Ore., woman out of $53,000.

Student Phones Bulganin For Advice On Term Paper

Barrington, Ill. — (U.P.) — Charles Mee, 17, a high school senior, decided to get some advice direct from Soviet Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin before he wrote a class term paper.

He placed a telephone call to the Kremlin. And 13½ hours later, at a cost of $15, Mee had asked one question for his term paper, got an "I don't know answer," and said goodbye.

"I couldn't think of anything else to say," Mee said today.

But he at least had satisfaction of talking to the top man in Russia—he thinks.

Friends Urged Him

Three friends of Mee, Royal Hartwig, Stephen Hoffman, and James Condill, all 18, of Barrington, urged him to make the call as they discussed Mee's term paper Monday night.

They put in the call and yesterday, 13½ hours later, the call went through.

The long distance operator assured Mee that Bulganin was on the wire.

Mee was assured by the voice at the other end that he was speaking to the Premier.

"I would like to ask you a question," Mee said. "I hope you will be able to answer."

"I will try," he was told.

Questions Next Move

"Since the Russian draft of a treaty of friendship has been refused by the United States, what will be the next move on the part of the Kremlin — will another attempt be made along this line?" Mee asked.

"No, no — I don't know," was the reply.

Static disrupted further attempts at conversation. Then Mee said "das-vi-dany." Mee said his history teacher told him that is Russian for "goodbye."

Mee said he heard a chuckle at the other end of the line.

Then, "goodbye," said the Kremlin voice.

Mee still is wondering what to write about for his term paper.

Episcopal Coadjutor Observes Communion

Portland— (U.P.) —The Rt. Rev. James W. F. Carman, newly consecrated Episcopal bishop coadjutor of Oregon, celebrated his first communion as a bishop in St. Stephens church here today. The service marked the opening of a business session of the diocesan Woman's Auxiliary. Following yesterday's consecration rites, the bishop was feted at a banquet attended by high church officials and 900 guests.

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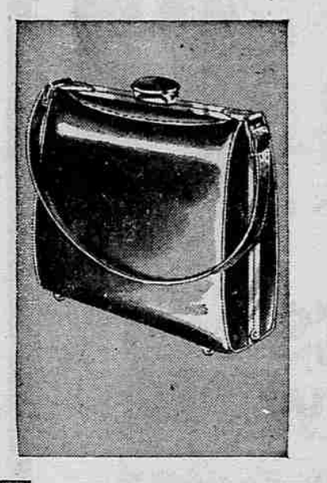

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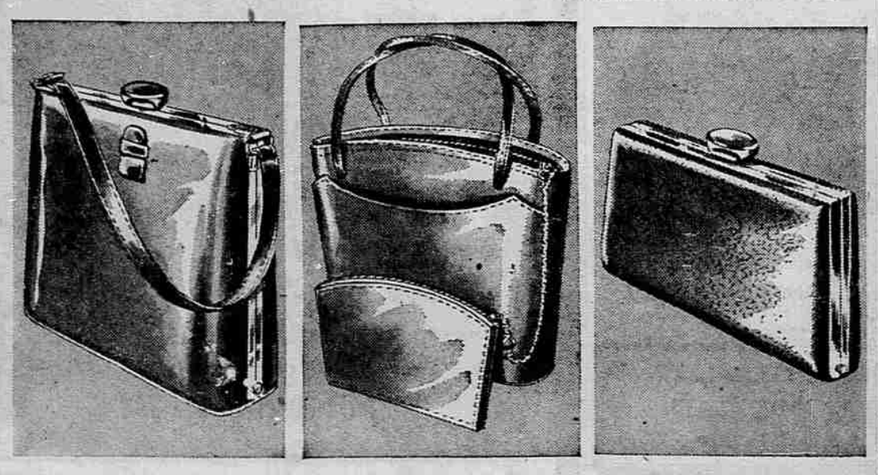

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