

Great Decisions Issues for 1957 Reviewed; New Policy Discussed

Portland—The current debate in Congress over President Eisenhower's proposal for a new U.S. policy in the Middle East helps pinpoint America's foreign policy dilemmas in 1957. Most observers agree the issue at stake is not Middle East unrest alone. The larger, more fundamental question is total U.S. foreign policy in a rapidly changing world.

The main focus of U.S. global foreign policy is still Russia and international communism. Even in the Middle East, the President's principal concern is not a regional problem. It is Russian penetration in the Middle East.

Some observers have pointed out that any shift in U.S. policy in the Middle East may have serious consequences on U.S. policy in other parts of the world. **President's Proposal**

The President's proposal is for the U.S. to give Middle Eastern countries economic and military guarantees against Russian aggression in that area. But what the U.S. does in the Middle East and how we do it may affect our relations with the satellites, with our European allies, with the UN and with the uncommitted nations of Asia and Africa.

One way current U.S. foreign policy problems can be seen on a global basis is in terms of the "Great Decisions . . . 1957" issues. The eight issues, selected by a national committee of experts, are separate pieces in a world-wide jig saw. The issues are:

Week of Jan. 20: How should U.S. compete with Russia? Whether in the Middle East or in Europe, whether in a military or an economic sense, Russian Communist power is the central focus of U.S. foreign policy. Unless the U.S. is able to compete successfully with growing Russian might, we may lose all the "other battles" by default.

Week of Jan. 27: What U.S. policy for Europe? In the past the U.S. has relied on its alliance with Western Europe, especially Britain and France, to keep the free world secure from Communist aggression. In the last four months this Western alliance has been shaken to the core. But the problem of European security remains a real one and Western Europe is indefensible without a strong Western alliance. U.S. policy for Europe will

have to consider such related problems as German reunification, a powerful NATO, Hungary, Poland, and the other satellites.

Middle East
Week of Feb. 3: What U.S. stakes in Middle East? The "hot spot" right now is the Middle East. Anglo-French influence seems to have collapsed, leaving a power vacuum. U.S. policy may determine whether that vacuum is filled by Russia, the UN, U.S. economic and military power or by the rising Middle Eastern states themselves.

Week of Feb. 10: Should U.S. deal with Red China? U.S. policy in most of the world is geared to what communism can or may do. Red China is the Communist partner with the greatest influence on U.S. policy in the Far East. The security of Korea, Japan and other U.S. allies in Southeast Asia (as well as uncommitted nations like India) may hinge on U.S. policy toward Red China.

Week of Feb. 17: U.S.—for or against "colonialism"? The uncommitted nations of the Middle East, Asia and Africa considered Anglo-French military action in the Suez a 1956 version of "colonialist aggression." When Washington joined the uncommitted nations in demanding the with-

drawal of British and French troops, the U.S. gained new prestige as an "anticolonial" power. But where do we go from there? Can the U.S. reconcile its traditional friendship with Britain and France with the support we now enjoy in the new (former colonial) nations of the world?

Week of Feb. 24: Are "neutralists" against U.S.? Most of the "neutralist" nations are former colonies, hating "colonialism" and "imperialism" as much as they hate communism. These nations make up a third of the membership of the UN. Can the U.S. work through the UN effec-

tively? Do we have to come to terms with "neutralism" to have effective policies in Asia and Africa?

Week of March 3: What U.S. military strategy in nuclear age? U.S. foreign policy cannot be effective unless we have the military power to carry out our commitments and threat. In terms of the kind of world we are willing to fight for, what 1) we have and what 2) we need to back up our policies?

Week of March 10: How much trade—how much aid? Nor can

U.S. foreign policy be effective unless our economic weapons, our tools of world trade and foreign aid, are part of the package.

The President has asked for \$400 million in aid to the Middle East and new aid proposals will be offered for other parts of the world. Will the U.S. have to pay heavy aid bills indefinitely? Do U.S. trade policies occasionally tear down what aid policies are supposed to build up? Can any contradictions be reconciled? Can we increase exports of U.S. agricultural surpluses?

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Mrs. M. R.—My son and daughter don't want me.

Mrs. I. N.—She's very difficult to live with.

Mrs. M. R.—My husband died a few months ago and I have been living alone in our home. I had hoped that my son or daughter would ask me to live with them, but neither of them has done this, although they have invited me for long visits.

I am extremely lonesome in our big house and I am often afraid at night. I should think children would understand this and not want to leave their mother like this in her old age. They have been very cruel.

I think I should tell my daughter exactly how I feel. My sister says I shouldn't, but that is because she is lonesome too and wants me to live with her. She has no children and doesn't understand that a mother wants to be with her own children.

Mrs. I. N.—I have a pretty good idea why my niece and nephew have not asked their mother to come and live with them. She is a very difficult person to live with. She even says herself that she is a neurotic.

Now it's true I have been lonesome, but I am used to it and would not ask my sister to come and live with me if I didn't feel it would be the better plan for her. It will be no picnic living with her, but I am used to her and feel we can get along somehow. Her children have their husband and wife to contend with as well.

My sister keeps talking about her "old age," but she is only in her mid-sixties and is very healthy. She could work if she

wanted to and does not have to be a burden on her children.

The Council: Mrs. M.R. should take some comfort in the fact that she is now probably going through the most difficult period of her life and that things will not always seem so bleak.

It is natural to turn to one's children after a spouse has died, but Mrs. M.R. should not feel so rejected by her children because they have not asked her to come live with them. Perhaps they feel it would not be the best thing for her as well as for themselves. The fact that they have invited her for long visits shows they are aware of her loneliness and wish to help.

Instead of nursing her self-pity, Mrs. M.R. would do well to take stock of her assets. She has health and a big house. She might want to consider selling it and moving to a small apartment alone or with her understanding sister. This would give her income and keep her busy, in addition to offsetting loneliness.

There are merely suggested plans and Mrs. M.R. might be able to think of others more to her liking. The important thing is to think in terms of constructive plans instead of sitting around feeling hurt, rejected and "neurotic."

Mrs. M.R. should seriously consider her sister's plan. She might try to live with Mrs. I.N. for a temporary period to see how they get along. It is best for this widow not to commit herself in haste at this difficult time, but to let her thoughts and feelings simmer down before taking a drastic step.

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Groups Should be Formed for Program

Discussion groups planning to participate in "Great Decisions . . . 1957" should be organized this week to be ready for the program starting Jan. 20, according to Mrs. John Ousterhout, county chairman.

Fact sheets, on which the eight-week foreign policy study is based, are available at the Medford public library, she said. Formation of informal home discussion groups, centered on the eight fact sheets, is the basis of the program along with radio, television and newspaper cooperation, she pointed out.

Several groups have indicated they plan to participate in the program.

One ton of bromine is contained in 10,000 tons of average sea water.

Winter Pears to Be Displayed at Market

A display of D'Anjou, bosc, and comice pears, the major winter varieties grown in the Medford pear district, will be at the Big Y market this weekend in Medford.

Promotional material similar to that used in other sections of the country to promote Medford district pears will be used. Other display material will include that prepared by the Oregon-Washington-California Pear Bureau and the Medford Pear Shippers association.

About one-sixth of the world's oil supply comes from the Near East.

The geranium's botanical name is Pelargonium.

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