

Break in Disarmament Stalemate May Come This Year, Officials Believe

This is another in a series of articles furnished by the general extension division, Institute of International Affairs, Oregon State system of higher education, discussing "Great Decisions . . . 1957" problems. Today's subject discusses disarmament and nuclear testing.

The real break in the disarmament stalemate this year may come, not from the five-year disarmament talks in London starting March 18, but from the other 75 countries in the United Nations.

That is the belief of some students of the situation, who say a UN ban or temporary halt to nuclear weapons tests is a distinct possibility. They point to the statements of spokesmen for Japan, Sweden, India and a number of other UN member states favoring suspension of nuclear

"Great Decisions . . . 1957" discussion programs will be broadcast and telecast over local radio and television stations this week. The program is scheduled on radio station KMED at 9 p.m. today, and over KWJN, Ashland, at 7:30 p.m. A program is scheduled on television station KBES-TV at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

experiments on grounds that the tests (a) threaten human survival; (b) contribute to the world-wide "war of nerves" and (c) create economic hardships in fishing and related industries.

Pollute Atmosphere

Nuclear explosions pollute the upper atmosphere with tin radioactive particles, especially a poison known as strontium-90. Over a period of time some of these particles drift to earth as a radioactive "fallout."

Prominent nuclear physicists disagree as to whether or not the amount of radioactive dust now in the earth's atmosphere is dangerous to human life. Political leaders in various countries also disagree; the issue became involved in the U. S. presidential campaign last fall.

Late January discussions in the UN general assembly and the UN political committee reveal considerable support for some kind of control over future tests. The Japanese delegation indicated it is "not quite satisfied" with U.S. and British assurances that human health is not being endangered by the tests. The Swedish delegation has asked for an immediate suspension of all tests until a UN radiation committee can prepare and submit a reliable report on radiation hazards.

Attitude Complicated

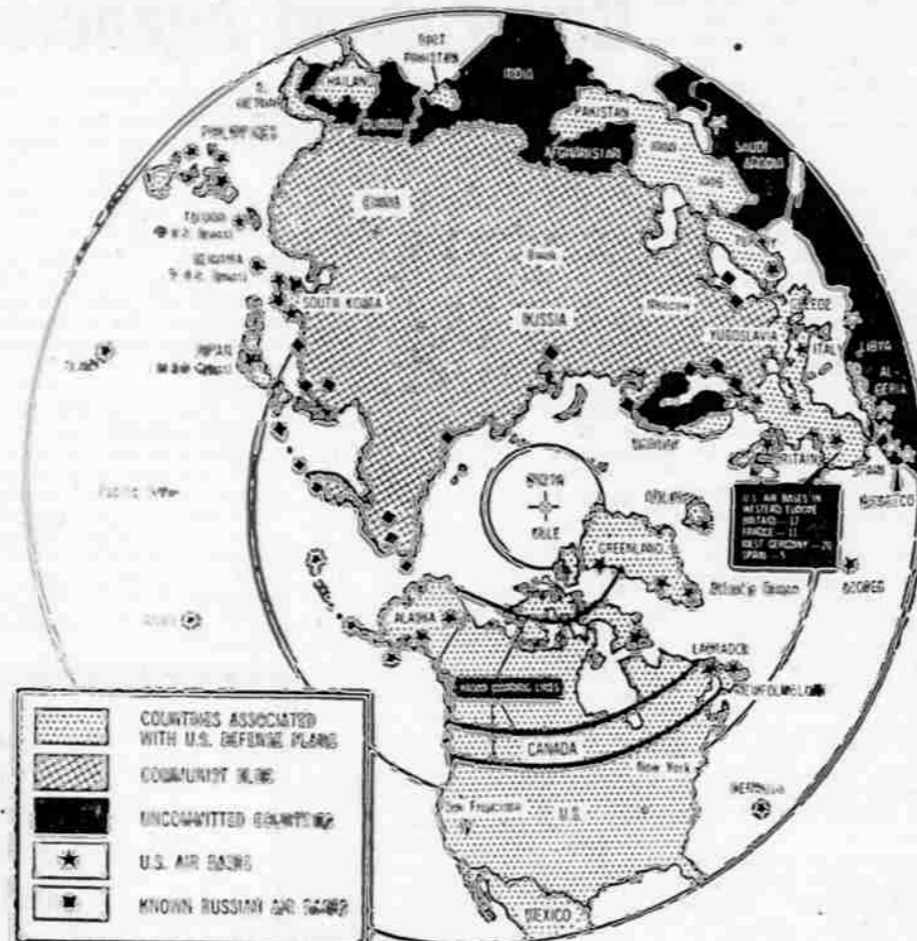
United States attitudes toward the proposal are complicated by national defense considerations, outlined by President Eisenhower during the election campaign. The President insisted on further testing until there is a foolproof international inspection system to insure against secret Russian research.

The situation is further complicated by the fact that U.S. combat troops all over the world are being equipped with a wide variety of nuclear weapons. An example is Secretary of Defense Wilson's announcement Feb. 20 that U.S.-based jet planes are now equipped with nuclear rockets, and that atomic anti-aircraft missiles are soon to come in key locations throughout the country.

Presumably the developing and perfecting of these weapons, and the training of troops in their use, calls for continual testing.

Overall Disarmament

Russia, as a part of its overall disarmament recommendations,



Foreign Policy Association Incorporated

MILITARY BASES—The above map, furnished by the Foreign Policy Association, Inc., in cooperation with the "Great Decisions . . . 1957" program, shows United States and Russian air bases, and countries associated with

both the Communist bloc and the western powers. The subject of nuclear weapons tests and disarmament are discussed in today's Decisions subject.

has proposed an immediate ban on the production, use and testing of all nuclear weapons. This goes farther than non-Communist delegations were willing to go during the January debates in the UN. American experts appear to disagree on whether Russia's proposal is sincere or a propaganda move.

In any event, the administration is reported to oppose any ban on nuclear tests unless it is a part of a total agreement on arms limits.

Japan, the only nation to suffer from atomic bombings, claims it has been hardest hit on the economic front by nuclear tests. During last summer's H-bomb trials, the U.S. curtailed off a third of a million square miles of the Pacific ocean, much of it rich Japanese fishing grounds. Some Japanese scientists have also suggested that fish contaminated in the test area may well turn up in other fishing grounds in other parts of the world.

Advance Registration

Support is believed to be growing for a draft resolution submitted to the UN political committee by Canada, Japan and Norway. The resolution calls for advance registration of all future tests, allowing the UN radiation committee to study the effects of radioactive fallout and evaluate health and economic hazards resulting.

This, the Japanese delegate warned, is "the absolute minimum to which we have to agree."

The U.S. is prepared to cooperate in such a program, since she already warns other nations in advance of Pacific tests. Russian tests, however, are conducted without advance notice.

Referred to Powers

The recommendation for advance registration of tests has been referred to the five powers who will start their arms control discussion March 18 in Lon-

don. If no agreement is reached in this disarmament subcommittee, however, an impatient UN general assembly could still act on its own authority.

The possibility of a deadlock in London, with growing world public sentiment against "dangerous nuclear tests," has some U.S. observers worried that this country might be faced in the near future with the difficult alternatives of either stopping all tests or defying world opinion.

Whether or not the five-power UN talks on disarmament, or more accurately arms control, scheduled for March 18 in London are successful may depend on Russia's sincerity.

The United States, Britain, France, Canada and Russia make up the special UN subcommittee which will tackle the question.

Several Proposals

Russia will approach the talks with several proposals, some old and some new. Whether these proposals can be taken at face value or must be discounted as propaganda, only further developments will reveal.

Troop cuts were proposed by Russian Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin in a letter to President Dwight D. Eisenhower Nov. 17. Bulganin proposed "thinning out" Western and Russian troops in East and West Germany by one-third during 1957. Some observers have interpreted this as a genuine Russian desire to reduce tensions in Europe, perhaps also to reduce strains on Russia's budget.

Recent indications, especially statements by prominent Congressional leaders, have been that the U. S. is willing to consider troop reductions on both sides in Europe. American proposals on this subject, however, have called for a Russian withdrawal from all of Eastern Europe, not merely from East Germany. U. S. policy is also firm in its opposition to any European settlement which perpetuates a divided Germany.

Proposed Cuts

Russia has also proposed cuts in overall armed force levels—reducing Russian, Red Chinese and U. S. military forces over a two-year period from 1,000,000 to 1,300,000 men, at the same time cutting British and French forces to 450,000 men.

The latest U. S. statement on this subject, made Jan. 14 in the UN, called for 2,500,000-men levels for the U. S. and Russia, 750,000 each for Britain and France.

One of the major stumbling blocks to agreement may be proposed bans on nuclear weapons. Russia wants an immediate ban on the production, use and testing of such weapons, and within two years destruction of nuclear weapons stockpiles.

The United States has refused so far to consider any halt in nuclear tests until foolproof inspection, under international su-

perision, is a reality.

It is on the inspection issue that some observers feel there is the most hope for progress. Russia has announced she is "prepared to consider the question of employing aerial optography . . . to a depth of 800 kilometers (about 500 miles) east and west of the iron curtain. If genuine, this proposal would amount to a limited test of President Eisenhower's "open skies" proposal.

Optimistic observers believe that if this key U. S. proposal is adopted by Russia, there is real hope that, step by step, international inspection will become a reality. Once inspection is established, the U. S. would be able to withdraw its objections to nuclear tests and, presumably, would welcome mutual cuts in defense spending.

The challenges facing U. S. policymakers at the conference is whether it is worth the risk to accept Russia's proposals in good faith, and how far the U. S. can go in compromising.

Lane County Deputy Sheriff Shows Improvement

Eugene — (U.P.) — Hospital attendants said here Saturday that some slight improvement had been noted in the condition of Lane County Deputy Sheriff David McInnes, critically wounded in a gun battle here a week ago.

A fund raising campaign to benefit both Hefner and the family of slain State Policeman Charles Saunders neared \$2,000.

NATO Receives Strong Endorsement in State In Decisions Program

Corvallis — European defense against Soviet expansion through a strengthened North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has received strong endorsement by Great Decisions groups now meeting throughout Oregon to discuss U.S. foreign policy issues.

Combined strength of NATO's 16-member nations, plus U.S. power of "retaliation" against Russia, was judged the best block against Soviet military threats by Oregonians voting on the second Great Decisions issue, "What U.S. Policy for Europe?" Ballots from 23 Oregon coun-

ties tabulated last week by Oregon State college extension service favored continued building of NATO while keeping the door open for negotiations with Russia.

Informal discussion groups in communities throughout Oregon will revise foreign policy alternatives for eight key issues—one issue a week—during the Great Decisions program sponsored by OSC extension service in cooperation with other educational agencies and organizations. Opinion ballots tabulated at the college are sent to Congress and the U.S. state department.

Oregonians balloting on U.S. policy for Europe attacked the problem of German reunification with insistence on "all-German elections" and the right of a united Germany to join NATO or stay out.

Discussion groups advocated patching up our differences with France and Britain as fast as possible while maintaining our stand against use of force demonstrated by our allies in the Middle East crisis. Voters strongly favored closer consultation of the three nations "on methods" through NATO.

Most groups believed the U.S. eventually can reach an understanding with Russia if we deal from a position of strength and are willing to compromise on some things and hold out on others.

County Jail Inmates To Receive X-Rays

Sheriff Howard Gault and Dr. A. Erin Merkel, public health physician, have been authorized by the county court to see that all prisoners confined to the county jail for more than one week receive chest x-rays at the Sacred Heart hospital outpatient clinic.

The chest x-ray is sponsored by the Jackson County Tuberculosis and Health association. According to Gault, members of the county court signed the order last Wednesday. The order stated that the x-rays would be free of expense to the county.

Gault said the prisoner x-ray program is expected to get under way this week. Jail inmates will be transported three or four at a time to and from the clinic by sheriff's deputies. About 28 prisoners confined to the jail at the present time would be included in the program.

North boundary of the U.S., exclusive of Alaska, is 3,987 miles in length.

Plans are being made to send him "the longest get-well card in the world" at the Veterans Administration hospital in Vancouver, Wash. where he has been for some time. Those wishing may also contribute any amount they wish to assist the Steadman family with medical and other expenses.

Details of how this will be done will be announced well in advance of the March 18 show, according to Don McNeil, chairman of the volunteer committee, and Vic Milne, Kiwanis club spokesman.

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