



**RADIOING FOR HELP**, five men aboard bamboo raft Tahiti Nui are awaiting arrival of Chilean frigate Baquedano 900 miles off South American coast. Raging storm disabled craft which has floated from Tahiti in attempt to reverse 102-day voyage made in 1947 by Thor Heyerdahl and crew. Eric De Bisschop, skipper of Tahiti Nui, believes trip will prove Polynesians settled South America. (International Soundphoto)

## Russian Educational System Said Tougher on Students Than in U.S.

Editor's note: This is the last of two dispatches on the Soviet education system by the vice president and director of the Fund for the Advancement of Education established by the Ford Foundation.

By ALVIN C. EURICH  
Written for United Press

New York—The Russian looking at our educational system would probably say, "pretty soft."

In Russia, the schools are in session six days a week, 10 months a year. For the ninth and 10th grades, youngsters are in a class about seven hours a day. They are expected to spend another five hours or so on homework.

### Compulsory Education

By 1960 all Russian youth will be required to complete secondary education which extends from ages seven to 17. Such compulsory education is now in effect for about 70 per cent of the young people.

Rigid curriculum, including five years of physics is prescribed by the Ministry of Education. The only freedom of choice is in foreign languages, where in larger schools the student elects French, German or English. After making his choice, he studies the language for six years.

### Science Emphasized

Other requirements include 10 years of Russian language and literature, seven years of history and social studies, with emphasis on the Soviet Union and the Communist Party, 10 years of arithmetic, four years of chemistry, one year of astronomy, years of biology and botany and six years of geography.

Students also take practical courses in surveying, drawing, machine construction, wood working, metal working and agriculture.

And before they finish the 10-year school they must know how to drive an automobile, a tractor and a truck.

At the end of the seventh and 10th years the Ministry of Education checks on the school system and individual pupils through state examinations, written and oral.

### College Based on Tests

Admission to a university or some other institute of higher learning is based on these examinations. Scholarship records and such additional tests as the faculty may require. Russia has therefore surpassed us in providing equal opportunity for higher education in relation to ability regardless of economic status.

Throughout the Soviet Union there are almost 800 institutions of higher learning with more than 2 million students this year. For others there are 1,000 post-secondary technical schools (tekhnikums) training technicians for industry, medicine, education and other fields.

During the next four years the Russians are likely to graduate two and one-half to three times as many engineers and scientists as the United States.

### System Isn't Static

In contrasting Russia's education system to ours, I was inclined at first to think that we must be educating more crea-

tive minds. Then I recalled the kind of education which produced the creative minds that spawned our new major developments of this century—Einstein, Fermi, Urey, Bohr, Rutherford and others.

Most of them were educated in a system far more rigid than ours. Without a reexamination, we must not jump to the conclusion that our system is better for developing creative minds.

Nor can we conclude that the Russians have the best educational system. They themselves

are working intensively to broaden and improve it.

The very able director of the University of Leningrad, A. D. Alexandrov, in talking with us about their weak points, said they must raise the quality of their scientific training, provide students with more freedom of study and not merely stuff them as sausages.

Clearly Russian education is by no means static. If a thorough education means anything in strengthening a nation, Russia is clearly gaining ground.



### Remember Malthus?

In the time of Thomas Jefferson a grim and gloomy preacher of the Gospel, the Rev. T. R. Malthus, won a considerable place in the public eye by exposing increase in human population as an evil on the earth. There was nothing joyful about babies in his sight. The Rev. Malthus looked on babies and warned, "Stop having 'em, folks, or there'll be hell to pay."

Nobody paid the doctrine much notice in this country. The Louisiana Purchase was made, the Lewis and Clark expedition was concluded. Too little land? Too many people? Phooey!

Europe was over-crowded with humanity, to be sure — famished, diseased, miserable humanity. Many wise men saw the eye to eye with Malthus there. But most European people were not wise. They went right on having babies, amid disease, misery and starvation.

And so they do today, with Europe suffering a hundred million more people now than when World War II began. With babies being born in this country at the rate of seven a minute, we of the U.S.A. are beginning to take the old-time warnings of the Rev. Malthus right seriously. We know that nothing breeds Communism like hunger, cold, disease and poor housing. Thus, slum clearance.

But where's it to end? Where's hope? Maybe—in trees. Too Many Trees

Militarists have used the ideas of Malthus to justify war as a "necessity," as an old, tried, and true means of reducing overpopulation. But it hasn't worked that way, even in Communist China, where famine and pestilence have helped war kill people off and so somewhat restrict population growth.

Ten years ago we read how the Swedes have lived well through the war on "oceans of milk" from cows that were fed on proteins made from wood. That process has been steadily improved. There are many other processes that promise increased use of the forests to supply food and clothing for which the raw material is now principally grown on acreage classified as "crop land."

If the world has too many people, it also has too many trees. In the United States latest surveys show that growth exceeds harvest. The last credible report from the Soviet Union tells that annual growth in Siberian forests is eight times annual cut. Then, too many trees yet bar exploration from vast areas of the earth. Those trees may feed people.

**Our Own Food Forest . . .**  
The United States has around 550 million acres of crop land and 489 million acres of commercial forest land. Our government and the general public still do not value the nation's forest acreage enough to jail the morons and arsonists who cause the burning of millions of acres a year. We still think of the forest as simply a source of lumber, and lumber is looked on as the most of anything valuable in use that a dollar will buy nowadays.

When we come to the point of eating lumber, as more babies are born per minute, year by year, then we shall learn better appreciation of the real values of the forest. "Meals make the

man," said Paul Bunyan. And science will produce pine, pap and fir for the babies, hemlock steaks for the men, and spruce salads and tea for the ladies. Come and get it!

## Hens' Intake, Output Claimed Increased

Ithaca, N. Y.—While hens have increased their output by 39 per cent in the past 30 years, their intake has increased by 38 per cent during the same period of time, according to Prof. C. D. Kearn, economist at the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University.

"There has been only a very insignificant decrease in the amount of feed required to produce a dozen eggs in the past quarter century," he said, adding that no one yet has been able to do much about getting more eggs from less feed.

Kearn attributed any reductions in cost of feed per dozen eggs to efficiencies in milling and grain handling or from using less costly materials in the ration.

Hens in 1925 produced about 136 eggs a year, but in recent times they have increased to 189 a year. But to keep up with the increased laying, feed requirements during the same period jumped from 79 pounds to 109 pounds.

The feed item is of serious concern to farmers, Kearn said, accounting for 55 per cent of the cost of producing eggs. He said a survey showed that feed cost \$4.23 out of \$7.59 net cost of producing eggs per layer.

## Tito Celebrates 65th Birthday

Belgrade, Yugoslavia — President Tito celebrated his 65th birthday Saturday by attending "Youth Day" ceremonies along with more than 50,000 of his countrymen.

The president received the baton used in the youth relay to mark his birthday. Tito initiated the organization of this first "youth day" to replace his traditional birthday celebrations. Among the congratulatory messages received by Tito was one from Soviet President Kliment Voroshilov who sent "best wishes of health and fruitful activity for the progress of Socialism in your country and the strengthening of friendship between our peoples."

Only yesterday Tito said in an interview in the official newspaper Politika that Yugoslavia should maintain good relations with Russia and other eastern countries.

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## Germany's Plan To Use Suicide Squadron And Piloted Missile in Last War Revealed

Sunnyvale, Calif. — The little-known story of Adolf Hitler's "suicide squadron" and the piloted model of the V1 buzz bomb missile was related here the other day by a mild-mannered scientist who was once one of Germany's top rocket and jet experts.

It is the story of a desperate plan by a group of Nazi fanatics, led by an attractive woman test pilot, who hoped to turn the tide of World War II with a German version of the Japanese "kamikaze" corps.

Fortunately, the war ended before the Nazis could pull the trigger on this secret weapon.

But when the armistice was signed in May of 1945, some 250 manned models of the V1 jet missile were ready to fly—with 1,000-pound explosive warheads built into their noses.

The story of this bizarre facet of the European war was told to the United Press by Willy A. Fiedler, the man who designed and first flew the suicide missile. Given U.S. Award

Fiedler, a soft-spoken man of 49, came to the United States in 1948 as a missile consultant to the U.S. Navy and subsequently was given the Distinguished Civilian Service Award for his contributions to America's defense.

He is now employed by the Lockheed Aircraft Company's Missiles Division here as a member of the technical staff developing the Polaris intermediate ballistic missile.

During World War II, Fiedler was a leading engineer and chief test pilot for the Fieseler Aircraft Company at Kassel, Germany, and was one of the original designers of the V1 pulse jet missile with which Germans started bombing England during 1944.

Fiedler said the idea of the piloted version of the missile started late in 1943 when "some idealistic people began to worry about the consequences of losing the war."

He said a group of these people, reportedly several thousand strong, volunteered to give their lives to prevent this from happening and demanded the piloted model of the V1 as a suicide plane to carry out their mission. "With them it was not so much a question of Hitlerism," he said. "It was a question of Germany or no Germany."

### Woman Pushed Idea

Strangely enough, the guiding force behind this suicide corps was a woman, Fiedler said. She was Hanna Reitsch, Germany's leading woman test pilot and a

confidant of Hitler himself. She was one of the first volunteers and the one who had the standing and the audacity to go to Hitler and suggest the plan.

"Hitler did not give his outright permission for the suicide idea," Fiedler recalled. "But he did give his approval for us to build the plane they wanted."

The engineer said the volunteers were eventually attached to Bom Squadron KG200 to await further orders. "They all signed papers declaring they were willing to die for the mission," he said.

"I don't know how many there actually were," Fiedler said. "I heard there were 15,000, but suspect the number was more like several hundred. I myself, met about 10 of them."

Fiedler described Hanna Reitsch as a small, attractive woman of about 30 years old. "She had intense blue eyes and a good, firm handshake," he said. "She could captivate people very easily."

Fiedler said his company dubbed the project "Reichenberg" and placed him in full charge of developing the deadly offspring of Germany's first guided missile.

Due to the nature of its design and small fuel supply, the V1 plane could not take off by itself, but had to be dropped from a mother plane much the same

as the X-model rocket planes now being flown in this country.

### Two Planes Crashed

Fiedler was the first man to successfully fly the V1 after two other test pilots had crashed in their attempts to try out the tricky little buzz bomb.

He said he nearly came a cropper himself on his first flight.

The first flight lasted only 10 or 12 minutes, he said. The plane reached 450 miles an hour and had to be landed on a wooden skid-type landing gear.

"I came in too high and too fast," he said, "and by the time it stopped skidding, the nose was sticking between two posts marking the end of the runway."

Fiedler said the plan was to use the V1 planes as aerial depth bombs in an attempt to do what the German U-boat fleet

had failed to do—stop the Allied shipping and prolong the conflict until the country's war machine could get back in gear.

The tactics were to crash the plane in front of Allied ships and sink them with underwater explosions.

"About 250 of the planes were finished and ready to fly—warheads and all—when the war ended, but none was ever used," the German scientist said.

"Actually, a few of the suicide pilots were asked to fly against Russian trains in the latter stage of the war, but they declined because they didn't feel the target was worth the sacrifice," he said.

Fiedler said he had always been thankful his suicide plane was never used.

"It probably would have prolonged the war," he said, "and that would only have brought the atomic bomb into Germany."

## Holmes Hits at Opposition Factors

Pendleton—Oregon Gov. Robert Holmes hit hard at the opposition factors in the Oregon Senate in a speech before more than 250 Umatilla county Democrats here Sunday.

He said the Democrats' accomplishments in the legislature were pretty good "for the first time at bat." He said if it hadn't been for the 15-15 situation in the Senate, it would have been much better.

"The Democratic party in 1958," said Holmes, "is the party that will return with a smashing victory in the legislature."

"During the past session," he said, "both parties have had to assume new rolls. In all candor, I have to admit both of them made mistakes, but the Democrats have done a little better job of learning than our Republican brethren. We lost progress only by what I can term as the obstructionism of the 15 Republican senators."

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