

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
Everyone in Southern Oregon Reads The Mail Tribune
Published Daily Except Saturday by MEDFORD PRINTING CO.
37-39 North First St. Phone 2-6141

Editorial Correspondence . . .

New York, June 24th: It may be the humidity or it may be the cherry-stone clams we have been eating.
Whatever it is we haven't seen a really funny show on T.V. since we came here.
In Medford Ed Sullivan on Sunday nights (in spite of his over long and tiresome commercials) was—or at least his entertainers were—really amusing.



Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

PARIS—The Greek-Turkish aid bill and the Marshall Plan announced America's intention to halt the Soviet advance in Europe.
In the Korean War, the United States assumed the responsibility of holding the line in the Far East. In both cases, the American electorate rather clearly understood what its government was doing.

Now, since the proclamation of the Eisenhower Doctrine, the American government has also assumed direct, continuing responsibility for holding the line in the deeply-troubled, strategically vital Middle East. The solidity and finality of this new American commitment are already taken for granted by our Middle Eastern friends.

But it is not at all clear to this reporter that this immense new American commitment is regarded as solid and final at home. Even after only half a year as a permanent foreign correspondent, one ought to be very hesitant in judging home opinion. Yet there has been nothing in reports from home to suggest general awareness that we have now taken another step comparable in moral magnitude to the Marshall Plan or the response to the Korean aggression.

THIS seemingly lack of awareness of an enormous new American commitment strikes this reporter as rather worrying. It is all the more worrying because the peril in the Middle East is not at all like the peril that we undertook to ward off in Europe and the Far East. In our two previous experiments in holding the world-line, the peril could be summed up in one word—Communism; the peril in the Middle East is far more complex in character.

Communism plays a role, of course. The Communist parties in the Arab lands are small and almost unindoctrinated but the Arab Communists are at least disciplined; and being disciplined, they are effective as agents, political organizers and terrorists.

By the same token, a very big role is played by the Kremlin. The Soviet decision to give political support to Egypt and its satellite, Syria, and the subsequent shipments of arms to these two countries were historical events on a par with the new American commitment in the Middle East. Indeed, these Kremlin actions forced the American reaction.

But the real source of the peril in the Middle East is not the old familiar threat of Communism; the real source of the peril is the movement led and dominated by Egypt's Gamal Abdel Nasser, which claims the name of Arab nationalism. Nasser's brand of Arab nationalism is useful to the Kremlin and is therefore supported by the Kremlin, because he has given his nationalism a vicious anti-Western twist. If Nasserite nationalism triumphs in the end, it will mean the destruction of all Western interests in Arab lands. And because of the West's strategic and economic dependence on the area, the end result will be a fatal weakening of the Western alliance—which is the true Soviet objective.

But this, too must always be remembered, is not at all the way the Arabs see the problem. All Arabs are nationalists first and anti-Communists second if at all. For instance, Nasser has been denouncing a anti-Communist King Hussein of Jordan as a tool of imperialism, because King Hussein's courage frustrated Nasser's grab for Jordan. But although he desperately needs American aid, King Hussein cannot take American aid with the usual strings attached to it. In his own way, he is just as much a nationalist as Nasser. But the customary strings on our aid would destroy Hussein's

Russia Shows Signs of Anxiety Over Nuclear Weapons Situation

By CHARLES M. MCCANN United Press Correspondent
Soviet Russia is showing signs of serious anxiety over the nuclear weapons situation.



For one thing, it is hardly likely that unless the Soviet government had been worried it would have accepted, after years of refusal, the principle of aerial inspection to guarantee compliance with any agreement with any agreement to suspend nuclear weapons tests.

By Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko. Gromyko summoned foreign correspondents in Moscow to his office to complain with unusual bitterness against a statement by Gen. Lauris Norstad, supreme commander of Atlantic Treaty forces.

It had been disclosed on June 22 that Norstad told a congressional committee that if Russia started a war, the Allied forces could destroy all essential Soviet military targets. Gromyko said that Norstad's statement was not the "mere raving of a boastful general" but part of a plot to block a disarmament agreement. He complained especially that the statement came at a time when partial agreement on disarmament seemed possible at last.

Gromyko did not mention the fact that Norstad had said that the allies never would start a

war and that he did not think Russia would start one either because of Allied power of retaliation.

Have Good Reason He did mention the recent statement of Nikita S. Khrushchev, the Soviet Communist leader, that Russia had perfected a hydrogen bomb so powerful that it could not be tested "because neighboring countries might suffer."

The fact is that Russian leaders have good reason to be worried over what might happen in a third world war.

From the Allied viewpoint, the evident Russian anxiety is certainly a good thing. It is Allied striking power alone that has induced the Soviet government, in a radical departure from its policy of secrecy, to accept the principle of aerial inspection which alone can guarantee compliance with any disarmament agreement.

Communications

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Stop Eating Meat?

To the Editor: I am confident it is safe to assume that 999 out of every 1000 voters want the compulsory Humane Slaughter Bill passed, and yet with this overwhelming majority of public opinion the officials at Washington seem in no hurry to pass this bill. Should we, as loyal humane Christians, go right over the heads of the officials and packers to suggest a more direct course which may prove to be the missing link in our strategy? If everyone will stop eating meat for 30 days, as a starter, this would soon bring the packers to their knees, which could place the real legislation in our own hands. We have the power to end this needless cruel suffering as in their present method of killing meat animals. I for one will not eat any meat until the present cruelty ends. Please write and advise if I should send this letter to all important newspapers in all states.

John Taylor, c/o Post Office, Watervliet, N.Y.

"Positive Americanism"

To the Editor: The Jamestown Festival in Virginia will be visited by millions of American citizens this year. For many of them this will be a first realization of the hardships experienced by those who established the colony. It is hoped that this glimpse into our beginnings will lead more and more Americans to re-examine the reasons why such hardships were willingly endured. Such inquiry will foster a better understanding of the philosophies of the great Americans who conceived this "noble experiment" in government to give us the wonderful nation in which we live today. In this regard, I wish to call to the attention of your readers an exceptional campaign now being conducted across the country by American Veterans of World War II and Korea under a grant from the Fund for the Republic.

AMVETS feel there has been too much accent placed on "what's wrong with America." We feel that there have been too many individuals and groups setting up standards about what is and what is not being a good American. There is no pat definition for Americanism. Like love and religion, it cannot be explained but must be felt in the heart and lived each day. It is a way of life and a deep faith in our democracy. We want to show what is right with America and why and how this positive side of America has developed. AMVETS "Positive Americanism" program is simply an examination of our heritage as derived from our famous documents and the ideas of great Americans and how that heritage gives meaning to our present. There is no witch-hunting, no flag-waving, no name-calling. "Positive Americanism" seeks only knowledge and understanding. Through that knowledge will come a greater appreciation of our democracy. This is done by study and discussion . . . in AMVETS posts, in church, service and community groups, and among interested individuals. While AMVETS has developed and tested this program we claim no proprietary rights to it. If, as we think, it is an important and valuable contribution toward the preservation of our democracy then it properly belongs to all Americans and accordingly AMVETS offer it to any interested group or organization. When we all understand the precious legacy left us by our forefathers, there will be little chance of our ever wasting it. Martin D. Schwartz, Chairman, AMVETS Americanism Division, Washington, D.C.

Fireman Drowns in Fall While Fishing

Seaview, Wash.—James Robert Vetter, 37, a fireman from Yakima, Wash., drowned Wednesday when he fell from rocks below the North Head lighthouse into the sea. Vetter was fishing with his wife, Cecelia, and their daughter, Judy, 14. He fell after descending from his fishing spot to untangle the lines. Vetter, despite rubber boots, managed to reach the rocks three times only to be swept off them each time. Attempts to reach Vetter with fishing lines failed when the lines snapped.

Man Severely Burned By Accidental Slip

Chehalis, Wash.—S. Kirby Billingsley, 21, won a bet he was burned severely on the hand Wednesday when a wire he was winding accidentally flipped into a 115,000 volt "bus." Billingsley, who attends the University of Washington, works for Bonneville Power Administration as a career trainee employee. He is the son of Kirby Billingsley, manager of the Chehalis county PUD. He was taken to a Chehalis hospital where his condition was described as serious.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE MEMBER
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Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO

June 27, 1947 (Friday) Miss Medford to be selected at Craterian theatre tonight. From Arthur Perry's Ye Smudge Pot column: Civic leaders are confronted with the problem of getting the voters to the polls in the "off-year elections." Proposals on the November ballots to plow up the golf course for municipal gardens and dry up the leading fishing holes, might stir up interest in November mandates.

20 YEARS AGO

June 27, 1927 (Sunday) American Legion post annual Section and stag party set for July 6. American Legion planning to sponsor Boys State, Medford post asked to join plan.

30 YEARS AGO

June 27, 1927 (Monday) Five persons injured when auto stage overturns on Pacific highway, lands on top of coupe which had gone in ditch 30 minutes before. Two local high school boys hitchhike to San Francisco.

40 YEARS AGO

June 27, 1917 (Wednesday) Beginning July 1, Medford will have exclusive wire through the Western Union company between here and San Francisco. From the Local and Personal column: Ralph Ewing, state screen inspector, is nursing a badly sprained wrist, as the result of cranking up his automobile too hurriedly last Saturday. The injured member is his right wrist, and the accident is the more regrettable because of coming at his busiest season of the year.

What's Your I.Q.?

- 1. In 1795 were the exports of the U.S. about \$4,700,000 or \$47,000,000?
2. Is Syria an Arab state?
3. Bible: Why was Joseph on his way back from Egypt, afraid to go thither to Judea?
4. What is the difference between a quagmire and a quag?
5. In which month does Flag Day fall?
6. Will the postal service forward without charge all classes of mail to an addressee who has moved?
7. In the cabinet of which President did Sen. Carter Glass serve as Secretary of the Treasury?
8. What animal is called Reynard?
9. "Chuck-full" is a colloquialism for chock-full. Is it proper to use it in formal speech?
10. "The cheerful loser is a winner."—Elbert Hubbard. Did he write this in 1811, 1861, or 1911?
Answers: 1. \$47,000,000. 2. Yes. 3. He "heard that Archelaus . . ." succeeded to the throne of Herod. 4. Quagmire is a bog; quaghaug is a clam. 5. June. 6. No. (It forwards first class mail free to a new address). 7. Woodrow Wilson. 8. The fox. 9. No. It is close to slang. 10. 1911.

Miller Case Again

Federal district Judge Charles F. McLaughlin rules soon on a memorandum filed with him by counsel for playwright Arthur Miller. Last May 31 the judge found Miller guilty, in a case tried without a jury, of contempt of Congress in refusing to answer certain questions put him by the House Un-American Activities Committee. Miller has not yet been sentenced, and the present memorandum asks the judge now either to acquit him outright or order a new trial for him, in view of the Watkins decision. On June 17 the Supreme Court ruled by six to one that John T. Watkins, labor organizer, had been within his rights in refusing to answer certain questions of the committee in April 1954.

THE two cases seem much alike. Miller, like Watkins, denied being under actual Communist "discipline" while admitting he had cooperated with Communists. Each balked at identifying other individuals in pro-Communist activities. Both, refusing to plead the Fifth Amendment, argued that the questions involving others lay outside the committee's proper jurisdiction.

There are two minor differences—Watkins had been ostensibly interrogated in connection with the labor movement, Miller in connection with unauthorized use of U.S. passports. Marilyn Monroe's husband refused to identify any persons he had seen at gatherings of Communist party writers; the labor man agreed to identify individuals who still were members of the Party, talking at those "who to my best knowledge and belief have long since removed themselves from the Communist movement."—E.R.R.

Indonesia Volcano Spews Ashes Over City

Jakarta, Indonesia—Mount Merapi, Indonesia's most dangerous volcano, spewed out tons of hot ash and lava this week, forcing the evacuation of 4,000 villagers, reports from central Java said today. Grand Coulee dam weighs 25 million tons.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

At the annual conference of governors of American states, which is now in session at Williamsburg, Governor Ribicoff of Connecticut tells his conferees that unless the present trend is reversed highway deaths in the next ten years will claim victims equal to the population of Seattle, Wash., Cincinnati, O., or Newark, N.J.

These are all cities of around half a million. So the statement that within the next decade half a million people may die on our highways is startling enough to get attention. It is probably not far from the truth, because highway fatalities now run around 35,000 per year, 350,000 in a decade.

WHAT can we do to "reverse this trend?"

Well, we can build more multi-lane highways. Multi-lane highways, with adequate dividers in the center, reduce traffic hazards materially because they minimize the danger of getting over the center lane into traffic moving in the opposite direction. Thus they reduce the risk involved in passing. We can work out and enact better traffic laws. We can patrol our highways more effectively. There are many things we can do to reduce traffic hazards.

BUT—When you come right down to it—

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING OF ALL IS BETTER DRIVING. Better driving is up to each individual driver.

THE governors, in their session in lovely and historic old Williamsburg, are covering a wide range in their discussions. They jump from highway legislation to federal aid for schools. Gov. Thomas Stanley of Virginia speaks out against federal aid to education. He says it is "totally unwarranted."

He adds: "The federal government has no authority and no responsibility in the field of public education, and I earnestly hope that neither the congress nor the states will succumb to the old lure of so-called FREE MONEY, which is nothing but a snare and a delusion."

NOTE, please that it is the governor of Virginia who is talking about the snare and the delusion of so-called "free money." In his state, that is approximately true. For every dollar of manna from heaven money that is spent in Virginia, the state of Virginia puts up 90 cents in federal taxes. So it gets only ten cents per dollar net out of federal expenditures—and even that may be absorbed in the process of transferring a dollar from Virginia to Washington, D. C. and then transferring it back again.

In considering this business of federal spending, it makes quite a lot of difference where you live. For every federal dollar received, the state of Mississippi pays back only 29 cents in federal taxation. HERE in Oregon, we will do well if we look with considerable suspicion on manna from heaven money received from Uncle Sam. For each dollar Oregon received from the federal government it pays back 96 cents in federal taxes. Over the line in California, it is considerably worse. For every dollar of federal spending California gets, she pays back \$1.05. Not much manna from heaven is involved in a swap like that.

The legislation which the commission proposes would provide penalties up to five years in prison and a fine of \$10,000 for publication of information from documents marked "secret" or "top secret" material which might have little to do with the defense of the nation. A government official or a committee could mark as "secret" reports showing malfeasance in office. Publication of this could then result in fines or prison for the newspaper publishing the material. The special commission itself admits that most newspapers have a high sense of responsibility, yet it would attempt to punish the few by broad, sweeping penalties.

The whole proposal smacks of another attempt at censorship and has the odor of bureaucracy about it.—Ashland Tidings.

Benjamin Stoddert of Maryland was the first U.S. secretary of the navy.

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