

Two Middle East Countries At Center Of War Nervousness

By UNITED PRESS

Two Middle East nations about the size of Texas and Oklahoma are at the center of the world's latest case of war jitters.

The anxious concern over Syria and Turkey is related to neither their size nor military strength, but to their alliances.

A minor clash along their mountainous 400-mile border could act as a trip-wire to snatch the world's two major power blocs into the holocaust of World War III.

Syria alone could not dare to snarl at her northern neighbor, four times her size and with roughly six times her population and military force. But Syria has the guarantee of the Soviet Union and of the Arab countries to protect her from attack.

The United States and the nations of NATO and the Baghdad Pact are tied just as tightly to Turkey's protection.

Syria was dominated for centuries under the Turkish Ottoman Empire. She fell under the French mandate after World War I and emerged as an independent republic only in 1945.

Since then her political history has been unstable — nine coup d'etats in 12 years.

Until recently Syrian political leaders declared themselves chiefly for Arab nationalism and neutrality. But the government leaders were largely figureheads for army cliques. Moderates and leftists maneuvered for control of the army.

Leftists Gained Control

In August of this year the leftists won out. They charged the United States with plotting to overthrow the government and used the "plot" as grounds for removing their opponents.

Soviet bloc arms, the first of which had been contracted for early last year, started to pour into Syria in larger quantities, along with Soviet advisers and instructors.

Previously the Syrian army, numbering about 25,000, had been equipped with French infantry weapons, with a mixture of American and British arms thrown in. The armored brigade was composed of American Sherman tanks, German PKW IV tanks and self-propelled World War II artillery.

The air force had 40 British Meteor jets and about 100 obsolete aircraft of various kinds. The navy was nonexistent. German mercenaries supervised the training.

Syrian soldiers performed humbly against the Israelis in 1948.

Latest estimates say the Soviet bloc has supplied Syria with about 200 T-34 tanks, 60 self-propelled SU-100 field guns, 150-122 and 152-guns, 72 radar controlled 30 and 85 anti-aircraft guns, 70 MIG-15 and MIG-17 jet fighters, and five high speed Soviet motor torpedo boats.

The Syrian army has grown to about 65,000 men, organized in six regular infantry brigades about the size of a U.S. regiment, one "armored division," and a unit of about 1,000 commandos.

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The army and air force must

be restrained for the new weapons and the navy built from scratch.

By contrast, Turkey has long had compulsory military training for all males, has allocated one-third of its budget for defense and has received substantial American military aid as a NATO member.

Turks fighting in Korea proved their reputation as being among the world's best infantry soldiers. American military experts have helped train Turkish forces to use American-built tanks and jets and have helped build airfields and a Mediterranean naval base.

In 1954 Turkey had about 375,000 men under arms, composing 16 partly motorized infantry divisions, three cavalry divisions, and six armored divisions of 5,000 to 6,000 men each. There have been retrained and given modern equipment.

Turkey showed its lack of concern for Syrian complaints

Oct. 10 when many of its top military leaders resigned to run for election to Parliament. They may be called back to duty if defeated in the Oct. 27 elections.

Among them were Gen. Ismail Haki Tunaboylu, chief of the General Staff; Gen. Nurettin Okno, chief of Land Forces; Adm. Sadik Altincan; Gen. Nazmi Atach, First Army commander; and Lt. Gen. Enver Akoglu, Air Force Academy commander.

Syria's chief of staff is Maj. Gen. Afif Bizri, 43, a lieutenant-colonel before the Army shakeup in August. He is reported to be a card-carrying Communist but has denied it.

The real power in Syria is reported to be Col. Abdul Hamid Serraj, 32, who as chief of the intelligence bureau controls intelligence, counter-intelligence and the military police. Western sources say his power dates from last summer when Russian arms deliveries started.

Officer's Quitting Seen As Aid To Textile Union

Washington — Resignation of the No. 2 officer of the scandal-tainted United Textile Workers may keep the union from being expelled by AFL-CIO, labor sources said Saturday.

Lloyd Klenert, UTW secretary-treasurer accused of misusing union funds, quit his \$21,000-a-year job Friday at a meeting of the union's executive board.

He was the chief target of corruption charges filed by the AFL-CIO executive council, which will decide whether to suspend the UTW at a hearing next Friday.

Sources within the federation said Klenert's departure could lead to probation—a lesser penalty—for the 40,000-member union.

UTW President Anthony F. Valente, also censured for alleged corruption, said he would stay in office. Both officials were accused of spending \$57,000 of union money on down payments for their own homes. They insisted the money was a loan and was repaid.

Elected to replace Klenert was Francis M. Schaufenbil, Lawrence, Mass., a UTW vice president and director of its woolen and worsted division for more than 10 years.

The union's general counsel, Joseph Jacobs, gave up a second post—as southern regional director. Jacobs was accused of profiting from renting autos to the union while an official.

Coming west in 1902, from his native Iowa, he covered the Astoria territory by boat and most eastern Oregon communities before highways were built.

Frazier continued actively in eastern Oregon until last summer. For 10 years he had been an investment salesman and a counselor for the Portland firm of Daugherty, Butchart and Cole Inc. Prior to that for 20 years he represented the Equitable Savings and Loan in eastern Oregon and numerous other firms.

Missile Men To Sip Sputnik Cocktails

San Diego — Pat Freeman, head bartender at a waterfront cafe, Saturday unveiled a Sputnik Cocktail, which he said was designed exclusively for engineers working at nearby aircraft and missile plants.

The drink is made of vodka and the juice of sour grapes.

Consumer Prices Now Hold Steady, Economists Report

Washington — Consumer prices, after hitting record highs for a solid year, may be holding steady or falling fractionally, government economists said Saturday.

But these cost-of-living experts at the Labor department are keeping their fingers crossed until the consumer price index for September comes out next week.

New Index Scheduled

The index — a list of 300 goods and services the average city worker buys — has been on an upward trend since March, 1956. It has dipped only once and then very slightly.

The economists based their mildly optimistic prediction on declining food prices expected to be reported by the Bureau of Labor statistics buyers in 46 cities. The index will be announced Thursday or Friday.

The August index reached 121.0, which meant in effect that it took \$12.10 to buy what you could get for \$10 in 1947-49.

Worth Nickel Less

Since the spiral began 19 months ago the consumer's dollar is worth about a nickel less. About 3½ cents of this vanished during the past 12 months.

The economists said the rise might — and they emphasize might — be halted because of fall crops of fresh fruits and vegetables and resulting lower prices.

Meats, whose rising cost helped to raise the index in August, may be more plentiful and cheaper because of a pickup in slaughtering. This is customary in Autumn.

The only seasonal increase anticipated is the price of clothing — usually higher when the children head back to school and winter lines are introduced.

Prices for services — hair cuts, doctor bills, street car fares — are the villain in the continuing drama of consumer spending.

"They're going right up all along and we see no sign that they will stop," one expert told the United Press.



PERFORMANCE SCHEDULED—The Great Virgil, an illusionist, will present his performance at Medford High school auditorium Nov. 4, at 8 p.m. He recently returned from a five-year world tour. The local performance is being sponsored by the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce. Tickets may be obtained by writing post office 251, Medford, or contacting members of the Jaycees. Tickets also are on sale at Robinson Brothers and Waincott's Drug store.

Republican Policies Blasted By Truman

Kansas City, Kan. — Former President Harry S. Truman Friday blasted Republican budget, farm and foreign policies.

Speaking to Democratic leaders from 13 Midwestern states, the former chief executive sounded the battle cry, calling for a Democratic crusade to "put the country back where it belongs" in 1960.

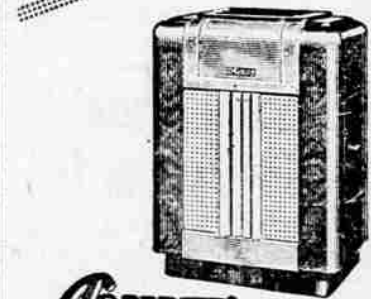
The delegates wound the two-day conference by adopting a resolution condemning the action of Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus in calling out the National Guard, and the failure of President Eisenhower to "use the full prestige of his office to support the decision of the Supreme Court" prior to the Little Rock crisis.

Two other resolutions condemned the Eisenhower-Benson Farm Program for what it called a decrease in farm income and Eisenhower's "failure as President to place in effect the great scientific capacity of the country with the result that the Soviet Union launched an earth satellite ahead of the United States."

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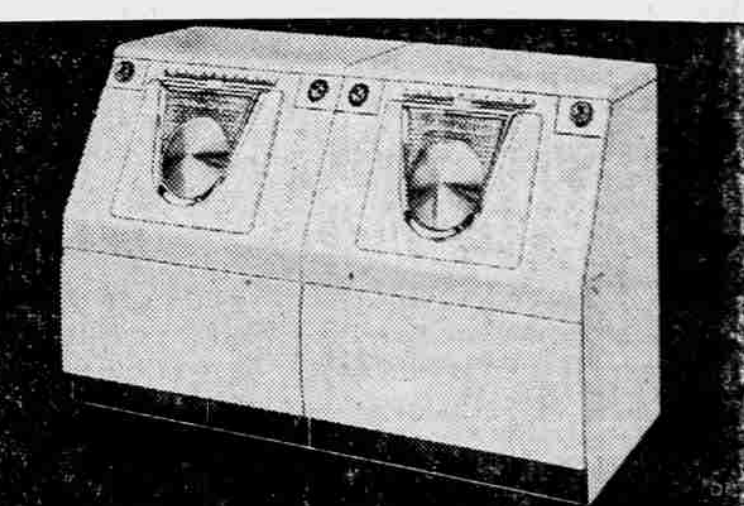


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Brazil May Renew East Europe Trade

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil — A possible "early renewal" of economic relations with East European satellites is being studied by Brazil to counter financial losses resulting from decreased coffee sales in the United States, it was announced Friday.

Edmundo Barbosa da Silva, head of the Foreign Ministry's Economic Department, said the first step would be taken during conferences with an East German delegation due here shortly.

Brazil currently maintains diplomatic relations with only Poland and Czechoslovakia among the Soviet satellite states. It has a bilateral trade agreement with Hungary.



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