

Cold War Topic of Great Decisions

American taxpayers will spend 60 cents of every budget dollar (\$45,805,000,000) for military security and civil and defense mobilization in the fiscal year 1960, if Congress accepts the President's budget proposals of Jan. 19. In contrast 3 cents of each budget dollar (\$2,129,000,000) will go for the conduct of foreign affairs, including all economic

or nonmilitary aid abroad. The Administration budget would reduce U.S. military manpower and weapons procurement—although increased funds are slated for missiles development—and would cut back on military aid to allies abroad. While holding foreign economic aid to what some critics call "starvation levels," the proposed budget would

slightly increase spending for foreign economic assistance. These proposals, some critics fear, may fall short of the nation's needs in the continuing cold war, and may impair the capacity of the Western alliance system to keep the peace.

Attempt To Check Reds
For years the West has attempted to check the further spread of communism through world-wide mutual defense alliances, spearheaded by U.S. military power and backed by U.S. military and economic aid to its allies.

But debate has been brewing for some time in Congress on first, the adequacy of U.S. military defense, and second, on the proper balance between foreign military and foreign economic aid. The Administration's budget recommendations crystallize this debate along three lines.

First, critics ask whether the outlays planned for the various military services are adequate, especially in view of the doubts many of them have about our missile capacity in relation to that of the Soviet Union.

Second, while the Administration has met much former criticism of mutual security policies by reducing military assistance abroad (at least outside the European area), foreign affairs experts are concerned whether the economic aid proposals in any way match up to U.S. responsibilities in the underdeveloped world.

Significant Shift
Third, some critics see in the new budget a significant shift in U.S. cold war strategy. In the future more emphasis

will be placed on missiles and U.S. capacity for "massive retaliation"; less emphasis will be placed on the military build up of U.S. allies, and on U.S. capacity to fight "limited wars" with conventional weapons.

Administration leaders have expressed concern on these same points.

Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy assured Congress that he and the Joint Chiefs of Staff consider the new budget "adequate to provide for the essential programs necessary for defense of the nation for the period under consideration." On Jan. 29 he said that U.S. policy was to rely on "diversified capabilities" rather than attempt to outpace the Soviet Union's missile program.

Secretary of the Army Wilbur M. Brucker, acknowledging that 18 "limited wars" have broken out since 1945, offered this counsel to Congress: "While all of us recognize the primacy of nuclear retaliation as the major deterrent to general war, we must not, in our zeal to provide for this capability, neglect to meet the force requirements for limited war."

May Increase Aid
Capitol Hill reporters feel quite certain that, before the new fiscal year begins, the present Democratic-controlled Congress will probably increase the budget for defense and for foreign economic aid.

In whatever form the U.S. budget is finally passed, observers agree, Congress will have to make up its mind on the question: What does the Western alliance need, in power and effectiveness, if it is to keep the peace?

That all is not well with the Western alliance system, few observers deny. At its heart is NATO—an association of predominantly democratic states. Within this pact freely expressed differences are bound to arise from time to time.

Concerned About Weapons
The NATO partners have been concerned for several years about what atomic weapons the West Europeans nations should have and what role the new German military machine should play in the alliance.

Even before he became the new French President, Gen. Charles de Gaulle called for a greater leadership role for France in NATO. Paris has also long insisted that France join the "atomic club," by producing its own nuclear weapons. The United States and Britain have so far resisted both of France's ambitions.

In North Africa, French NATO troops have been pinned down in prolonged strife in Algeria. Three NATO members—Turkey, Greece and Britain—are at odds over the future of Cyprus. NATO has been unable significantly to influence the outcome of either of these problems.

Prominent Parts
Beyond NATO the Western alliance system extends to the Baghdad Pact and to the alliance of the South East Asian states (SEATO) in both of which the United States and Britain take prominent parts. The United States also maintains mutual defense alliances with individual countries like Japan, the Philippines, Korea and Taiwan.

Problems have arisen in these alliances also. Many critics of the Taiwan-United States alliance feel sure that this country was close to war last year as a result of backing the Chinese Nationalist government in the dispute with Communist China over the offshore islands in the Taiwan Strait. Observers agree the Baghdad Pact has been seriously weakened by the Iraqi revolution last summer and the virtual withdrawal of

its only Arab member. If the anti-Communist alliance faces trouble on military and political grounds, the Western powers are also having economic and political difficulties with the so-called "third world," observers agree.

Economic Growth
The nations of Africa, Asia and Latin America (many of them newly independent since World War II) are on the march to economic growth and development. Yet Western economic assistance to date has made little impact on living standards; economic and social problems in these parts of the world are acute; and political instability throughout these lands offers tempting targets for Communist penetration.

Spokesmen for both U.S. political parties have warned that one of the most important battles of the cold war is now being waged in the underdeveloped world. Both the Soviet Union and Communist China are now competing with the West in aid and trade in this area.

The great fear is that pressures now operating in the underdeveloped world may ultimately lose these billion or more peoples to communism. Economic difficulties, compounded by a population explosion and frustrated by lack of capital and skills, may turn "these nations to the

painful but quick Communist route to industrialization and economic growth.

Require Investment

Alliances and modern weapons, no matter how powerful, will not deal with the heart of this challenge, experts agree. Preventing the expansion of communism in the underdeveloped world will also require an investment in economic growth and development. The current budget debate will have to find an effective balance between the military and the economic.

While most foreign affairs experts agree on the paramount need to keep the free world strong, a growing number feel that the policy of containing communism, as first hammered out in the U.S. aid program to Greece and Turkey, may no longer be adequate to cope with the

revolutionary world of today.

As the Western alliance system developed, the United States joined in mutual defense arrangements with 42 countries. At the same time both the Communists and the Western powers have gained the capacity to destroy each other. The Communist world also greatly expanded its power and resources through the 1950 victory of communism in mainland China.

Concurrently, the world's population elsewhere is growing at a rate alarming to all demographers. Freedom from foreign colonial rule for over 20 nations, achieved after World War II, has been followed by the growth of nationalism throughout the non-Western world.

Edmond ("according to Hoyle") Hoyle, who wrote the first book on card games back in 1742, lived to 97.

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MEETING

TIME: 2.00 P.M. on Sunday, February 8, 1959
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