

# Washington Report

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

## NOW IS THE TIME

Washington — Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid not of their party but of their country.



A grave weakening of the Eisenhower Administration has been evident for months. The resignation of the strongest member of the Cabinet, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, is but the latest of a series of instances of the Administration's progressive debility.

Some of these circumstances could have been avoided. But the important question now, in any event, is not who is to blame for this situation. The important question is what is to be done about it.

A famous old admiral, a salt who was as hard as rock, once growled of his own elevation to high wartime command: "When they get into trouble they send for the so and so's."

More of the so and so's — defining these as men who will do the job that must be done even at risk of alienating their fellow partisans — are badly needed now.

THE Congressional Democratic leadership, which the President himself would privately concede has on the whole run a responsible opposition for six years, is under rising pressure to "get tough."

These clamors are being resisted, well short of the point of permitting irresponsibility by such leaders as Senators Johnson of Texas, Fulbright of Arkansas and Mansfield of Montana. But so far they come mostly from the perpetually shrill Democratic far-left wing. There is danger that more responsible Democrats will begin to add their voices and so raise an irresistible chorus for harsh partisanship in a time of world peril.

For when an administration falters, attacks upon it always rise.

Current things illustrate this fact. Senator Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) has been at the forefront of an inquisition into the views of Clare Boothe Luce, the President's nominee to be Ambassador to Brazil.

It is an undoubted fact that many Democrats can think of sound reasons not to love Mrs. Luce's publisher — husband, Henry R. Luce of Time, Life and Fortune, or Mrs. Luce herself. But it is equally true that what Mrs. Luce prints or what Mrs. Luce says is no proper concern of the Senate in deciding whether to confirm her appointment.

SHE has said some harsh things about Democrats, including Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, and she certainly cannot prove her accusations. But Senator Morse has said some very harsh and unprovable things about President Eisenhower. And before switching from the Republican to the Democratic party, the Senator said some very harsh things about Presidents Roosevelt and Truman, if it comes to that.

The significance of the Luce episode is not great in itself. It would be a pity, however, if it should develop into a pattern of Senate intrusion into the Administration's proper sphere. That was what the right-wing Republicans tried to do — to take over the intimate details of Mr. Truman's foreign policy once his Administration became weak.

Much more immediately meaningful is the proposal of such a Senator as Henry M. Jackson of Washington, one of the few who are entitled to be called military experts. Jackson has announced plans for a Senate inquiry into the operations of the National Security Council. NSC is a Cabinet outfit, an intimately Presidential instrument, which largely makes the Administration's high military and foreign policies.

HOW it functions is unarguably the President's sole responsibility. For Congress

to attempt to push itself into this body, with its highly confidential and infinitely delicate operations, would be like the intrusion of Congressional committees into Abraham Lincoln's conduct of the Civil War.

The point is not whether NSC is efficient or not. The point is that Congress at best will strain the Constitution in any attempt to move in on NSC and at worst could create a chaotic diffusion of responsibility. Some cures are worse than the disease.

Indeed, some here now believe there is need to establish, in an informal way, what would amount to a coalition government. We confront a Berlin crisis, a fateful summit meeting, and serious divisions within our alliance.

This is no time to be getting tough in partisan demonstrations. What we need is to get rationally tough against external dangers.

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## In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

The Montana penitentiary revolt was grim news. It gives us the shivers. It raises troublesome questions:

What happened — and WHY? Who was at fault? Was the pen poorly run? Was its administration tough and cruel and heartless?

Or was the revolt just a mental explosion among hopeless men who had nothing to look forward to?

INSTEAD of jumping at conclusions, we'd better wait for all the details. I think, though, we can say this with some degree of confidence: Penitentiaries are good places to STAY OUT OF. Staying out of them is comparatively easy in a country like ours. This is the recipe for staying out:

BE A LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN. It pays off.

MORE questions: What of Cuba's Castro? Is he a liberator? Or is he a communist?

WE ALL hope he is a liberator. He overthrew a dictator — and dictators are bad business.

But — His brother Raul, now commander of Cuba's armed forces, is described as a dedicated communist — and a very dangerous one. His wife is a communist. He is violent anti-U.S.

SPRUILLE BRADEN, a former U.S. assistant secretary of state, who has served as U.S. ambassador to Cuba, Colombia and Argentina, says of Castro:

"According to official documents that I HAVE SEEN, Castro is a fellow traveler, if not a member of the communist party, and has been a fellow traveler for a long time. He was a ringleader in the bloody, communist-inspired uprising in Bogota in 1948, which occurred just at the time the Pan-American congress was meeting in that city."

DALE FRANCIS, a well-known free lance writer who at first was sympathetic with the Castro revolution in Cuba, says in a recent article in a nationally-circulated weekly:

"The people of Cuba are in danger of being betrayed. Because they suffered under the terrible tyranny of Batista, the people made Fidel Castro the symbol of their hope. They gave him their heart, and there is danger that he will toss it to the jackals of communism."

Francis adds: "What of the theory that Fidel Castro has always been a communist himself? From time to time, I have quoted those who know him well and DENY it. Now, after having talked with probably the best-informed men in Cuba, I still have not been absolutely convinced he is a communist — BUT I RECOGNIZE THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT MAY BE SO."

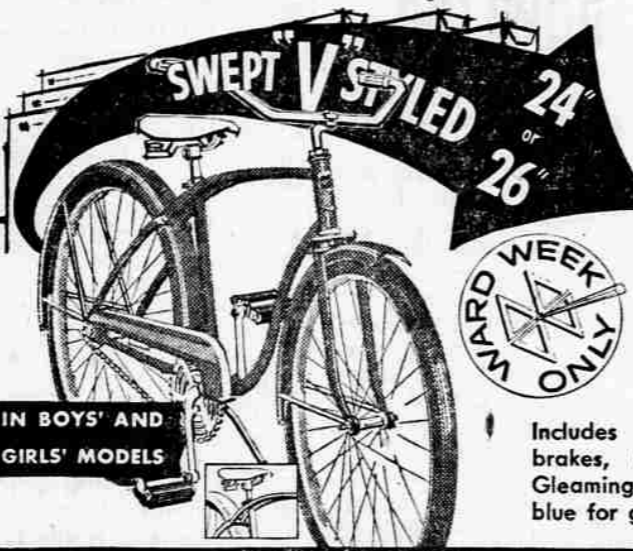
We simply can't permit an established communist outpost only a few miles off our shores. That would be fatal.

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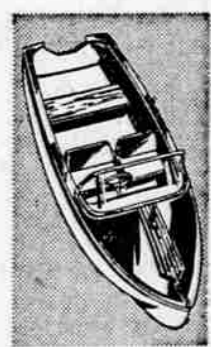
10-qt. can... 2.79



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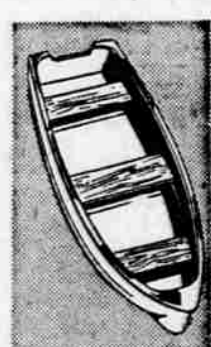
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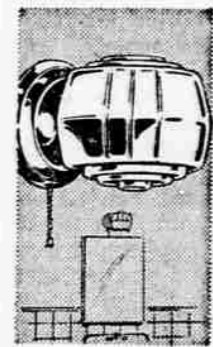
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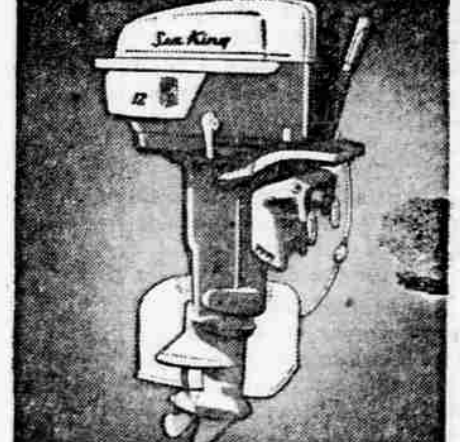
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