

People Can Express Their Opinion in Great Decisions Program

Series of Eight Topics Preceded By Introduction

(Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles in which topics in the "Great Decisions . . . 1960" program are discussed. They are prepared by the Foreign Policy Association, New York, a non-profit corporation which sponsors the program throughout the country. Today's article is an introductory discussion of the program.)

Critics of current U.S. foreign policy have said that the President's world travels, during 1959 and 1960, are a "substitute for foreign policy."

Little of diplomatic significance can be accomplished, they say, on these fast junkets. Plans, programs and action are called for in these difficult times, not "locomotion."

Supporters of Administration policy, on the other hand, put a different light on current U.S. maneuvers, including the President's trips to Europe in April and August, 1959, his swing through

South Asia, the Middle East and North Africa last December, his projected trip to South America in February-March and his long-awaited visit to the Soviet Union next June. Such travels, they say, add a new dimension to regular, working level diplomacy.

'Working Level' Diplomacy
They point out, in the first place, that "working level" diplomacy is going on through appropriate channels all the time. U.S. Ambassador James J. Wadsworth represents the U.S. in the drawn-out but all-important disarmament talks in Geneva. Under Secretary of State Douglas Dillon is quietly working in Western Europe for agreements to bring about closer economic cooperation among the Western allies, and to avoid harmful trade rivalries.

Other U.S. diplomatic officers, including Secretary of State Christian Herter, have recently achieved such diplomatic victories as a new peace treaty with Japan, a new agreement on military bases and other ticklish issues with the Philippines, and important progress on economic development plans for Latin America.

This "working level" diplomacy seldom makes the headlines, but it is a vital part of over-all U.S. foreign policy. The headlines, instead, go to

such spectacular events as Presidential goodwill missions.

Technique Unusual
This is appropriate, defenders of the policy say. The technique of personal Presidential missions may be unusual, but the problems of the contemporary world are unprecedented. The President is not "substituting" trips for regular diplomacy; he has added this new personal dimension to regular diplomacy.

Three arguments are usually advanced in favor of this personal diplomacy:
1. The summit conference, scheduled to begin May 15, will find the heads of state of the U.S., the Soviet Union and France, and the head of government of Britain, dealing face to face with issues on which the Allies and the Communists appear to be hopelessly deadlocked.

Furthermore, the Allies are deeply divided among themselves on some of these same issues. If any progress is to be made in bringing about a united Allied policy, or in producing some reasonable agreement with the Soviet Union, it will be the result of personal negotiations among these key men.

Help Pave Way
The President's travels, therefore, are helping to pave the way to the summit. Pres-

idential diplomacy now—especially with our Allies—offers a better chance for success at the May meeting.

2. One of the major stakes of the cold war is how the rest of the world (particularly the uncommitted world) lines up in the struggle between communism and democracy.

Democracy's best salesman is Dwight D. Eisenhower, universal hero of World War II and holder of the most powerful office in the free world. The personal prestige of the President, therefore, is a vital weapon in our arsenal. This is clearly proved by the overwhelming greeting he has received wherever he has gone.

3. In this era of instantaneous, world-wide, mass communication and propaganda, it is vitally important that the aims and objectives of U.S. foreign policy be understood everywhere in the world, including behind the iron cur-

tain. Again, the President's simply stated theme of "peace with freedom and justice" has created a profound impact wherever he has voiced it on his foreign travels.

Arguments Upside Down
Critics of Administration diplomacy turn these three arguments upside down:

1. The summit conference, some say, may in itself be a mistake. It is certainly a mistake for the U.S., Britain and France to go to the summit without prior agreement on their objectives.

Since there is little hope of full agreement among the Allies on how and what to negotiate with the Soviet Union, and even less hope of reaching a satisfactory Allied-Soviet settlement on such issues as West Berlin or German reunification, the summit meeting can be little more than a propaganda exercise. Meantime the hopes of the

world's peoples are being raised, only to be dashed by a meaningless summit agreement or, just as bad, by no agreement at all.

Stuck With Conference
Nonetheless, others say, we are stuck with the summit conference and must go through with it. The test of U.S. diplomacy, therefore, will not be the cheers the President gets on his travels but whether a unified Allied policy is hammered together between now and May.

The President apparently accomplished no such thing in his talks with President Charles de Gaulle of France last fall, nor are the prospects bright when de Gaulle visits Washington in April. 2. No doubt the President is a superb "salesman," and no doubt he had a great impact on the people of India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and other countries on his itiner-

ary. It should be remembered, however, that Red China, with its military action in Tibet and its aggressions on the Indian border, contributed to the President's warm reception in South Asia. There is nothing to point to by way of bold U.S. policies, either before or after the President's Asian trip.

There is goodwill, but where are policies that will make a significant contribution to Indian economic development, or to discouraging further Red Chinese aggression?

Eloquent Statement
3. The President's statement of "peace with freedom and justice," was eloquent. He no doubt persuaded many millions of people of the sincerity of America's peaceful intentions. But objectives and policies

are two different things. America's objectives, however eloquently stated, are of little value if they are not backed up by economic, political and military policies that produce results.

In short, critics of current U.S. foreign policy generally agree that there is nothing wrong with personal Presidential diplomacy as long as "working level" diplomacy is dealing effectively with fundamental problems.

The new Japanese peace treaty, the Philippine agreement, economic development programs for Latin America, and other such "working level" achievements are, of course, important. But diplomacy is not dealing effectively with major cold war issues, or with political and military disagreements among the Western Allies, or with Red Chinese expansionism in Asia, or with the enormous

problem of economic development in backward areas.

Counter With Question
So run the criticisms. And Administration supporters counter with the question, How would you do it better without bankrupting the country or creating deeper divisions among the Allies or between ourselves and the communist bloc?

In this debate, the only widespread agreement is that the issues are too important to be left to the experts. The American people — through "Great Decisions" and other means — must have a voice in planning their own survival. "Great Decisions . . . 1960" is one way the American people can begin to tackle these problems. In eight discussion topics to follow, the people will have an opportunity to study the facts and weigh the pros and cons on these fundamental questions.



Good Year for BLM Managed Lands in Oregon Is Reported

Portland—Russell E. Getty, state supervisor for the bureau of land management in Oregon, has reported that 1959 was another good year for the bureau of land management.

Getty said 910,131,000 board feet of O and C and Coos Bay Wagon Road timber in the O and C districts of western Oregon were offered for sale. Of the offered volume, 888,230,000 board feet were sold for \$29,296,444.31. The average was \$33.54 per thousand board feet, compared to calendar year 1958, when 908,238,000 board feet were sold from the O and C forests for \$24,091,232.20, an average of \$26.78 per thousand board feet.

Sale of public domain timber in the eastern Oregon grazing districts and on the fringes of the O and C districts totaled 53,450,000 board feet. Collections were \$1,247,888.89.

road use agreements in western Oregon. The agreements add approximately 200 miles of potential access to bureau timber.

Reforestation was advanced with 12,029,000 tree seedlings planted on 21,908 acres of denuded land and the sowing of 7,684 pounds of tree seed on 11,442 acres. Site improvement preparatory to reforestation on 2,043 acres also was completed, Getty said.

Inventories Completed
Forest inventories completed in 1959 brought about an increase in the annual sustained yield allowable cut on the O and C lands from 769.3 million board feet to 874.2 million board feet, he noted. This was the result of an intensive inventory program begun four years ago. During this time permanent sample plots, which will provide a precise measure of forest conditions, were established on about 1,000,000 acres of the 2,140,000 acres of O and C land.

The new allowable cut has been implemented at mid year and it is anticipated the fiscal year (ending June 30, 1960) timber offering will be 874,000,000 board feet of green timber as well as 126,000,000 feet of salvage and thinning material not chargeable to the allowable cut, for a total of 1 billion board feet.

Cartographic Section
In the bureau's cartographic section, the basic work

has been done for a large scale planimetric and forest type map. During the year a method of reproducing colored lithographed maps of both the forest and grazing districts was adopted, Getty reported. Over 3,200 square miles of southwestern Oregon was flown for new aerial photographs under a BLM contract with the cost shared by Josephine and Douglas counties.

Timber trespasses are being constantly investigated and pressed, he said, and during the year \$216,684.89 was collected from persons who cut timber in trespass on O and C, public domain, and Coos Bay Wagon Road lands. Trespass collections are usually at triple stumpage.

There were three criminal convictions for timber trespasses and nine criminal cases are pending. Several civil fire trespass cases are also pending against persons or companies who have been charged with negligence in the start or spread of fires, Getty reported.

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