

# Soviet Experts Inclined To Doubt Major Power Shift Made in Kremlin

Editor's note: What is the internal situation in Russia? What part, if any, did it play in the wrecking of the summit conference? UPI Washington staff members interviewed numerous experts on Soviet affairs. Their views are included in the following dispatch.

By DONALD MAY  
Washington—UPI—Has an important "power shift" taken place in the Kremlin? Soviet affairs experts are inclined to doubt it.

But they do feel that significant pressures at home may have played at least some part in Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev's wrecking of the summit.

## Truman Article Warns Khrushchev On U2 Incident

"If Khrushchev thinks he can capitalize on the incident of the U2—with all the questions it raises and the clumsiness with which it had been handled—in order to throw the free world off balance, he has still a great deal to learn."

This is the straightforward warning that Harry S. Truman gives to the Soviet premier in an article appearing exclusively in the Mail Tribune Friday.

The former President—who sent U.S. troops to Korea to stop Soviet aggression in 1950—tells Khrushchev that he is mistaken if he assumes he can "frighten or bully the West into surrender on his terms as a price for coexistence with him."

This timely, hard-hitting analysis of recent international developments will be read with interest by millions of free world citizens.

## Unemployment Claims Decline

Salem—UPI—Unemployment compensation claims continued to drop in Oregon last week but at a slower rate than last year. The Oregon Employment Department said last week's figure was 14,762 compared to a low of 11,445 in 1959.

The department said the unemployment claims decline continued despite heavy rain and snow at higher elevations.

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Winterset, Ia.—Something of dice inside, which made them more suspicious. After long questioning, the men admitted they had teamed up and were cruising

around looking for stores to rob. One would occupy the attention of the storekeeper while the other two loaded up on merchandise. The dice were stolen, too, but they couldn't remember where.

shev — against the Stalinists, who opposed the premier's avowed intention of easing tensions with the West and his personal diplomacy of hobnobbing with Western leaders.

But even if Mikoyan has been purged — which is still not certain — observers aren't sure it means a Stalinist victory.

### The Army

On Jan. 14 Khrushchev announced a drastic cut in armed forces manpower — from 3,600,000 to 2,400,000 men by 1961 — and a corresponding shift to rocket strength.

The move is said to have caused deep unrest among the officer corps, 250,000 of whom are being reduced to factory jobs by being sent to the dust bowl in Kazakhstan, which Russia is trying to reclaim.

The usually reliable Institute for Study of the U.S.S.R. in Munich reports a rumored shakeup in the So-

viet military high command just before the U-2 incident and connects it with demobilization unrest.

There also have been reports that while Khrushchev and the top military apparently knew Russia had been unable for years to shoot down U-2 flights, the news came as a great shock to many high officers, who then demanded a major hardening of policy toward the United States.

### The Economy

Most Soviet experts here can find no reason to suppose that Khrushchev's summit tactics were an effort to divert attention of the Russian people away from domestic problems such as shortages of consumer goods.

Recent visitors to Russia say there are more goods in the stores. Since Stalin, production of consumer goods has increased by an average of three per cent a year.

In general, the 1958-1965 industrial seven-year plan is

working out well, American experts say.

But a situation of local unrest may exist over agriculture, Russia's greatest domestic problem. Khrushchev told the Communist Central Committee last December that the 1959 harvest was "the worst in four years."

Russian newspapers have carried stories of serious drought in the Ukraine and

the Crimea, with particularly bad conditions around Stalingrad and Rostov-on-Don.

Experts here doubt that the Chinese Communists, long opposed to the Kremlin's "soft" policy toward the West, have a very great influence on Khrushchev. But they might, observers feel, have some influence on dissenters in Russia, who in turn could influence the Soviet premier.

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