

Monroe Sweetland Denies Allegations Made in Material

Hillsboro, Ore.—UPI—State Sen. Monroe Sweetland Wednesday denied from the witness stand allegations made against him in material circulated last fall for which a Portland woman is on trial for political libel.

Sweetland, 51, said he fought against Communism while a member of the Socialist party during his youth. He said he never has been a Communist.

The Milwaukie publisher and legislative education leader was on the stand for about five hours as a state witness in the libel trial of Mrs. Audrey Henry. She is charged with helping pass out anti-Sweetland literature last October while Sweetland was Democratic candidate for secretary of state.

Others Indicted
Five other persons have been indicted on similar charges in Multnomah county.

Sweetland was questioned during the afternoon by Larry Landgraver, attorney for Mrs. Henry.

Sweetland labeled as "totally false" a story indicating he had been disinherited by his father, the late Dr. George J. Sweetland, one-time athletic director of Willamette university. He introduced copies of his father's probated will showing he and his sister shared about equally in the estate.

He said the Oregon Commonwealth Federation, which he served as executive secretary, was never dominated by Communists.

Sweetland said it "was an effective anti-Communist organization and was one of the principal reasons the Communist party never got a foothold in Oregon as it did in other states."

Replying to a charge he was jailed in New York for "pastings of subversive literature on a bank building," he said he was arrested during the "Roosevelt bank holiday" when he pasted a sticker on a bank that said, "Vote Socialist to Keep the Banks Open."

Not Committee Member
"That's certainly not subversive," he said. He was released without being fined, he added.

Sweetland said he had worked for the New York State Socialist party as an organizer seeking candidates. But he said "I was not a member of the revolutionary policy committee."

The trial was in its fourth day today.

Pink Elephant Skis on Willamette

Portland—UPI—A pink elephant water skied on the Willamette river here Wednesday. It was a real elephant.

The 3,000-pound elephant, Bimbo Jr., a member of a touring circus, was pulled along on a narrow wooden platform by a high-powered launch before several hundred Portlanders between the Morrison and Hawthorne bridges. The stunt was to publicize the Shrine circus which opened Wednesday night.

Bimbo was spray painted pink. About half the paint washed off during the ride.

Spring Concert at Howard Is Friday

The annual spring concert for Howard school will be held at 8 p.m. Friday, May 19, in the school gymnasium. Groups participating will include the third grade chorus, string orchestra, department chorus and the school band. Admission will be free.

The Howard Girls League will sell cake, coffee and milk after the program. Special tours of the science fair will be conducted by fourth grade ushers from 7 to 7:50 p.m. in the multi-purpose room.

Parents and friends are invited.

Young Logger Killed In Loading Accident

Newport, Ore.—UPI—A young logger died Wednesday a few hours after he was crushed while reloading logs near Kernville.

Police said Charles Wright, 21, son of the Taft postmaster, slipped and was crushed beneath a logging truck.

Differential for West Shipbuilding Said Unjustified

Washington—UPI—An East Coast shipbuilder declared Wednesday that there was "absolutely no justification" for a six per cent differential favoring Pacific Coast shipyards in bidding on vessels subsidized by the government.

William E. Blewett Jr., president of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., Newport News, Va., appeared before the House Merchant Marine Committee on behalf of a proposal to eliminate the differential.

Blewett lashed out at an analysis of evidence previously presented to the committee prepared at the committee's request by the General Accounting Office. He said the GAO's report dealt with "completely irrelevant issues" and contained "actual errors."

"It does not seem worthy of consideration," Blewett said of the GAO report at one point.

"They attempted by reviewing actual purchase cost data in the individual shipyards, to support their theory that the West Coast has some disadvantage," Blewett said.

Blewett insisted that there was no difference in cost between the East and West coasts and said such a subsidy should be made on the basis of bids.

Congregationalists Elect Moderator

Hood River—UPI—Dr. J. Vincent Crane, minister of the Forest Grove Congregational Church, Wednesday was elected moderator of the Congregational Churches of Oregon for the coming year.

John F. Kramer Jr., lawyer who attends Cedar Hills Congregational Church near Portland, was elected assistant moderator. The Rev. Fred R. Morrow of The Dalles was named new conference preacher.

The 230 ministers and laymen voted to increase the amount given to missions from \$62,000 to \$98,000 a year.

Today & Tomorrow

By Walter Lippmann
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FRAGMENTS OF AN EMPIRE

With the Secretary of State at Geneva worrying about the internal politics of Laos and with the Vice President doing a whirlwind tour of Southeast Asia, it may be useful to try to see the American involvement in its historical perspective.



Lippmann

Laos and South Vietnam are two fragments—the other two being Communist North Vietnam and neutralist Cambodia—of what used to be the French colonial empire of Indo-China. Japan overran this empire after the collapse of France in 1940, and although the empire was restored to France after the Japanese surrender in 1945, the defeat of a western by an Asian power had, as the event proved, fatally destroyed the prestige of France.

During the Japanese occupation the Communist—Nationalist Viet-Minh gathered force, and if it had not been opposed from outside Vietnam, would have controlled the country. A French Expeditionary Corps fought the Viet-Minh from 1945 to 1954, until the costly war was ended by the Geneva agreement of 1954.

By 1953, in the first year of President Eisenhower's administration, it had become plain that the French were losing the Indo-Chinese war. At the turn of the year Secretary Dulles realized that French power was doomed, and that only intervention by the United States could prevent the whole of Indo-China from falling into the hands of the Communists, backed by Red China. It was at this critical juncture that Mr. Dulles proclaimed the celebrated doctrine of "massive retaliation."

The immediate and primary purpose of his speech was not, as has often been said, to save money, to balance the budget, to get "a bigger bang for a buck." The purpose of Mr. Dulles's speech was to protect

the fragments of the Indo-Chinese empire against Communist domination WITH-OUT involving American troops in another Korean war.

This will be clear to anyone who reads the speech in the light of our current troubles. Mr. Dulles said, for example, that "it is not sound military strategy permanently to commit United States land forces to Asia to a degree that leaves us no strategic reserves."

The Dulles policy, then, was to protect Indo-China by the threat of dropping nuclear bombs on China or Russia or both. In 1954 this was a workable policy. For while the Soviet Union had broken our nuclear monopoly in 1949, in 1954 it was just about to master the hydrogen bomb and it had no missile force comparable with the bombers of the American Strategic Air Force. The United States was then the paramount military power in the world, and where it chose to exert its power, its word was law.

BUT in the years immediately after 1954, the Soviet Union began to acquire missiles and nuclear weapons in sufficient quantity to change the world balance of power, achieving nuclear parity in place of U.S. supremacy.

This was the new situation which caused Churchill and Eden to persuade Eisenhower that an attempt must be made "at the summit" to negotiate a truce in the cold war. No truce was achieved. But the fact that by 1959, or thereabouts, the United States was no longer supreme, undermined the Dulles doctrine of defending Indo-China by threat of massive retaliations.

By 1961 Mr. Kennedy was confronted with the fact that the Eisenhower-Dulles defense of Indo-China was no longer available. For five or six years they had been able to defend Indo-China without using American troops because of our nuclear supremacy.

The problem for Kennedy now is how the fragments of Indo-China could be defended without the nuclear threat and without engaging our troops in another Korean war.

THERE are some among us who think that Laos and Vietnam could be defended by the THREAT of opening an American front for another Korean war. They think that Mr. Khrushchev can be intimidated.

They are mistaken. Eisenhower and Dulles were in a position to use that threat of nuclear weapons because they had a monopoly of nuclear weapons. But Kennedy and Rusk cannot threaten to fight a land war because the Chinese and the Soviets are overwhelmingly superior to any land forces we could engage. Our threat to fight another Korean war would be a bluff which would immediately be called. If we were to send a brigade of Marines into South Vietnam, the Chinese would have no trouble at all in sending two brigades into North Vietnam.

What then can Mr. Kennedy do? Since he cannot defend the old Indo-China by massive retaliation or by committing land forces, he must do what he has been trying to do in Laos since he took office. He must do what the British and the French and the Indians want him to do. He must try to induce the Soviet Union and Red China to settle for a "neutralization," that is to say, an agreement by the great powers not to fight the cold war by proxy inside Laos. Almost certainly it will not be a satisfying arrangement. But does anyone know of a better alternative?

WE SHOULD, I feel, look upon all this with a certain philosophy. As a result of the defeat of both France and Japan in Indo-China we became, without in the least wishing it, the heirs, or let us say, the receivers, of the collapsed and broken Indo-Chinese empire. Since the end of the World War, especially since 1954, we have, without enjoying any of the benefits of empire, experienced all its costs, risks, and frustrations.

We now have to face the problem which the British have faced in their empire, the French in theirs. It is the problem of adjusting one's pride to a recognition that protectorates must go, and then of providing for the independence of the colonial peoples over whom they are no longer the protectors. The British and French empires are being liquidated, and the constituent nations are being helped to find their place in the great replacements of empire, the British Commonwealth and the French Community and the United Nations. In the Western hemisphere the replacement for what was once the Spanish

empire is the Organization of American States.

This process of liquidation and replacement is one that any administration—it happens to be the Kennedy administration—would now have to be engaged in. The Administration should engage itself candidly, boldly, and constructively, rising above the present small preoccupations of Mr. Rusk and Mr. Johnson, to a proposal for a regional system of independence and security and neutrality for the old colonial lands of South Asia.

This would be a very good subject for the President to talk about with Mr. Khrushchev.

San Francisco's noted Union Square is constructed on land given to the city by its first postmaster, John W. Geary, who was later a general in the Union Army.

Red China Said Forced To Depend More on Russia

Washington—UPI—Red China is in serious economic trouble, according to information received in Washington.

American officials said today that the Peking regime was being forced by successive crop failures into greater dependence on Russia.

There are some indications that Moscow is making sure that its Far East partner acknowledge this dependence and all that it means to Sino-Soviet relations.

Red Chinese Leader Mao Tse-tung's "great leap forward" industrialization drive, already slowed by earlier difficulties, will stall unless Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev comes to the rescue, officials here believe.

Not Yet Concluded

Negotiations on this year's Soviet aid agreement were recessed in Peking in March, resumed in Moscow in April

and still have not been concluded.

Possibly because of this delay, the annual spring announcement of Communist China's production achievements for the previous year

and goals for the new year still has not been made.

Red China's bare foreign exchange treasury and prospects of mounting trade deficits leave it no alternative but to seek more help from Moscow, U.S. officials said.

Visitation Day Set

At Jewett School

Central Point—Visitation day for youngsters who will enter Jewett Elementary school as first graders next fall will be held Friday, May 19, at 1 p.m.

Miss Elizabeth McGalliard, Jackson county school nurse, will speak to parents and children in the cafeteria at 1 o'clock. Following this, the guests will visit in each of the six first grade classrooms, where a souvenir will be presented to each child.

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