

Retired Navy Strategist Sees Need To Stop Reds in Southeast Asia

By CHARLES R. MOORE Charles M. Cooke Jr., USN
Sonoma, Calif. - Adm. (ret.), former commander of

the U.S. 7th fleet and a military-political strategist with a remarkable record of accurate prophecy, said today that if the Communists are not stopped in Laos and South Viet Nam they will continue toward conquest of all Southeast Asia. And that conquest, he said, is just part of their overall plan to communize the whole world. Cooke said he approved of President Kennedy's action in sending U.S. Marines into Thailand but that the move came late and still was not in sufficient force. "I would put at least a Ma-

rine division in Thailand," Cooke said in an exclusive interview with United Press International. "At the same time I would put a guerrilla-trained division of Marines in South Viet Nam—and on a fighting rather than merely advisory basis." "Our decision should be to stop and turn back Communist aggression and we should use forces sufficient to do it. We did it in Lebanon. And we did it in Korea, although we did not carry through to victory." Retired Unwillingly Cooke was commander of the 7th Fleet from June, 1946 to February, 1948. Retired unwillingly at the mandatory age of 62 in 1948, he continued military activity as adviser to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and frequent consultant to Gen. Douglas MacArthur during the Korean War. It was at his California ranch that he talked with this correspondent about the latest Far Eastern crisis. Cooke recalled that in May, 1945, Fleet Admiral Ernest King asked him for a memo on the Navy's role in the post-war years. Cooke told him that: "Unless the United States prevented it, Russia would expand too fast and too far. Unless the United States prevented it, the Communists would take over China. In order to carry out U.S. policy, all services must be prepared to carry out local war." "Nobody believed that," he said today, "until Korea." Order Incredible Cooke said that in 1948, when the U.S. government ordered its troops out of South Korea, he found it in-

credible, and said so in an interview with Frank H. Bartholomew, former president and present chairman of the board of United Press International. He said he considered it "disastrous" in January, 1950, when U.S. government policy put Korea outside U.S. defense lines. The North Koreans, with Russian and later Chinese Communist backing, attacked in June. Warnings of Threat When the Korean cease-fire talks began, Cooke warned that if the Chinese Communists were let off without

a decisive defeat they would move into North Viet Nam. In 1955 North Viet Nam surrendered. Cooke said he did not believe the Communists intended to attack Thailand immediately, but that with Laos practically lost the Reds have a pathway to new attacks in South Viet Nam and for threats to Thailand. "Each time we let them get away with something," he said, "we weaken ourselves. Other countries figure the United States is never going to do anything. As we continue to retreat, we are weak-

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Southern Pacific Earnings Increase In First Quarter

Wilmington, Del. - The general improvement in business conditions this year over those of early 1961 has produced more traffic for Southern Pacific and resulted in better first quarter earnings, D. J. Russell, SP president, reported at the railroad's annual meeting here, today. First quarter rail revenues for the system totalled \$190,363,000 - up \$14,970,000. Net income of SP and its subsidiaries for the three month period was \$17,733,000 - equivalent to 65 cents a share, compared to 55 cents a share a year ago. Traffic gains were registered in nearly every category of freight, Russell said. Leading increases were in shipments of automobiles and parts, lumber and plywood, iron and steel manufactures, ores and concentrates, and canned goods. Last year's heavy movement of steel pipe for gas line construction on the West Coast was not duplicated and this traffic showed a decline. Russell said that Southern Pacific this year will invest about \$93 million in capital improvements - bringing expenditures for modernization of plant and acquisition of equipment to one-quarter billion dollars in just the past three years.

Morse Proposes Limit on Imports

Washington - (AP) - Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) Wednesday proposed an amendment providing for limitation of exports to the U.S. from foreign nations to cover timber and timber products. The amendment was co-sponsored by Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.). Morse said the amendment was a substitute for an amendment offered by Sen. Karl Mundt (R-S.D.) on a bill authorizing final ratification of President Kennedy's textile agreement. The agreement was negotiated with several countries to limit textile imports into the nation. The Mundt amendment would prevent the textile agreements being put into effect until similar agreements had been negotiated by President Kennedy for several other commodities. The amendment sponsored by Morse and Humphrey would include the limitation of exports on several other products.

Alaska Blizzard Victims Identified

Anchorage, Alaska - (AP) - The Army Wednesday identified the three Ft. Richardson soldiers who died early Tuesday when their company was caught in a flash blizzard while making a night march in the Chugach Mountains near here. The victims were Spec. 4 John H. Lemist Jr., 41, Charlestown, Mass.; Spec. 4 Peter M. Robinson Jr., Prichard, Ala., and Spec. 4 Jacob Henry, Chicago.

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