

# Soldiers of Fortune Offer Severe Test Of Neutrality Laws

Editor's note: The Havana waterfront is bombarded by young Cuban exiles based in Miami. An American soldier of fortune is rounded up in the Congo. A U.S. flier is shot down while fighting for Indonesian rebels. Yet the United States has strict laws designed to insure neutrality in such situations. The following dispatch deals with this seeming anomaly.

**By DONALD MAY**  
Washington (UPI)—In April, 1953, a Yankee schooner scudded into New York harbor, bringing the first news of a new war in Europe.

The fact that a series of ocean gales had cut off the United States from all news of the Continent for three months — including France's declaration of war on Great Britain and Spain — could help to explain the policy the United States subsequently adopted.

President George Washington issued his famous proclamation of neutrality. He said it was the "disposition" of this country to "pursue a conduct friendly and impartial toward the belligerent powers." He warned Americans against "aiding or abetting hostilities."

'Neutrality Laws' Passed  
Congress followed by passing a series of "neutrality laws" making it a crime to aid belligerent states or to

mount military expeditions from U.S. shores against a friendly state.  
Washington's policy of neutrality is long gone, now that two world wars have left the United States intimately involved in the affairs of most of the world. But the neutrality laws have remained with little change.

The laws came into the news on Aug. 24 when two boatloads of young Cuban exiles, based in Miami, slipped into Havana harbor. They shot up a large amount of water front real estate, including a hotel housing Russian technicians.

The law was not invoked in April, 1961, when about 1,000 Cuban exiles, many from the United States, made their ill-fated invasion attempt at the Bay of Pigs.

Went as Individuals  
Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy ruled they had not departed on an invasion but had gone as individuals to "join in insurgent group," which courts have said is not against the law.

"What the law does prohibit," the attorney general said at the time, "is a group organized as a military expedition from departing from the United States to take action as a military force against a nation with whom the United States is at peace."

Use of this country as a base for anti-Castro Cubans plagued State Department policy as far back as February, 1960. At that time, the department was forced to send the Fidel Castro government "sincere regrets" over an incident

in which a light plane from Florida exploded over Cuba. A few days later the Cubans charged that another plane, a twin-engine bomber, had shot up a suburb of Havana. The United States denied any knowledge of the incident.

In March, 1961, two American flyers, Howard Rundquist and William Schergales, were captured when they landed their Piper Comanche on a Cuban highway. The Cubans charged they were trying to smuggle state enemies out of Cuba.

U.S. officials intimated the Cuban government might have staged the whole thing as an anti-American stunt.

Vigilance Impossible  
No matter how tight the controls, agents found it impossible to police all the private airfields in Florida and nearby states. In May, 1961, Cuba claimed to have captured a light plane on a highway outside Havana and to have killed the pilot. The FAA said the plane was rented in Louisiana.

In another related category is the diplomatic problem of American citizens who go off to join in another country's battles.

Can Ground Soldiers  
If it can catch them at the right time, the U.S. government can sometimes ground soldiers of fortune by withholding their passports. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that passports may not be withheld on grounds of political beliefs or activities.

However, the court has given the State Department power to invalidate passports for traveling in certain parts of the world, including Red China and a few other Communist countries. The department recently ruled that Americans may not travel to Cuba without a specially validated passport.

rounded up mercenaries fighting for Katanga President Moise Tshombe in the Congo recently, they found that one of Tshombe's pilots was Hubert Fauntleroy Julian, a soldier of fortune from New York City.

In another case, Alan L. Pope was shot down in 1958 while flying a B26 bomber for Indonesian rebels. He was sentenced to death by an Indonesian court, but the State Department, after a year of efforts, recently won his release.

When United Nations forces

## Fisher Points To Need for Teamwork

Coos Bay (UPI)—State Sen. Carl Fisher (R-Eugene) said Wednesday night the state will not get any federal defense contracts until the Oregon Congressional delegation develops an attitude of teamwork.

The Republican candidate for Congress from the Fourth District spoke at a public meeting here.

"There is no argument among Democrats and Republicans about the necessity for large defense expenditures," he said. "There seems to be no reason why this bi-partisan attitude can't be extended to an effort to acquire more contracts for Oregon."

## MEETS WITH JFK

Bonn (UPI)—West German Economics Minister Ludwig Erhard flies to Washington today for a meeting with President Kennedy.

## DOWN THE DRAIN

La Porte, Ind. (UPI)—Like any housewife, Mrs. Dora Lee Raska was working at her kitchen sink Wednesday when authorities raided her home. They said she was pouring ing down the drain the last of 16 gallons of whisky from an illegal still she and her husband operated for a \$130 daily net.

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**APPOINTED**—W. Walton Butterworth, 59-year-old diplomat, has been named by President Kennedy as U. S. Ambassador to Canada. Butterworth will serve, subject to Senate confirmation, succeeding Livingston Merchant, who resigned last spring. (UPI)

## Safety Laws Urged For Alaska Line

Washington (UPI)—Sen. E. L. Bartlett (D-Alaska) Wednesday introduced legislation calling for application of federal safety laws to the Alaska Railroad.

Bartlett's bill would bring the government-owned railroad under the same laws which apply to privately owned railroads in the 48 contiguous states.

He said the Kennedy administration was drafting an executive order which would delegate regulatory authority over the Alaska Railroad to the Interstate Commerce Commission. "Now it is timely to turn to the second aspect of the problem — that of the safety of the employees of the railroad," he said in introducing the bill.

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