

Missile Fleet Proposal May Become Design That Never Got Anywhere

By CHARLES W. CORDRY
United Press International
Washington — President Kennedy's proposal for a NATO flotilla of missile ships for European defense may yet stand high in the history of grand strategic designs that never got anywhere.

As proposed to European allies who would have to pay about 60 per cent of the cost, the armada would consist of 25 warships built to resemble merchant ships and armed with 200 long-range polaris missiles and nuclear warheads.

Crews recruited from participating nations would lose their national identities while serving in a sort of NATO legion, presumably with a distinctive banner and uniform.

Project Still Alive

Officials of the state and defense departments insist today that this novel project for an internationally owned, manned and operated nuclear force "is still very much alive." Talks are going on sporadically here with sev-

eral European countries — although notably not Britain or an afloat France — and administration men hope for brisker activity once Europe is out of its customary late-summer doldrums.

But the concept, called MLF for multilateral force, has never seemed to fire the North Atlantic Treaty organization with enthusiasm. And in the climate of the nuclear test ban treaty and the possible more East-West tension-easing negotiations, the light may flicker even lower.

Diplomatic observers say that, under present European political conditions, it is likely to be a long time before the fate of the proposed MLF is settled. And if it eventually floats it will be with fewer nations represented than the President hoped for and the absentees will include countries sorely wanted.

Would Raise Question

That would raise the question of how successful the MLF could be in achieving broader political control of

the nuclear power on which Europe's defense has been based primarily since 1954.

At his press conference on Aug. 1, Mr. Kennedy acknowledged that there were shortcomings in the MLF proposal but said that was true of all proposals. Those who dislike the American idea, he said, should offer one of their own.

"We think," he said, "that the multilateral force represents the best solution to hold the alliance together."

Underlines Political Aim

The President's observation served to underline the essentially political aim of the MLF, the quest for a means of assuring European members of NATO a greater voice in control of nuclear power, in selecting targets for nuclear weapons, and in manning nuclear weapons systems and commanding them.

It must be remembered that right now, as in years past, NATO Europe has very great nuclear strength. The military situation is clear. But with

the warheads in American, and to a relatively small extent British, custody, the political problem goes on. (A prime criticism heard in Britain is that MLF would not solve it.)

In present circumstances in NATO forces serving under supreme headquarters allied powers Europe (SHAPE), nuclear weapons are fully integrated in the command structure — as much so as the smallest calibre conventional weapons. These weapons, once released by the American President, and the British Prime Minister in the case of British forces, could be delivered by aircraft, missiles and artillery which are manned by trained troops of most NATO countries.

Congressional Approval

For cooperation in planning and training, the United States at present has congressionally approved agreements under terms of the Atomic Energy Act with The Netherlands, Belgium, West

Germany, Britain, France, Italy, Greece, Canada and Turkey. Forces of those countries are training to use nuclear weapons, but the warheads are retained by U.S. custodial units in peacetime.

There are, for example, two allied tactical air forces, the 2nd and 4th, in Central Europe which double as atomic and conventional forces under SHAPE. The 4th has American, German, French and Canadian units. The 2nd has British, Dutch and Belgian.

What has now grown into a many-faceted NATO political problem got its start some years ago when SHAPE, then commanded by Gen. Lauris Norstad, estimated its future needs and handed NATO government proposals to get the command into a "missile posture."

The idea was to modernize the forces by replacing numbers of aircraft with medium-range ballistic missiles, as America was gearing to cut

back on bombers and build up its intercontinental missile forces.

Norstad, and now his successor, Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer, wanted the command equipped with weapons no more destructive than the aircraft already available but far more certain to survive enemy attack and be able to strike back. But the missile was a fearsome weapon, with special characteristics in the public and governmental mind, and Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, was still urging before congress in mid-August the development of the kind of missile that Norstad first proposed in the late 1950's.

France, meanwhile, had determined to develop her own atomic weapons with the result that there were discussions and proposals, but no more than that, over the years

for some sort of NATO-wide nuclear force.

The concept of the seaborne multilateral force was born awkwardly in the aftermath of the Skybolt missile fiasco last year. President Kennedy and British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan met in the Bahamas in December, after America killed the bomber-carried Skybolt on which the Royal Air Force as well as the U.S. Air Force had been depending.

Agreement to Sell

Out of that conference came (1) agreement to sell British Polaris missiles for use in British submarines with British nuclear warheads, (2) decision to assign certain national nuclear forces, notably the British Bomber Command and some U.S. polaris-missile submarines, directly to Lemnitzer's command and to broaden European participation in selection of targets, and (3)

agreement to seek development of a NATO multilateral nuclear force — what has now come to be called the MLF.

Further steps were taken at NATO's meeting at Ottawa in May — to provide Lemnitzer with a European deputy for nuclear planning, increase the role in nuclear planning of European staff officers at SHAPE and send a SHAPE liaison group to Omaha, Neb., where U.S. strategic targeting is done.

Most significantly, Britain's jet bombers have been assigned targets on Lemnitzer's list as have U.S. Polaris submarines in the Mediterranean, thus integrating them into overall NATO plans.

Progress Another Story

But progress on the multilateral force has been another story. French President Charles de Gaulle was uninterested, thus thwarting whatever aim there may have been to reduce French determination to build an independent nuclear force. Macmillan was beset by domestic political problems and the Laborites who might succeed him professed no interest.

At this stage of the continu-

ing Washington talks, on how to organize and pay for a multilateral nuclear force, the participants are the U.S., West Germany, Italy, Greece and Turkey. The tentative prospect is that, if it should be organized, the U.S. and West Germany would contribute 40 per cent each, Italy 15 per cent and the other two countries the remainder.

It is estimated that it would take seven or eight years to build the ships, recruit and train the crews and get the force fully operational under command of the supreme allied commander in Europe and subject to some form of political executive representing participating countries.

The American government apparently hopes that, if the MLF gets under way at all, it will lure other NATO countries into the fold as time goes by.

One-Time Show Place at Mt. Shasta Still Attraction

By J. O. McKINNEY
Mail Tribune Correspondent

The proverb that a prophet is not without honor save in his own country was never more completely exploded than that of H. D. (Curley) Brown in the vicinity of his Brown Shasta Ranch. That one-time show place, now several owners removed from Brown, and showing neglect in many ways and lack of production in all, is still an attraction.

One reason for this probably is that the things done by Brown still are told whenever the name is mentioned. His heroics hang like a halo over the place.

Neither do they lack proof. Within two years from his arrival the name of the town nearby was changed from Sisson to Mt. Shasta. The railway station and office names were changed from Sisson to Mt. Shasta. The one thing championed by Brown that didn't occur during his lifetime was a road to the top of the mountain. But his influence is still working. It is there now.

Source of Influence

It is cause for wonder where this sort of influence generated. Brown's background didn't rate it. He was an ex-lowa farm boy. An ex-Montana cow poke, an ex-race track man



ENTRANCE TO RANCH — This shows the entrance to the Brown Shasta ranch, since Brown owned it, where H. D. (Curley) Brown raised race

horses. It has changed hands several times since Brown owned it.

That was a mark of Harry Daniel, the H. D. (Curley) Brown who created what he wanted. He hired it done, and paid higher wages for having it done than were paid to other laborers of the community.

Selling himself to the people of the neighborhood he had set out to re-create began with his presence at the first meeting he attended there. A public meeting was held trying to raise money for a needed project to the amount of \$3,000. In 1921 that represented more money than it does today. Opinion was divided whether to buy the needed project, or another that carried much public appeal.

There is where newcomer Brown showed his worth. He announced that he was matching funds with the town he had chosen as his home. Why not get both projects, and here was his check for the extra money.

That fund matching plan never varied. Anything that helped the community, especially if the name Shasta was included, got his endorsement, and cash.

Background Never Left

But Brown's background of horse racing never left him, either. The ranch, with its water, its plots for race tracks where horses could be trained, fitted into his past, and made attractive his present. He raised good horses, and each one sent out to race carried the prefix Shasta. If it wasn't good, it never was sent.

One horse developed here, Shasta Bullet, was considered the champion two-year-old. He may hold the record for that time. It isn't verified today.

But Brown built the Arlington race track at Chicago, likewise the Laurel Oriental, according to O. O. Apperson Sr., a close friend of the Mt. Shasta race horse man, in Florida, and a big track at Havana.

Another of H. D. (Curley) Brown's monuments in the hearts of his Mt. Shasta admirers is the high school building erected many years ago. The district wanted a site. It was for sale, but the owner wanted cash. Tax money comes slowly. Brown bought the land for cash, then took payment from the district at no extra money for the delay.

BIRDING

By JOSEPH HICKS

In August, there was considerable evidence that the birds were aware of the cool autumn-like weather and were beginning their fall migration earlier than usual.

In the Camp White and Agate rd. area, swallows congregated on the wires, each swallow spaced a peck distance from its neighbor. This resting on the wires is indicative of temporary stops in the migration flight.

The first week in August there were hundreds of Oregon juncos on Mt. Ashland as well as sizeable quantities of both rufous and calliope hummingbirds. I noticed another immature hummingbird with a red spot on its chest, and I am now convinced that this was a young male rufous hummingbird instead of a female Anna's. Later in August, I saw a female Anna's hummingbird in California and noted a triangular spot on the throat instead of the breast.

Migrating birds seen at Lower Klamath Wildlife Refuge on Aug. 1 were 600 Downy woodpeckers, western sandpipers, and many avocets and Wilson's phalaropes.

On Aug. 18, there was an adult and two immature least sandpipers on the upper Rogue river, also apparently in the process of migrating. There have been only a few ducks on Hoover lakes this summer, however on Aug. 15 a large flock of mixed adults and immatures were seen.

Early in August, it was quite foggy at Harris Beach Park and I saw only a few brown pelicans and scoters on the ocean. On the sand covered hill just inland there were immature white-crowns, song sparrows, wrentits, olive-sided flycatchers, and Western wood peewees. During this same period, Mrs. T. Conway reports seeing a wandering tattler on the extreme western edge of the large rocks at Harris Beach. She also saw the wandering tattler in this same location earlier in the spring. Mrs. L. Tompkins saw ruddy turnstones and surf birds near Yachats also early in August.

There were three seldom seen birds reported in August. My wife and I saw a sora from the firing line road at Klamath Falls. It was an immature, and amazingly it remained still long enough for me to take a color slide.

Two immature grasshopper sparrows with very short tails were seen by me on a fence near the most western Hoover lake. And a big surprise on Aug. 17 was seeing a road-runner cross the freeway about 10 miles north of Redding, Calif. I always thought this bird was restricted to the desert regions of the southwestern United States. Apparently it likes the arid country around Redding.

A barn owl has decided to live in one of the trees in the yard of Mr. L. Mentzer at 703 West Second st., Medford. The Mentzers are quite tolerant of their guest, and if this owl lives up to the family reputation, mice in the area should suffer a swift population decline.

Black-crowned night herons have also moved to some madrone trees near the residence of Mrs. Gribble who lives on Rogue river near Gold Hill. This is the first report received of these herons choosing madrone trees for their daytime roosts. Normally they select large pine trees. They do roost in the daytime, as they hunt at night, and they seem always to choose trees near a home rather than in the forest.

To those who live in the country and wish to attract birds, let me suggest a brush pile close enough to the residence for easy observation. We have such a bird refuge near our cabin on the Rogue.

In the winter, it shelters juncos, Bewick's wrens, towhees, golden-crowned fox, and white-crowned sparrows. Recently, I noted brown towhees and a covey of two adult and nine very small valley quail were sharing the brushy haven at night. The immature quail were so small that this covey must have resulted from a second nesting.

Last 'Cook-Out' Is Held at Domiciliary

By JIM GILLAN
Mail Tribune Correspondent

White City — The last of the season's "cook-outs" at the Veterans Administration Domiciliary was held last week with the Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary hosting the assigned members in manual arts therapy, according to Paul C. Bethel, chief of recreation.

It was the last of a series held for the five sections in which the 800 plus disabled veterans reside and two special "cook-outs" — one for the engineering division and this last one.

Set in the area developed as a Memorial Park by the VA and contributed by the various veterans organizations and auxiliaries, with its carpet of rich grass and a large, striking fish pond, the social picnics have been popular among the attending members.

Heads List

Mrs. Frances Zundel, VA's representative of the VFWA, headed the list of volunteers serving. Her son, Russell Zundel, Jr., helped. Other volunteers included Mesdames Lillian Clair, Edith Merit, Helen Lusk, Eleanor Sawyer, Hazel Ramsey, Eva Pitcock, Betty Holgate and Winifred Mershon.

A circular serving building and a built-in outdoor kitchen are among the "Gifts for Yanks Who Gave," donated by the American Legion auxiliaries, to the park area development.

It is another of the Rogue Valley's ideal settings for Oregon's prized and utilized outdoor living. With Mt. McLoughlin centering a backdrop of Cascade and Siskiyou mountains, the landscaped and well-maintained area forms part of the beauty of the domiciliary grounds and flower gardens now at the height of a cool and gracious summer.

Compares Favorably

The park compares favorably with the widely known and large flower garden (some 3,000 blooms) maintained each summer by member Walter Odgaard, adjacent to the

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