

War Torn Indochina Watched

SAIGON, Indochina (U)—American diplomats here say the political situation in war-torn Viet Nam has deteriorated rapidly since the fall of Dien Bien Phu. They contend only bold steps can save the government.

This became known today as a French study of steps necessary to bolster Indochina's defenses reached near-completion. Washington reports have said this study is expected to open a new phase in French-American talks on possible U.S. intervention in the Indochinese war.

American diplomats are worried, however, lest the French-sponsored Vietnamese government of former Emperor Bao Dai collapse before outside help can be brought to keep it on its feet.

In overwhelming French Union forces at Dien Bien Phu, the Viet Minh dealt a heavy blow at the morale of the Vietnamese backing Bao Dai's administration.

As a first measure to bolster it, the United States will recommend soon that Bao Dai hurry home from Europe to take over active leadership again. The Viet Nam chief has been on the French Riviera for more than a month awaiting the outcome of the Geneva conference on Asia and negotiations for complete independence which his officials are carrying on with the French at Paris.

Although the period is extremely critical, most of his Cabinet ministers also are at Geneva, Paris or elsewhere outside the country. Several important decisions have not been carried out.

Before Bao Dai left for France, he signed decrees creating a war cabinet with wide powers and assigned Premier Prince Bao Loc to draw up plans for a provisional national assembly. The cabinet, at its first meeting, ordered total mobilization of all men between 21 and 25 for military service.

Due largely to sharp differences between government officials, no steps have been taken yet to put the measures into effect.

The French military study is being made by Gen. Paul Ely, chief of staff of the French Army. He is to return to Paris soon to report to a French-American conference, scheduled to open early in June.

Officials in Washington said his recommendations, which may call for a shakeup in the French command in Indochina, will provide a basis for an expected French proposal for American action.



PRETTY DONNA BECKWITH, KUHS senior, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil M. Beckwith, 625 Alameda Avenue, won this year's honor as the "Outstanding Camp Fire Girl for 1954." The award, a \$15 check for one week's camping at summer camp at Lake of the Woods, was presented at the Grand Council Fire held at Pelican Court, Thursday night, May 18. The award, is being presented by Mrs. Grover Ward, chairman of the Klamath Falls Camp Fire Leaders Association, sponsor. Donna wears the colored Camp Fire ceremonial gown.

Camp Fire Girl Award Given

An outstanding Camp Fire Girl, Donna Beckwith, received the "Outstanding Camp Fire Girl Award for 1954," before hundreds of persons in Pelican Court, Thursday evening, May 18. She was presented with a check to finance a week's camping at Lake of the Woods this summer, by Mrs. Grover Ward, chairman of the Klamath Falls Camp Fire Leaders' Association, which sponsored the campship.

Donna, KUHS senior, has been in Camp Fire Girl work for five years. She has accomplished all the qualifications required, was chosen on leadership, advancement and responsibility. She is president of her own club, president of the Horizon Club cabinet, has been a program aid at both established camp and day camp, was mistress of ceremonies and a chairman for the recent successful Klamath County Horizon Club conference, and has been instrumental in laying plans for the recent joint party held for Explorer Scouts and Horizon Club girls.

The award was first given in 1948 to Dolores Kidder, now Aowakiya, Horizon Club adviser. In 1949 it went to Mary Eagen; 1950, Kathryn Lundgren; 1951, Carol Larson; 1952, Darlene Gaster and 1953, to Judy Pieser.

Indianapolis Speeds Told

INDIANAPOLIS (U)—Everybody will have a hot car in the 38th annual 500-mile race next Monday, from pole starter Jack McGrath to last place Frank Arm.

The slowest car in the field was proved faster than 31 of last year's 23 starters in four days of time trials that ended Sunday.

The 27 Indianapolis Motor Speedway veterans and six first-time starters who survived the qualifications had an average of 138.632 m.p.h. for the 10-mile trials. Last year's average was 135.469.

There are chassis variations but every car in the lineup of the ancient gasoline classic will be powered by a 4-cylinder Offenhauser engine.

McGrath, who will start in the pole position as a result of his qualifying record of 141,933 miles an hour May 15, was less than four miles an hour faster than tail-ender Armi, of Hanford, Calif., starting for the first time with a trial mark of 137.672.

Secretary of Agriculture Benson has said he would recommend a presidential veto if Congress votes for rigid supports, Knowland said.

"If there is a deadlock in Congress or a bill passed that the President doesn't approve, the flexible supports will still go into effect."

Despite the uncertainty over the farm issue, Knowland said he believes Congress will come up with a program of accomplishments that will convince the voters they ought to keep the GOP in control if Congress.

PAROLE
SALZBURG, Austria (U)—Lt. Gen. William H. Arnold, commanding general of U.S. forces in Austria, has paroled the five remaining war criminals held in the U.S. zone of Austria.

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Communists Aim At Defeat Of West At Geneva Talks

Editor's Note — William L. Ryan spent six weeks in Southeast Asia, traveling to Indochina and the nearby countries endangered by a Communist sweep southward. He then went to Geneva to check his findings at the Geneva conference. This is the first of four articles this week on the prospects in "The battle for Asia."

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
AP Foreign News Analyst
GENEVA, May 24 (U)—There is not the slightest indication at the Geneva conference that the Communists will accept anything but surrender of the West in Asia.

Apparently, they are sure communism is on a victorious march, with the decisive battle for Viet Nam all but behind them. The Russians are calling the tune here, even preparing the speeches of the Communist Vietnamese representatives in the Russian language.

After a month of talk, there seems no prospect of anything but obstruction and deadlock. The Russians exude confidence that they hold the trump cards.

Communism is relying heavily on a drive to turn Asian nationalism and Asian fears into potent weapons against the West in a long-term struggle for domination of a continent.

The United States has been losing battles in this propaganda war, though it has not yet, by any means, lost the war. Asian distrust of the West, after a century of colonial domination, is being twisted and turned against the United States in a political-psychological offensive designed to win cheap victories.

The communists are not concerned with masses now. This war is for the intellectuals, the educated layer of Asians from whose ranks come the raw materials for government and leadership.

In those ranks, America has been losing friends. They are not going over to the Communist side, but in frustration are retiring into a neutral shell. And that serves the Communist cause.

For one who has just returned from Asia there is an atmosphere almost of fantasy here in Geneva. Talk of "united action" in Asia seems removed from reality.

At the moment, prospects seem dim for any Southeast Asia defense system under United States inspiration or protection. That may

of the United States are falling silent now," an elderly pro-American statesman told me sadly. "It is becoming just as politically unwise in this part of the world to take the side of the United States as it is for you in the states to take the part of Red China."

Asian leaders are alive to the internal Communist threat and have been fighting it consistently. They fear communism. But first of all they fear a new general war.

Because of this, however mistakenly, they fear the United States. They do not believe Americans have any aggressive designs on them. But they have a dread that actions of the United States in a head-on clash with the Soviet Union might plunge Asia into the most dreadful of all wars.

They insist they have won substantial victories over their domestic Communists and can keep them in check, short of invasion from China.

But many of these anti-Communist leaders themselves help Communist propaganda along. Anti-colonialism is the cement holding these new nations together. Many a leader is not averse to transferring the former fear of Britain, France or Holland over to the United States. Several frankly admitted this to me.

Tomorrow: After Indochina, Indonesia?

Congress Deadlock Over Farm Supports Predicted

By JACK BELL
WASHINGTON (U)—Sen. Knowland (R-Calif.) said today there is a "possibility" that Congress will deadlock over farm legislation and thus let flexible price supports go into effect under existing law.

Knowland, the Senate's Republican leader, said in an interview he doesn't know what is going to happen in the controversy which has found many Democrats and some Republicans lined up behind proposals to continue price supports on major field crops at 90 per cent of parity.

But he said "it certainly is a possibility" that the two houses of Congress will fail to agree on a farm bill.

President Eisenhower has urged abandonment of the present system of mandatory price supports on basic field crops at 90 per cent of parity and its replacement by a system of flexible price supports ranging from 75 to 90 per cent of parity.

Parity is a standard for measuring farm prices set by law to give farmers a fair return in relation to prices they pay for things they buy.

Congress in 1948 and 1949 put on the books a flexible support system, although not in the form the Eisenhower administration has

recommended. But it has postponed its effective date from year to year, continuing the rigid 90 per cent props first provided in wartime to stimulate production.

The 90 per cent supports now are slated to expire at the end of the 1954 crop year, and failure of Congress to pass new legislation would permit the flexible plan now on the books to go into effect.

Chairman Aiken (R-Vt.) of the Senate Agriculture Committee said over the weekend he agrees "there's a possibility we might not do anything." But Rep. Hope (R-Kan), chairman of the companion House committee, said he "can't conceive that the Congress won't do something."

Irrigation Test Reported

TULELAKE — It is possible to irrigate barley a day or two after seeding without ill effect on the stand. When barley is planted in very dry soil or if severe drying winds prevail immediately after planting, soil moisture may be so low that germination will be greatly reduced or stopped. Under these conditions it will be necessary to irrigate the barley up. Field tests conducted by the Tulelake Field Station indicate that certain precautions will give better results when irrigating grain up.

First, if possible drill the grain very shallow so that it will be in the upper warm zone of the soil.

Second, use very small checks. The purpose is to wet the top few inches only and not to saturate the soil. Large checks mean keeping the water over the barley longer and this is undesirable.

Third, irrigate rapidly. Cover the ground with water and shut it off.

Fourth, in areas of extremely high water table, 6 to 8 inches, where an irrigation may raise the water table even higher use extreme caution. It is not advisable to try and irrigate barley up under these conditions.

At times barley may be an inch or two high and suffer for lack of water. By following the above precautions, tests at the field station have shown that this small barley may be safely irrigated with no ill effects. Try to choose a cool day to irrigate small barley.

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