

By FRANK JENKINS
From Washington:

President Eisenhower planned an important conference today WITH HIS SPEECH WRITERS.

Top White House assistants flew by helicopter to the Eisenhower farm home for a session on the State of the Union message which the President will deliver to the congress on January 9.

Reading that brief paragraph, I wonder if you feel somewhat as I do—that is, a little "let down." We'd like to think of our President as sitting down in his library and putting his speech together all by himself.

We'd like to think of the speech as the product of one man's mind—the one man being the President of the United States. It gives us a faint touch of the shivers to think of a big staff of speech writers sitting around a room and discussing what ought to be said and what ought not to be said.

We'd prefer to think of the President cogitating seriously what in his opinion MUST BE DONE if our nation is to continue to move in the right direction and then going before the members of the congress and telling them in his own words what he thinks about it all.

But —
We might as well face facts. The days when that was possible are gone. George Washington could do it. Dwight Eisenhower can't. Our federal government has just got TOO BIG.

How could we cure that? There is one way.
We could bring more government back to the statehouses, the county courthouses and the city halls. I think that might do it.

More from Washington:
GOP "liberals" hoped today to win their party's senate leadership with support from Republicans who will face a Democratic "liberal" trend IN SEEKING REELECTION IN 1960.

That is to say:
These Republicans think that's the way to GET ELECTED.

I wonder.

These "liberal" Republicans realize their hopes and win control of the GOP, where will they be? Here's where they'll be: They'll be trying to outdeal the New Dealers.

It will be a tough job.

World News In Brief

NOTES—Washington—The United States, Britain and France are expected to make public today their rejection of Russia's demand they quit Berlin.

CUBA—Havana — Government troops are reported deserting to the rebels in a battle for central Cuba.

POLICE—New York—James R. Hoffa's Teamsters Union is set to try for organization of 15 American police forces. Police Commissioner Stephen P. Kennedy of New York is pledged to fight.

WEATHER — Storm sweeps into mid-Mississippi and Ohio Valley; snow and freezing rain may make New Year's Eve deadly.

MERCY—Chicago — Judge advises elderly man to change plea from guilty to innocent in mercy killing of wife; then acquits him.

REPUBLICANS — Washington: GOP liberals hope for support from senators seeking reelection in 1960 to win Senate leadership.

DAVIS CUP—Brisbane, Australia—Recaptures Davis Cup in major sports surprise.

MISSILES — Cape Canaveral — Malfunctions mar missile shoots by Navy and Air Force.

Promotion Slated For Mountbatten

LONDON (AP) — Adm. Earl Mountbatten, 58-year-old service chief of the Royal Navy and one of the British nobility's brightest figures, will become the country's first military man next July.

The government announced today that Mountbatten, first sea lord since April 1955 and the uncle of Prince Philip, would become chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee, the British equivalent of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Midnight will be greeted in many ways by many people as it moves around the globe ushering in another year. Undaunted by last year's broken resolutions, few will overlook an opportunity to turn away while from today's black headlines and hope 1959 will bring brighter ones.

There'll be fireworks atop Pike's Peak, a bonfire in Bangor, Maine, musket fire in Cherryville, N.C., and somewhere in the land there may be a chorus or two of "Auld Lang Syne" and perhaps even "Show Me the Way to Go Home."

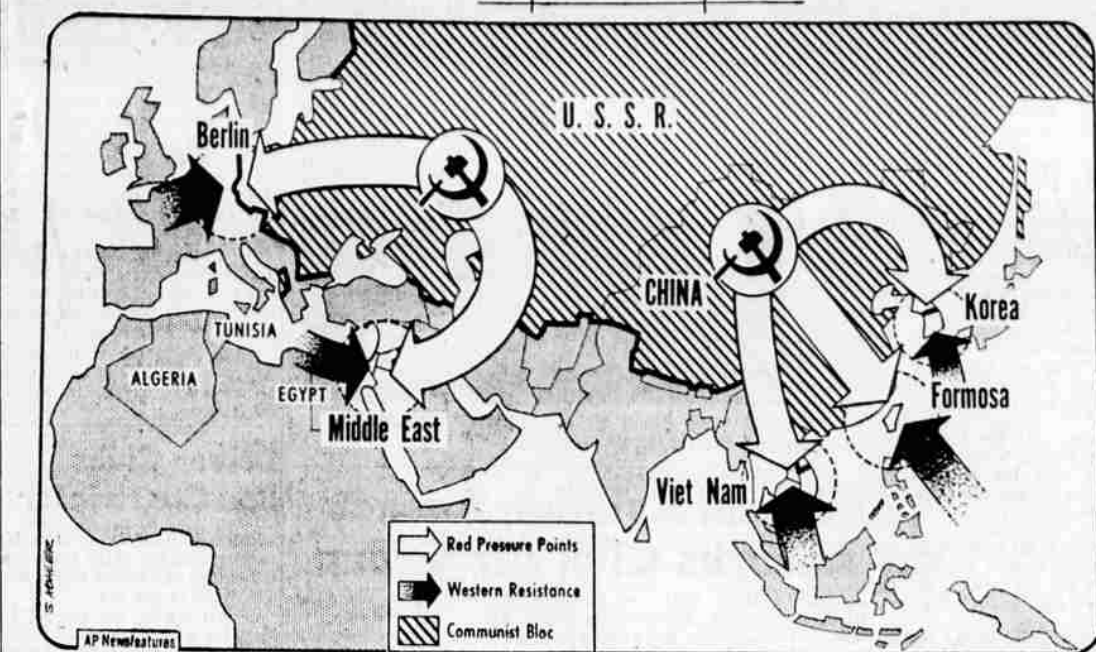
In Tokyo, the Japanese are planning the biggest New Year's celebration since the end of World War II. They will pay off their old debts, get their hair fixed, take a hot bath and don bright new kimonos to greet their favor-

Herald and News

Price Five Cents—12 Pages

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1958 Telephone TU 4-8111

No. 6280



Soviets Lost Ground In 1958

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
Associated Press
Foreign News Analyst

Communism as a world revolutionary movement lost some ground in 1958. Indications are that the trend will continue in 1959. If this happens, the coming year can bring the world closer to total war than at any time since the guns fell silent in 1945.

Although chances are that the decade of the Fifties will pass into history without plunging civilization over the precipice, there will be no real peace.

The state already is set for a gruesome ballet whose principals dance perilously close to the brink of cataclysm. An accident could bring the awesome reckoning. But when the danger becomes too great, the principals will draw back into the temporary safety of the conference table.

The most nervous moments are likely to come in May. That is the Kremlin's deadline for forcing the West to deal with the East German Communist regime. A great power summit meeting is a distinct possibility thereafter. Although it would be unlikely to settle any major problems it could give the world a breathing spell.

Rising Soviet military power combined with the nakedly aggressive look of its world political drive has caused serious second thoughts in the ranks of those national leaders who apparently believed communism could be used as a political ally and still be kept at arm's length.

But if communism is perceptibly losing ground on the political front, the danger of world conflict must increase. Communism cannot afford political defeats. Its leadership will undertake strong—even

Solon Seeks Shasta Delay

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel (R-Calif.) has asked the Interstate Commerce Commission to suspend a proposed reduction in railroad service between San Francisco and Portland, Ore., pending investigation.

The Southern Pacific wants to cut the seven times weekly service by its "Shasta Daylight" train to three runs a week.

In a letter to ICC Chairman Howard G. Freas, Kuchel noted the new transportation act directs the commission to investigate requests to discontinue trains whenever complaints are received.

The Senator asked that the ICC hold public hearings in California cities affected by the contemplated reduction in service to give local interests opportunity to express their views.

Other Eastern nations — including Communist China — are planning traditional festivities. The Red Chinese have reported big shipments of meats, cabbages, sugar, fish, chickens and fruits into Peiping, Tientsin, Shanghai and other cities for New Year's Day and the Chinese spring festival which follows soon after.

In Europe, there'll be the traditional celebrations, not basically different from American festivities, with similar repercussions the day after. In Moscow, it's the biggest holiday of the year with the gift-giving and decorations.

President Eisenhower is planning to spend New Year's Eve quietly at home in Gettysburg, Pa., with friends and relatives. He plans to stay at his farm until the end of the week.

There will be football bowl games in Pasadena, New Orleans,

desperate—measures to offset political losses.

These measures include the manufacture of artificial but dangerous crises wherever the Communist leadership may find this necessary. Here is a brief look at potential trouble areas in 1959.

Soviet Premier Khrushchev's high command in some respects is in an unpleasant position. Undertaking a super-ambitious seven-year plan to overtake the United States economically, it must continue the hold-down on consumer production. Khrushchev probably will be obliged to restore some degree of Stalinism, even though he might wish to keep up the appearance of relaxation. The Soviet public is becoming more and more demanding.

Soviet policy thus is likely to lean heavily upon crisis tactics to provide both excuse and goad for the drive to massive economic power.

Similar considerations to an even more marked degree impel Red China to employ crisis tactics.

The U.S.S.R. and Red China have

Polish Sailor Finds Asylum

SVENDBORG, Denmark (AP)—A Polish sailor got himself rushed to the hospital so he could stay in the West. His ship sailed without him Tuesday night, but the sailor paid for his freedom with an appendix he didn't need to lose.

The 22-year-old seaman complained to the captain of the Polish ship that his stomach ached. He was allowed ashore to see a doctor.

Crying loudly, he went to the office of a shipping company which called an ambulance. At the hospital, the doctors rushed him to the operating table and removed his appendix without a diagnosis.

Chiangs Effect Three-Day Truce

TAIPEI, Formosa (AP) — A three-day New Year truce initiated by the Chinese Nationalists went into effect today.

The Communist command in Fukien province agreed to the tacit Nationalist appeal for a 72-hour cease-fire in the sporadic exchange of shelling around the Nationalist-held offshore islands.

The Quemoy Island garrison had announced that the defenders would not reply to artillery fire for three days starting today.

There seems little hope for settling North Africa's most vexing problem, Algeria. The turbulent North African situation is becoming even more complicated in the clash between Egypt's Nasser and President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia, clearly etching the grim conflict in the whole Arab World between pro-Western and anti-Western forces.

In black Africa, countries emerging from colonial status to nationhood are eager for sympathetic help from the United States. The Communists will make determined efforts to muddy the waters. They will have some assistance, however unwitting, from the avid Pan-Islam by which Nasser hopes to extend his influence in the rich continent.

Communism has lost ground recently in Latin America. The Communists will try to mend their fortunes through a combined political-economic offensive. But for Communism, Latin America must remain a secondary theater of operations for some time to come. The major share of Communist attention is focused upon the East.

In similar notes, the United States, Britain and France:

1. Flatly rejected Premier Nikita Khrushchev's proposal to turn West Berlin into a so-called free city.

2. Denounced as a violation of international agreements Khrushchev's announced plan to turn over Soviet controls in East Berlin to the East Germans.

3. Served notice the three Allies intend to keep their forces in West Berlin to protect the freedom and security of the more than two million West Berliners.

In offering to talk over the German deadlock, the United States said in a 2,000-word note that it

ready-made" crisis conditions at their disposal whenever they choose to turn the spigot. Moscow has divided Germany. It has only to bring pressure to create a major crisis. Peiping has the Formosa Strait. It can create a crisis simply by silencing the guns. Also at the disposal of Peiping are Asian satellite troops in North Korea and Viet Nam, cold battle grounds that could be made hot again at any time.

Both big Communist powers are plagued by what they call revisionism, which in essence means independent Communist thought or action. It is growing, inspired by the example of Tito of Yugoslavia. Soviet and Red Chinese rulers found experiments with independent thought to be dangerous. Communism requires total, unquestioning obedience. Tito will loom importantly in the year's political and propaganda wars.

A war situation is inherent in the Berlin crisis. Khrushchev's intention may be to force a meeting at the summit, to capture the world's undivided attention while Communism prepares aggressive maneuvers elsewhere.

A likely theater for such maneuvers will be the Middle East. Moscow already is applying increasing pressure upon Iran to frighten the country out of a protective alliance with the West.

The Kremlin will watch from the wings the unfolding drama of the Arab East. Most dangerous spots will be the psychotic little kingdom of Jordan and the revolutionarily new republic of Iraq. If Hussein of Jordan falls before the pressure of Egyptian-led extreme nationalism, a Middle East explosion is a probability. A defensive move by Israel in Jordan's direction could throw the whole Arab East into warlike turmoil and imperil the flow of the oil which feeds Europe's economy.

Gamal Abdel Nasser, ruler of the United Arab Republic of Egypt and Syria, will continue to be a source of worry to the West as he falls more and more into political and economic involvement with the Red bloc. But 1959 is likely to see a noticeable decline of Nasser's powerful influence in the Middle East and Africa.

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The note mentioned the need to talk over Western proposals for free all-German elections or "any other proposals genuinely designed to secure the unification of Germany in freedom."

No date or place was suggested for the talks. Nor was there any hint of the level at which the discussions would be held.

Some Western diplomatic officials are known to be thinking in terms of a Big Four foreign ministers conference some time in the spring.

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Weather

FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity: Mostly cloudy with late night and morning fog through Thursday. Low tonight 28-34; high Thursday 37-44.

High yesterday 37
Low last night 30
Precip. last 24 hours 0
Since Oct. 1 1.82
Same period last year 7.92
Normal for period 4.75

Northern California — Fair through Thursday except local valley fog. Little change in temperature. Variable coastal winds 5-15 miles an hour.

CRATER LAKE

High yesterday 49
Low last night 29
8 a.m. today 33
No new snow
Snow depth 23
Last year 96
Skiing good

Highway 62 is open through the park. Chains are advised on Highway 62 and from Annie Springs to park headquarters. There are icy spots from park headquarters to the rim but chains are not needed. The rangers report good skiing on crusted snow. No fog in the park today.

49-Star Flag Due Saturday

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation gets a new state and a new flag Saturday.

President Eisenhower will sign the proclamation making Alaska the 49th state at a formal ceremony in the White House Saturday noon. He will fly to Washington for the purpose and return later to his Gettysburg, Pa., farm for the remainder of the weekend.

The new state enters the Union immediately. The new flag will become official next July 4, but flagmakers in New York said Monday they would have a few of the 49-star flags available as early as next week.

The flag design will not be announced until Saturday. There was speculation it would consist of the present 13 stripes, with 7 rows of 7 stars each in the blue field.

The design was picked from nearly 2,000 suggestions received by a screening committee.

Flagmakers are eager to begin production of the new version. They expect to have flags ready within a day or two, but not many. A backlog of orders has piled up.

The new design for the stars will not affect the proportions of the old flag. Manufacturers can tear out the blue field on present inventory stocks, burn it, and substitute the new blue background.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Western Big Three called on the Soviet Union today to discuss the Berlin problem, including the proposed talks, at a new four-power conference. They rejected firmly any such talks under menace or ultimatum.

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Army Foils Reb Attempt To Capture Central Town

HAVANA, Cuba (AP) — Army forces today smashed a rebel attempt to capture Santa Clara in central Cuba and are driving the insurgents eastward, the government said.

Rebel broadcasts conceded that the fighting had moved north and east of that city controlling highways from Havana to eastern Cuba.

Fighters, bombers, artillery, tanks, armored cars and infantry were reported attacking rebels everywhere in Las Villas province, of which Santa Clara is the capital.

A rebel broadcast said forces in the town of Cruces just west of Santa Clara "are no longer able to resist in the face of attacks by tanks."

Government sources put rebel casualties in the furious street-by-street fighting in Santa Clara at 3,000 killed or wounded.

Government losses were not indicated.

The rebels appeared to be in a bad way. One rebel commander was heard radioing urgently for reinforcements. The government is known to outnumber the rebels in Las Villas.

Rebel broadcasts, which had been saying the overthrow of Batista was imminent, stopped talking about the fighting in Las Villas.

The rebels claimed new successes in Oriente. They said they captured the city of Guantanamo, 27 miles north of the U.S. naval base of the same name.

Government airraids on at least five smaller towns in Las Villas confirmed that the rebels were strongly entrenched in the southern part of the province, whose rural areas they claim to dominate. Rebel control of Las Villas

Two Airlines Still Facing Old Strikes

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Old strikes continued to plague two of the nation's major airlines on the eve of the new year.

Government officials showed signs Tuesday of increasing annoyance with the prolonged disputes at Eastern Air Lines and American Airlines.

The National Mediation Board sent a strongly worded recommendation to Eastern and its striking flight engineers to take immediate steps to settle the strike, which began Nov. 24. The board urged arbitration, if necessary.

Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) suggested the strike of pilots at American could lead to federal legislation outlawing strikes in transportation industries.

The threat of a walkout against a third major line — National Air Lines — diminished somewhat when the Airlines Ticket Agents Assn. formally accepted an offer from the national board to mediate the association's dispute with the company.

The association is preparing a strike vote against National in protest of the dismissal of an agent in New York.

The national board told Eastern and the engineers in a telegram that "your economic tug-of-war must come to an end . . . (You) must now yield to the right of the public to have adequate air transportation by agreeing on a peaceful method to settle this dispute."

Politicos' Fears Told By Writer

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet writer Ilya Ehrenburg says that in 1958 some politicians still feared books as much as bombs.

"We're inclined to argue, 'not by books but by bombs!'" Ehrenburg, long a pet in the Kremlin's intellectual stable, wrote in the magazine "New Times." He named no specific book.

(The world's most famous case of bookburning in 1958 was the Kremlin's denunciation of the Bolshevik revolution. Banned in Russia, its publication in the West was followed by the award of the 1958 Nobel Prize in Literature to Pasternak.)

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would cut the island republic in half.

The rebel radio also said insurgents had extended their holdings in Oriente province, at the eastern end of Cuba. Castro launched his guerrilla war against Batista from the Oriente mountains 25 months ago.

The government rushed thousands of fresh troops to Santa Clara, about 160 miles east of Havana. Tanks, artillery and warplanes are backing up the troops in fighting against an estimated 3,000 rebel foot soldiers.

Normal communications with Santa Clara were disrupted and reports from there conflicted.

Reliable sources estimated the casualties at 3,000 and said they might go higher. A government source claimed aerial attacks alone had inflicted 2,000 rebel casualties.

Some government sources said the army was now cleaning up in the city, hunting rebels from house to house and warning civilians of a death penalty for aiding rebels. Many civilians had fled the city.

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—A Louisville teacher, snatched off a plane by Cuban secret police in Havana, said here today his troubles were caused by a simple question.

"I just asked a man at the airport how far Fidel Castro was from the city," said Louis P. Brantley, the teacher.

Castro is the leader of the Cuban rebels.

"What happened after that was a sight to see," Brantley said.

"Swarthy looking men started chasing me and my friend, another Louisville teacher, James W. Reid and the next thing we knew we had been pulled off our plane."

"They weren't nice. They didn't exactly string us up on a pole and whip us, but they did everything they could to be mean and ugly."

Brantley, 22, and Reid, 35, were returning from a vacation in the British West Indies and were scheduled to stop at the Havana airport for 40 minutes before resuming their flight home Tuesday.

"We decided to get a look at the Spanish restaurant in the airport and were walking back to the plane when I asked the wrong question," said Brantley.

Cuban officials said that Brantley and Reid shouted "Viva Castro" Brantley denied this.

They were released late Tuesday and caught a flight to Miami. The two teachers originally had been on a plane en route to New Orleans.

Zollar Given Agency Post

KLAMATH AGENCY — Martin M. Zollar has been named as superintendent of the Klamath Indian Agency, according to an announcement yesterday by Don C. Foster, Portland area director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Zollar replaces Elmo Miller who transferred on November 2 to the Colville Agency in north central Washington. Zollar has been acting superintendent at the Klamath Indian Agency since the transfer.

A native of Minnesota, Zollar started his career in the federal service with the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Cass Lake, Minnesota, in March, 1931. Except for the period from 1934 to 1936 when he left BIA to work in the office of the solicitor at the Red Lake Agency, Red Lake, Minnesota, he has been employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the Rosebud Agency, Rosebud, South Dakota, the Consolidated Ute Agency at Ignacio, Colorado, the Crow Agency, Crow, Montana, and the Fort Peck Agency, Poplar, Montana. In April, 1955, he was appointed administrative officer of the Klamath Agency and was promoted to assistant superintendent in July, 1956.

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