# Flag Flying In East Reich May Cause Complications

BERLIN (UPI) — At any other time in any other place American officials might consider the incident of the East German flags as scarcely more than a mildly interesting footnote to the history of the curious world in which we live.

But the time is the tense and tumultuous year of 1959.

And the place is Berlin — this vital, divided city where nerves are jumpier and tempers apt to be shorter than they are almost anywhere else that the political interests of East and West collide.

So beginning this weekend, an Allied army of 30,000 —11,000 U.S., French and British troops and 19,000 West Berlin police — will be ready if needed to keep East Germany from flying its new hammer-and-compass flag over the stations on the elevated railroad in the Western sector.

The Communists have indicated that against this show of force they will probably give up their plan of marking the 42nd anniversary of the Russian revolution by flagging the stations.

In return, the Allies have held back a formal alert — but the Communists are wily and the Allies are wary.

The flag raising, if and when it happens, will certainly be an irritation—the Communists would be disappointed if it weren't. But —I asked an American official— is it really a serious enough threat to Allied authority to warrant plans to use the armed forces?

"The flags may not seem to be dangerous in themselves," the official said. "But they must be seen as part of a whole picture. Bit by bit the East Germans and the Russians have been chipping away at our Berlin operations. A little here, a little there.

"We've got to stop this constant attack on our authority right now," said the American official.

"You let them get away with a flag today — tomorrow it may be a city."

# Residents Of Italy Village Get Bank America Shares

RENO, Nev. (AP)—This Nevada city, famous for divorces and gambling, often has been remembered with a twinge of regret. But on Sunday, a tiny village in the Italian Apennines receives a gift from two Reno men that surpasses the villagers' fondest dreams.

Joseph and Victor Saturno often heard their father talk of his birthplace — the village of San Marco d'Urri near the seaport of Genoa.

Eighty-one years ago, Leopoldo Pietro Saturno left San Marco and came to the United States.

A young man who was used to hard work and born with a love of the land, Leopoldo worked on a California farm near Truckee and saved his money.

When he moved to Reno, he invested heavily in real estate and bought stock in his friend's bank. The friend, A.P. Giannini, founded the Bank of Italy. Today it is the Bank of America, largest in the world.

His sons, Joseph and Victor, fought for the United States in World War I. Victor received a purple heart for wounds at Belleau Wood.

Since their father died in 1919, the brothers have administered his estate and continued to build the family fortune, now estimated at more than two million dollars.

Joseph, 71, and Victor, 64, are both retired. They have no children. Joseph was once married. Victor is a bachelor.

About a year ago, the brothers thought their parents would have been pleased to present a gift to their village.

They asked the Bank of America to investigate the possibilities and read intently every word they got of San Marco d'Urri.

Finally they decided: Every man, woman and child in the impoverished village would receive 25 shares in the world's largest bank—a total of a third of a million dollars.

The community has 284 residents. The stock sold Thursday for $48.25 a share.

Victor said, "This is in honor of our parents but it's also to create more good will in Italy toward America. We've never been there but we plan to go to San Marco some day."

Sunday, Aurelio Gandini, a Milan bank official, will walk up the twisting mountain road that Leopoldo Pietro Saturno walked down 70 years ago. Gandini will deliver the Bank of America shares to the residents of San Marco d'Urri.

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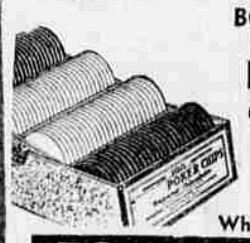

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