

Pentagon Brass On Record Opposing Reorganization

WASHINGTON (AP) — Most of the present Pentagon leaders already are on record opposing another defense reorganization as far-reaching as that recommended by President-elect John F. Kennedy.

The essence of their plea: give the 1958 organization plan a chance to work before setting off on still another shakeup. That law, passed after the Soviet Union orbited its first satellite, gave added powers to the secretary of defense and consolidated research and development, among other things.

The new military blueprint, drawn up by a committee headed by Sen. Stuart Symington, D-Mo., was received in official silence at the Defense Department after it was made public Monday at Palm Beach, Fla.

But the military chiefs of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, and the defense secretary himself, all spoke out vigorously before the event in anticipation of just such a set of sweeping proposals.

Only the Air Force, incubating ground for most of the ideas contained in the Symington group study, has remained silent in recent months.

The plan given to President-elect Kennedy would eliminate the separate departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force together with their secretaries, undersecretaries and assistants. It would leave the military services with their names, uniforms and the responsibility of internal housekeeping.

The Symington group recommendations would abolish the Joint Chiefs of Staff and substitute a single chairman who would deal directly and exclusively with the defense secretary and through him with the president.

This super-chief would head a combined planning staff of officers dissociated as much as possible from the services of their upbringing. This chief would send orders direct to commanders of three functional commands, strategic, tactical and defense.

The existing major commands, such as the Navy-headed Pacific and Atlantic headquarters and the Strategic Air Command of the Air Force, would be abolished. The new functional commands would absorb whatever people or weapons were best suited for the assigned tasks without regard to uniforms, traditions or historic organization.

The chairman also would preside over an advisory council of retired officers or of men who had divorced themselves from separate service ambitions.

Under the Symington group plan, the Defense Department would consist of a secretary and a deputy secretary, as it is now. But all of the assistant secretaries of defense would be eliminated. To do their work, there

FD Plans Get Favor Of Voters

CHEMULT—Fifty three voters here were unanimously in favor of establishing a fire protection district in the area during a special election Dec. 2.

Dallas Sutherland, William Taylor, Jack Grant, Verne I. Brader and R. E. Jessup were voted in as Protective Fire District directors. Grant Damon withdrew his candidacy earlier due to illness.

Election results were turned in to Charles F. DeLap, county clerk, and the county court will decide finally for or against formation of the district during a meeting Friday.

If the decision is favorable as expected, the five directors will meet to select a chairman and then proceed with organization of the district.

Sally J. Damon was chairman of the election board. Other members were Sophie Long, judge, and Josephine E. Galbreath, Virginia Jessup and Marion Mott, clerks.

Santa Invited To Area Event

CHEMULT — Santa Claus has been invited to appear during the annual Christmas program for residents of Chemult and the vicinity at the Community Club Friday, Dec. 23. All the community's children have been invited to participate.

Santa Claus is expected to bring a gift and candy and popcorn for each child and to interview youngsters to determine their behavior during the year.

Wrong State

ROSEBURG (AP)—The News Review said today it received from the Bureau of Census the final state report on the 1960 census. It took a second look, discovered it was for Massachusetts.

would be two undersecretaries, Jr., said he saw "no need for any substantial reorganization" in the military establishment and declared the military family needed more time to digest the 1958 reorganization.

Army Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer said upon being sworn in as chairman of the joint chiefs on Sept. 30 that the reorganization of two years ago should be permitted to jell before further unification plans are considered.

The Army chief of staff, Gen. George Decker, said in an Oct. 29 speech that the nation "should give the present organization an opportunity to work."

The Marine Corps commandant, Gen. David Shoup, in a policy statement made public after he assumed office early this year, voiced the hope that the corps and the rest of the military establishment would be able to function without further radical changes.

UKIAH (UPI) — A convicted murderer awaiting execution in Florida has confessed slaying former University of California basketball star Perry Ten Eyck, the sheriff's office disclosed Tuesday.

Ten Eyck, 51, Whittier, was beaten to death Aug. 16, 1959 on Highway 101 near the Mendocino Humboldt County line.

Convict Admits Slaying Student

Mendocino County Sheriff Reno Bartolome said Emmett Spencer, 29, who faces death for the murder of two persons in Florida, admitted during an interview that he had killed the basketball player.

But Bartolome said Spencer related facts about Ten Eyck's death that only the murder and investigators would know. He said he was sure Spencer was telling the truth.

The sheriff said the condemned man implicated another person in Ten Eyck's slaying.

past he had "confessed" to six slayings in which investigation subsequently showed he had no part.

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