

# Kennedy Waging Firm Fight Against Aid To Private Schools

By LYLE C. WILSON  
WASHINGTON (UPI) — Every body is talking about President Kennedy's firm stand against his own church and on federal aid to schools.

There also is talk about the firm stand of House majority leader John W. McCormack (D-Mass.) against Kennedy on the same subject.

Not everyone knows what he is

... talking about, however, so some quotations are in order. This, for example, from the President's March 1 news conference:

"The situation clearly prohibits (federal) aid to the parochial school. There is no doubt about that. The Everson (Supreme Court) case, probably the most celebrated case, provided only by a 5 to 4 decision that it was possible for a local community to

provide bus rides for non-public school children.

"All through the majority and minority statements (opinions) on that particular question there was a very clear prohibition against aid to the school direct. The Supreme Court made its decision in the Everson case by determining that the aid was to the child, not to the school. Aid to the school is prohibited by the Constitu-

tional question involved in the federal government making long term loans at reasonable rates of interest for the construction or the renovation or the repair of private schools."

Prelates of the Roman Catholic Church oppose the Kennedy school aid program because it excludes private schools. That opposition could become a powerful factor in defeat of the school-aid program.

Leaders of the Negro political pressure group support the President. They fear federal aid to private schools would lead to private institutions set up in the South to avoid the co-mingling of white and Negro school children.

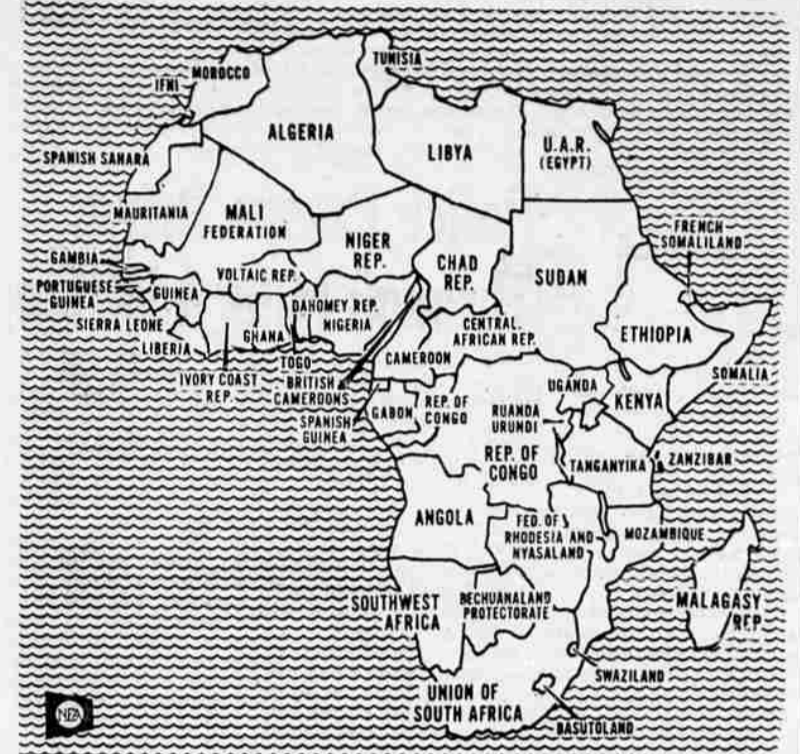
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## Indecision Mars U.S. African Policy

WASHINGTON (NEA) — There are many points in Africa that could almost overnight turn into another Laos, another Cuba, another Congo. Privately, State Department and Pentagon experts agree on this point.

They worry about what Guinea will do to its neighbors with the new arms it's getting from the Reds. They fret about the Portuguese colonies of Angola and Mozambique and about the Rhodesias and Nyasaland, British lands north of the Union of South Africa. They're bothered by the situations in Mali, in Ruanda-Urundi, in Kenya, in Morocco, and, of course, in Algeria.

But the State Department and Pentagon men can't agree on a policy. The result is indecision.

It's not only that the State Department experts can't entirely agree with the Pentagon. It's that the State Department experts can't even agree with each other. Already some strong recommendations have flowed from State to Defense at lower levels of the hierarchy.

Meanwhile the African situation is getting worse. That's the one point on which State and Defense experts do agree.

"Frankly we don't know what is going to happen," says one State Department official. "People change sides. There's little basic strength. We just don't know how to get hold of things."

The Red bloc has moved in arms to several countries—Guinea, the Congo, Morocco, the United Arab Republic, perhaps into Algeria. There are hints of arms movements in several other African lands. The arms shipments are small in most cases. The weapons, except for those to Egypt and Morocco, are light — rifles, grenades, trucks, mortars.

But in Africa, small amounts of arms at the right place and at the right time can upset a government, say some military men. In the casual movement of tribes across borders there is no control on where these arms wind up, or on who will use them against whom.

Worse yet, as one State Department official puts it:

"The Soviets have shown they are prepared to dump in large amounts of arms quickly if the right situation develops."

So there's a strong movement within the State Department to supply more arms to Africans to "equalize" the situation. Then one country wouldn't get caught "naked" if the Soviets suddenly dumped arms into a neighbor or to dissident tribes within.

But there's an equally vehement group within the State Department and Pentagon that argues against more arms. They're afraid the arms will merely start new troubles and civil wars.

Then there's an influential group in the State Department that wants to try to get the Africans to agree to a loose all-African union to handle African affairs, especially explosive situations like the Congo. It would be set up like the Organization of American States, and be under the U.N. The idea: get Africa to police Africans. They would mutually guarantee each other's borders and cooperate on economic problems.

The federation proponents argue that if Westerners intervene to help an African country, it brings memories of colonialism, and turns the Africans to Moscow. But Africans are so jealous of their independence that Africans policing themselves would be suspicious of anyone—even the Reds—who might dare to interfere.

But this plan has problems, too. There's a strong group of people who argue it's useless to try to get the African nations to federate.

They expect Africa to break up into even smaller pieces.

Worse yet, the African ring-leaders in the Africa-police-Africa line are the African lands such as Guinea, Ghana, Mali and the U.A.R. which follow most closely the Moscow line in international affairs. They favored Lumumba. They favor the Communist-trained Gizenga regime in the Congo. Would such a plan thus put all Africa under the leadership of the friendly-to-Russia Africans? Would they close their eyes to bids for power by pro-

Red Africans, step in to stop neutral or pro-Western leaders? There's another group in Washington that argues the U.S. should stand by and wait. They hold that Guinea will weary of its Russian connections. They calculate that even President Nasser and his U.A.R. are growing leery of the Reds.

Others call this "wishful thinking."

But both Defense and State people apparently agree the Congo must not be allowed to slip into Communist domination. "But we can't even figure out—let alone agree — on how to prevent it," says one highly placed State Department official.

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