Editorial Page

De Gaulle Fiasco

It may have been coincidence, but the press conference of French President De Gaulle, at which he opined that the trouble with the UN charter is that Red China didn't help write it, was almost one year to the day from another famous De Gaulle press conference.

That was the occasion of Paris' recognition of the Peking regime and France's grand entry into Asian affairs with the design of using that route to world leadership. The act was at least partly aimed at dislodging the United States from its anti-Communist wars in Asia and its pre-eminence among most of the old allies of World War II.

At the same time, De Gaulle hoped to begin a trade relationship with Red China which would prove politically and economically advantageous to France. Well, the first year has not gone according to the general's plans. In trade relations, it is true that exports from France to Red China have doubled and imports have increased seven-fold. But both ways, the aggregate value is still less than $10 million — insignificant in economic or any other terms.

Nor has the general been successful in drawing anti-U.S. sentiment to his side. Although undoubtedly there are allies of the U.S. which look with favor upon De Gaulle's suggested "neutralization" of Southeast Asia, the fact none are publicly coming to the general's tent would indicate France's erratic path through world events builds little confidence.

To the Chinese Reds, of course, the De Gaulle policy of do-business-with-everybody has paid off handsomely in the last year. Not only were they able to open their first propaganda center in the West in Paris, but they have finally broken through their shell of isolationism into the world of respectability, at least in the eyes of some.

Peking's new stature has also aided its penetration of Africa, and certainly has not diminished its zeal for pushing the U.S. off the peninsula of Viet Nam. All in all, it has been a castly experiment in grandeur. Unfortunately, the man who started it all seems completely oblivious to the folly—and worse — he has turned loose on the world.

Latin Inflation

Inflation has been an integral part of Latin America's economic climate for so long, the average Latin no longer regards it as a special threat to his personal solvency. Nevertheless, the habits he has developed because of inflation's erosion of his currency are something to behold. They never cease to amaze North Americans.

Chile and Argentina experienced an inflation rate of 45 per cent last year, and Brazil's rate of currency depreciation was 80 per cent. It took four and one-half times as many pesos to buy something at the end of 1964 in the first two countries as it did at the beginning of the year, and eight times as many in Brazil.

Interest rates of 60 per cent are common, and few loans are granted for more than 180 days. Bank savings accounts are few. People spend money as quickly as they receive it on something of lasting value. A favorite sport is to buy everything on time payments and pay for the items in depreciated money.

Lenders who lend money when the rate of inflation is 60 per cent can go broke if the rate is cut to 50 per cent before the loan is satisfied. All in all, it makes for an exciting barter system. If one can afford it.

Keeper of the Peace

RALPH de TOLEDANO . . .

Bulldozer Of Poor

In every period there are slogans and causes which enlist the good faith and good works of good people. To be for them is a sign that you are on the side of the angels. To oppose them invites examination for a cloven hoof. Yet some of these good causes end up achieving exactly the opposite of what men of goodwill were trying to do.

Urban renewal falls into that category. Those who fight for it believe that it will end slums and provide decent housing for low income families. Those who oppose it, however, have marshaled an impressive amount of evidence to show that urban renewal does precisely the opposite. I have already called to the attention of readers of this newspaper the scholarly researches of Professor Martin Anderson in his book, "The Federal Bulldozer," published by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press.

But I do not have to go to this kind of excellent scholarship to prove my point. I can look about me in the city of Washington—a city of which all Americans are natives—for the facts and figures. President Johnson has said that he wants the nation's Capital to be the nation's show place. He has also called for the end of poverty and the improvement of the poor man's lot and suggested that Washington could be a testing ground for his theories.

Well, Washington has been urban renewalized as drastically as any other city in the country. Most of the Southwest area was razed to the ground by bulldozers. Beautiful homes and buildings were treated exactly the same as slum. People's savings, invested in real estate, were wiped out. Now, the area is being rebuilt. It is, almost entirely, a new luxury neighborhood — characterless but plush. Those who can afford it find it a pleasant place in which to live.

But what of those who are in the low income and lower middle income group. Has urban renewal helped them? Have they found new and better homes, the justification for the Federal government's expenditures in southwest Washington? The answer is an emphatic, no. For Washington, like most big cities, is spending its Federal urban renewal funds in projects which benefit the real estate people and those with the wherewithal to rent anywhere.

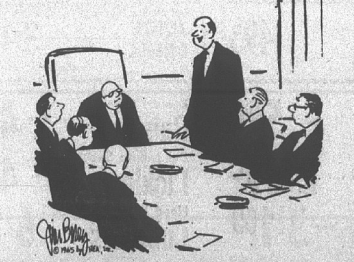
The "displaced persons" of the urban renewal program have been forced to move into other slum sections—or to turn marginal neighborhoods into new slums. Little by little they are being driven out of land-hungry Washington to the suburbs or to other cities, bringing urban blight with them. The authorities have no place for them, and very little thought.

Look at the statistics. At the last census, there were some 90,000 living units with rents which families earning $4,000 a year or less could pay. Urban renewal has reduced that number significantly. Yet the planners, presumably friends of the needy, are planning to spend $1 billion in the next years to eliminate some 16,000 low-cost units in Washington. Private sources, which have been restoring old homes or demolishing them to make room for high - rise, expensive apartments, will eliminate another 6,000 low - cost housing units. In the next decade or so, therefore, some 22,000 low - cost units will be wiped out, and this does not include the attrition due to buildings that are condemned as unsuitable, or that deteriorate to the point where they almost virtually collapse.

What are the urban renewal planners doing to find low-cost living quarters for the displaced persons they are creating? The hand that guides the bulldozer so energetically loses its grip at this point. Present plans call for the building of 4,500 low - cost units in the future. The people dispossessed can move into already overcrowded slums, or perhaps they can camp out on the grounds of the Washington Monument. Washington authorities already have a waiting list of more than 6,000 families who need housing but can't afford urban renewal's fancy prices.

These are the facts for one city. They can be duplicated throughout the country—to a greater or lesser degree. Now it would seem obvious that there is something very wrong about the theory and practice of urban renewal. It would seem that our derring-do Congress would go out after the program, demanding to know every why and how. But to do so means that the goodwillers, egged on by the bureaucracy which administers the program, would cry skinflint, reactionary —or worse. So one more sacred cow tramples our economic garden, serving no useful purpose but the call of its own gut.

BERRY'S WORLD



"Sorry to run out on the meeting a little early, fellas, but I'm late for a 'group therapy' appointment!"

RAY CROMLEY . . .

Targets In Sights

WASHINGTON (NEA) — There are 85 to 100 North Viet Nam priority targets on a list prepared for the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. The exact number is secret.

These targets are scheduled to be hit—one, two or three at a time—when approved by the President. Each bombing will follow Communist provocation.

First priority goes to staging areas such as Dong Hoi, hit over the weekend by U.S. carrier - based planes. Viet Cong troops are barracked in these staging areas while waiting to be sent south.

Next come the guerrilla warfare training camps at Xuan Mai, Son Tay, Ben Quang and Minh Khai (Vinh Linh), where the south-bound Communist units are organized and drilled.

Other priority targets are air bases at Gia Lam, Cat Bi, Huu Cung, Vinh, Ha Co, Na San and Thai Nguyen, and military bases at Ho Xa, Con Co and Haiphong.

Prisoner - interrogations, captured documents and agent intelligence have weighed heavily in selecting the targets. Locations have been pinpointed by systematic photographic flights over North Viet Nam.

Dong Hoi, of course, was a prime target.

After individual soldiers or citizens in North Viet Nam are drafted or recalled to duty for service in South Viet Nam and trained intensively, many are trucked to the barracks at Dong Hoi on the coast of Quang Binh Province and held there a few days to several weeks before being shifted to the Laos-North Viet Nam border to begin infiltrating Viet Nam through Laos.

The following items are typical of information being acquired about Dong Hoi:

—on . . . , the . . .th Battalion was put on trucks at Xuan Mai guerrilla training center. It went to Vinh, then to Dong Hoi. Afterward, it was trucked to the Laos-North Viet Nam border, where the troops turned in their North Vietnamese army uniforms and put on black peasant clothing for the march to the south.

—early on the morning of . . . the . . .th Group started from the Xuan Mai training center outside Hanoi. A convoy of Molotov trucks moved the unit south through Nghe An Province and then to Dong Hoi.

On . . ., the troops arrived at the final processing station near the Laos - North Viet Nam border. There they turned in all personal papers, diaries and photographs that might identify them as coming from the north.

—on . . ., the . . .th Battalion was ordered south. They were trucked from Nghe An Province to Dong Hoi. From there they moved to the Laos - North Viet Nam border. Then the 300 men began walking to the south, following the mountain trails in Laos and the Vietnam border areas.

It is now believed that in 1964 probably 10,000 military and political guerrillas, trained in North Viet Nam, moved through Dong Hoi and other key way stations to Laos and South Viet Nam.

In 1961 - 63, possibly 20,000 to 25,000 moved along these routes.

Military experts here think what is left of these 30,000 to 35,000 men form the hard core of the 35,000 first - line Communist troops now in South Viet Nam.

BARBS

Thief in New Jersey burglarized a beauty salon and stole three wigs. Obviously a hair-raising adventure.

———

Old saw says that whatever goes up must come down. Somebody should explain that to the cost of living.

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More than most men, bigamists realize that troubles seldom come singly.

FULTON LEWIS JR. . . .

American Expatriate To Return From Cuba

WASHINGTON—The "Voice of Free Dixie," American expatriate Robert Franklin Williams, may soon return from his self-imposed Cuban exile.

Williams was the object of a nation-wide manhunt when indicted by a North Carolina grand jury for kidnaping in 1961. He fled to Cuba, via Canada, and has for more than three years toiled for the Castro regime. His "Radio Free Dixie" broadcasts are beamed to this country by the powerful Czech - built transmitters of Radio Havana. The fiery talks urge violent revolution by U.S. Negroes.

The North Carolina Supreme Court late last month quashed Williams' indictment on the grounds that Negroes had been excluded from the Union County grand jury. Williams' attorney, New York leftist Conrad Lynn, immediately cabled his client, asking him to return home and rejoin the "struggle of Negro freedom-fighters."

Interviewed on Radio Havana last Tuesday, Williams dodged a question as to when he would leave for the U.S. He expressed the hope, though, that he could soon depart.

Williams returned to Cuba last month from a four-month sojourn behind the Bamboo Curtain. He visited with top-ranking Red Chinese officials and with Ho Chi Minh, leader of the North Vietnamese Communist forces.

If and when he does return, Williams could find further legal complications. The Justice Department may prosecute him for a violation of U.S. travel restrictions in his trips to Red China and North Viet Nam. North Carolina authorities could reindict him on the kidnaping charge.

But Williams cannot be tried for sedition. Although the House of Representatives in 1963 enacted legislation widening the sedition statutes to cover U.S. citizens in foreign lands, the Senate took no action.

Despite his frequent calls for armed revolt, Williams is therefore immune from prosecution for seditious activity. In a typical broadcast beamed to the U.S. last August, Williams urged his followers to use "the razor, the lye can, the gas bomb, and the bullet" against the "thug cop and the racist savage."

In a pamphlet written in Cuba and distributed to leftist groups throughout the country, Williams has spelled out in detail the tactics to be used in a guerrilla war against U.S. authorities. Urged the American defector:

"Molotov cocktails can be used extensively. . . . During the night hours such weapons, thrown from roof tops, will make the streets impossible for the racist cops to patrol. Hand grenades, bazookas, light mortars, rocket launchers, machine guns and ammunition can be bought clandestinely from servicemen anxious to make a fast dollar. Freedom fighters in military camps can be contacted to give instructions on usage.

"Extensive sabotage is possible. Gas tanks on public vehicles can be choked up with sand. Sugar is also highly effective in gasoline lines. Long nails driven through boards and tacks with large heads are effective to slow the movement of traffic on congested roads at night. This can cause havoc on turnpikes.

"Derailing of trains causes panic. Explosive booby traps on police telephone boxes can be employed. High - power sniper rifles are readily available. Armor-piercing bullets will penetrate oil storage tanks from a distance. Phosphorus matches (kitchen matches) placed in air conditioning systems will cause delayed explosions which will destroy expensive buildings. Flame-throwers can be manufactured at home. Combat - experienced ex-servicemen can easily solve that problem."

OUR READERS WRITE . . .

Letters To The Editor

Misquoting

On Jan. 22, 1965, Barry Goldwater made a speech at the Chicago meeting of the Republican National Committee. Newsweek magazine reported this speech in its Feb. 1 issue thusly:

"But Barry wasn't about to eat humble pie for long. Definitely, he unleashed a verbal attack on the President as bitter as any he made last year. 'What it boils down to,' he said, 'is that I wasn't dishonest enough to win this campaign.'" (Page 21.)

That's what Newsweek said Goldwater said. This is what he really said:

"Of course, this always happens after a campaign. People begin to write books about the campaign and I have a real interesting and amusing time reading them. In fact, what they boil down to mostly is that I wasn't dishonest enough in this campaign to win. It is a little distracting to find writers feeling that in order to win an election one must be dishonest or, at least, a little dishonest. In fact, it has gotten so bad I may write a book myself about this campaign just to get the truth across. If I were going to do that I would include in it something like this."

By sneaking a sentence out of context and changing the word they to it, some smearologist made it appear as though Goldwater was complaining that he lost the election because he hadn't been as dishonest as his opponent.

What is happening to the integrity of the American press? How long will honest publishers continue to tolerate such shameful prostitution of the journalistic profession? A deliberate misquote is nothing more than a half-truth. And what is a half-truth?

"That a lie which is a half a truth is ever the blackest of lies,

"That a lie which is all a lie may be met and fought with outright,

"But a lie which is part a truth is a harder matter to fight."—Tennyson.

S. G. Wimberly Jr.,
790 Westbrook Drive.

———

Any reporter on this and most other newspapers in the U.S. today knows he would be fired if it were discovered he deliberately misquoted anyone.—Editor.

Poor Fans

Adults should practice what they preach! Last weekend I attended a game between the Klamath Pelicans and the Grants Pass Cavemen at Pelican Court. I sat in the adult bleachers and was shocked at the actions of several people.

The adults want us to do as they say but not as they do. At school we are taught that the other team is just as wonderful a bunch as ours and therefore, even though we wish to beat them, they must be treated as such. We don't "boo" at them or call them or the referees names, for without them there would be no game.

If the parents want us to have a good attitude toward sports, I feel they should learn to display the proper attitude, too. So please, take a hint from a high schooler and try a little harder.

Stephanie Guderian,
Senior, Klamath Union High.

There's nothing more irritating at an athletic contest, especially high school class or a lesser league, than to be hemmed in by one or more obnoxious adult fans who either are second-guessing the officials or complaining about the coach not putting his — the loud mouth's — offspring into the game. Cheers for the high school kids who act like ladies and gentlemen at the games. —Editor.

Poor Movies

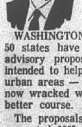
When the owners of the Tower and Esquire theaters show a movie most of the time it is a nasty show that us kids can't go to and when they do have a good show they keep it only about four or less days. Take the show the "Pleasure Seekers" and "Operation Snafu" for instance. "The Pleasure Seekers" has been on for three weeks. "Operation Snafu" started Sunday, and in the paper it says last two days.

What I am trying to say is that I wish they would keep the good shows on for a while longer than four days. I can't go to the show on a week day because it is too late for me to stay up.

I hope you will put this letter in the paper so that the owners will read it and take notice.

Bruce Anderson, 13,
329 Torrey.

BRUCE BIOSSAT . . .



A Look At Our Sick Cities

WASHINGTON (NEA) — The 50 states have in hand some advisory proposals which are intended to help them set their urban areas — many of them now wracked with chaos— on a better course.

The proposals are part of a suggested 1965 state legislative program advanced by the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, a permanent bipartisan body set up by Congress and made up of governors, state legislators, county officials, mayors, members of Congress and the U.S. executive branch.

Anything reasonably inventive in this field deserves a good look, since the country's major urban complexes are awash in difficulties that seem only to grow greater as the areas swell in size.

Soon 75 per cent of the American people will be living in less than 200 of these complexes— and their problems simply have to top any responsible public agenda.

Furthermore, it is in these areas—and the states which legally are their masters—that the really big new spending is going on today.

In fiscal 1965 U.S. state and local governments will be spending an estimated $75.2 billion in direct outlays, an increase of more than $5 billion over the $69.8 billion preliminary total for fiscal 1964. That figure in turn is $5 billion higher than 1963.

Just 10 years ago, total state-local expenditures came to but $33.7 billion, so they have more than doubled in a decade.

Today's staggering figures include a heavy tax for waste and confusion. Much urban growth is haphazard, uncoordinated, amounting nearly to self-strangulation.

With education needs bulking large, local-state government costs may double again in half a decade. There seems great point in reducing the tax for waste.

Here the advisory commission's proposals come into play. They include several proposed pieces of permissive legislation that would allow such matters as mass transportation, control of urban water supply and sewerage systems, and the securing and preserving of open spaces to be dealt with on a coordinated footing.

They would also authorize metropolitcan study and area planning commissions, regulation of planning, zoning and subdivision in land beyond corporate boundaries, and the setting up of so-called "metropolitcan service corporations," which could perform a variety of area-wide functions.

This last is perhaps the most inventive of the lot. It envisions an agency which could operate on a broad scale the way more limited traffic, housing and other "authorities" do today.

Whether these propositions and others from other sources make any real headway in the various state legislatures will be worth watching.

Metropolitan areas right now are nearly out of hand and their fantastic steady enlargement threatens some with near-breakdown as working organisms.

It is a severe testing time for those (Republicans particularly) who argue that "things are done best at the state and local level." This would appear to be the moment, above all in history, for this notion to be demonstrated to the fullest.

Numerous Republican leaders have been saying lately that they do indeed have to prove the workability of state-local governing if the argument against big federal government is to hold water. Even one of Barry Goldwater's 1964 political pilots agrees this is where the steam should be applied heavily.

Unquestionably, the huge urban clusters are today's and tomorrow's battle areas. But enlistment in the combat goes hard. Militant conservatives, while talking the state - local game, would much rather take a few dramatic swipes at the United Nations than try to coordinate a sewerage system.