Are We Prepared?

## **Bold Policy, More Arms** Vital to Stop Red Tide

Last of 10 Articles By ROBERT S. BIRD and OGDEN R. REID

Copyright, 1950, New York Herald Tribune, Inc. MERICA'S national security—upon which hangs the survival of the United States and of the whole free world—confronts the Nation and its leaders with the problem of finding a bold new approach to stop Communism's steady advance.

In the thinking of a few men of Russians have forced us to meet their communications equipment. every move. This has led us to the

their first line troops. all - Europe - wholly unprotected the United States. against the threat of the Soviet's Radar and interceptor planes

mand the respect and the ear of the alties. President, the State and Defense de-

Task 2-On the basis of better in- suspicion telligence properly evaluated, the The rivalries of the three military should be geared to three things: 1-Finding out what Russia is

2-The military capabilities and national resources of this country. 3-American foreign policy and

action could take two forms. One from each other their secrets as they The other would be a firm statement | teams, with the President sitting in by the President that further ag- the middle as referee. gression in these areas would invite

officers of cabinet rank charged Nation's military position and ideal with responsibility for the Nation's security. security. The best expression of this point of view holds that unless it becomes clear that the "one-alarm" fire in Korea grows into a fouralarm blaze there is no reason to urge a stronger military effort. They also argue that it would be unwise to commit this country to a greater military effect, as this might fall in with Russian design, in the sense that this rearming would put a strain on the national economic structure. This might be a needless strain, these men feel, because the Russians could very well pull out from their anonymous aggression and leave the United States saddled with a top-heavy military structure.

of initiative comes this answer: The United States needs a whole new approach in order to out-maneuver the Russians, Secondly, this approach will require more armed forces to back it up. Third, Russia, potentially the most powerful nation on earth, spending upwards of 50 percent of its national income for its military establishment, obviously would not be building its powerful armies unless it were committed to world conquest.

From the adherents of the policy

Taking the initiative demands quick action on the upbuilding of America's military and industrial strength. America's bases, such as Formosa, Okinawa, the Philippines in the Pacific, and in Alaska on this continent should be given muscle by additional tactical Air Force and Navy units. In Formosa until recently, there were only 12 U. S. war vessels facing a possible invasion fleet of 4000 Communist junks. Unless our strength in the Formosa area is built up, the Navy can not carry out the President's order to keep the island isolated. To show the difficulty faced by the 12 warships taking on 4000 junks. Each American vessel would have to account for an average of more than 300 junks, which are hard to sink. This score would have to be made in a 24 hour period, half of which would be darkness, while in the other 12 hours, the invading junks could well be fogcovered.

EUROPE, too, needs an immediate military build-up. It should not be forgotten in our current preoccupaton with the Orient. The Western Union countries need 35 divisions. They can muster now only 10 divisions, two of which are American. France is committed to providing 10 more, England has promised two, the Dutch three, and the Belgians one. The rest might have to come from the United States, United Kingdom countries, and from Spain, which has 22 divisions.

This European force must have proper equipment and must be supported by sufficient tactical air strength.

As a bulwark to European and Far Eastern defense, the United States should have a mobile Army corps of four divisions, with an airlift ready

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cabinet rank in Washington, the to move and support it swiftly. This time has come when the United force should have a make-up of air-States and its friends must wrest the borne and infantry divisions, highly initiative from the Kremlin. The Ko- trained and completely equipped rea embroilment is the latest and with tanks, anti-tank weapons, antibest demonstration of the way the aircraft, heavy artillery, and good

predicament in which the free world T OOKING to our shores, an adehas engaged the main bulk of its L quate radar warning set-up available forces in Korea, Indo- must be devised, embracing the China and Malaya while the Rus- United States, Canada and the sians have not committed any of north-eastern approaches. Combined with this radar belt, there should be And Russia is winning. Moreover, powerful fighter-interceptor forces, this has left the greatest prize of specifically assigned to the defense of

best divisions, which could sweep would not account for the annihilaacross the continent in a few days. tion of an attacking force. Until the As yet, no policy has been evolved day when we have guided missiles, to develop this initiative in the the probability is that the majority struggle against the Soviet. But in of an attacking force will get the minds of some administration through. This underlines the need members there has grown the real- for air raid warning alarms to enable ization that such a plan is America's civilians to get into such bomb shelters as exist. Stockpiles of medical supplies, as well as organized med-TASK 1-Build a first-class intel- ical teams, are essential to care for I ligence service. Whatever intelli- the vast numbers of casualties likely gence we get now has either been in an atom-bomb attack. Training of deficient or poorly evaluated. Per- civilians also is urgent, since the sonnel should be improved under a greater the number of trained people top-ranking civilian head, a non- who know what to do and where to political appointee who should com- go immediately, the fewer the casu-

partments, and Congress. Under him | TN RECAPITULATION, this whole there should be first-class personnel I broad program would entail a and he should have the power to pull quality of decisiveness now lacking together all of our intelligence ma- in the policy-making councils of the terial and operational plans, both Nation. Most Americans have sus-diplomatic and military. He should pected that official charting of the be assisted by a top five-man board national destiny is being done in a with no other function than properly climate of indecision. The closer one to collate, evaluate and interpret raw examines the making of policy in Washington, the more confirmed the

cents expenditures on a horse-trading basis, not on evaluation of security needs. Foreign policies are not realistically related to military capabilities. They can't be related today because State Department keeps secret from Defense Department Based on what intelligence we much of its significant planning. The have now, the foregoing analysis has fact is that the planners in various suggested a line of action to the ad- departments of government devote vocates of a policy of initiative. This almost as much time trying to pry would be the stationing of a thin line give to shaping actual plans. Teamof khaki in all sensitive areas where work in Washington is not coordina-Russia or her satellites might move. tion; it is conflict between opposing

The plans and suggestions outlined in this series are considered by responsible leaders as minimums for L'NTHUSIASM for this policy is safety. They represent a compromise not shared by the majority of between the existing weakness of the

THE END



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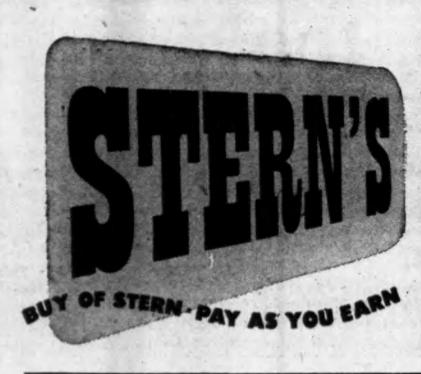
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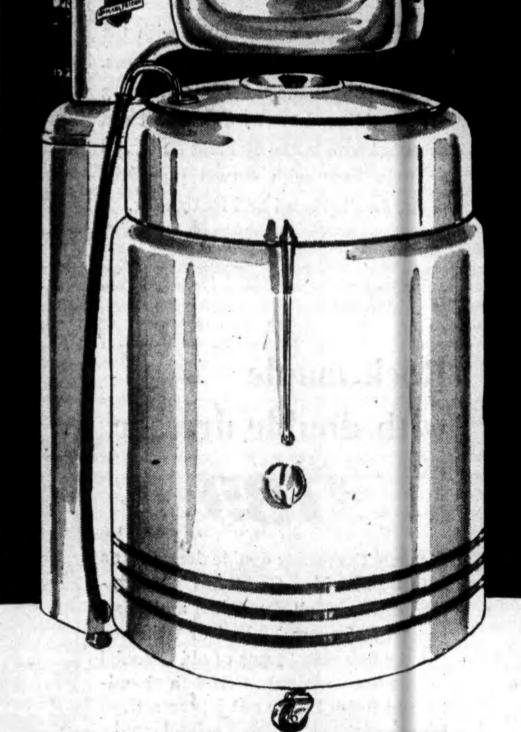
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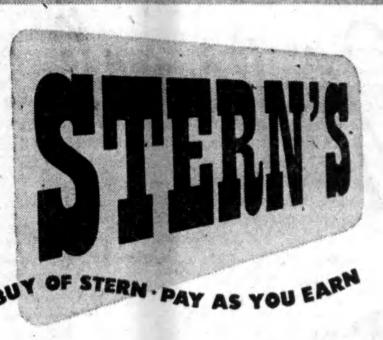
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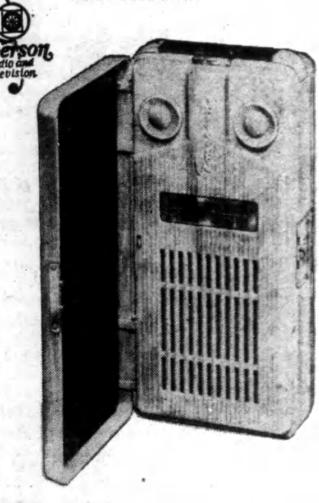
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