

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1954

'What Does He Think We Are—Legislators?'

U. S. Policy Apparently Undercutting Vital NATO

By JOSEPH ALSOP

THE REAL question about the Eisenhower administration's foreign policy is both very simple and enormously big. Are our leaders getting ready, consciously or unconsciously, to abandon the grand alliance that is the main protection of the free world?

There was at least a hint of this tendency in a statement of John Foster Dulles' television address, with its Robert Taft-like emphasis on American strategic air power. The question is raised very forcibly indeed by the practical situation in Europe on the eve of the Berlin conference. An ABC breakdown tells the story.

As of today, first of all, the NATO situation is the sole safeguard of all the great and costly gains that have been made in Western Europe since the low point after the war. If NATO crumbles into ruin, Western Europe will again become a political and strategic vacuum, which the Kremlin will be only too happy to fill.

A BIG MISTAKE
 Many people here think that if NATO collapses, we can still count on the cooperation of the more vigorous nations across the Atlantic. But this is a gross error. Without NATO, Germany will rapidly turn towards extreme nationalism. Resurgent German nationalists, as Chancellor Adenauer so solemnly warned, our policy-makers will almost certainly try to recoup Germany's war losses by making a Russian alliance. Again, Britain without NATO will be deprived of any shadow of a defense. With the launching sites for short-range guided missiles in potentially hostile hands, Britain's policy will be paralyzed.

NATO, on which our alliances depend, in turn squarely depends on the American divisions in Europe. Some time must come when those divisions will be withdrawn. But for the present and some time to come, the American divisions cannot be withdrawn without causing the whole structure to crumble. Sir Winston Churchill in effect acknowledged this fact at Bermuda, when he declared that Britain's troops would leave the continent in step with the American troops.

This business of letting the French Chamber of Deputies determine the fate of all the American postwar investments overseas is a bit too much for those who are hiring a lunatic asylum as trustee of the family fortune. Furthermore, it is not going to produce a sober mood among the French politicians, any more than it would in the lunatic asylum. French strain is too great. The French political system, which has been ingeniously devised to frustrate the genius and pervert the courage of the French people.

Advocates Of 90 Per Cent Parity See Final Victory
 By MARQUIS CHILDS

THE STRUGGLE between the President and the Congress that has all along been inevitable is now front and center on the political stage. It will go on for many months and the outcome is, to say the least, uncertain.

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For Better Public Information

THE conference on freedom of information held in Raleigh Thursday should have a wholesome effect all over North Carolina.

When representatives of press, radio and television met with members of the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, they found general agreement on the basic principle that a free press must have full and accurate information about their public business if they are to govern themselves intelligently. There was some difference of opinion on detail—for example, television coverage of court trials. But the disagreement was not one of principle.

A Peculiar Sense Of Priorities

CONGRESS, because of expiring legislation, has until Feb. 1 to pass a new law regarding pay and allowances for missing servicemen, and until March 1 to legislate regarding veteran rights to public housing.

On March 15 the President's authority to distribute agricultural products in famines and other emergencies expires. By April 1 corporation and excise taxes will be reduced, unless Congress continues them in line with the President's request.

The Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act expires June 12 unless Congress, over strong opposition, renews it. And by the end of the fiscal year a host of new legislation and appropriations must be on the books, if the wheels of government are to continue to run.

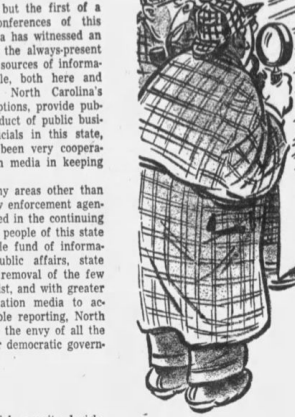
Old Sardis Road Needs New Name
 THE other day we were musing about the confusion of street names in Charlotte, and cited 4th street as an example. As you travel east, it becomes, successively, E. 4th street, Crescent avenue, Crescent avenue extension, Old Sardis road and Randolph road.

WHAT IT WAS, WAS HARD WORK, TALENT
 BY NOW, perhaps everybody is familiar with "What It Was, Was Football," the monologue spoken by Andy Griffith. And perhaps his sudden fame is also known to all. The appearance of a recording of his act was the signal for sudden fame and prosperity, and he has made his debut on a New York TV show and is looking forward to a \$75,000 income this year from personal appearances and the sales of his records.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round
 GEN. OMAR Bradley, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and one of the great military men of modern times, has been approached by California admirers to run for the U.S. Senate, as a Democrat.

Bradley Reluctant To Enter Politics
 It is so happen that Uncle Omar gave exactly the same advice to his close friend, Ike Eisenhower, back in 1948, and this was one reason he refused to run for President at that time.

Navy Confesses
 Adm. Jim Holloway, the Navy's top dog, has just admitted that the Pentagon doghouse for sending a 12-man committee to the House Armed Services Committee without clear-



People's Platform

Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the editors. The News reserves the right to condense.

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WASHINGTON, D. C. Editors, The News: I have read with much interest your editorial, "Parcel Post Rates Should Not Be Cut," appearing in the Jan. 7 issue of your fine paper.

—A. L. HAMMILL, President Railway Express Co.

Chief's Accusers Mocked The Court

CHARLOTTE Editors, The News: As one of many who admire Chief Littlejohn as a great and competent official, I would like to know what is going to be done to those who perpetrated this dreadful calumny against him. Certainly, the mockery shown our judiciary by these accusers will not escape punitive action. From where I sit, some of those who testified against Mr. Littlejohn are guilty of contempt and perjury.

—STANLEY KRAMER

'Socialized' Medicine Is AMA Great Word

GREAT FALLS, S. C. Editors, The News: The President of the United States in his State of the Union talk found it necessary to state that he is opposed to socialized medicine, although he did not discuss the subject of a health program. This seems sufficient proof how far the American Medical Association reached out with its propaganda. It did not only

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