



"For the next couple of hours the rest of the world can go to pot."

**Dulles Is Not Bluffing
 In Regard To Indochina**

By JOSEPH & STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON
 "OMETIMES it is necessary," Secretary of State Dulles remarked in his recent New York speech, "to take risks to win peace." Hardly anyone yet seems to realize how very serious are the risks which Secretary Dulles, with President Eisenhower's consent, is now prepared to take. The most serious is nothing less than the risk of general war.

Dulles has said, in effect, that a failure to negotiate an acceptable Indochinese settlement at the forthcoming Geneva conference will invite "united action." He has underscored this warning by initiating well publicized diplomatic talks with France, Britain, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines and Siam.

Dulles has shrewdly refused to spout out details and in advance just what "united action" means. But one diplomat in Washington interprets this obvious warning as follows: "Action doesn't mean talk, and it doesn't mean money—it means troops." In short, "united action" means the dispatch of military forces from the United States and other free nations to Indochina, to bolster the French and Viet Nam forces there.

FRENCH FURNISH MEN
 The French, for their part, make no bones about it—they cannot, or will not, carry on the war on the present basis after Geneva. But the French do seem likely to agree to continue to supply the bulk of the non-Asian ground troops—which is an Dulles point in his New York speech.

For the present, in other words, no one is predicting the participation of several American divisions in Indochina, as in Korea. But "united action" may mean the direct participation of American forces in the war. And it is from this that the risks of a larger war spring.

Some French officials—and some American and British officials—have been heard to say that Dulles is betting that direct American participation in Indochina will insure full scale Chinese Communist intervention, and that the United States is then committed to retaliate—and the mildest form this retaliation can take is the bombing of the southern Chinese supply lines. In this case the Chinese could—and probably would—invoke the Sino-Soviet treaty.

The Kremlin would then be faced with the nightmare choice of abandoning its Chinese ally, or risking world war.

Draft Postponement Needs Explanation

FRED W. HENGVELD, Mason Smith and Joseph Durham have served as local board officials in Mecklenburg County since the Selective Service System went into operation in 1940.

T. A. Childs has served since July, 1952.

William Mitchell has served since September, 1952.

All five board members are prominent. All are responsible and mature. All are experienced in administering Selective Service regulations. All are familiar with the kinds of pressures applied at every level of the Selective Service System in behalf of individual registrants facing induction.

These men have carried on one of the most difficult public service jobs in government—a thankless assignment, frequently a heart-breaking assignment that involved tearing young men away from their normal activities and sending them into what could mean death or serious injury.

For these five men, after long and careful deliberation, to resign in protest over "political pressure" applied at the national level is prima facie evidence of

irregular conduct either by some official at national headquarters, or by some outsider, or by both.

There must be a reason why National Director Lewis B. Hershey personally overrode the unanimous recommendations of the Mecklenburg County board and the state appeals board and directed a postponement in the induction of a Charlotte registrant. Hershey must have received many requests to review findings of the Mecklenburg board in the past, yet this was the first time in history that he overruled the local group. His statement in Raleigh yesterday—"I don't know just what political pressure is"—is too naive to stand unchallenged.

The board members who resigned continue to stress the principle of the affair, which is quite proper. But it will soon become imperative for someone at some level of the Selective Service System to reveal what pressure was applied and by whom. Confidence of the people in the impartiality of the draft, and the relief from blame of those elected officials in Washington who had no hand in the affair both demand a full public statement.

Wiretap Bill Would Do Little Good

THERE is considerable doubt that any law permitting the use in court of evidence gained by wire-tapping would be held constitutional. But separate and apart from the constitutional, moral, and ethical considerations, there is no reason to believe that such legislation would serve any useful purpose.

The act passed by the House Thursday was aimed at spies, saboteurs, persons accused of espionage, sedition or seditious conspiracy, or charged with violation of the internal security or atomic energy acts. It would empower FBI or intelligence agents to tap wires of suspects, but only after an advance court order had been obtained. It would also permit the use in courts of wiretap evidence already in the FBI files.

The future usefulness of the law is predicated upon the assumption that spies or saboteurs will conduct this business over the telephone, once a law is passed making evidence admissible in court. That assumption we believe to be wholly false. No spy in his right mind would ever resort to the telephone under those conditions, except for brief

and meaningless exchanges by a pre-arranged code.

It may be that use of evidence already in FBI files would help bring to justice Communist agents who have so far escaped the penalty of the law. No one who lacks access to FBI files can weigh that advantage against the disadvantages.

But within the framework of our world situation, adoption of a wire-tapping statute would add only more missing pieces to the jigsaw puzzle taking shape before the eyes of people everywhere—the picture of a great, powerful, and democratic nation, the ideal of free peoples everywhere, so panicked by the threat of communism and so unsure of its lofty and time-tested processes of justice that, in fright and desperation, it is willing to ape the enemy it opposes.

If inability to use wiretap evidence could be shown beyond any reasonable doubt to be a "clear and present danger to U. S. security, we would not object to the passage of such a law. To this point, at least, that danger has not been conclusively demonstrated.

**People's Platform
 A Philosophy of Education**

Charlotte
 Editors: The News:
DEMOCRACY cannot possibly be well-entailed or well-governed and most modern efficient competition, whether in war or peace, unless it evolves under the general principle of universal education, a method of finding its best ability and keeping it at its highest level.

The supreme function of the schools is to find and train this ability.

It is natural that our present educational scheme should cater to the requirements of the mediocre child. A vast number of human material belongs to this group, and it must be prepared for sound citizenship.

Some say that the bright child is an aspiration to the slow child. This must be emphatically denied. When slow children are grouped together, leaders develop among them. This there is an opportunity for the development of initiative, that could never have been, while they were members of a group containing children of superior ability.

The problem appeals to our sympathies as much as that of the slow or retarded child. What can we do for him in our schools?

The remedial class in his hospital, the one great spa whereby the victims of the "elementary grades" may be restored to health.

The word remedial suggests trouble, something out of order, that needs to be corrected or changed, some readjustment to be made. But before a remedy is applied, if there is to be any relief, help or cure, it is necessary to make a proper diagnosis.

We know the most important single fundamental which the schools are called upon to teach is "reading." The mastery of the ability to read is the necessary prerequisite to any kind of education. Lacking the ability to read the doors are closed to arithmetic—beyond the fundamentals—literature, geography, history and science.

Our big problem in the elementary school is to teach reading. But before any child learns to read, he must have reading readiness. No child should be allowed to try to read until he has the required abilities.

If he does not have a mental age of six or above, he is not ready to read. These children should be put in separate classes and called "junior primary."

Many sad stories could be told about children whose progress in reading was blocked for years, because some one tried to drag them before they were mentally ready.

Research tells us that the child should not be introduced to reading until his mental age is six or seven years. Children mental age younger than six run a strong chance of failure or, at best, of slow progress under severe emotional handicaps.

Slow children are usually have greater difficulty in acquiring skills in reading than the average or bright child. They often have difficulty with the mechanics of reading.

This can only be overcome by painstaking and systematic teaching of "phonics"—a tool of learning. One phase of a rich reading program.

The major objective in teaching "phonics" is to develop independence in the recognition of words, so that children will become more effective readers.

Of course a child can read without analysis of words, so long as his vocabulary is small and the words are short, but some day he will be faced with a long word. If he has been trained in a systematic method he will be greatly helped and can go on. Says Judd, "Analysis of words cannot be omitted from any complete training of pupils."

The independence in the recognition of words should be developed in the early grades by means of word study and "phonetic" analysis.

It seems the schools have quit teaching the alphabet, phonetics and the art of syllabifying. Just build the house and don't bother about the foundation.

The slow learner requires more individual treatment. He cannot live at so high a level as the normal or bright child. He can only be a follower, but he has a place, and it is the school's problem to help him find his place.

Napoleon Bonaparte died in his graduating class. But who has heard of the other 41?

Thousand students were forced to quit school at a young age because his teacher insisted that "he was impenetrable and will never learn. Yet that Edison could learn, could think, could discover is a fact the world is well aware of."

There were others who were famous "schoolbook dunces" of their time, Byron, Shakespeare, Patrick Henry, and Wellington and Grant. But they succeeded in spite of their poor showing.

Everywhere we find one common problem. "What shall we do with the poor readers?"

Provide a remedial program in reading. Teachers know that nearly all school failures are due to the fact that children cannot read.

No statistics are needed to convince one of the seriousness of the problem.

It is important to discover and provide for the handicapped child at as early an age as possible, before habits related to failure are established.

To recognize a case of retardation, means to recognize something which should be changed.

**Patronage Pickings Slim
 For Grumbling Georgians**

By DORIS FLEESON

ATLANTA
GEORGIANS grade the Eisenhower Administration close and concede handsomely that they are not to be taken for granted.

What surprised his conservative admirers even more was his statement that he has no intention to raise personal income tax exemptions.

That this proves is that he has substantiated the flattering contention of Minority Leader Johnson of Texas that George can be the savior who will put the party back in power and re-elect his friends and supporters. George was particularly responsive to the plea for help to Senators Kerr of Oklahoma and Frear of Delaware. As a member of his committee, finance, both men went down the line for him. He has put their names with his on the agreement.

Eisenhower did not carry Georgia. It gave Adlai Stevenson the greatest majority of any state he nominated. But he was elected for the general by the "big mules" in the principal cities, such as Atlanta. Eisenhower has graciously acknowledged we support with a view here which included an appearance before the Senate. He is expected to stay at the governor's mansion. It went off without incident.

Senators Kerr and Georgia was the first state in the union to fill its quota for the Democratic National Committee. Gov. Talmadge told us with apparent pride.

This is the more interesting since the governor had expressed his willingness to speak for Georgia Democrats for Eisenhower. Eisenhower Republicans, here described by the veterans as "short-winded amateurs," turned him down. They said they wanted a two-party system untroubled by renegades. Eisenhower did not carry Georgia.

Gov. Talmadge apparently has decided to pick on the senior senator, Walter George, in 1956. No body will predict what might happen in Georgia, despite his advancing years, show fight. The manner in which he has stepped forward lately in Washington indicates he has no present intention of retiring.

It is a real pleasure to watch the old man arise in the Senate, shake his silver locks and induce a severe case of hiccups among the relatively inexperienced Republican leadership. He has even assumed the role of mentor toward the younger members of the party.

Republicans nationally have made only negligible gains here and have not yet managed to make any. Oldtime Republicans in the state grumble that they are being ignored on national while Democrats still get the jobs. The gimmick, they think, is to be a personal friend of President Eisenhower or an important administration figure.

There is one exception in the patronage picture. Elbert Tuttle, former GOP state chairman, generally well regarded, is now counsel to the Treasury Department. Others in the Georgia showcase is empty.

A stimulating Democratic primary of national importance was averted when Gov. Herman Tamm, who must step out of the stateroom this year, did not run against Sen. Richard Russell, one of the few new Senators who can hold his colleagues on both sides of the aisle. This makes life much easier for the man who is, incidentally, expected to revive his candidacy for the presidency in 1956. It is yet, an unnamed miracle dog. Could it be Adlai-ism?

—C. W. MCGEE JR.

Higher County School Levy Needed

THE Mecklenburg Board of Commissioners levies the full 20-cent tax supplement for the county school system, as requested by the school board, it will help narrow the gap between salaries in the county and those in the city. But will it be enough?

A statewide salary supplement, recently completed by the N. C. Education Association, gives these comparisons between city and county:

Certificate	Charlotte	Mecklenburg County
Class A-0	\$373	\$198.45
Class A-11	421	229.00
Class G-2	436	228.50
Class G-12	914	311.04

All except a few thousand dollars a year (for janitors and maids) of the Mecklenburg County supplement goes directly to teacher salaries. None of the levy is used to hire additional teachers not authorized by the State of North Carolina.

The present levy is 15 cents on the \$100 valuation, and the board has requested that it be increased to 20 cents. That is an increase of one-third. Making allowances for variables, it should net Mecklenburg teachers roughly 30 per cent higher supplements than they are now getting.

Not close the gap. It would give a teacher with a Class A-1 certificate approximately \$256—still shy of Charlotte's \$373; a Class A-11 certificate \$362, far short of Charlotte's \$421; a Class G-2 certificate \$294, compared with Charlotte's \$436; and a Class G-12 certificate \$404, less than half of Charlotte's \$914.

Moreover, the Charlotte supplement plan goes one step beyond the maximum state classification. The Charlotte scale provides \$931 a year for A-12 certificates (\$110 more than A-11), and \$1024 a year for G-13 certificates (\$100 more than G-12).

When the question was put to them some years ago, the voters of the City of Charlotte approved a school system valuation of up to 50 cents on the \$100 valuation. This year, 41.1 cents of that amount is being levied.

The residents of the county area have shown a commendable zeal in petitioning the school board to request that the full 20 cents be levied to boost county salaries. They ought now to go one step further and petition the County Board of Commissioners for a new election on a higher maximum valuation. The youngsters in the county area deserve no less than the city kids to have the best equipped teachers available, and a higher supplement will help get them.

From The Baltimore Evening Sun

WOMEN AND MINK

SENATOR Paul Douglas, usually a sensible man, got women all mixed up in his attempt to fix a tax on "luxury" for purely political flinging with the excise taxes.

Teeling off on the Republican excise tax cuts which lower the federal take on furs and jewelry but not on household appliances, Senator Douglas waxed eloquent about a tax program which "encourages a woman to wear a mink coat, but taxes her if she doesn't toast her bread in an old oven, use an old ice box and heat her flatiron on a kitchen range fired by wood and coal." That's pretty much baloney, of course, but it did put Senator Douglas on the side of his female constituents. Then, however, he got really carried away and came out with this remarkable bit of argument.

I don't think we should break a woman's spirit and then bow her back under a mink coat, all in the name of revenue. Does Senator Douglas know anything at all about women? If he knows any female over the age of 15 whose back would be bowed by a mink coat, who would consider it a punishment to have a mink coat rather than an electric

toaster, whose spirit would be broken by having mink instead of a gas stove, then the women of Illinois must be a strangely unfeeling bunch. The only reason that Senator Douglas' arguments carried the day in the Senate must be the lack of female senators.

A Warren, Ga., industry, in order to show how much it meant to its home city, paid off its employees one week in \$2 bills. Nearly \$7,000 worth went into circulation. It made a great impression on the city. The \$2 bills are unlucky.—LEXINGTON HERALD.

Husband: "When anything goes wrong around our place, I just get busy and fix it."

Wife: "Yeah! Since you fixed the clock, the cuckoo backs out and asks what time it is."—CARLSBAD (N. M.) CURRENT AFFAIRS.

The only national language left intact is double talk.—CHATTANOOGA NEWS-FREE PRESS.

**Drew Pearson's
 Merry-Go-Round**

WASHINGTON
 WILLIAM White, president of the New York Central and spearhead of the battle of the railroad giants for control of the Erie Railroad, is a man who really fulfilled the American tradition of working up from the bottom of the ladder.

Son of a master mechanic who migrated to this country from Holland, Bill White became a railroad man at the age of 16 under the same circumstances that another famous American, Chief Justice Earl Warren, also went to work for the railroads. Warren became a call-boy in a roundhouse because he had to support his family, and White got a \$20-a-month job on the Erie for the same reason.

White, one of the youngest railroad presidents, is now 55 and has spent 39 years railroading. Most of his career was spent on the Erie, where his ambition was to become a division superintendent at the age of 30. Just 12 days before his 30th birthday in 1927 he became Erie superintendent at Youngstown, Ohio.

Later he became vice president of the Virginia Railway, then president of the Delaware and Lackawanna at the age of 43, and for the last two years has been president of the giant New York Central.

Battle Of Tycoons
 Not since the huzzareeing battle between Jim Hill of the Northern Pacific and Ed Harriman of the Union Pacific has there been such a battle of the railroads. And having interviewed the 64-year-old Robert R. Young on television, I wanted to get the other side of the story from the man who is battling Young for control of the New York Central. White had some extremely pungent things to say about the man who wants to take the railroad away from him.

"He's made people believe he's done a great job for the Chesapeake & Ohio," White said. "But of all the things they were started by Mr. Young, every one of them was dropped because they were not practical or their cost too much money."

"In 1947 Mr. Young was even opposed to using Diesel because he said it would use up our oil reserves. The other railroads switched to oil, and it took Mr. Young two years to find out we were right."

Discussing in detail some of Young's ideas for running the New York Central, if he got control, White said he approved the idea of putting the Erie in the hands of directors if he were a stockholder and if she would add something to the stock. White said he was opposed to the appointment of a woman merely because of her sex. Mrs. De Witt Wallace, wife of the publisher of the Reader's Digest, was described as a director the New York Central.

Labor Directors?
 "What do you think of putting this retired locomotive engineer on the board of directors, as Mr. Young proposes?" I asked.

Another Railroad Fight Shapes Up

"Labor is smarter than Mr. Young thinks it is," the New York Central president replied.

"The workman is no dummy. He won't be fooled by Mr. Young having nominated a woman to the board. I know this man, and 600 stockholders who were at our meeting last year know him also. So I think Mr. Young does things like that to sidestep us. It plays into our hands very nicely, because he's attempting to fool the people."

The stakes in the battle of the railroads are high. Young's friends in the C. & O. to Young's friends in Texas, White replied.

The C. & O. stockholders had been told that the New York Central stock was a fine investment for C. & O. stockholders. But a few weeks later the stock went to Mr. Murchison and Mr. Richardson. So we've convinced the C. & O. stockholders were just pawns in the situation."

Thus raises the battle of the railroad giants with Mr. Young. The battle is expected to be fought on May 26 stockholders meeting.