

# J. S. Carriers Were Ordered To Indochina Waters

By THE ALSOPWS

WASHINGTON  
**A** FORCE of American carriers has been ordered to the Gulf of Tonkin, within convenient striking range, since the critical Indochina battle of Dien Bien Phu is moving toward its climax. It will probably be officially denied, but the carriers were of course ordered to the scene for use if need be. They are there to provide immediate air support for Dien Bien Phu's defenders. If they are ordered to do so by the President and the National Security Council, that is the simplest measure of the extreme gravity of the present situation.



**CARRIERS IN TONKIN GULF**  
 French, who are so hard-pressed. This is the contention, at least, of the same administration leaders who opposed intervention at Dien Bien Phu on constitutional grounds in the first grim debate in the National Security Council. At that time, when the

French first asked for aid, the answer was no. Since that first American refusal, the situation has worsened; and the French have received their request. As these words are printed, the question is again being anxiously debated on the highest policy making level of the government.

The verdict must be awaited. Whatever the verdict may be, it seems a good idea to question the more important questions Americans are naturally asking about this remote and mysterious contest, that has plunged the American policy-makers into an agony of close-balanced decision.

**THE REASON**  
 The French command in Indochina allowed its finest fighting troops to be entrapped at Dien Bien Phu under a misapprehension. Gen. Navarre wanted a strong, fortified post in the Indochinese interior from which he could strike at Communist supply lines. The Vietnam high com-

mand had never successfully attacked such a post. Hence the Dien Bien Phu position was established with high confidence.

The misapprehension was simple. The Communists had not previously used heavy artillery in any battle in the hard-to-supply interior of Indochina. The bold in the hills which is Dien Bien Phu was large enough to provide a central area immune to the usual Communist mortar fire, within this supposedly safe area, the airfield was situated.

But as first reported in this space, the Dien Bien Phu position had hardly been occupied before anti-aircraft guns and 100 cannon. The AA hampered the air lift, even their vital airfield under fire. The whole system of French defense tactics was disrupted.

This was made possible — and here is the truly significant point — by a very heavy increase in Chinese supplies and transports to the Indochinese Communists. Without this more massive Chinese intervention, Dien Bien Phu would now be safe. The increase in the Chinese role has led directly to the request for an increase in the American role.

**THE MEANING**  
 Because of the peculiar political pattern in Indochina, any kind of compromise settlement—by partition or otherwise—will be a "compromise" of the whole of Indochina, not eventually fall into Communist hands.

The President and National Security Council long ago agreed that the loss of Indochina would surely be followed by the eventual loss to communism of all the rest of Asia. After Indochina goes, there is no other way to draw the line. Sen. William Knowland was reflecting the unanimous view of the American people when he said the results of losing Asia, when he declared: "Once Asia is absorbed, communism can turn upon the West with invincible power."

## Why Not Bonds For School Sites?

**I**T'S NEVER an easy task to balance needs against available funds in putting together the county government budget. This year the job has been more difficult than usual, and it has had the county commissioners literally sweating.

In one major decision taken Wednesday, the commissioners struck out of the budget the sum of \$300,000 for buying school sites for both the city and county systems, thus whacking nearly 95 cents from the tax rate.

because the terrain is too rugged for housing. When schools are built on rough terrain, the cost of construction is much greater, and the grounds are not so useful for recreation.

Land is much less expensive in an undeveloped area than it is after the area has been cut up in lots and sold.

In other words, by purchasing sites in advance, school officials can get the best possible prices at the lowest possible cost.

The decision was made reluctantly, for the commissioners know it is desirable to buy school sites in advance. But there was the hard fact of a tax rate that was already shaping up at 93 cents—a 17-cent increase over last year's rate. The \$300,000 for school sites would have pushed the rate over \$1.00.

The city and county school boards, by agreement, and after a careful survey had selected 18 sites, many of them in the perimeter area, where schools must be built in the future. They had planned to use money from the last school bond issue to buy them, but the rapid increase in school population has made it necessary to allocate every penny of the bond money to buildings. And even that will not be enough to provide an adequate number of classrooms.

With no bond money available, the boards asked the county commissioners for the \$300,000 cash appropriation—\$200,000 for the city board and \$100,000 for the county board. And they set forth three reasons why the sites should be bought now:

There is a way out of this dilemma for the county commissioners. Under the constitution, the county government can issue bonds without a vote of the people for necessary functions of government up to two-thirds of the amount of bonded indebtedness retired in the previous fiscal year. In the current fiscal year which ends June 30, the county government will retire \$468,000 of its bonded indebtedness. Two-thirds of that amount would be \$312,000, more than enough to "buy" the school sites.

Long ago, the county government adopted the plan of borrowing money for new school buildings. Since a school involves a building and a site, it would be in keeping with past policy to issue bonds for buying the necessary sites.

The county commissioners have always shown a commendable zeal for economy, and for that they merit the gratitude of the heavily-burdened taxpayers. In our opinion, however, failure to provide funds for school building sites at this time is being penny-wise and pound-foolish. The sites will have to be bought sooner or later. It will be cheaper in the long run, and better sites will be had if the commissioners issue \$300,000 in bonds now for this purpose.

## Administration Says No Should Red Party Be Outlawed?

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

WASHINGTON  
**T**HE COMMUNIST Party has been called everything from "an international conspiracy" to a "satellite and puppet of the Soviet Union." But it isn't a crime to be a Communist in the United States, although a number of members of Congress are trying to make it so.

In 1953 and 1954, some 19 measures specifically aimed at outlawing the U. S. Communist Party have been offered in Congress. This compares to a total of 14 such bills introduced from 1941 through 1952, according to a Congressional Quarterly survey. The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Nationality currently is holding hearings on about a dozen of the pending "outlaw" bills. Action on any of them would mark the first time such legislation has made progress in Congress.

**BROWNELL OPPOSED**  
 But the Eisenhower administration has its own anti-Red program, and outlawing the Communist Party is not part of it. Attorney General Herbert Brownell Jr. April 12 argued that such a law might drive the estimated 25,000 U. S. Communists underground, making it harder to detect them out; raise "constitutional doubts" about the rights of individuals under such a law; and conflict with and invalidate the principal legal weapons now aimed directly at the Communists.

The "legal weapons" which have helped limit Communist activities include: Laws requiring foreign agents to register, prohibiting federal employment of persons who are members of political groups advocating overthrow of the U. S. government (Hatch Act), making it a crime to advocate overthrow by force or violence of the U. S. government (Smith Act), requiring the registration with the Attorney General of Communist action or Communist-front groups (Internal Security Act of 1950), and including foreign-born Communists in the category of inadmissible and deportable aliens.

**ORDERED TO REGISTER**  
 Acting under the 1950 internal security law, the Subversive Activities Control Board ruled April 20, 1953, that the Communist Party was a Communist-action group, and ordered it to register with the Justice Department. The party is appealing that order, claiming it would be "pointless" to register.

Brownell has indicated that if being a Communist were made a criminal offense, Communists could refuse to register on grounds of self-incrimination. Despite administration opposition, the drive to outlaw the party seems to be gathering momentum in Congress. In 1941, the House Special Committee on Un-American Activities (Dies Committee) recommended outlawing any political organization shown to be under foreign domination. That year two bills aimed at destroying the party were introduced and a total of 14 such bills were submitted in the 12 years before the present Congress began.

Fifteen of the 19 bills now pending were introduced this year. For being a member of the Communist Party, the bills dropped into 3rd Congress hoppers by the end of April propose penalties ranging from bans against holding federal office, elective or otherwise, to loss of citizenship, 10 years in jail and fines as high as \$35,000.

And the House Un-American Activities Committee proposed its annual report for 1953 that the Smith Act be amended so that "proof of membership in the Communist Party shall constitute prima facie evidence of violation." The Smith law makes it a crime to advocate overthrow of the U. S. government by force or violence. Brownell has said that 105 "leaders of the Communist Party" have been indicted under the act since 1951 and 67 of them have been convicted.

## What To Do With McCarthy

**A** UNIVERSITY of Virginia professor has suggested a method of dealing with Sen. McCarthy that should be utilized more frequently. The professor is J. G. Priest. The method: Laugh at him. Mr. Priest reasons this way:

"The demagogue takes seriously his danger, but if you show him forth as the cheap, tawdry buffoon that he is, you will destroy him. Therefore, I implore you, laugh at them. Make them ridiculous. Turn them into figures of fun."

His advice recalls an incident cited by Jack Anderson and Ronald W. May in their book, *McCarthyism, The Man, The Sex, The Smear*. When listeners are hostile, they wrote, McCarthy frequently

turns on them furiously, as he did on Smith College girls in 1952 when they hissed him. But, note Anderson and May:

"Joe can take boos and jeers better than ridicule, because a University of Wisconsin audience started laughing at him, he went completely to pieces."

Laughter in itself is good for anyone, and when it can serve the additional purpose of deflating a demagogue that's all the better. Don't limit your mirth to an intellectual snicker—make it a belly laugh, a horse laugh. If you don't think he's worth a laugh, read or listen to some of the things he's saying at the hearing in Washington.

## A Boost For The Bard In Stratford, Conn.

**T**HE other day a breath of fresh air came through the mails, in the form of a press release. It came from the offices of the Rockefeller Foundation, and it arrived on one of the tenor days in the calendar of western man, April 23—the day Shakespeare was born, and the day Shakespeare died. The Rockefeller Foundation performed a service in bringing us back, at least for a moment, to the spacious days of Queen Elizabeth.

The Rockefeller people announced a grant of \$200,000 to the American Shakespeare Festival Theater and Academy, a non-profit organization chartered by the state of Connecticut in 1951 to do English in America a festival similar to the famous Stratford-on-Avon Shakespeare Festival in England. The Festival

Theater and Academy, organized by leading representatives of the theater, business and professions, now plans to build at Stratford, Conn., a theater incorporating some of the best features of the original Globe Theater, where a festival program of Shakespeare's plays will be given during the summer months, and to associate with it a summer school for training in Shakespeare acting and directing.

The Rockefeller Foundation has therefore established a good "hedge" against its many worthy projects in the social sciences, by establishing a fund for one of the three possessions of mankind which, as Emerson said, are certain to continue after all the events of our time will have been forgotten. "The Bible, the marble of the Greeks and the plays of Shakespeare."

From The Sanford Herald

## IMAGINE OUR EMBARRASSMENT

**I**F WE HAD the Raleigh number, said the long-distance operator, she could ring it from Sanford and simplify things. Otherwise, she would have to call Raleigh information, learn the number, and let the Raleigh switchboard handle the call. That would take longer.

But we didn't have the number.

And if we had, it wouldn't have made much difference. We've had a few minutes later, because when the operator reached the line to Sen. Alton A. Lennon's headquarters in Raleigh, it was busy. So we asked her please to ring us back when the line cleared, and hung up.

This happened recently: Sen. Lennon was coming to Sanford to fill a speaking engagement and we wanted to know when he would arrive and just what his plans were. The senator was in Washington, but we were sure we could get the dope from Alby Upchurch, his publicity manager.

At last the telephone rang. She had ahead, please.

"Is Abie there?" we asked into the phone.

"Abie? The feminine voice on the other end was as cold as the rumor that Olla Ray Boyd wouldn't pay his retail fee.

"Yes, ma'am, said Abie Upchurch. The publicity man.

"We could feel the frost on the earpiece when the gal-child spoke again. Mister Upchurch, she said, isn't among us.

No? We asked, surprised. He's doing the publicity, isn't he?"

Mister Upchurch, hissed the north wind, is over at the other end of town, at a place I will not name.

The words were spelled out in icicles.

Say, we asked, what place is this I'm speaking of?"

You have the pleasure, said the voice, of being connected with the headquarters telephone of Gov. W. Kerr Scott, North Carolina's next member of the United States Senate. The telephone turned as warm as a puppy's tongue.

Excuse me, my friend, the operator got the wrong number, the operator got the wrong number.

Well, we can certainly see the telephone company's point about having your number when you call long-distance. Not only does it facilitate a speed-up.

It reduces the chances of a foul-up.

The wife heard the telephone ring and saw her husband answer it. She was puzzled to hear him say, "I don't know. Why don't you call the Weather Bureau?"

After he hung up, she replied, "Who was it dear?"

"Ah, some sailor, I guess," he asked. "He wanted to know if the coast was clear."—LAMAR (MO.) DEMOCRAT.

In Oklahoma City a reader wrote to the DAILY OKLAHOMAN taking issue with an editorial published 16 years before. There ought to be a statute of limitations on those things.—GREENVILLE (S. C.) PIEDMONT.



## Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON  
**S**EN. MCCARTHY has explained, during the Cohn-Schine hearings, that I was responsible for putting the bee on G. David Schine's draft status and causing him to be grabbed by the Army.

Now I would hate to think that draft boards sat around waiting for newspapers to finger someone who was unfairly deferred and only then drafted them, as Sen. McCarthy infers. However, I admit it was simultaneous with a Merry-Go-Round column of July 17 that McCarthy began frantically trying to get a commission for Schine from the Army.

On looking through various notes on Pvt. Schine in preparation for a recent TV program, however, I find that for space reasons I had only some interesting facts on G. David Schine from the July 17 column. And since Joe McCarthy is already complaining, he might just as well have the whole works.

About a year ago Mr. Schine was queried by telephone regarding some of the highlights of his life. He acknowledged modestly that he was only trying to serve his country on the McCarthy committee, said he was seeking no publicity, but had been reclaiming the record of his life.

## Schine's Record

He interrupted his Harvard education, he said, to serve in the Army Transport Service in 1946-7.

"Were you in the Army?" he was asked.

"We carried Army supplies," he said.

"Were you a merchant seaman or an Army enlisted man?"

"No, I wasn't a merchant seaman."

"Were you in the Army?"

"I had an assimilated rank," he explained.

"What was your rank?"

"Army lieutenant."

"What kind of work did you do?"

"Customs, immigration, pay roll, personnel," he explained.

"Technically, you belonged to the Merchant Marine, didn't you?"

"I imagine so. I really haven't thought about it. I wish you would ask me one of those personal stories. What is the value of writing about me? Roy Cohn would make a much better story."

"I had a chance to tell how he went back to Harvard, was graduated in 1949, then ran radio station WPTF in Albany."

## Some Background Facts On Pvt. Schine

by W. We are only stockholders," he explained.

Whatever young Schine didn't stay in the radio business long. At the age of 24 he became vice president and general manager of the Schine Hotels, which include the Ambassador in Los Angeles, the Roney Plaza, Boca Raton, Gulfstream and McAllister in Florida; the Ritz-Carlton in Atlantic City; the Ten Eyck in Albany and the Northampton Inn & Old Wiggins Tavern in Massachusetts. His father, he admitted, was chairman of the board.

This is the hotel chain that got involved in the Red-baiting investigation when Meyer Schine, father of David, admitted he received \$45,000 from Frank G. David in a three-months gambling concession at the Roney Plaza Hotel in Miami. He was also paid by Erickson for the right to make book at Boca Raton.

In August 1950, G. David, still only 24, also branched out on his own. He became executive vice president of the Schine Theaters, largest independent theatrical chain in the nation. Incidentally, Meyer Schine and his chain have recently been indicted criminally by the Justice Department for willfully violating an anti-trust order which they had agreed.

## His Friends Helped

Earlier, in 1949, young Schine said he had become interested in government service when he devised a psychological warfare plan and wrote a definition of communism.

"One of the reasons I am on the McCarthy committee," he said modestly, "is because I am suspected of knowing something about this stuff."

Asked how he got the job, he said: "I got on through friends."

Roy Cohn, he acknowledged, was one of his friends. He also acknowledged that he had vacationed with Cohn in Europe the previous year.

"Did you pay his way?" he was asked.

"Why do you ask a question like that?" G. David wanted to know.

A newspaper reporter, he was told, has to ask disagreeable questions as well as agreeable ones.

"I can't see why you are interested in knowing whether I paid his way or not," Schine insisted. "I have taken several trips to Europe."

"We are interested in this trip because it was your relationship to Cohn that got you on this committee," Schine was told.

"I paid for mine and he paid for his. That is the way it would automatically be," Schine finally replied.

## People's Platform

### Newcomers' Ideas May Be Worthwhile

Editors, The News-Charlotte  
**Y**OUR editorial in the issue of April 19, "What North Carolina Needs More Taxpayers," and Agnie's column item on April 20, tend to create the impression that newcomers to the state are the principal critics of the tax structure of the state of North Carolina.

Actually, there are many natives of the state and county who are interested in their government, and are high may raise the question of mismanagement, but it can also indicate an effort to live better on our means or a failure to watch the many small expenditures which result in large expenditures of the state.

As in the case of personal and family expenses, there may be nothing evil about the expenditure of the state, if they result in a bad financial condition, they are unwise. An active "Taxpayers' League" would serve to watch on both local and state governments.

Recently, a special election was held to approve or reject the issuance of bonds for the County Home. Soon, a primary will be held. Could the bond issue have been submitted along with the primary ballots and saved the cost of a special election?

Rather than presenting all comments of newcomers, perhaps we should examine them carefully for new ideas. Good suggestions may come from any group, as we should. We might well emulate the people of Switzerland, who pride themselves on their government and their participation in it.

Your objective of a higher standard of living for the low income section of the population is commendable, but let us also bear in mind that honesty criticism does not indicate disloyalty.

L. W. WASH  
 (Editors' Note: The editorial and column item referred to did not express resentment of newcomers' comments, or infer anyone's "disloyalty.")