

Editorial Correspondence

West Germany Faces Tomorrow

By THOMAS L. ROBINSON
 Publisher, The News

BOONN, Germany, Sept. 7. (Editors' Note: This is another in a series of articles Mr. Robinson is writing from various capitals of western Europe.)

THE collapse of the plans for the European Defense Community since the recent defeat of the treaty by the French National Assembly leaves the world wondering how the broken pieces, or at least the principals of this long-sought treaty, can be picked up and put together in some practical and enduring fashion.

By a curious stroke of fate, I had the good fortune of reaching Bonn today just at the time when all American and German government officials are in a quandary as to what steps should be taken next. A deep-seated feeling of disappointment and frustration prevailed at the moment after three years of optimism regarding the EDC's chances for success.

Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, a stout-hearted "European" and grand old man of 78, is certainly not going to hurry his nation into a make-shift arrangement under the aegis of the United States.

Quite obviously efforts must be made to integrate West Germany with the western powers in a way which will resemble substantially the same objectives outlined in the EDC treaty. Nevertheless, it must be remembered that the "give and take" on matters of sovereignty of West Germany, problems pertaining to the autonomy of the West German army's 12 proposed divisions and the future of Berlin, now controlled by four powers, must be ironed out to the satisfaction of all the nations involved.

In this hour of "agonizing reappraisal," the collapse of EDC raises the question once more as to whether or not it will be possible to unite Germany. Reliable information at the moment indicates that the Russians will soon approach the West again on a definite proposal for unifying Germany. The Soviets, it is forecast, will again insist that their East German government, representing about 15 million people, must be included in Adenauer's government with its 50 million when the all-German talks are held.

Another powerful influence in any deliberations is the aggressive drive for trade between East and West. Although the U. S. Foreign Operations Administration under Harold Stassen cut the embargo list in two, Great Britain is doing

her level best to trade liberally with the West from Berlin to Moscow. The French government is also interested in expanding its trade with Russia. In fact, as Premier Pierre Mendes-France has indicated, his country is interested in putting its economic house in order before indulging in all the problems associated with the integration of Germany into the western bloc.

In facing its immediate future, West Germany can and will build its own army and its own economy as though the division into an East and West Germany is permanent. This would be the road to all-out nationalism, and would be a complete reversal of Adenauer's policies to date. Of course, France can prevent this by a little more of the Allied High Commission, any such plan for West Germany to "go it alone" and act independently.

An alternative would be for West Germany to exert influence among the western powers to take a chance on the outcome of all-German talks with the Russians designed to bring about the unity of Germany. Such talks would have to center on neutralizing a unified Germany so that it would be permitted to have a minimum military force for defense and nothing for aggression. Thus, in unifying Germany, the problem of a divided Berlin would be automatically solved.

WHO IS against a neutralized Germany? First, the Germans who naturally have a great sense of their own destiny and power. Secondly, those western politicians who believe they need an armed Germany to blunt Soviet aggression in Europe.

Who is in favor of a neutralized Germany? First, the Russians and their satellites who will never cease to be afraid of Germans. Secondly, the bulk of the western European nations who felt the German boot before and are not anxious to feel it again.

From the standpoint of the United States, there is no "pat solution" to a problem as involved as Germany. From the American point of view the policy calls for a neutralized and unified Germany with the defense of West Germany for the defense of Europe. However, even an integration of western Germany into the western bloc does not solve the problem of a divided Germany. Neither does a plan for a neutralized and unified Germany without military force meet the demands of the total defense of western Europe.

This is the dilemma the United States is facing while it is formulating a new foreign policy on European affairs.

The Firm Stand

THE week's most fascinating example of political doubletalk comes from Raleigh, a city where words and meanings often go galloping off in different directions. As highway chairman, A. H. Graham told newsmen that he favors separation of the prison department. Then as a private citizen, he told them he thinks the idea is faulty. Both announcements came at the same sitting, both sounded convincing.

Nothing like taking a firm stand on public issues.

Let's Not Invite Trouble Over Quemoy

THE island of Quemoy is five miles from the Chinese port city of Amoy. Quemoy is held by Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist troops, who have been making guerrilla raids from the island since last month the Communists raided the island, taking a prisoner. This month the Communists started shelling Quemoy. The Nationalists fired back, and sent their U. S.-made jets over Amoy harbor, destroying hundreds of junk.

It is this situation, coupled with the recent shooting down of a Navy patrol bomber near Siberia, which has precipitated another of the continuing crises in the Far East. Secretary of State John Foster Dulles said Monday that "the defense of Quemoy is primarily related to the defense of Formosa and is being considered in that light." The New York Herald Tribune yesterday reported that the U. S. 7th Fleet has been ordered to give "full logistic support" to a broad front which could mean all aid short of troops) to the defense of Quemoy. Publicly, however, the President has spoken with particular vagueness, refusing to indicate whether or not the U. S., which is committed to the defense of Formosa, will also defend Quemoy.

Quemoy, in our opinion, is an ideal place for the U. S. to stay out of. That

is not to say that limited aid to Nationalist forces should not be continued may they be successful in holding the fortress. But the coastal waters of a hostile nation which could mean all aid short of troops) to the defense of Quemoy. Publicly, however, the President has spoken with particular vagueness, refusing to indicate whether or not the U. S., which is committed to the defense of Formosa, will also defend Quemoy.

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Joe Palooka And Dagwood Have Fans In Other Lands

By JOHN GOULD
 In The Baltimore Evening Sun

LIBSON FALLS, Maine is something truly American about Dick Tracy, the great detective, and I had never thought of him as a Frenchman when I picked up a week-end edition of La Tribune in Sherbrooke, Quebec, and found Dick Tracy in good habit with voice, it was a great surprise. It seems they were having a flood, in this comic-called strip, and two little girls were swept away on the crest. Always alert, Tracy leaped into action, and he was shown following into his arm-chambered two-way wrist radio, "Ou sont les bateaux?"

The translation of American comic strips into foreign language is his business. You might think that foreign newspapers would develop their own native-drawn strips to feed their readers, but evidently they don't. Joe Palooka, and even Knobby and Seery, become a great success in countries-unlikely as that sounds. Joe Palooka, in French, becomes Hans and Fritz first burst upon the American scene.

The traditional German editor and publisher frowns upon anything undignified and low in culture, explaining that the German taste is above such frivolity as Hans and Fritz. The newer press of Germany, the sensational after-

noon boulevard papers, are not so discerning, however, and run American comics. MAKES NO SENSE. Blondie is a great favorite in Munich, simply doesn't make sense. The German woman would be more emancipated, and Blondie's frank approach to her drawings-board antics is completely beyond any general local comprehension. When she whops Dagwood or Dinkwart from his feet off the sofa, she is not portraying anything Germanic. Possibly German readers know Blondie is an American, but there is nothing in the Abendzeitung to show it. She speaks conversational German throughout, as to her children and Dinkwart. The German woman would be more likely to bring her husband's pipe and invite him to be comfortable as led of the household.

GERMANS ANSWER. Why they don't accept it and get some artists busy on good native-born German comics is one of those really asked questions an American gets a German answer to—meaning that you don't really know the answer. Up in Quebec, I inquired about any editorial difficulties over the fact that Jos. Bras-defer originated a non-French-Canadian form. The editor of La Tribune said he was very popular, and that he gathered his readers accepted French names to them. An agency in Montreal receives matrices from the States, casts the type metal and then puts out the English words in the balloons and inserts the French-Canadian pal. La Tribune receives the matrices and it is a great shock to me to discover the conditions. I exclaim, "Mon dieu!"

No Innocents Bite The Dust

Open Season On Gangsters

By ROBERT C. RUARK

I WAS AS happy as a kid with candy to see that the Chicago hoods were stomping each other again, although my esthetic life will be a little more drear with no such name as Cherryeone Gioe in it. Poor, dear Mr. Cherryeone Gioe, so nicely illegitimate for so long, and now so dead. Before long there won't be many of the old joyful Capone hoods left at all.

One thing that was so nice about the old gangsters was that if you left the Larry Fays or the Dutch Schultzes or the Vinnie Colla alone long enough, someone or the other was bound to fare forth and do in his neighbor. It was like giving a new knife to a kid. He just had to go and find something to cut his initials on.

It was healthy. The St. Valentine's Day massacre in Chicago was as salutary as a bit of house-cleaning as anybody ever saw, and certainly no innocents bit the dust. Like Al Capone was healthy the time he gave the ceremonial for a backsliding business associate.

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FRANK COSTELLO
 'A Crook Is A Crook'

got paid in cash and had the time didn't know who he was working for or why. He was a shooter and they paid him to shoot and then he caught the plane out and that was that.

Self-extermination is a wonderful thing to use on beasts, and is best exemplified by the wild dog

of Africa. If a dog is wounded, his companions stop briefly, and then he comes back and kills him alive before they depart. That is not quite so perfect as the hyena's trick of literally eating himself when he is wounded, but good enough. In any case it's a fair enough analogy to gang killing.

ROBND ROBIN. It is comforting to think that if you could induce every professional criminal in the country to kill another professional criminal, you would be so very happy, as in the case of the Gingham Dog and the Calico Cat, who ate each other up. Unfortunately, total self-extermination isn't possible, but it is nice to be grateful for simple justice when you read of another "gang killing" in the papers.

A matter of principle I would never want to prosecute any hoodlum who knocked off another, but in actual fact it is nice if you get them with the goods, because you can then eliminate the eliminator. That makes two down. We are all kidding Joe crook in this country, and sympathized with him, which might be one of the troubles with the young idiots today. But to me a crook was always a crook, whether he was a crook like Alger Hiss, a crook like Frank Costello, a crook like Serge Rubinstein, a crook like some tax collectors, a crook like Capone, or a crook like some congressmen. A crook is a crook, and the record says that nothing makes a crook of him except inclination, because a lot of people aren't. Crooks, that is.

The Odor Of Sanctity
 From The Lancaster (S.C.) News

THE following is from "The State" newspaper: "PLUFF MUD. . . . When quite some distance from Charleston, nostrils of visitors are often assailed by a peculiar odor, especially if it is low. This odor is said to come from pluff mud, and J. R. Jones, commissioner of agriculture, has received a letter from Frank H. Ramsey of Beaufort asking just what pluff mud is.

"In reply Commissioner Jones said he thought 'pluff mud' was a local name in coastal areas for the black mud in tide water bas-

ins. 'It probably derives its name' he wrote, 'from the fact that it makes a pluff-like explosion when it is stepped in and the foot pulled off. It also pluffs up between the toes and is otherwise very fluffy.' We thought the smell came from decaying smog.

Quote, Unquote

One good thing was accomplished by the coming of the automobile. At least it put a stop to campaigning politicians calling one another horse thieves. — Laurel (Miss.) Leader-Call.

Drew Pearson's Drastic Budget Cuts Ordered By Ke

WASHINGTON. ONE of the toughest letters in Budget Bureau history has been sent to every member of the Eisenhower Cabinet, ordering further cuts for the fiscal year 1955-56.

This volume has been able to obtain a copy of the highly secret and important document, which as far as the American public is concerned means two things: 1—Eisenhower means business when he says he is determined to proceed with his attempt to balance the budget despite advice from some on his staff that it may lead to recession; 2—There will be less government spending and less easy money next year.

The sternly worded secret budget directive warns Cabinet officers to virtually wipe out all civil construction projects, which will mean rough shelling for such proposals as new school buildings and even for Eisenhower's own highway program. It will also turn thumbs down on some of the proposed western irrigation and flood control projects so hotly debated in the recent session of Congress.

housing and the Federal Housing Administration, which hitherto has run into several hundred million dollars each year. Because of the importance of the drastic budget order, this writer is publishing it in full, except for the names of government under the tax rates in existence when this administration took office.

Twin-Barreled Order

The order is in two forms—a letter to Cabinet officers and a memo which is attached. The letter follows: "Executive Office of the President Bureau of the Budget "My Dear (Name of Cabinet Officer): "The budget results for the fiscal year just ended show the progress made thus far in reaching the budgetary objectives of this administration—fiscal soundness, military and economic strength, and the increased welfare of the country.

1—Expenditures, new obligations authority, and the budget deficit were reduced substantially below the levels of the fiscal year 1953 and below the levels planned for 1954 in the budget presented to Congress a few days before this ad-

ministration took office. "2—Tax reductions were put into effect which will return to the people the first full year of the \$15 billion which would have been taken by the government under the tax rates in existence when this administration took office.

New Deficit Expected

"Despite these accomplishments, the administration's objective of a balanced budget at lower tax rates has not yet been attained. The fiscal year 1954 ended with a budgetary deficit, and another deficit is in prospect for 1955. "Nevertheless, the progress made to date is encouraging. With your cooperation and should be continued in the formulation of the 1956 budget—on which preliminary work is already under way. To this end, your personal direction and review of the preparation of your department's 1956 budget submission are requested. That submission should be made to the Bureau of the Budget by September 15.

"I assist you in the preparation of your fiscal year 1956 budget. The President has established the policies and assumptions set forth in the attachment. This letter and the attachment are for the guidance of your department in preparing its estimates for 1956 and are not to be released outside of the department.

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(Inserted is a paragraph on the new obligatory ceiling—a different paragraph to each Cabinet officer and this paragraph, which would identify the name of the Cabinet officer from which this came, is therefore omitted.) "Your budget for 1956 should cover the complete regular fiscal year of the department for the year. Estimates for supplemental appropriations for 1956 will be considered only if they are necessary because of subsequent congressional action or where the supplemental is needed because of developments which were neither foreseen nor foreseen. The original budget submission should contain firm figures and should include all the explanations, schedules, and justifications which are required under the provisions of Budget Circular No. A-11. "Sincerely yours, "S. Rowland R. Hughes "Director."

Note—Because of the length and importance of the secret budget directive, the remainder will be published tomorrow.

From The Dahlonge (Gu.) Nugget

WAY THE WIND BLOWS. THIS hot dry weather has caused some of the older folks to recall the time many years ago when a meeting was held at Sileam Church to pray for rain when it was desperately needed. The brethren gathered at the church and had prayer, but nothing was said about rain.

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