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MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1958

West Berlin Glitters in Ubricht's 'Drab Slave State'

By JOSEPH H. ALSOP

WHAT THE Kremlin was in this city.

Nikita Khrushchev's threats to Berlin are most emphatically not primarily intended to force it to West to recognize the East German government, or to promote German unification, or to produce another summit conference. They are primarily intended to secure the surrender of free Berlin.

One can guess the moment when the renewed attempt on Berlin began to be planned. One can even imagine the conversation that decided Khrushchev to act. The moment was almost certainly last summer, when the Kremlin extended a huge credit to the East German government, in order to help it get its economic and political house in order.

Khrushchev was reportedly rather severe with the sly Walter Ubricht, rapping him smartly on the knuckles as he promoted the big loan.

'DO AS WELL AS CZECHS'

'Really now,' one can almost hear Khrushchev saying, 'East Germans, you ought to do at least as well as the Czechs, and with all this help we're giving you, you've just got to do as well.'

And one can almost hear Ubricht's answering wail: 'But how can I ever do as well as the Czechs, when I have this cancer on my heart that is free Berlin?' The evidence for some such exchange is by no means imaginary. In every discussion Nikita Khrushchev has ever held with Westerners, one of the two or three themes he has stressed most

strongly is the need to "recognize and accept the status quo." By this he means several different things, but the first thing on the list is certainly recognition and acceptance of the status quo in eastern Europe.

GLITTERING FREEDOM

But the eastern European status quo can never really be "accepted" by the West, as long as the West insists upon protecting free Berlin; for the very simple reason that the eastern European status quo can never be truly stabilized as long as this great city lives in glittering freedom in the very midst of Walter Ubricht's drab slave state. For that precise reason, Khrushchev calls Berlin a "cancer."

The hemorrhage of refugees from East Germany into Berlin

is very serious, but it is not the root of the trouble. Otherwise, steps would already have been taken to stop the hemorrhage, as could quite easily be done by draconian police measures. The silly Western propaganda carried on from free Berlin is not the root of the trouble either. The root of the trouble is simply this city.

CONTRAST

Anyone who has any doubts on this point only needs to drive down to the Brandenburger tor, where slave Berlin begins, and note the contrast between the terrible greyness on one side of the line and the brilliance and bustle on the other side. That contrast cannot be hidden.

Those who have experienced wartime internment know only too well the first rule of all efficient camp commandants: If the inmates can be made to forget there is any other way to live, however horrible the routine may be, Walter Ubricht is merely the commandant of an unusually large internment camp, which cannot be made to settle down because of free Berlin. And as long as East Germany cannot be stabilized, Eastern Europe cannot be stabilized either.

FIRST AIM

Therefore the surrender of Berlin is Khrushchev's first aim. However, it is by no means his last aim. In particular, he aims to promote the fearful series of other Western defeats and surrenders. In all parts of the world from Europe to the Far East, which would inevitably, remorselessly result from the surrender of Berlin, in this manner, as he sees it, he will vastly assist the course of history.

He has just finished trying to help out, in the same way, but on a smaller scale, at Quemoy. Surrender there would have produced the same sort of results in the Far East as the surrender at Berlin would have produced in the world.



WILLY BRANDT West Berlin Mayor

the world. But at Quemoy, Khrushchev and his Chinese allies ran head on into the fire of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

WRONG CONCLUSIONS

The Western alliance is far from presenting the same monolithic appearance as the Chiang Kai-shek - Foster Dulles partnership. Dulles cannot make the decisions about a free Berlin virtually alone, as he made the decisions about Quemoy. He has to carry with him the British and French cabinets. There was one great liberty which no doubt hopes that objections to firmness by one or another partner in the Western alliance, hence Khrushchev may think he has a better chance at Berlin than at Quemoy. Partly, the signs to date suggest that these calculations will finally prove wrong.

The Mess In Metropolitan Mecklenburg

THE "humor" of Charlotte's street name duplications somehow escapes us. If the muddle amuses me it merely frightens others. There is no laughter in local police and fire circles.

A survey four years ago turned up 472 duplications. A new one by the Chamber of Commerce has produced more than 500 streets with identical or nearly identical names.

Let's say you are a policeman or a fireman and there is a hurried call for help at a number of First Street. The burglar may burn to the ground or the burglar may get all the family jewels while you dash from one First Street to another. There are nine in Charlotte and the perimeter.

On the sudden emergency might be on Pine. Pine? What Pine? There are five Pine Streets, one Pine Avenue, one Pine Drive.

The Chamber didn't even bother documenting the sound-alike names. For instance, there are two Lee Streets and two Lee Avenues. The Chamber neglected to mention that there is also a Lee Avenue. It's pronounced the same; only the spelling is different.

The City Council long ago recognized the need for an orderly street name system. But it hasn't hesitated to duplicate more names on occasion. The philosophy has been actually expressed publicly in January 1955 — that "one more duplication wouldn't make a great deal of difference." That's nonsense. Each duplication compounds the confusion.

If anything, the situation just outside the city limits is worse. There, street names not only duplicate those in the city but others in the perimeter as well. It is not just a matter of holding the line. Common sense demands that corrections should be made at once in the roster of existing duplications. There is no satisfactory reason why there should be nine First Streets, nine Second Streets, Third Streets, Four Third Streets and three Fifth Streets in one metropolitan community.

The confusion is not funny. It is potentially dangerous. The time to straighten out the mess is now, before it results in a major fire loss or crime.

He produced a sample list of 30 controversial passport applicants—including such tiresome old time fellow-travelers as Earl Browder, who ran for President on the Communist ticket, and Anna Louise Strong, American Trotskyite who was booted out by the Russians themselves in 1955. There were a host of unknowns who are reported to have been "described as 'named as,' 'alleged to have been' party functionaries of one sort or another. Named, alleged, described by whom? By the 'confidential informants' in State Department employ whose anonymity the court was trying to curb in the first place, of course.

As in the case of the notorious Harvey Matusow, who confessed that he had lied in branding "known Communists," these faceless sources have more than once proved to be profligate shams. And the fact remains that, Communist or not, American citizens are being deprived of passports for political beliefs—and those not even substantiated.

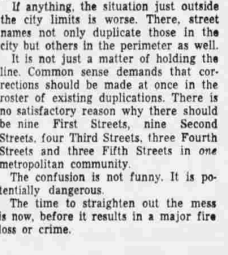
The inescapable impression is that Congress, if it bothers to give the State Department the legislation would be waving chairs at toothless lions. The vast majority would, to be sure, dash abroad upon receiving passports, there to pluck eagle feathers, harmlessly, sophomorically, before admiring and approving friends. The question is: Would that be sedition — or entertainment? Our guess is, entertainment.

Who are these "known Communists" who have applied for passports? An embarrased O'Connell confessed to the subcommittee that they are people who "would have been screened" before the court's ruling. He said he had described them as "known Communists."

Already, it is clear that the State Department will keep going. The real issue, when the court denied passport discretion to Mr. Dulles, was that professional informants were by secret testimony keeping people from getting passports. The State Department's security chief and passport miser, Roderic O'Connell, appeared recently before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee to ask for legislation which would, in effect, allow the practice to continue.

The Ugly Duckling

WEST BERLIN EAST EUROPE



HERZ LOCK

Security All Gone

Surplus Stethoscope, Anyone?

By ROBERT C. RUARK

IT'S fortunate I have no rich aunts, because the kind of aunts my family breed would surely send me an executive cushion, priced only \$10, which prevents executive fatigue by briskly massaging your back while you work. You contain built-in cyclo-massage motors.

TROPHY HEADS There are some square boxes, well wrapped, and I know what they contain. Female conquest trophy heads, only \$2.98, and you specify the hair color. "Handsome, well rounded, life-size heads of blonde, red-head or brunette beauties are molded of skin-textured pliable plastic. Very funny between other hunting trophies. Who said, 'Bring me Back Alive?'" This is a must, because I am a big-game hunter, but what will the elephant think?

SINCE I also fish, somebody must have been fudy-bounded to send me a Kraty fish caller. It weighs only six ounces. Lower it in the water next your bait, and it sets up a well-nigh irresistible siren song, sort of like "Here fish, nice fish." Couldn't live without it.

SAME thing applies to the Giant Crazy Clock which keeps perfect time but runs backwards, \$7.98. If the clock keeps running long enough, you can literally turn yourself back to your date of exemption from SEC regulations of a company "controlled by a member of the President's Cabinet" pressure on the Civil Aeronautics Board to award the Great Circle Pacific air route to an airline which later hired the same official at a fancy salary; back-tackle lobbying by Vice President Nixon's former campaign manager, Murray Choinier, in several cases including a Evans, Calif., television application; "criminal appetites" in the Interstate Commerce Commission brought to Schwartz's attention by "a retired employee."

'Grasshopper Probe' The pugnascent professor caused a front-page uproar earlier this year with similar charges that the committee had suppressed an investigation of dams and Mack. Schwartz was promptly hailed before his own committee as a witness and ordered to show up or shut up. He fired back with facts that forced the committee to go ahead with the year's No. 1 investigation, which led to the ouster of both Adams and Mack. In the new salvo he is preparing, Schwartz accuses the committee of conducting a "grasshopper" investigation that has jumped around without landing on the big standards.

Left 17 Cases However, he packs enough explosive information in his new book to blow the lid off a few more of the oversight Committee's oversights, he states. "I had stated some 17, including comparative investigations for full-scale inquiry." In addition to the cases involving him, Schwartz lists others in Petersburg, Va.,

Who Will Own The 'Speed Of Light'?

AS if Berlin, the Middle East, and southeast Asia weren't bother enough, another battle over territory is creeping down on us with the speed of light. Literally.

We lay no claims to mastery of the higher cult known as astrophysics, but it strikes us that in all this controversy about who "owns," or will own, "space" there is something missing. Finally it dawned on us that the inter-stellar diplomats are decades behind in their science. Everybody with a lick of high school general science knows that since Dr. Einstein we no longer have just "space" but "spacetime." In jargon, a "continuum."

Don't ask us for diagrams or formulas; it has to do with the speed of light and comes much clearer in a limerick we know:

There was a young lady named Bright, Who could travel much faster than light; She departed one day, In a relative way, And came back on the previous night.

Physicists generally believe such a speed to be impossible. But just suppose the Russians get to tinkering with the speed of light. (Like Miss Bright in the limerick) to put it down. It has us worried silly.

Who owns "space"? Indeed, who owns "spacetime"? Distances in outer space, especially when you begin to get way out there, have to be measured in light-years. Light travels at 186,300 mile per second; about 6,000 billion miles in one year.

This jazy information has drastic implications for the owners of outer space. Just suppose, for instance, that we owned a hunk of outer space several light-years away. From a position here on earth, by the time we knew we owned it we would not really know we owned it — if you get what we mean. What in the world, then, would you do about aggression — especially "indirect" aggression? There could be no "massive retaliation," for by the time some spotter at Mt. Palomar detected the aggression we would have to dispatch a rocket ship faster than the speed of light (like Miss Bright in the limerick) to put it down.

For only \$1.98, someone is sure to have sent me a make-believe hand grenade, so I can, as the copy says: "Get a real bang when you throw this replica of an Army grenade. STUNTLER EX-101." I tell you, if I were an ex-GI, and somebody started me with one of these things, I would take a non-regulation sick and startle the debasers out of somebody else.

Band Grenade

From The Shelby Daily Star

GET THE POINT? MEDICAL science could make a great contribution to the Red Cross blood program if it could find a way to eliminate the finger-pricking portion of a donor's visit.

(This is being typed without benefit of one of the four fingers normally used. This is mainly because the danged digit is "hrobbing too much to hit the keyboard." Giving blood reduces the efficiency of an average four-fingered hand 'n peck types 25 per cent for at least an hour after the sphinking job has been completed.)

Polio has been licked, cancer is being attacked on all sides, heart operations that stagger the imagination are being successfully performed.

And finger-pricking goes on unattended. Nurses and doctors scoff at people's complaint concerning the finger. They say any full-blooded American should not worry about a little pin-prick.

We'll have to assume that only full-

Prof. Schwartz Reads Another Bomb

exemption from SEC regulations of a company "controlled by a member of the President's Cabinet" pressure on the Civil Aeronautics Board to award the Great Circle Pacific air route to an airline which later hired the same official at a fancy salary; back-tackle lobbying by Vice President Nixon's former campaign manager, Murray Choinier, in several cases including a Evans, Calif., television application; "criminal appetites" in the Interstate Commerce Commission brought to Schwartz's attention by "a retired employee."

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where the deciding FCC vote was cast by a commissioner who had been enticed by the winning applicant in Chicago "where there were constant private meetings between network officials and commission members" in Madison, Wis., "where a commissioner participated in a victory celebration for one half applicant"; in Mobile, Ala., "where a leading Republican had influenced the commission against a Democratic newspaper" plus a cloud cast in Indianapolis, Denver, St. Louis, Tampa, Hartford and elsewhere.

Why? Schwartz also decries the "almost complete lack of effective FCC regulations of telephones and telegraphs," and demands sharply: "Why did the FCC under Chairman McConaughy (a former telephone company lawyer) oversee staff recommendations and terminate an investigation into American Telephone and Telegraph why did the same commission permit A. & T. to earn during 1955-57 some \$150 million more than they would have earned under the generally followed theory of rate-making?"

Sen. Paul Douglas Succeeds Charlemagne

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Book-Learning

N New York, libraries for schools are already established. Now, although the objects of the program are good, I doubt the expediency and the practicability of carrying them into effect. The common people have no occasion for one half the studies or courses proposed; and the time given to them would be wasted on the greatest part of the children. . . . If boys are to attend to books till they are 14 or 16 years old, . . . they will contract such a fondness for books they will not readily leave them for work.—Noah Webster, "Letters of Noah Webster," edited by Harry R. Warfel.

pet bigger sent forth to reform us overnight, or else.

About eight centuries ago Charlemagne, the King of the Franks set about to reform the world for the Pope of Rome and he reminds us of the South Sea Islands, Carlos the Great evolved the Holy Roman Empire and such a lot of reforming the world had never seen standard-bearer lost to the world of the left wingers of the North with Stephen Douglas as case standard-bearer lost to the newly reformed Republican Party, because they had guessed wrong about the South. The southern Democrat in many ways is the hope of the world but the Douglas of Illinois have never seen it

—MERCER J. BLANKENSHIP

Editor's Note: The News: I am advised by the public that as of past history there was a rule or order by one of the departments or Council to prohibit the pictures of all ducks on the daily papers. This was ordered out when a son of one of the papers's top brackets showed up. Now then if this idea of one person is to rule then let's request the City Council to do this in the interest of the public. Let's try this putting the mugs in the newspapers.

If we have to pay for the space, just add the cost to the crime, so that the taxpayers don't have to pay any part of it, and should anyone have a son or daughter who has to get drunk to drive an auto, let him or her take his medicine or stay quartered and get loaded so he or she won't be a burden on the public. For our health, we shall request our state legislature to enact a state law with teeth in it.

All we know that liquor and gasoline will not mix successfully, so let's try to keep them separated. If you haven't tried them, give water and milk a chance.

—S. C. VAUGHN

Editor's Note: The News: YOU HAVE written a most interesting editorial entitled "Please Save Us From The Liberator."

Professor Paul Douglas, I assure you, will keep right on trying to reform us. Some months ago I wrote Sen. Ervin about the antics of Mr. Douglas of Illinois, who I stated was inadvisable of my writing Mr. Douglas in an effort to "reform" him, thinking a bit. Sen. Ervin replied that he didn't think it would do any good to write the erstwhile successor of Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois, the present Sen. Paul Douglas. Nevertheless, I did write him, and received a very nice letter in reply, but Sen. Ervin was right. The senator from Illinois looks upon the South as a modern day car-

Editor's Note: Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editor's Note: Drew Pearson is in Alaska on his annual Christmas trip to entertain American troops, his column is written by his assistant, Jack Anderson.

WASHINGTON Dr. Bernard Schwartz, the scowling little professor who raved Washington last February with his charges against Assistant President Sherman Adams and Federal Communications Commission member Richard Mack, is about to explode another bombshell.

He will go to press soon with a book, charging that the Legislative Oversight Subcommittee has failed to investigate several scandals he had started developing during his six months as chief counsel.

Sure Headlines Among the cases he claims have been neglected are these sure headline-makers: political intervention by White House Press Secretary Jim Hagerty in an Albany-Schenectady television case;

exemption from SEC regulations of a company "controlled by a member of the President's Cabinet" pressure on the Civil Aeronautics Board to award the Great Circle Pacific air route to an airline which later hired the same official at a fancy salary; back-tackle lobbying by Vice President Nixon's former campaign manager, Murray Choinier, in several cases including a Evans, Calif., television application; "criminal appetites" in the Interstate Commerce Commission brought to Schwartz's attention by "a retired employee."

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