

Reds Close To U. S. In Air-Atomic Striking Power

By THE ALSOP
WASHINGTON
THE Soviet heavy bomber program is now approximately two years ahead of the schedule for it by the American military intelligence analysis.

Refueling has not been practiced by the Russian air men as long or as intensively as by our air men. And there are also questions to be answered about the efficiency of Soviet advanced air bases.

With the growth of the stocks of atomic and hydrogen bombs on both sides of the world, control, the power to deliver the weapons, total destruction becomes even more vital than the weapons themselves. There is no use thinking the fact that the Soviet's delivery power will shortly be far greater than that of the American planners were prepared for.

The time-jump which the Soviets have achieved is especially significant because of the languid and loitering approach to the gigantic problem of American air defense. Two years have now passed since the Lincoln Project first restored its famous report, outlining an effective American air defense for the atomic age.

been done and are not being done and are off no promise really adequate warning systems or really adequate detection systems for a really adequate warning system.

Of This 'Me-Tooisim', Let's Have More

IN SEVERAL recent newspaper and radio advertisements, Fred H. McIntyre has implied that his chief opponent for the Democratic nomination to the State Senate, F. J. (Jack) Blythe, was a "me-too" senator when he served in 1949.

We introduced. In our session together we disposed of over 70 requests for local bills affecting only Charlotte and Mecklenburg. He sought our counsel and we sought his. We respected his judgment and he ours.

The "veto" of local bills which Sen. McIntyre employed so freely in 1953 works both ways. And if a senator becomes arbitrary and dictatorial, he may find that House members will elect to exercise their "veto" as well.

To be effective in statewide legislative battles and to enact the local legislation that this big metropolitan county so desperately needs, the Mecklenburg delegation must find a way to work in harmony. That is the most vital issue in the state senatorial contest. The record of reasonableness and cooperation that former Sen. Blythe established in 1949 compared with Sen. McIntyre's record of obstinacy and obstructionism in 1953 gives the voters a clear choice between the two men.

This short run prospect, combined with the somewhat longer run but less bleak prospect in the field of inter-continental guided missiles, can be expected to be reflected into full production.

The world knows one — but only one — of the facts that form the basis of the foregoing new assessment. In the May Day air show at Moscow, the Red Air Force somewhat ostentatiously exhibited a new four-engine jet bomber. This plane, called the Tupolev-30, is comparable to our own B-52.

The plane shown was undoubtedly a prototype, but the prototype is thought to have passed the flight test stage. Thus the Tupolev-30 is probably ready to be ordered into full production.

Building this new four-engine jet would have to be regarded as a major and fairly chilling Soviet achievement, even if there were not more of the same. After all, although our own four-engine jet has been supposed to be in production for more than a year, the American Air Force actually has only two B-36s in service.

The real danger signal, however, was not the appearance of the Tupolev-30, which has already been described, but the discovery of the Tupolev-37, which has not been reported in any detail.

The Tupolev-37 is also a jet engine strategic bomber, similar in size to our B-47. Its very large air intake has caused some argument among the analysts. The point disputed is whether this is actually a four-engine jet, like the B-47; or whether it has two sets of two engines each, coupled together so that each set can be served by a single air intake.

In any case, the comparison to the B-47 is thought to be crudely accurate.

Moreover, nine of these new aircraft have been observed flying in formation together. From this and other reasons, the Tupolev-37 is supposed to be in full production already.

Our B-47 production rate is of course higher than this; and a few groups in the Strategic Air Command have already exchanged the obsolescent B-50s and B-29s for the new twinning jet.

But with the Tupolev-37 coming off the line at the rate of 30 per month, the Soviet Strategic Air Command should have something like 720 of these bombers in service at the end of two years. By the end of the next year, the Kremlin will also possess a sufficient stock of atomic and hydrogen bombs. With the new jets plus an adequate stock of weapons of total destruction, Soviet air striking power will become truly decisive.

That does not mean, of course, that all the Soviet Union's strategic air problems are now going to be magically solved. The Tupolev-37s, and perhaps the Tupolev-38s as well, will need refueling to reach American targets; just as the B-47s will need refueling to reach Soviet targets.

A "SPECIAL friend of Grandfather Mountain is a title we bear, according to a card which came in the morning mail.

The card is a fancy one, with a photograph in color of the mile-high swinging bridge on top of Grandfather Mountain. It is counterbalanced by Hugh Morton, who owns it. The season passes entire days to pass over the bridge at any time we may present it to the man at the toll road gate.

There's something intriguing about being a "friend" of a mountain. Perhaps there's something a bit strange about it.

And just because we have the card, we don't feel especially affectionate toward the mountain. We don't feel that we and the mountain are buddies. Not that we have anything against Grandfather Mountain; it's not that; we don't feel "unfriendly" towards any hump or hill on its physionomy, not in the slightest degree.

But we can't get adjusted to the idea of being friends with a mountain. Grandfather Mountain has never done anything for us—nor to us.

Here's the way we are. If we like a fellow, we'll do anything for him. That's friendship. But if we don't like him, look out.

'I'm Only Looking After Your Interests'



Letter 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.

Chamber Of Commerce Aims High

THERE are a good many reasons why the Chamber of Commerce membership campaign beginning today should go over the top.

First of all, the agency speaks with a strong voice for Charlotte in state and national councils and in the continuing battle to bring into the community new industrial and commercial enterprises that will strengthen its economic base.

Second, the Chamber of Commerce offers the businessman a medium through which he can advance his views and opinions on all matters of public interest. Since the businessman is outnumbered numerically, full utility of this medium is doubly important to him.

Most important of all is the extremely effective role the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce has played, and continues to play, in the general betterment of the community through its many special committees working within the framework of the overall "Blueprint of Progress."

The Charlotte Chamber of Commerce doesn't sit idly by when local progress is at stake. Among its special committees are those striving to improve the agriculture of the region, to snare the new Air Force Academy, to promote the better appearance of the city, to develop the full potential of the new auditorium and coliseum, to promote aviation and the city-county tax system, to aid education and culture and health, to build a Greater Mecklenburg, to develop industry and sports and recreation, to bring about better traffic and transportation schemes.

That list is not complete, but it gives some idea how the deeply the Chamber of Commerce is digging into community problems, how it is bringing its considerable influence to bear on their proper solution.

And so it is with great enthusiasm that we help launch the 1954 membership campaign, full of hope and confidence that the Chamber will attain its objective in order that it may serve the community even more effectively.

Goodbye To A Pair Of Old Topics
THE former mayor of the town, Victor Shaw, used to tell his friends that he never knew until he became mayor just how long it took to get things done in government. And his successor, Phil Van Every, hadn't been in office very long before he began learning the same lesson.

Let Children Make Their Own Decisions
Charlotte
THE NEWS: The chief justice was not thinking through the phase of the subject he was trying to develop—inferiority complexes resulting from disparities, be they differences of race, color or otherwise; in the public schools now there are complex-producing disparities in the normal curricular aspects of school life, disparity in dress, inability to pay for the lunches or the cost of class trips, just to mention a few of the differentiating or separating barriers which are calculated to affect the heart and mind in a way unlikely ever to be undone.

Inferiority Complexes
Pittsboro
EDITORS: THE NEWS: ACCORDING to the reactions which have been heard in every corner of the country, the peak of the sentimental reasoning of the court in its recent desegregation decree is as follows:

Don't Let Mountains Get Familiar
By Pete Ivey In The Winston-Salem Journal
A "SPECIAL friend of Grandfather Mountain is a title we bear, according to a card which came in the morning mail.

From The Greensboro Daily News
OF SOUTHERN COOKING AND SHE-CRAB SOUP
THE uncutl war on southern cooking is latest in progress.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round
WASHINGTON
THE huge Senate caucus room, scene of the so-called anti-McCarthy hearing, was the stage for another hearing last week at which the television cameras were significantly absent.

ABC, Du Mont Fight For Survival
Lucky Strike, Camel, Lipton's Tea, and other big advertisers... The programming favoritism by these powerful commercial sponsors is even more obvious in the advertising market is limited by the fact that home viewers require special receiving equipment for UHF programs.

Hails Letter Opposed To Court's Decision
Editors: THE NEWS: CONGRATULATIONS to Mr. H. M. Vount on his letter, "Fight The Decision Of So-Called Court," in Thursday's News.

UNFAIR DISCRIMINATION
In fact, the FCC seems to have made a policy of discriminating against UHF stations in its allocation of frequencies through 83. However, the FCC hasn't lifted a finger to keep UHF stations out of the UHF band.

Similar close-out occurred in St. Louis, when KACY-TV, operating on channel 14, had to shut down programs because it was unable to get network programs.