

New H-Bombs Sow Death Over 6,000 Square Miles

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON

A VENGEFUL debate about the history of the hydrogen bomb seems to be in the making. Yet the vast majority of the debaters still do not know the real nature of the weapon they are angrily discussing.

The Soviets know, of course. In fact the Soviet H-bomb with lithium-hydride core was the first version of the true super-terrible super-terrible super-terrible. But as usual, we in this country have not been told what the Soviets know.

The essential point to grasp about the true Super-SUPER is its difference from the other weapons of the atomic family. The primitive earlier bombs did their work chiefly by blast and fire. They inflicted radiation casualties as well. But these hardly mattered, since the area exposed to lethal radiation was far less than the area exposed to lethal fire and blast.

The Super-SUPER is quite different. Its radiation effects altogether transcend its blast and fire effects. A five-megaton Super-SUPER will destroy a circular area of 200 square miles by fire and blast. But it will probably expose an area of 6,000 square miles to lethal radiation. Such a bomb in short will not only wipe the city of Hartford, say, off the face of the earth by its fireball and percussions, it will also shower most of the state of Connecticut with radio-active particles sufficiently powerful to cause the death of anyone not sheltered from them.

In the first report on this matter of the so-called "fall-out" of the Super-SUPER, which appeared in this space, the nature of the radiation effects was wrongly described. The lethality was understated, because the Japanese fishermen and the Marshall Islanders who suffered from our H-bomb tests, were too far from ground zero to feel the fall-out's full force.

ENORMOUS RELEASE

The true effects of the Super-SUPER are now fairly clearly established, however. If exploded near ground level, it scoops out an enormous crater. The matter from this crater is pulverized, snatched up into the bomb cloud, and impregnated with violent radioactivity by the Super-SUPER's enormous release of free neutrons.

Being dust, this pulverized matter is immensely heavier than the atomic particles of the more primitive bomb-cloud. Hence it falls out locally, about two hours after the detonation of the Super-SUPER. The area affected depends upon the direction and strength of the prevailing winds in the upper atmosphere. In ordinary conditions, according to current Pentagon estimates, a roughly lentigo-shaped area about

50 miles wide and 120 miles long will be showered with death-dealing particles by the fall-out of a five-megaton Super-SUPER.

EXTREME HAZARD

The degree of lethality of the fall-out depends upon two things: first, the elements that compose the original bomb crater, and second, the amount of shelter available to the inhabitants of the affected area.

Radio-sodium, for example, is an element with a radio-active half-life of 15 hours, which means that its radiation lasts long enough to be an extreme hazard and is also very violent. Radio-silicon has a much shorter half-life (but still too long) of two-and-a-half hours, and its radiation is even more violent. Radio-iron, in contrast, has a long half-life of 65 days, but its lethality is much lower.

In any case, the ordinary city, which will of course be the normal site of the crater of a Super-SUPER, will provide an ample supply of lethally radio-active elements. For instance, much of the substance of a modern city is brick. Brick is largely composed of silicon, with some sodium and potassium, and brick dust will therefore be highly lethal.

SOME VARIATIONS

With some variations from target to target, the intensity of radiation in the affected areas will probably remain above 50 Röntgens (the Army-standard lethal dose of radiation) for about two days. After that, the radio-acti-

ivity of bomb fall-out will fall below the death-dealing point. But there will still be a short further period of radiation sufficiently strong to cause lesser but serious damage, such as loss of hair, radiation ulcers and sterility.

The inhabitants of the affected area will escape all these effects if they are able to get under shelter that stays there long enough.

Five feet of concrete will absorb the entire direct radiation of the fireball itself (but in this case, of course, the concrete would be pulverized by blast and fire). The radio-activity of the bomb's fall-out is much less powerful, naturally, than the direct radiation of the bomb's fireball. This simple earth shelter, even ordinary barns and houses, should give adequate protection. Since the fall-out appears some time after the detonation of the bomb, most people ought to be able to get under shelter.

On the other hand, one five-megaton Super-SUPER will not only kill the unsheltered human and animal population in an area of 8,000 square miles; it will also immobilize the sheltered survivors for more than two days. Two such bombs will put an area of 12,000 square miles out of action, and 100 Super-SUPERs could destroy most of our major cities and temporarily paralyze a large part of the productive area of the United States. Such are the toys the nations are now playing with, in the game of the cold war.

ATOM BOMB BLAST 'Old-Fashioned'

McCarthy Got Benefit Of Doubts, But Still Deserves Senate Censure

THE United States Senate regained some of its lost prestige yesterday. It did so through the actions of the Watkins committee, on the censure charges leveled against Sen. Joe McCarthy. We frankly had not expected this committee, composed of three Republican and three Democratic senators, to make a unanimous, judicious and non-political report on the eve of an election. But it did.

The text of the report bears out the statement of Sen. Ed Johnson, vice chairman of the committee, that "We were just to Sen. McCarthy. We gave him the benefit of every doubt. But we could not close our eyes to his treatment of his colleagues and witnesses who appeared before him." And we are particularly proud of the fact that North Carolina Sen. Sam Ervin, who has taken the big step from "Morgantown to McCarthy" with an endorsement of this committee which came to grips with the Senate's biggest internal problem.

The Watkins committee had placed the many charges against McCarthy into five main categories. It found him censurable on two counts—(1) his contemptuous attitude toward the Senate and its committees, and abusive language about other senators, and (2) his "inexcusable" treatment of Brig. Gen. Ralph Zwicker, who had been a witness before Sen. McCarthy.

committee on investigations (the Watkins committee) does not feel justified in proposing his acts in this particular to the Senate as ground for censure.

What then did this Senate group consider censurable? The committee's reasoning can be deduced by comparing its findings regarding the elections subcommittee and Zwicker episodes with the findings regarding the Flanders affair. The first two were held censurable; the latter was not.

THE committee noted that McCarthy had publicly ridiculed and defamed Sen. Flanders in vulgar and base language. McCarthy's remarks were "highly improper." However, added the committee, "(the remarks) were induced by Sen. Flanders' conduct in respect to Sen. McCarthy in the Senate Caucus Room, and in delivering provocative speeches concerning Sen. McCarthy on the Senate floor."

In other words, Flanders was free to attack McCarthy and he did, rather roughly. They were co-equals in a fight. Zwicker, on the other hand, was bound by orders to say nothing about certain matters, and McCarthy knew it. Zwicker "a truthful witness" doing his duty. Under these circumstances:

The conduct of Sen. McCarthy toward Gen. Zwicker in reprimanding and ridiculing him, in holding him up to public scorn and contumely, and in disclosing the proceedings of the executive session in violation of the duty of a committee, was inexcusable. . . . He did much to destroy the effectiveness of a witness who was not in any way responsible for the present situation. . . . The conduct (McCarthy) should be censured by the Senate."

It was this unfairness, the exploitation of advantage over a witness—for whom there are "few safeguards. . . his treatment usually depends and must depend upon the skill and attitude of the chairman and the members"—that aroused the six senators. Thus they struck McCarthyism a body blow.

THE other censure proposal stemmed from McCarthy's refusal to cooperate with the subcommittee on privileges and elections in 1952. His defamation of Flanders had been as vulgar as his defamation of subcommittee members. But the latter was the more serious because subcommittee members were doing what they were required to do, and "(McCarthy) has no right to impugn the motives of individual senators responsible for official action, nor to reflect upon their personal character for what official action they took."

Refusal to cooperate with the committee itself was equally censurable because

"When the personal honor and official conduct of a senator of the United States are in question before a duly constituted committee of the Senate, the senator involved owes a duty to himself, his state, and to the Senate to appear promptly and cooperate fully when called by a Senate committee charged with the responsibility of inquiry. The duty of the senator is to be respected and maintained. This duty could not and was not fulfilled by questioning the authority and jurisdiction of the subcommittee, by accusing its members of the dishonest expenditure of public funds, or even by charging that the subcommittee was permitting itself to be used to serve the cause of communism. . . . The Senate will place fail to set and meet high standards, the people lose faith."

The Watkins committee has issued an historic document. If the Senate upholds this committee, the Senate will regain the respect of many whose faith in it has been shaken.

A TOTAL of 46 charges had been placed against McCarthy. The committee did not go into 33 of these charges, some of which it considered minor, others being too vague or broad, not censurable even if true, impossible to prove, or too time-consuming.

The determination of the committee to be fair and give McCarthy the benefit of any doubts is borne out by its refusal to recommend censure on several of the major charges which it went into.

One of these charges was that McCarthy had offered to make public the contents of a document bearing the FBI markings "Personal and Confidential Via Liaison," and which contained classified information relating to national defense. The committee concluded that McCarthy had committed a grave error, and that his action was irresponsible. But the committee recognized that "at the time in question (the Army-McCarthy hearing) Sen. McCarthy was under a great strain and being tried or investigated by the subcommittee. . . . These mitigating circumstances are such that we do not recommend censure. . . ."

Similarly, the committee gave the senator the benefit of the doubt regarding the charge that he had ordered government employees to violate the law and their oaths of office, or executive orders, by giving him information from the executive department.

THE committee noted that McCarthy's invitation to government workers was broad enough, by specific language and necessary implication, to be construed as a request for classified information. It recognized the difficulty of establishing proper exchanges of data between legislative and executive branches. It thought McCarthy's request was improper but added:

The select committee is convinced that the invitation . . . by Sen. McCarthy was motivated by a sense of official duty and not uttered as the fruit of self-design or wrongful intent. . . . Preferring to give Sen. McCarthy the benefit of whatever doubts and uncertainties may have confused the issue in the past, in recognition of the senator's responsibilities as chairman of the Committee on Government Operations and its permanent sub-

committee of the Senate, the senator involved owes a duty to himself, his state, and to the Senate to appear promptly and cooperate fully when called by a Senate committee charged with the responsibility of inquiry. The duty of the senator is to be respected and maintained. This duty could not and was not fulfilled by questioning the authority and jurisdiction of the subcommittee, by accusing its members of the dishonest expenditure of public funds, or even by charging that the subcommittee was permitting itself to be used to serve the cause of communism. . . . The Senate will place fail to set and meet high standards, the people lose faith."

The Watkins committee has issued an historic document. If the Senate upholds this committee, the Senate will regain the respect of many whose faith in it has been shaken.



"Well, I told him . . . McCarthy is coming into the state to make a speech and will endorse him . . ."

Modern Jungle Treks Start With Caviar In Two Cities

By FREDERICK C. OTHMAN

CARACAS, Venezuela

FOR A JUNGLE expedition such as my bride and I are undertaking, you've got to go into Rio, consisting of getting used to the drinks, which are mostly champagne, and the food, which runs to caviar in two different colors.

Such luxury I think I could get used to in a hurry, though Hilda is complaining, she says it's bad for the waistline.

It began on a cold and rainy day in New York, where we brought home a fancy flying machine Pan American, roared through the downpour and a bank of fog, and in a matter of half an hour we were cruising south in brilliant sunshine at 19,000 feet.

MARTINIS GALORE

So around came the stewards with the Martinis and silver pitchers of refills. Then they produced lunch, which ran from shrimp through roast beef to raspberry sundaes, and featured pink wine. We absorbed this and took a siesta and those stewards were back again with more martinis, plus canapes, mostly made of caviar, both red and black. Then they produced chicken roasted in wine and some French champagne and by then it was dark. The lights of San Juan, Puerto Rico, were twinkling nearly four miles below us.

This obviously was a good start for explorers headed for the lost world where Angel Falls is four times taller than Niagara, where pre-historic vegetation still abounds and where diamonds are available for the picking. Pro-

vided, of course, that you pick in the right places.

TOPSY-TURVY

Some 2000 hours past Puerto Rico we skimmed down Maunabo airport at La Guaira, where it was hot as the hinges, and then headed up again—this time by automobile—into the highlands where the night was cool. This, in case you've forgotten the geography books and their explanation of how the equator turns the seasons topsy-turvy, is early spring in South America. So we wound up at the Hotel Tamanao, one of the lushest inns on this earth. It is a new, air-conditioned 400-roomer on a flower-bordered hill, with a fabulous view of Caracas in the valley below and of Mt. Avila on the other side of town.

DORIS'S DOLLS

Suddenly, in late afternoon the patio seemed to be filled with some of the prettiest girls I believe I ever saw. They weren't latins; neither were they North America tourists. I sought out Rene Lambert, manager of the establishment, and he said they were models just arrived to show some new line fashions here in Christian Dior's branch salon.

This is going to be one fashion show I don't intend to miss and hope to see a few of the models in the Orinoco river country, but not too danged far into it. Back there the locals greet visitors with a few words of Spanish, but the latter with curare, as in mystery stories, and the results are what you might call unpleasant.

City Bosses Can No Longer Call Roosevelt A Maverick

By DORIS FLEESON

THE SAME New York City leaders who refused to support Franklin Roosevelt for governor implored him to take a place on the ticket to strengthen the ticket and unify the party.

Roosevelt preferred to run for attorney general rather than lieutenant governor for several reasons. Under a new state statute, governor and lieutenant governor are lumped together on the ballot; a citizen votes for them as one man. The attorney general has a separate line of his own.

Roosevelt liked, too, the greater power and independence of the attorney general's post. It would afford him scope for his legal and administrative talents and also opportunities to champion his upstate supporters.

NO MAVERICK

It was his rather dry opinion that the spectacle of a Roosevelt taking one of the lesser posts on the ticket might help hamper the "prima donna" argument against

him. At the very least the city leaders can no longer accuse him of being a maverick.

The curbsome opinion that Roosevelt would get a big "bullet vote" and be elected, no matter what Roosevelt wanted to do, was a far greater hand as the candidates entered the hall.

BIG APPEAL

It is, of course, possible that Roosevelt's upstate supporters, now flattened by the big city steamroller, will retaliate by cutting the top of the ticket in order to swell F's majority. However, the big Roosevelt appeal is to the masses who don't split their tickets but go down the line in their

New Horizons For D. Hidden Ramsey

NEWS STORIES out of Asheville announcing the retirement of D. Hidden Ramsey as vice president and general manager of the Asheville Citizen-Times Publishing Co. contained detailed accounts of Mr. Ramsey's career as a journalist and public servant.

They told something of the unusual influence this distinguished Tar Heel has exerted on Asheville, western North Carolina and the state as a whole.

There were lists of the honorary degrees, titles, affiliations, government posts and other rungs in the ladder of success.

The facts were neatly arranged, concise and to the point.

But they did not tell the full story of D. Hidden Ramsey.

The stories, for instance, failed to tell

how he helped debt-ridden Asheville pull itself up from its bootstraps during the darkest days of the depression.

They failed to tell how he molded two Asheville dailies into larger and more prosperous newspapers—journals crowned with local and state prestige.

They failed to give an adequate picture of his enormous role in bringing better schools, better government and a more abundant life to many Tar Heels.

These things are difficult to express within the coil outlines of a news story. But they need to be said.

Mr. Ramsey is a fine editor, a skillful newspaper executive, a great humanitarian.

To those who know him, it is inconceivable that he will no longer or later find new outlets for his genius in further service to the people of North Carolina.

What happened was that the Interior Department's Reclamation Bureau decided it no longer needed a Lockheed Lodestar, and put it up for sale through the General Services Administration which handles government surplus.

The Army's Agriculture Department promptly bought it, not for hauling VIP's around the country, but for carrying paratroopers who have to jump from planes to put out forest fires. To have purchased the plane outright would have cost the government around \$100,000.

People's Platform

Don't Call Those Giants Sissies

Gibson

Editors, The News:

YESTERDAY afternoon when I read Earl Wilson's column in one of our state's papers I was infuriated. The item that enraged me so was the one he wrote about the Giants.

He said that "baseball's become sissyish" because "the New York Giants' management from Horace Stoneham down was colder sober after winning the pennant. Leo Durocher, teetotaler, celebrated on a double buttermilk."

"Please tell me and the youth who might read Wilson's column what is sissy about being 'cold sober,' and what is wrong with celebrating a victory by drinking buttermilk? Calling people 'sissy' is one of the things that eggs you down to drinking."

Why don't you commend the Giants and all their service paratroopers and plan individuals who

would dare NOT drink intoxicating liquors, even at the risk of being called "sissy"?

I pulled for the Giants all season and I'm prouder of it now than before. More power to people like them who would be sissies.

—MRS. ANNE McBRIDE

Workers Should Vote To Protect Gains

Cheraw, S. C.

Editors, The News:

WE can judge by administration actions where we stand today. It has passed a corporation tax law that it claims is a tax cut for all, but check it and see how much relief you have—very little. But the large corporations get about \$1,383,000,000 a year.

Anyone who can show me where prices have been reduced around my home, I would welcome. Let the politicians, said let us take the ceiling prices off, and

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

A NETWORK radio commentator recently chided Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson for buying an airplane. He didn't want it. He wanted the plane. He didn't want it. He wanted the plane.

Though Benson has made mistakes as secretary of agriculture, he can't justly be accused of wasting money on himself. Real fact is that he saved money for the Agriculture Department by buying this plane.

What happened was that the Interior Department's Reclamation Bureau decided it no longer needed a Lockheed Lodestar, and put it up for sale through the General Services Administration which handles government surplus.

The Army's Agriculture Department promptly bought it, not for hauling VIP's around the country, but for carrying paratroopers who have to jump from planes to put out forest fires. To have purchased the plane outright would have cost the government around \$100,000.

Benson's Plane Is For Paratroopers

But thanks to Benson's transaction, it cost only \$17,000 to convert the plane into a "smoke-jumper."

Strong U. N.

Look for a rocky session of the U.N. General Assembly. There are 86 items on the agenda, several of them involving the Pacific islands as an H-bomb testing ground. The Indians say that since these islands, including Eniwetok and Bikini, are trust territories of the United Nations, they therefore cannot be used for the H-tests which threaten the lives of islanders.

A Greek motion to protest the buildup of Cyprus, a British island adjacent to Greece, as a British naval base. But Congress there has been wowing backstage, trying to line up delegates to quash the Greek motion.

All week the British have been wowing backstage, trying to line up delegates to quash the Greek motion.

What Alex said he said was that it would be a very serious thing if a session of the United Nations were to come up and might have serious international consequences. The Foreign Relations Committee came within one vote

of stopping aid to France, Wiley pointed out, and a Senate debate now might be disastrous.

"I told those men," Wiley bellowed, as he got up from his chair and started pacing the floor.

"They were sitting right there," he pointed, "and I told them that it had nothing to do with McCarthy. The leaders can't be called traitors for a specific action, so there is bound to be some action on EDC."

"Why can't you guys get things straight? Why do you have to put words into our mouths just to get a story?" "I'll be watching you, now," he cautioned. "I want you to get this right."

Massachusetts Story

Able Sen. Jack Kennedy of Massachusetts will probably go to the hospital during the debate to ensure Massachusetts has a legitimate excuse—an old was around. But he will choose the particular moment of the McCarthy debate to be hospitalized because of his

From The Tallahassee (Fla.) Democrat

THE FIRST STONE

JUDGE J. R. LEWIS of Ripley, Tenn. is well versed in the New Testament.

When three boys were brought before him for sentencing after pleading guilty to stealing watermelons, he asked every one in his court room who had never stolen a watermelon to raise his hand.

When the sheriff, the district attorney and the judge kept his hand down, the boys were freed, in a graphic analogy of the scarlet woman of the Bible story.

The difference between in-laws and out-laws is that in-laws promise to pay it back.—LAKE CITY (La.) GRAPHIC.