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U.S. Will Not Meet Soviet Challenge In South Asia

By WALTER LIPPMANN

WE know now, so it appears, that there is to be no revision of policy to meet the new Soviet challenge in South Asia. Instead, Washington will for the next few months be engaged in a running fight over what the administration wants Congress to authorize in the way of foreign aid.

This dispute got off to a bad start. After the Cabinet and Security Council meetings at Camp David and the White House meetings with the congressional leaders, it was said that the administration did not plan to spend much more money next year than this. The statement was a half-truth. The fact is that the congressional leaders have had the firm impression that our policy is set towards a gradual but rather prompt termination of almost all foreign aid. They seem to have it in their minds that foreign aid would run out as the authorizations previously made were used up.

For that reason they were surprised and annoyed to find, a few days after their meetings, that while the administration is not planning to spend much more money this year than it did last, it is planning to go on spending at about the same rate for an indefinite number of years to come.

It is fair, I think, to ask why the congressional leaders allowed themselves to believe the half-truth, and to assume that foreign aid was coming to an end. Do they not approve the commitments to help arm Germany, to help arm Japan, to subsidize the South Korean army, the Formosan army, the Vietnamese army, to underwrite with American money and arms the SEATO pact in South East Asia and the METO pact, otherwise known as the Baghdad pact, in the Middle East? How did the congressional leaders suppose that these global military commitments could be met if the foreign military aid program is to run out and be terminated?

STEADY FLOW

If they believe in the military pacts, then they must not act with pained surprise when they get the bill. Why, on the contrary, did no one at the White House briefing ask the briefers how the administration planned to meet the military pacts if the aid program is to be terminated when the administration is put to Congress, the real issue will be whether or not to continue to



HERB LOCK GIBBY THE WASHINGTON POST

maintain the whole elaborate structure of the pacts, or whether to dismantle some part of it. For these pacts require much money, not spent once merely but continually.

UNWORKABLE

The coming debate on the new authorization for the old military pacts should be kept distinct in our minds from the talk, which is still up in the air, about a new and massive economic program to meet the Soviet challenge. Indeed, I would go further and say that while our existing policy about the military pacts is dominant in Washington, a big program of economic aid is unworkable. The men who believe in the military system that we have put together do not believe in the economic program and would not be interested in administering it.

The military policy, as we now operate it, is incompatible with the kind of constructive economic aid that so many of us inside and outside the administration believe is necessary.

The basic trouble with our military program in South Asia and Middle East is that it has led us into entangling alliances. Our theory has been that we would arm the countries which were

ready to stand up and declare openly their opposition to Soviet and Chinese communism. The fact, as opposed to the theory, has been that these military alliances, be it even small Asian countries and the distant Union of Southern States as political interment in the disputes of that area.

MEDDLING

We have become entangled in the disputes within the region, and this has earned us the suspicion and dislike of the countries which border upon those of countries which we have been

arming. Thus, as the result of our arming Pakistan we have incurred the distrust of both of Pakistan's neighbors, India and Afghanistan. All that Bulganin and Khrushchev had to do was to side with India and Afghanistan in their disputes with Pakistan. To make matters worse, Pakistan, alarmed by the fact that he had two neighbors now backed by the Soviet Union, is complaining to us that we are not backing her fully in her dispute over giving her enough military aid. We have alienated India and Afghanistan by our meddling and we have not made secure the adherence of Pakistan.

This, in the full and literal sense of the term, is the kind of entangling alliance that should be the first rule of statesmanship to avoid.

SOVIET INCURSION

I do not know anything more than has been printed in the newspapers about Mr. Rockefeller's resignation. But I venture to say that unless something radical is done about her fully in her dispute over giving her enough military aid, no program of economic aid can effectively counter the Soviet incursion into Southern Asia. The damage done to the American position by the Pakistan entanglement alone is enormously greater than what can be done to repair the damage by more economic aid.

It is often said that Mr. Dulles's pacts in South Asia lack "principle." As against Russia and China they do indeed lack teeth. But they have teeth enough to make their neighbors in the region fear that not the Communist countries but they themselves are going to be bitten. As long as these pacts are the core of our South Asian policy, there is no prospect of our being able to conceive, to unite behind, the kind of economic program that is so fully an imaginative and constructive economic program.

WHOLE AREA

For an indispensable condition of the success of any economic development program is that it should apply to a whole economic area, and should bring with it the cooperation of the separate nations of the area. This was one of the secrets of the success of the Marshall Plan, that brought unity and not divisive alliances into Western Europe; that it brought not a sword but peace.

The same fundamental principle applies to South Asia where—for no reason except our own diplomatic errors, the Soviets have now taken possession of the banner of peace.

J. Spencer Bell: Man Of The Year

IT depends, perhaps, on the light of day, or the time and place.

In a drawing room, surrounded by friends, the face of J. Spencer Bell is almost cherubic.

Stand him before a city council or at the head table of an important committee and there's the lofty, determined, square-jawed face of a Hollywood Prussian general or a man of midwestern pioneer stock.

These are the strangely diverse facets of his personality which seem to merge well in crisis.

And he is a man who stands well in crisis, who thinks calmly and clearly under his pressure, who gives every ounce of his energy and ability unselfishly to a cause. He is a fighter, not a wrestler, and a winner.

The Man of the Year, 1955, is a leader in his field, the bar, in city planning, social planning and other civic enterprises.

In a community of outstanding, forward-thinking, active-minded citizens and leaders, J. Spencer Bell stands out. In 1955 his untiring efforts established him as front horse in a spectacular field.



Mr. Bell

The Man of the Year is atypical of an era. The past year has been of mixed emotions, one during which the people have been anxious and edgy, cautious and reticent. Yet they have been willing to move ahead for the betterment of a community. The purposeful man who has done most to help his fellow man over the rough spots has been the committee's choice.

The selection committee, made up of past Men of the Year, tapped Mr. Bell because he was the champion of just and good causes. Into his lap was dumped serious problems, controversial problems, touchy problems and he with his loyal and good helpers came up and what appears to be the right answers.

But it should be pointed out that he is not a bogus "dogooder" and an easygoing climber or a flag-waving general. His has been a stern, relentless, carefully planned look at all sides of issues with the end result being solid foundations and sound answers.

WHILE he faced opposition at many turns on some questions, he would be the first to point out that he had the support, guidance and counsel of a number of avid and learned citizens. His was to supply the spark and drive to his undertakings and to serve as the "coach" of a smartly drilled team.

It took a determined, sincere man to follow the fight, yet lead the battle, for the city's far-reaching perimeter zoning ordinance. It was a long and tiring ordeal to see it through the back trails of politics, to hear the cheers and boos, to be an off-reluctant council, and to finally proclaim, "Cooperate or else."

And it is a monument to him that the visionary City Council did cooperate and enact a measure which may mean more to the future of Charlotte and Mecklenburg than any other in modern history.

His most recent fight, when he was chairman of the City-County Planning Commission, came after a successful climax to another major contribution in 1955.

As president of the Social Planning Council, Spencer Bell fathered the recom-

memoration for a Negro wing to Charlotte Memorial Hospital. The report was made by one of his committees and he shares this glory with a score of other people.

It is significant that this recommendation came when many were wallowing in the sea of misunderstanding and confusion over the race issue.

He has been one of the guiding lights in United Appeal work and has toiled diligently in that field, along with many other projects.

Members of the local bar—and others throughout the state—call Spencer Bell a leader and a fine spirit. He has built a good reputation for himself and his compatriots of the bar and enjoys a good practice of law in the city.

He was a distinguished member of a first-rate Law School graduating class at Chapel Hill and is remembered warmly and fondly by his professors and his contemporaries.

Spencer Bell was quick to go into military service in World War II although he was already 36. He moved ahead rapidly and has a brilliant military record.

THE Man of the Year is a gentleman, at least in any company, at home with any group. His friends know him as a clever, articulate conversationalist conversant on many subjects.

He has been a gentle helper to many and a firm prodder of others. He has given generously of his experience, talents and time.

The Bells, Catherine and Spencer, are good and respected citizens of the Mecklenburg community. He has his roots planted firmly in Mecklenburg soil, a native son who decided not to go afar but to come home from college and work and grow with one of the nation's rest-les regions.

The News' Man of the Year committee is justly proud of its selection. Charlotteans can be thankful and happy for the Spencer Bells in our midst.

And they can rejoice with him today in this singular honor by his fellow citizens.

Things Weren't As Bad As All That

SOME upper-world weary voices from the sullen-middlebrow journals have been trying to tell us that 1955 was a dismal artistic flop as far as truly distinctive books, movies and plays were concerned. "Appalling" was an adjective one particularly appalled critic used to describe the year's cultural goings-on.

We live far from the Great White Way and have no supportable opinion about the health of the American theater. But even the provinces are exposed to books and movies and in these cultural fields we came upon many a rose among the thorns. Naturally, there was much that was tedious or tawdry. But, on the whole, 1955 was no worse than its predecessor and a good deal better than some recent postwar years.

As far as motion pictures are concerned, there need be no laments about a year that can produce a film like MARY Poppins, a beautifully filmed realistic story of an Italian-American butcher and a lonely schoolteacher in New York's Bronx.

But there were other distinctive movies which visited Charlotte during the year. They included MISTER ROBERTS, a fine study of the tension and tedium of a Navy supply ship during World War II; EAST OF EDEN, a film version of the Steinbeck novel that introduced James Dean; SUMMERTIME, a beautifully filmed romance in Venice; GUYS AND DOLLS, notable for its music and dancing; THE PHOENIX CITY STORY, a low-budget, brutally realistic study of one of Dixie's wickedest cities; THE STRAY CAT, FIVE LEGS, a French import starting the fabulous Farmandel; THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH, sophisticated comedy; A MAN CALLED PETER, an inspiring film biography of Peter Marshall; GATE OF HELL, a beautifully mounted Japanese period piece; BAD NEWS AT BLACK ROCK, a tightly drawn, suspenseful western.

There were others we may have overlooked and the year's offerings include

several highly praised motion pictures which have not found their way to Charlotte (notably THE ROSE TATTOO with Anna Magnani, THE PRISONER with Alec Guinness; VITTORIO DE SICA'S UMBERTO D. and J.G. DIABOLIQUE).

As for books, there were a host of worthy entries during 1955. Notable titles by old hands include Thomas Mann's CONFESSOR OR FELIX KULL, Budd Schulberg's WATERFRONT, John P. Marquand's SINCERELY, WILL S. WAYNE, Robert Penn Warren's BAND OF ANGELS, Mackinlay Kauffman's ANDERSONVILLE, Joyce Kilmer's NOT HONOR MORE, Evelyn Waugh's OFFICERS AND GENTLEMEN, Horan Wook's MARJORIE MORNINGSTAR, Anthony West's HERITAGE, John Gunther's INSIDE AFRICA and the COLLECTED POEMS of both Edith Sitwell and Robert Graves.

But some of the year's most exciting literary moments came in books of short stories turned out by two new southern writers—Shirley Ann Grau (THE BLACK PRINCE and FLANNERY O'CONNOR: A GOOD MAN IS HARD TO FIND).

Other books worth mentioning include Anne Morrow Lindbergh's GIFT FROM THE SEA, Harry S. Truman's Year of Decision, Patrick White's THE TREE OF MAN, Rumer Godden's AN EPISODE OF SPARROWS, Françoise Sagan's BONJOUR TRISTESSE, Sloan Wilson's THE MAN IN THE GRAY FLANZEL, Sutt, Louis Kronenberger's THE REPUBLIC OF LETTERS.

The impact of 1955's literary and cinematic efforts, while not earth shaking, was hefty enough to send some pleasurable impulses through the optic nerves of many an American. After they observe 1956's offerings, the oppressed critics will probably regard it as classic and delicious irony that a single tear was shed over the 1955 crop.

—It would be a good thing if everyone realized that no government can do anything for people without doing something to people.—KINGSPORT (TENN.) TIMES.

Some Random Thoughts On The New Year

Rock Hill, S. C. Editors, The News: Some random thoughts on the New Year.

Hate is a greater tie than love. The ideas and persons we hate weigh heavier on our minds than the ideas or persons we love. The ideal of equality for all human beings cannot be in our times. Equalization of economic opportunity should be our immediate goal. To rob a man of his livelihood by using economic pressure is to shed his blood.

It is said that "he who learns receives but one-fifth of the reward that goes to the one that teaches" but it appears that the teacher receives less than his just share. To associate with and be a companion to one who speaks hatred of his fellow men is like a man going into a tannery. The man and his clothes are fouled and the evil smell does not leave him. A man who has wealth but no learning—what has he? To walk humbly is to walk with God. When a man is not angered at slight and ignores his own dignity, then can it be said that he is truly a great man.

Better to give little to charity from honestly earned income than to give vast wealth gained through injustice. The wise man who gives of himself to public affairs gives stability to his community but the man who says, "What has the problem of the city to do with me?" overthrows the country. —D. EMIS

White People Owe The Negro Nothing

Charlotte Editors, The News:

THE LETTER saying the Negro is already equal or superior to the white race is a Negro idea. I, as the larger majority of the white southern folk, was reared to believe they are far superior to the Negro.

His statement that some famous Negro said you can't keep

a person in the ditch without staying down with them is far from right. A person can stand above a person and keep another down. However, if the person in the ditch wants help enough to get out he will find a way to get out.

The Negro never has or never will be equal to the white race. They can't force their way into the society and schools where they don't belong and they are only making their life harder by

hitting the hand that feeds them. I will never allow a Negro to enter my house except by the back door or associate with them in any way. I have met a few Negroes who were great but they respected the white people.

ECONOMIC PRESSURE

I'm in favor of doing here as they did in a part of another southern state. Everyone that employed a Negro let them go unless they agreed to segregation. Some Negroes left but after

a week passed and their money was spent they came back begging for their jobs back under any conditions.

After the Civil War the smart Negroes stayed with their owners while most that left went homeless and hungry and haven't tried to accomplish anything since because they didn't want to. And regardless of the opportunities being the average Negro they will remain the same, always depending on the white people.

—MRS. LARECE, WILAS

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West Coast Floods Were Preventable

WASHINGTON TRAGIC, inside fact about the Pacific floods is that most of them could have been prevented. Reason they weren't goes back to the reason they were in the Roosevelt administration, the Truman administration, and the Eisenhower administration over "creeping kilowatts"—in other words, public power.

Basic Battle

Flood-control dams can't be built economically without harnessing the electric power that comes from those dams, and the utility lobby has fought bitterly—in vain—against successfully against any flood control that would also put more electric power in the hands of government agencies.

This basic battle was behind Dixons. It was also behind the defeat of the TVA flood-control plan voted for New England in 1906, defeated by the utilities. It was also behind a similar plan

for flood-scoured eastern Pennsylvania. Instead of "creeping socialism," therefore, these areas have had cresting flood waters, evacuated cities, washed-out railroads, and in California and Oregon this Christmas, a total of 43 dead plus \$150 million of damage.

The utility which has chiefly fought flood-control dams in northern California is Pacific Gas & Electric, whose president James B. Black, has been a star guest at Ike's famous six dinners.

His influence in blocking reclamation legislation began, however, long before Ike entered the White House.

The Flood Score

Here, dam by dam and flood by flood, is the score in northern California. The Feather River—This is one of the major tributaries to the Sacramento River, and disastrously spilled over its banks just before Christmas. To harness the Feather River, Oscar Chapman, secretary

Endless Delay

of the interior under Truman, proposed the Oroville Dam, Pacific Gas & Electric, however, objected. And after much maneuvering and prodding, the State of California took over the building of the dam.

That was in 1950. Five years have now passed and the Oroville Dam is not yet started. It isn't even planned. California appropriated \$10 million to get started, part of which was spent, but ground wasn't even broken.

Pacific Gas & Electric meanwhile has a "run-of-the-river" dam on the Feather, with no storage capacity. It merely generates power. It costs money to build a big dam that can hold back flood waters, and P. G. & E. hasn't built them.

Striking Contrast

Shasta Reservoir—In contrast, the Shasta Dam, built by the federal govern-

The Negro has given very little toward the advancement of the social fundaments of southern Negro is shiftless and dirty.

I don't mean all of the Negroes surely there are a few clean ones, but very few.

WHITE SUPREMACY

The white race owes the Negro the same fundamental principle of advance let them pay their own way. They have as good schools as they deserve, given by the white people. Look around and see what the Negro is interested in. Cutting and fighting. A large number of the Negro children are illegitimate. Oh yes, there are some illegitimate births among the white race but small compared to the Negro race. Most of the crime is committed by the Negro. All one has to do is read the daily papers to find that out.

In order to have peace between the two races is for the Negro to realize that the white race is superior to the Negro. They should be thankful for things as they have always been in the South and regardless of what they do to try to get on an equal basis, they never will. A Negro has always been an inferior race and to me they shall remain that.

—MRS. LARECE, WILAS

Quote, Unquote

Another burden of the office is that a President can't even be sure whether he feels good or not until he has read all the spread-out columnists. — Asheville Citizen.

Passage Of Time

GREAT spaces of time passed in unbroken uniformity tend to shrink together in a way to make it difficult to find that to be feared; when one day is like all the others, then they are like one; the longest uniformly would make the longest. — The Magpie Mountain.

Creeping Kilowatts

Trinity Reservoir—A dam and tunnel were proposed to take water out of the Trinity, which flows into the Klamath River, and pipe it to the Keswick Reservoir in order to reduce the amount of swollen Klamath River. This would have prevented floods. But the 15-foot drop in water rushed through the tunnel would have generated "creeping kilowatts"—in other words, the cheap electric power that Pacific Gas & Electric didn't want.



INTERLUNAR

"How about a Mickey Finn for Charley... he's booming that awful 'what's his-name' for president!"

There were others we may have overlooked and the year's offerings include