

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1956

Middle East Served To Kremlin On A Silver Platter

By JOSEPH and STEWART ALSOP

IT WILL take a long time to add up the full cost of the disaster in the Middle East, but its chief effect is already pretty clear. The most strategically vital region of the modern world has been handed to the Kremlin on a silver platter—with the American government as a rather conspicuous platter-bearer.

Or putting it another way, the American government has energetically assisted in installing Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser as the Soviet viceroy of the Arab lands. That is almost sure to be the practical result of recent events.

TRUE AIM

There is no use complaining, any longer, about the unwisdom of the Anglo-Franco-Israeli intervention in Egypt. The important thing, now, is to realize the effects of the Anglo-Franco-Israeli failure to attain their aim. Their true aim was to topple Nasser from his position of vast influence and power throughout Pan-Arabia. Nasser was in fact toppled for he could never have sustained his humiliating military defeat by the Israelis without active American and Soviet help.

But the Egyptian Humpty-Dumpty was put back on the wall again, partly by parallel Soviet and American action in the United Nations, partly by intense American pressure on our allies, and partly by the apparent Western surrender to last Soviet threats. The last factor is the most significant, since all Arabs are now convinced that the Egyptian ceasefire was granted in response to the screaming and drumming their heels on the floor, and would have started dealing with hard realities. They might then have begun to act as serious nationalists, offering constructive programs for their own countries, and fortuitously seeking a constructive accommodation with the Western nations.

HATE-RIDDEN

Nor is this any more than the beginning of the story. Nasser both symbolizes and leads the predominant nationalist movement throughout all the Arab lands. There is very little of the Spirit of '76 in this Nasser brand of Arab nationalism. It is neo-rationally hate-ridden and viciously anti-Western. It is marked above all, by the conviction that old grudges can now be vented on the Western powers with perfect safety, because the West is now too weak-willed and impatient to respond to any provocation.

If Nasser had been toppled, it would have been like the slap on the face that doctors recommend as a cure for hysteria. The Arab nationalists would have stopped

Bulgarian ultimatum to Britain and France.

The State Department, which used to call Nasser a Soviet stooge, now portrays him as a valiant, well-intentioned man, a man of gratitude to us. He has, it appears, been very nice to our new ambassador in Cairo, Raymond Clare. But not everyone with a first hand knowledge of the Middle East is convinced that the department's former view of Nasser is now more correct than ever.

Nasser's psychology is such that he will surely consider recent American actions as a serious insult. He will feel that this country and the other leading Western powers turned and ran as soon as the Soviets began flogging a gun. Far more than in the past, he will look to the Soviet Union as his guide and protector.

THE INCOMPLETE ANGLERS

The opposite effects can be anticipated. Nasser's followers in other Arab lands will of course take notice of the Israeli's brilliant victory. This will be cheered by demonstration that Nasser's vaunted military power is a busted flush. But this setback for Nasser will be more than balanced by the enhanced prestige of the Soviet Union, and the reflected glory of Nasser as the



The Incomplete Anglers

scrambling and drumming their heels on the floor, and would have started dealing with hard realities. They might then have begun to act as serious nationalists, offering constructive programs for their own countries, and fortuitously seeking a constructive accommodation with the Western nations. But since Humpty-Dumpty has been put back on the wall again,

U. S. Must Explain To U. N. Danger Of 'Big Stick' Policy

By WALTER LIPPMANN

FOR THE U. N., which finds itself helping to deal with the two great crises in Hungary and in the Middle East, the critical question is this: The United States is acting wholly within the legal system of the United Nations whereas the Soviet Union is in the main acting outside that system. The heart of the difference is that the Kremlin is using military force as the instrument of Soviet national policy. The United States, on the other hand, has gone further than any great power has ever gone before to renounce the use of military force except when it might be called for and authorized by a majority of the United Nations.

In both crises the course of events is being shaped by the novel, this wholly unprecedented difference in the military philosophies of the two dominant military powers.

UNLIMITED ARMY

Thus, the United Nations, or at least its overwhelming majority, has called upon the Soviet Union to desist in Hungary. But as it was certain that they would not acquiesce in the Red Army's use of its military power to achieve the Soviet objective, the United States has been seen, is not subject to any of the limitations which the U. N. has wished to impose.

In the Middle East the United Nations have called upon France, and Israel to desist. They are desisting and they are acknowledging the authority of the U. N. But here again the Soviet Union is using its military power outside the U. N. It is making threats of military intervention which have never been considered, much less authorized, by the U. N. and it is, unless the available reports are wrong, building up a military bridgehead of its own in the Middle East. The U. N. is being passed by.

FREE HAND

The first conclusion to be drawn from all this is not that the United States should decide for a free hand, should it not be cast off the United Nations, and proceed in its own way to use the influence which its military power can exert. Our first business is to explain to the United Nations this fundamental problem.

PRIMARY POWER

In the Middle East another crucial issue will not be good enough from the Soviet Union is by way of establishing itself as a primary military power. We should not leave it to Britain and France, or to Israel, to argue this crucial issue. We should argue it ourselves, remaining within the limitations of the U. N. but refusing to accept and to compound its characteristic impotence to deal with the solutions of free conflicts.

It must be said that for a task of this kind the American representation at the U. N. needs to be strengthened by the addition of an advocate of the highest ability by someone who in the realm of advocacy can take the place of Secretary Dulles.

The Whistle Doesn't Pull The Train

I AM NOT one of the desk-pounding type that likes to stick out his jaw and look like he is bossing the show. This was Dwight D. Eisenhower's sprightly reaction to a news conference observation that the President is inclined merely to make recommendations rather than assume a posture of personal leadership in working with Congress.

Presidential restraint in relations with the legislative branch of government is admirable. But we fervently hope that during his second term of office Mr. Eisenhower will take the offensive more often in battling for his ideals and his program.

The President has been at his best in the past when he has seized the opportunity to exert all of his personal prestige and authority in behalf of worthy ends.

Such instances have been all too rare, however. This is due, in some measure, to Mr. Eisenhower's desire to be a "non-political" chief executive, to be "President of all the people."

But in practice and in theory, the office of the presidency is political. It is not enough for the President merely to follow the clauses of the Constitution, the principles of sound economics and accepted standards of moral conduct in discharging his duties. He must, among other things, give attention to national tradition, sectional pride, political ambitions and party harmony. It is useless to deplore these facts. It is impossible to remove politics from a political job. The five most effective presidents this nation has had since 1860—Lincoln, Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt, Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt—were all astute politicians. Presidential leadership requires action as well. Sloth and preachments are not enough. In the words of the nursery rhyme, "It isn't the whistle that pulls the train."

Mr. Eisenhower, like all U. S. presidents, is the center of the citizen's political interest. His influence is tremendous. He can, if he will, dramatize this fact by appealing often to the nation at large for support of his program.

In two notable instances, the President proved the strength of his personal leadership during the last session of Congress. In vetoing the natural gas and farm bills he took his case to the people and won enormous support. His administration. It was a triumph not only for morality and righteousness in government but for practical politics as well. The President and his party benefited accordingly.

When the President did not exert strong personal leadership, the results were less profitable if not less striking. Often there was a lack of unity even within his own party.

For instance, Republican senators stood against the President 26 to 21 on the Bridges amendment to cut off aid to Yugoslavia. House Republicans voted against the Powell anti-segregation amendment 148 to 46 (which Mr. Eisenhower opposed) to the school bill. Then House GOP members turned right around and voted 119 to 75 to kill the bill while Democrats cast a majority for it. In each of these instances, Mr. Eisenhower was less than effective in exerting personal leadership.

If the second Eisenhower administration is to write a creditable record it will need a strong lead from the top. In both the domestic and foreign fields problems are likely to be more severe than in the immediate past. Furthermore, political currents will be deadlier than ever. The leadership must be strong as well as resourceful.

Warmth From A Million-Dollar Glow

UNITED APPEAL'S final blaze of glory this year will warm many a heart in 1957.

The few thousand dollars raised in excess of the \$100,493 goal should not be considered a "surplus." It is sorely needed by hard-put agencies who trimmed budgets to the bone to keep the overall cash objective of United Community Services out of what many considered the fiscal wilderness.

But health, recreation and social needs of this swiftly growing county cannot be grounded forever. They will rise as the county expands. What is most heart-warming, however, is the deep and conscientious desire on the part of thousands of Mecklenburgers to meet community needs fully. With hardly a murmur, citizens say their duty and did it. It was the kind of basic, broad-based spirit of neighborliness all of us can take pride in. Furthermore, it indicates that whatever

the size and shape of our problems, the people of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County possess a sense of civic responsibility powerful enough to solve them. This is the real measure of a community's good faith and social consciousness.

Special praise is due four of United Appeal's seven divisions who achieved 100 per cent of their quotas or better—The Gifts and Entertainment Division, 102.8 per cent; Commercial Division, 102.7 per cent; Industrial Division, 102 per cent; Public Service Division, 101.6 per cent. But all divisions of this year's appeal performed admirably under the sure leadership of Campaign Chairman S. R. Brookshire. More than 3,000 volunteers can draw an easy breath now in the knowledge that a tremendous job has been exceedingly well done. The \$1 million-plus final total writes a new and glowing chapter in the annals of a great public-spirited community.

Junior Plots Own 'Shocking' Destiny

IF YOU HAD a son, would you like to see him go into the same business as yourself?" asked the street polisher.

There is something inexpressibly touching in a father's hand which can actually guide his son's hand in choosing a calling. Pop's own ideas about what work he would like Junior to go into may be anchored in deep conviction but, as often is not, the modern youngster will make up his own mind.

The vast opportunities offered in a modern public school education actually encourage today's youth to decide for himself. It has been a long, long time since chip-off-the-old-block days—a time when Jack Jr. became a "brisket" merely because Jack Sr. banged the anvil.

The exciting fact is that the world is spinning so rapidly and times are changing so that Junior's calling may

actually be beyond Pop's wildest dreams. Such has often been the case. There was a small denominational college located in a little midwestern town during the 1870s. One day, the presiding bishop in the area made a visit to the college president. He expressed to the educator a firm belief that everything that could be invented had been invented.

The college president disagreed. "In 50 years," he said, "men will learn how to fly like birds."

The bishop was thoroughly shocked. "Flight is reserved for angels," he spluttered, "and you have been guilty of blasphemy."

The story is unimportant other than the fact that the name of the bishop was Milton Wright and back home in Dayton he had two small sons whose names were Orville and Wilbur.

'Now? Oh, But Now It's Stopped Raining'



People's Platform

Backsliding Democrats Were Right Plentiful

Rt. 1, Davidson

I HAVE before me a People's Platform, clipped from The News on Oct. 4, and containing a letter captioned, Backsliding Democrats Are In Short Supply. Maybe they were in short supply, but if I remember correctly, there were about 30,000 more than enough in the old Tenth District to re-elect Mr. Jones.

The writer of that letter didn't say just when we were going to send Mr. Douglas to India, and he surely couldn't have meant the recent election, for Mr. Jones is going back. I helped send him back, too. Does the writer want to predict some more elections in advance,

Americans Must Unite For Peace

Cheraw, S. C.

I AM AN American enough to support our President, be he Republican or Democrat. But to you who are telling us Democrats to eat crow—that's all right, but if I were you, I would look around at the Congress, and the governors who are in office. Why did you not elect a Republican Congress and governors. Remember, the Congress makes the laws.

It's time for all to stop griping and get on to the job with the problems of today. For united we stand and divided we fall. So let's get the job done and be a united people, not a griping bunch of wolves at one another's throats.

— J. A. GRAHAM

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

WASHINGTON

JUDGE D. S. SAUND campaigned for Congress all fall by saying: "If elected, I would like to see India." He was paraphrasing Eisenhower's famous 1952 pledge that if elected he would go to Korea. But Judge Saund, who was in impassioned voice, told how Indians misunderstood the United States, had the wrong impression about prejudice. He said that he had found no prejudice against color in California, had been elected a local judge, would tell the story of no race prejudice if he was elected to Congress.

Offer To Talk

On Nov. 6, Judge Saund was elected. Immediately he got in touch with the Voice of America in Washington, offered to broadcast to India and other parts of the world to tell the story of, or, for the first time in history, a native-born Indian, now a naturalized American had been elected to Congress.

Broadcast Set

The Voice of America promptly accepted his offer, arranged for him to

and make some more direct statements? — HARVEY O. SMITH

make some more direct statements to the Communist gangsters of Moscow — instead of siding with them as it seems some would do if they get the chance.

I am American enough to support our President, be he Republican or Democrat. But to you who are telling us Democrats to eat crow—that's all right, but if I were you, I would look around at the Congress, and the governors who are in office. Why did you not elect a Republican Congress and governors. Remember, the Congress makes the laws.

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— J. A. GRAHAM

White House Keeps Judge Off Mike

WASHINGTON

JUDGE SAUND had purchased his airplane ticket and was to leave Los Angeles Nov. 14. Suddenly he got word from the White House that the broadcast was cancelled.

White House Order

What he did not know was that the Voice of America had received a memorandum from the White House. It was a direct order that Congressman-elect Saund was not to broadcast to India or other parts of the world. There was no indication it was hinted unofficially, however, that there were alleged irregularities in his election campaign.

Modest Spending

A checkup on Judge Saund's election revealed that he had spent between eight and ten thousand dollars, which is modest. There was no indication of irregularity. His opponent, Mrs. Jacqueline Cochran Odium, former head of the ASF's, founder of a beauty cream company, and wife of Floyd Odium, had spent five or six times as much

to Washington and broadcast Nov. 15.

In Westington, the representative of Floyd Odium is George Allen, one of the closest of Ike's above-ground personal friends. Allen is a director of the Atlas Corporation, parent company of the far-flung Odium family empire. He is also the original partner in the Eisenhower Gettysburg farm, and has been a partner with the President in a Howard Johnson restaurant in Washington, D. C. He plays bridge with the President at Gettysburg.

What part George Allen played in the mysterious memo from the White House to the Voice of America could not be ascertained. But those who knew of his close relationship with Ike wondered.

Note—Judge Saund plans to go to India immediately after Congress adjourns, or at any other time the Administration desires it.

Conflict Of Interest

A top government consultant who was caught in a conflict of interest has quietly returned to his government job. He is John C. Clay, loaned to the government by National Starch Products, Inc. Our strayer will be to localize the fighting, if possible, to the Middle East...

Kremlin's special Middle Eastern favor.

What must now be expected, therefore, is the progressive collapse of every remaining Western position in the Middle East, under the assault of the Nasser-led Arab nationalist movement. A far-reaching nationalization of oil is more inflamed than ever because of the fruitless attempt to topple his leader. It will be more confident than ever because of the apparent Western surrender to the recent Soviet threats. It will be more Soviet-influenced than ever because not only Nasser, but the Arab nationalists everywhere will tend to accept the Soviets as their guides and protectors. And the Soviets will use the Arab nationalists, coolly and ruthlessly, as instruments to cut the Western alliance's oil jugular in the Middle East.

STORM

There are other probable consequences of the Middle Eastern disaster, such as the replacement of the present British government by a strongly anti-American Labor cabinet, the onset of political chaos in France, and so on. But this storm which is shaking the whole Western alliance in its foundations still chiefly centers in the Middle East.

Maybe the British, French and Israelis were wrong to try to topple Nasser at all, and certainly the British and French played their part in the operation as badly as possible. But once the attempt had been started for good or ill, the fate of the Western alliance automatically hung upon its success. That is the point the present government has refused to recognize. Maybe it is not too late, even now, to recognize this central point, and thus salvage something from the ruins.

THE PASSING PARLOR

YOU USED to hear the term "parlor joke" rather frequently. But now just about the only jokes told in the parlor stem from television. And all of these are not merely "parlor jokes." The parlor, these days, seems to be caught in a rip tide. It is in a network somewhere between television and a museum. But the parlor used to be to the spirit what the whopping kitchen was to the stomach. It was a reading room, an open forum for literary and historical debate, a place in which friends and neighbors foregathered just for sake of excellent good company, and it was, as the very name implies, just a place to sit and to relax. It was the hub about which the spiritual and intellectual life of the home revolved.

But all this was before television. Now, there is also nothing wrong with TV, per se. It affords a lot of entertainment and it rebases a lot of news that is already generally known. But a recent survey shows, all too sadly, that when most people visit now, the lights are dimmed, the conversation stops, and everyone sits back to watch the television. But the oldtime parlor made good talkers and good listeners. People went

PARLOR

visiting for the sake of company and not just because Steve Allen or Ed Sullivan are magically appearing from out of nowhere to cavort about the parlor.

The interchange of ideas is the fountain of decency. We wouldn't do away with television for anything. But the most retarded chicken in the barnyard has enough sense to know that when neighbors visit neighbors, when the parlor is filled with democracy with all of its hopes and fears, the human mind and the human heart must always take precedence over any form of canned entertainment.

Pessimists, we suspect, are after all only optimists who finally rebelled against endorsing notes and lending umbrellas.—ROCKY MOUNT TELEGRAM.

A sentimental female, turning a national park, stopped reverently before a gigantic tree. "Oh, wonderful old elm," she exclaimed, "if you could only talk, what would you say to me?" A forest ranger standing by commented: "It would say, 'Pardon me, lady, but I'm an oak.'"—MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR.