

# Ike Undecided on Blockade Against Red China—Dulles

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Secretary of State Dulles told Congress today President Eisenhower has reached no decision yet on the controversial question of a naval blockade against Red China.

Intensifying the war of nerves against the Chinese Communists, Dulles reportedly indicated that the whole subject of U.S. policy in the Far East is being carefully weighed at the highest levels.

At the same time, Congress members took a lively interest in an assertion by Gen. James A. Van Fleet, retiring commander of the U.S. Eighth Army in Korea, that an Allied general offensive in Korea now would be a success. Senator Ferguson (R.-Mich.) commented:

"I think Van Fleet is right. It would be harder now than when we started the phony truce talks. But I believe we can win this war and we ought to win it."

### Situation Wide Open

Senators who heard Dulles testify at a closed-door session of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee quoted him as saying that any discussion of a blockade is "premature" at this time.

Senators H. Alexander Smith (R.-N.J.) and Fulbright (D.-Ark.) said they got the impression from Dulles that the entire Far East situation is wide open for any action the President may decide to take in the future.

The two senators said Dulles insisted Eisenhower has not gone beyond the announcement in his State of the Union message to Congress last week that the U.S. Seventh Fleet has been ordered to stop "shielding" Red China from possible raids by Formosa-based Chinese Nationalist forces.

### British Alarm

Smith and Fulbright also quoted Dulles as saying he believes he satisfied European statesmen, during his recent 10-day swing through Western Europe, about American intentions in the Far East.

Almost coincident with Dulles' testimony on Capitol Hill, dispatches from London told of renewed British alarm over the possibility of a blockade against the China mainland.

The Marquess of Reading, parliamentary undersecretary for foreign affairs, told the House of Lords the British government would "view with concern any proposal to institute a naval blockade."

"It would not in our view contribute to the early conclusion of the hostilities in Korea," he said.

# Asia Bloc Rejects Red Accusation

BANDOENG, Indonesia, Feb. 10 (AP)—Newly independent Asian nations joined the United States and Britain today in rejecting Soviet charges that American economic aid is enslaving Far Eastern nations.

Winding up a three-day debate, the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East voted 10-1 against a Soviet resolution which blamed "domination of foreign monopolies and of colonial powers" for Asia's low economic level.

Delegates from Burma, India, and Pakistan, which in the past have been sympathetic to Russia, praised American aid "with no strings attached" and said more assistance was necessary to develop Asia.

Russia opened the debate Saturday with a charge that U.S. Point Four technical aid and economic assistance was being used to continue colonial-style domination in Asia. Strong support was voiced yesterday and today for American aid and the outspoken criticism of the Soviets by newly independent nations surprised even the U.S. delegation.

The only country which publicly remained neutral in the economic debate was Indonesia.

### Liquor Law Bills

HARRISBURG, Feb. 10 (AP)—A package of four bills to liberalize Pennsylvania's liquor laws was introduced in the State Senate today by Sen. Patrick J. Toole (D.-Luzerne).

The measures, affecting the Sunday blue laws would extend the Saturday night midnight deadline in public drinking places to 2 a.m. and permit Sunday sales between 12:30 p.m. and midnight.

# Reed Demands 10% Income Tax Slash

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Chairman Reed (R.-N.Y.) of the House ways and means committee said today he doesn't intend to abandon his drive for a 10 per cent cut in personal income taxes starting June 30.

Although the White House has hoisted a "go slow" signal on tax reductions, Reed made it clear that he intends to shove his bill through the tax-writing ways and means committee next Monday if possible.

"I don't run away from my own goal line," he told reporters.

Congressional staff experts estimate a 10 per cent cut would cost the government \$1,800,000,000 in revenue during the fiscal year beginning July 1.

### Extend Excess Profits

President Eisenhower's policy is to grapple with tax cuts only after some progress has been made in reducing federal spending and balancing the budget. A legislative program worked out with Republican leaders at the White House yesterday did not include any measures for reducing taxes in the next five months.

Senator Taft of Ohio, GOP floor leader in the Senate, said in fact he would like to see the excess profits tax extended to the end of the year. This tax on business, yielding about \$1,300,000,000 a year, is due to expire June 30.

### Treasury Rejections

Reed's committee met behind closed doors for two hours today. Members agreed that nothing developed to change the chairman's plans for action on his bill Monday.

One member, who asked not to be identified by name, said if Reed insists on getting committee approval Monday, "he'll do it." Regarding possible Treasury objections to a mid-year tax cut, this member commented:

"The Treasury doesn't tell us what to do. Congress tells the Treasury what to do."

### Constitutional Convention Proposal Gains Support

HARRISBURG, Feb. 10 (AP)—The House today increased from 45 to 120 the membership of a proposed constitutional convention to revise Pennsylvania's 79-year-old basic law.

There wasn't a word of debate as Democrats joined Republicans in pushing the measure into a position for a final vote next Monday.

The administration-backed bill also was amended to remove a ban against tinkering with the "declaration of rights," a section of the constitution which has remained intact since 1776.

# Lucas Asks Taft-Hartley Revisions

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Representative Lucas (D.-Tex.) asked the House labor committee today to outlaw industry-wide bargaining, setting off the first sharp skirmish of a coming battle over revision of the Taft-Hartley Labor Act.

Contending that multi-company wage dealings by one union amount to a "labor monopoly," the Texas legislator argued that the practice "is fraught with danger to the American people" in the field of national defense.

"The rights of all the people are more important than the rights of any segment of the people," he said.

Lucas drew support for his general views from a number of committee members but a Democratic group stood in bitter opposition. "I think your bill would destroy the economy of this country," Representative Perkins (D.-Ky.) told Lucas.

Representative Bailey (D.-W.Va.) said the proposal "would confuse, not stabilize, our economy."

Representative Wier (D.-Minn.) chimed in:

"This bill, from my experience in the labor field and in my opinion, will take the labor movement back to the 1920's."

Lucas' stoutest committee backing was offered, however, by another Democrat, Representative Barden (N.C.). Barden complimented him "on your nerve for wading into a problem as explosive" as industry-wide bargaining.

### Former Prof in Arabia

John M. Amos, former professor of entomology extension, has gone to Saudi Arabia to serve in insect control work with the Point 4 mission of the Technical Cooperation Administration, Department of State.

# Arms Aid To Formosa Stepped Up

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Gen. Omar N. Bradley reportedly told Congress today that U.S. arms shipments to Formosa are being "stepped up."

President Eisenhower last week took the wraps off Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists on Formosa, freeing them to raid Red China if they can.

Testifying behind closed doors, Bradley was also quoted as saying that the controversial question of a naval blockade against Communist China is "a high policy matter which must be determined by the President."

Testified Almost 2 Hours Secretary of State Dulles had previously told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee—the same group that heard Bradley—that President Eisenhower has reached no decision yet on the blockade issue.

Committee members told newsmen that Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, made these further points during his one hour and 45 minutes of testimony:

1. International law would permit blockading the Russian-held ports of Darien and Port Arthur in Manchuria, because basic sovereignty over the ports rests with the Chinese.

2. More money and more military manpower would be required to undertake any of several undisclosed "alternatives" for ending the Korean War.

3. Mobilization of South Korean manpower and the ammunition supply situation in Korea are both much improved.

Chairman Wiley (R.-Wis.) said committee members questioned Bradley at length on "the pros and cons of the naval blockade from a military point of view."

"Gen. Bradley pointed out that the question as to whether or not a naval blockade should be established against Communist China is a high policy matter which must be determined by the President," Wiley said.

# State Prison Probe Stalled

BELLEFONTE, Feb. 10 (AP)—A special state-wide prison probe ordered by Gov. John S. Fine stalled temporarily today when a five-man investigating committee failed to arrive for a reported tour of Rockview Penitentiary.

Atty. Gen. Robert E. Woodside said the ultimate decision on the proposed tour rested with the committee. One member, however, John C. Burke, warden of Wisconsin State Prison at Waupun, has made reservations at a Bellefonte hotel for the week end.

Named by Fine, the committee was scheduled to tour the huge prison farm where some 800 inmates rioted for three days last month.

# Runaway Bucknell Coed Reunited with Father

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—The 18-year old coed who took off from her studies at Bucknell University for a sojourn in Florida with a high school boy was brought to Washington today by her father.

The boy, 16-year old Michael O'Connell of suburban Bethesda, Md., was driving back from Daytona Beach with his father, Joseph O'Connell, a Washington business man.

Police picked up the young pair at Daytona Beach yesterday.

# UN Can Beat Reds—Van Fleet

SEOUL, Wednesday, Feb. 11 (AP)—Gen. James A. Van Fleet laid down his Korean command today with a ringing affirmation that the Communists can be smashed now by an Allied general offensive.

With one sweeping word, "certainly," he answered the question "Do you think a general offensive in Korea can be successful at this time?"

Speaking with a frankness he never was able to use as commanding general, the graying field soldier said opportunities for victory were lost twice while he commanded and called for a Republic of Korea army with 20 combat divisions. It now has 14 and a million men.

Van Fleet took his stand in answering nine questions asked by The Associated Press Tuesday on the eve of the completion of his historic, 22-month command.

### 8th Army Held Back

His exact words in replies to the questions were amplified informally and by intimates.

Van Fleet told of the heart-breaking disappointment, when the Eighth Army was held back—obviously against his will—from exploiting its victories.

Van Fleet said the lost opportunities were after the defeat of the Communists in their April and May offensive of 1951, and after the grinding, successful United Nations offensive that fall.

His answers implied that he was

willing to smash the Reds both times with all he had but was held back by policy-making authority. The fall offensive drove the Communists back until truce negotiators at Panmunjom agreed on a cease fire line freezing the front along its present line on Nov. 28, 1951.

From other sources it was learned that for more than a year Van Fleet has not been allowed to make a single attack of as much as battalion size without clearing it first with the Far East Command in Tokyo, an unprecedented restraint that the Tokyo command itself possibly did not relish.

### Praised ROKs

Van Fleet, while following orders to the letter, never made any secret of his belief that "the only thing they the Communists understand is force," and "the only good Communist is a dead Communist."

Van Fleet said a final word of praise for the "anti-Communist patriotism and loyalty of the Republic of Korea soldiers" he retrained into a modern force of 14 divisions.

Van Fleet indicated a general offensive he might have directed would have gone like this:

Wide-scale infantry attacks to

prevent the Communists from concentrating, followed by daring armored thrusts into Red weak points, plus the full force of air and sea power.

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"HURRICANE SMITH"

—FEATURETIME—

2:02, 3:54, 5:46, 7:38, 9:30

**Nittany**

MARIO LANZA

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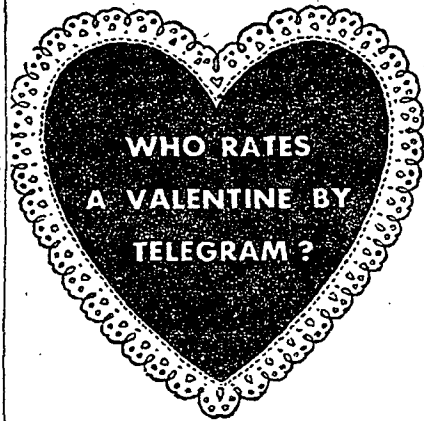
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