

Russia Offers 50-Year Pact To 32 Nations

BERLIN, Feb. 10 (AP)—Soviet Russia offered Europe tonight the bait of a 50-year collective security pact in return for expelling American forces from the continent and shattering the Western alliance. Britain and France promptly turned it down.

Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav M. Molotov proposed to the Berlin Big Four conference the sponsoring of an all-Europe military pact of 32 nations with the United States excluded.

French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault condemned the Russian scheme for "aiming not only to neutralize Germany but all Western Europe."

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden declared: "This proposal appears in essence designed to break up NATO and keep the United States and its forces out of Europe. NATO is the foundation of British policy. We maintain that NATO threatens no one and we cannot give it up."

U.S. Secretary of State John F. Dulles attacked Russian good faith and warned that the Kremlin's paper promises had not saved free nations in recent history from Soviet absorption.

"So far as the United States is concerned, we are determined that we will not be absorbed," Dulles said.

Molotov proposed a Europe united under the Kremlin's domination with a 32-nation mutual assistance and non-aggression treaty as its foundation.

The pact would outlaw the 14-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organization headed by the United States, kill the European army project which would include West German troops, and "neutralize" Germany.

Unperturbed by the Western rebuff, Molotov insisted the conference go on talking about his European security plan. It was a bitter-end try to split Allied unity or at least hold the conference in a morass of argument.

Ike Warns Of Extreme Partisanship

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—President Dwight D. Eisenhower said today the times are too serious for extreme partisanship and he will counsel administration officials to avoid it in talking about the Democrats.

Eisenhower told a news conference he would expect Leonard W. Hall, chairman of the Republican National Committee, to follow such advice.

By adopting a more moderate, conciliatory approach than some of his fellow Republicans have been taking, the President appeared to frown on recent political oratory by GOP spokesmen on the national committee, in Congress, and on the White House staff itself.

Eisenhower said he has doubts that any great partisanship by members of the executive department is really appropriate in this day and time. And he said he would consider it completely untrue, as well as very unwise even from a partisan political point of view, to suggest that all Democrats are tinged with treason.

A number of Senate Democrats promptly applauded the Eisenhower stand. Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson, who protested yesterday against "irresponsible statements by high administration officials," commented:

"The President's attitude is one of a gentleman and an American. Unfortunately some of his advisers' remarks put him in a position where he had to publicly rebuke them."

This apparently was a reference to Presidential Assistant Sherman Adams and to Eisenhower's press secretary, James C. Hagerty.

Eisenhower also announced the administration plans a \$225 million increase in the highway construction fund, with the states matching the money.

Senate Votes Curb For Coffee Prices

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Limited government control over speculation and future trading in coffee was voted by the Senate today in an effort to curb U.S. prices.

But even in Brazil, the world's largest coffee producer, prices have increased sharply and coffee drinkers are "suffering as much as we are," U.S. Ambassador James S. Kemper reported. Kemper returned from Brazil for State Department consultations.

U.S. Denies Report of Riots In Soviet Zone

BERLIN, Feb. 10 (AP)—The U.S. High Commission denied today some published reports of violence in the Soviet zone, incited by the German unity deadlock in the Big Four foreign ministers meeting.

Exaggerated accounts of unrest were contradicted by an American official, speaking for the high commission. He talked to reporters in the press headquarters adjacent to the Allied Control Authority building where the Big Four are meeting.

The official said:
1. There have been no riots.
2. There have been no Russian army troop movements to quell disturbances.
3. There are no reports of any kind in security files of such incidents.

The spokesman confirmed the scope of the East German unrest as originally reported last Friday night. In this account, Allied and German sources said Communist agitators aroused resentment in some industrial plants by staging rallies for the Russian plan to unify Germany under Communist domination.

Workers shouted, whistled and stamped disapproval and many demanded free elections as the Western foreign ministers had proposed. It was estimated 500 were arrested over scattered areas last week in a rapid secret police crackdown.

Anti-Red Wins Italian Election

ROME, Feb. 10 (AP)—Mario Scelba, 52, a tough anti-Communist Sicilian, gave Italy her fourth government in six uneasy months tonight. But his chances of remaining in office in crucial days ahead with only a 16-vote majority at best were regarded as slim.

Scelba took into his mostly Christian Democrat Cabinet four Social Democrats, including the peppery Giuseppe Saragat, and three Liberals. The small Republican party pledged its five votes but would not come into the Cabinet, in which Scelba is both premier and interior minister.

Scelba's first hurdle will be on a vote of confidence in the chamber. No date has been set but it may come late next week.

Many observers said that even if Scelba survives the first test, he would almost certainly fall on any major issue such as ratification of the European defense pact or action on Italy's rising labor and economic problems.

Even as the premier and his Cabinet were taking the oath of office from President Luigi Einaudi, Italy's angered Communists and fellow-traveling Socialists were reported planning nationwide demonstrations of protest.

Senate Group Calls for Letup On Probes

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—A Senate foreign relations subcommittee called today for a three or four year letup in congressional investigations and administrative shakeups in the U.S. information-propaganda program.

Chairman Burt Hickenlooper (R-Iowa) filed the report with the Senate as the Senate investigations subcommittee headed by Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis) was shaping plans for a new study of the program.

Hickenlooper's subcommittee turned back to the Senate \$21,748 left over from the \$75,000 originally provided for its study, and declared an extension of its own investigation of the program "would not be warranted" now.

"What is needed most during the next three or four years is a period of stability and continuity in the direction of the information program in which the policies now being developed can be applied and tested," the subcommittee report said. "The experience thus gained should lead to further adjustments and improvements."

The recommendation was in line with advice given to Congress Feb. 3 by a four-man advisory commission which urged that the information program "be spared further special investigation by congressional committees" at least until it has "an opportunity to prove itself."

State Seeks Bids To Smother Fire

HARRISBURG, Feb. 10 (AP)—The State Mines Department today sought bids on a project to smother an underground fire which has been burning for 14 years in an abandoned mine under Carbondale.

Acting on a report made last week by a committee appointed to investigate the fire, Mine Secretary W. J. Clements said the fire will be fought through a drilling and flushing method.

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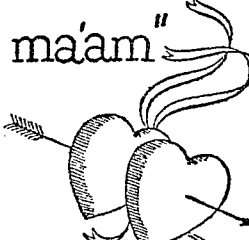



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