

# Tax Program Blasted by Ike As 'Not Sound'

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—President Dwight D. Eisenhower blasted the Democrats' cut-the-income-tax proposals tonight as unsound, politically motivated, and unfair to the great majority of taxpayers.

Declaring such cuts would be "a serious blow to your government," the President told a nationwide radio and television

# Communists Wage Attack On Fortress

HANOI, Indochina, March 15 (AP)—Communist-led Vietminh troops, battling French tanks, troops, and planes, today fought their way toward the heart of the mighty Dien Bien Phu fortress. The French bolstered their stronghold, 175 miles west of Hanoi, with a battalion of paratroopers. They also sent planes almost 200 miles from the carrier Arromanches to bomb and strafe Vietminh artillery positions.

The French said the Vietminh lost 1500 men in the furious fighting, but gave no figures for their own dead.

Censorship slowed correspondents' reports of the savage fight.

For the first time in the seven-year-old Indochinese fighting, the Vietminh rebels dropped their guerrilla and infiltration tactics to wage a frontal, full-scale Korean-type battle.

The Vietminh prepared infantry charges with heavy artillery fire. Then, the Red Chinese-trained rebel soldiers, blowing bugles and screaming wildly charged French barbed-wire defenses.

There is nothing to indicate any Red Chinese are actually participating in the fight, but it is clear the rebels are coached in the attacks by advisers behind their lines.

# Governor Race Petitions End

HARRISBURG, March 15 (AP)—The deadline for filing nomination petitions for the May 18 primary expired tonight with six candidates—three Republicans and three Democrats—in the race for governor.

Thomas S. Stephenson, Altoona, president of the Pennsylvania Home Rule Assn., made it a three-way fight for the GOP gubernatorial nomination by entering the contest late in the day.

The petitions of another potential candidate—Robert Gray Taylor, Media—were thrown out by Commonwealth Secretary Gene D. Smith as faulty.

Smith said Taylor, seeking to file for the Republican nomination for governor, failed to obtain sufficient signatures to his petitions. The minimum is 100 from each of five counties.

Other last-day filings for statewide offices included Mrs. Gaynelle M. Dixon, Butler, organizational-backed candidate for the Republican nomination for secretary of internal affairs and Peter Elish, Washington County commissioner, for the Democratic nomination for the same post.

# British Charge Russian Money Buys 'Unrest'

GEORGETOWN, British Guiana, March 15 (AP)—British authorities charged today that Moscow money is trying to buy hatred and unrest in Britain's Caribbean colonies.

Officials said the power of communism was growing in the poor, underdeveloped colonies which dot the Caribbean.

# Army Tests Defenses

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—The first test of defenses against capture of the huge and strategically vital Thule Air Base and other Arctic installations which Russia might seek to seize in a war is under way.

# McCarthy to Be Guest of Murrow On 'See It Now'

NEW YORK, March 15 (AP)—CBS commentator Edward R. Murrow agreed late today to Sen. Joseph McCarthy's suggestion that the senator appear on Murrow's show April 6.

McCarthy had notified Murrow he would be willing to appear either March 23 or April 6 on the CBS television show "See It Now," to reply to charges Murrow made against the Wisconsin Republican. McCarthy said he would prefer April 6.

In his acceptance, McCarthy charged Murrow had in the past "consciously served the Communist cause."

Murrow's reply to McCarthy said that "I deny this utterly" and added:

"The record when it is finished will show who has served the Communist cause, you, or I."

# Germ War 'Confessor' Called Hero

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—Defense counsel for Col. Frank H. Schwable told a Marine court of inquiry today the flier who made a false confession of germ warfare under Communist pressure is entitled not only to exoneration but also a medal for bravery.

The 45-year-old Marine flier's legal advisers, one a Marine and the other a disabled ex-Marine, stoutly defended him as a valiant man who had held out to the limit of his endurance.

Col. Paul D. Sherman and John Pratt told the special court of inquiry that Schwable signed the "confession" only after five months of Red Chinese brain washings had left him broken in body and mind. Schwable repudiated the "confession" immediately upon his release from 14 months in a war prison in Korea.

Sherman and Pratt told the court, composed of one admiral and three Marine generals, it was clear from all the evidence at hand that no man could withstand prolonged brain washing.

audience: "In your interest I must and will oppose such an unsound tax proposal."

### Speaks Informally

Speaking informally—with the aid of a promoting device—often smiling, at other times earnest, Eisenhower appealed for support of his own tax program, which includes what he called a "modest" reduction in the tax on income from corporation stock.

He centered his fire on Democratic moves, beginning with a bill that comes up in the House Wednesday, to raise income tax exemptions. House Democrats want an increase from \$600 to \$700. There is a movement among Senate Democrats to make even more of a taxpayer's income tax-free.

### Technical Help

The President got technical help from his unpaid, part-time consultant, television producer Robert Montgomery, in his 15-minute address, in which he took occasion also to reproach the "professionally faint-hearted" for spreading depression talk.

Actually, Eisenhower declared, "The nation as a whole continues to be prosperous" despite unemployment in some places, and conditions "at this time do not call for an emergency program that would justify larger federal deficits and further inflation through large additional tax reductions."

Surprising even some of his own staff members, the President made no criticism of last week's action by the House in cutting excise taxes by some \$900 million dollars. He had opposed this cut and administration leaders have voiced hope the Senate would try to reduce it.

Eisenhower said he's as strong for cutting taxes "at the right time" as anybody, and he said his administration has slashed or is about to slash almost seven billion dollars from the national tax bill.

# Congressman Fights Pay Raise Proposal

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—Rep. Usher Burdick (R-ND) is an unusual man. He's one of the few persons in this country who doesn't want his pay raised.

There have been several proposals to boost the present congressional pay of \$15,000 a year. Naturally, this kind of talk brings a gleam to the eyes of most congressmen. But it only brings bulky, shaggy 75-year-old Usher Burdick up fighting mad, all 270 pounds of him.

He insists congressmen are making plenty now, and that a raise might only lower the quality of the lawmakers.

"Then we'll get congressmen out only for profit and gain for their services," he says. "This job should be something besides that."

Burdick readily concedes one point. Comparatively, congressmen don't make as much as when he first was elected to Congress in 1934.

On the other hand, he thinks he was overpaid in 1934. "Why, I couldn't have got a job back home that would have paid half that," he says, "I had to pass the hat to pay for my campaign, and when I got elected I had to borrow \$100 so I could come to Washington."

Rather than stress the financial side of Congress—or of life—Burdick would like to stress this: What are a man's fighting qualities?

"A fellow without a temper," he said, "is no good in this world."

In North Dakota, where Republicans squabble with each other more than they do with the Democrats, Burdick has given his political enemies hope.

"I have promised to drop out,"

he says, "when I reach the age of 90."

He figures this is quite a concession. His mother didn't die until 99, and then only because "she caught pneumonia after crawling up a mountain."

Burdick smiled fondly as he thought of his mother.

"She had the fire," he said.

# Railroads To Give Fare Reductions

PITTSBURGH, March 15 (AP)—The Pennsylvania and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroads are going to make about one-third reductions in round-trip coach fares between Pittsburgh and Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and Baltimore-Washington beginning April 15.

The railroads jointly announced their experimental plan today. It ends Sept. 30. Spokesmen for both firms said:

"We are introducing these low fares experimentally in an effort to get more passengers on the trains."

# Men Caught in A-Test

TOKYO, Tuesday, March 16 (AP)—A Japanese fishing craft wandered into the Bikini atomic test area during an atomic explosion March 1 and all 23 crewmen suffered radiation sickness

# Military 'New Look' Worries Ridgway

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway expressed "particular concern" to Congress today that the "new look" military plan might make the Army too weak to face up to Russia's evergrowing military might.

But Ridgway, the Army chief of staff, begged off from saying publicly whether he had recommended sharp cuts in the Army budget under the program. He conceded a reply to the question might be embarrassing.

The general appeared with other top military and civilian chiefs at a Senate Armed Services subcommittee hearing on the \$37,600,000,000 military budget for the fiscal year starting July 1.

Ridgway voiced what seemed to be the first official protest from the Pentagon to the Eisenhower administration's "dynamic" long-range military program, based on more air power and fewer ground troops.

In a prepared statement, Ridgway said:

"Because of the increasing complexity of land warfare and the resultant greater battlefield demands upon the fighting man, the individual soldier, far from receding in importance, is emerging ever more clearly as the ultimate key to victory."

The advent of new weapons and greater emphasis on air power, Ridgway said, had only "given new meaning and wider scope to the dimensions of land warfare, without changing war's nature and basic objectives." The ulti-

mate objective in war, he said, "is control of land and of people living on land."

Several of the Pentagon leaders presented prepared statements to the subcommittee but the only one read aloud was by Secretary of Defense Wilson.

# Navy Unveils Two New Jet Fighters

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AP)—The Navy made available today pictures of two freakish-looking new fighter planes designed to take off on land vertically.

They are the Convair XFV1, built by Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp., San Diego, and the XFV1, built by Lockheed Aircraft Corp., Burbank, Calif.

The craft are called "VTO" fighters, for the vertical takeoff characteristic. Photographs showed both:

1. Resting on their tails, in the position in which they would take off on land.

2. Resting horizontally, in the position they would assume in level flight.

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