

Island Defense Pledge Disclaimed by Minister

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—A bitter tempest of words subsided somewhat today after Chinese Nationalist Foreign Minister George Yeh backed away from any claim that the United States is pledged specifically to defend Quemoy and the Matsus.

Remarks Yeh made yesterday, after a call on Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, were interpreted as a hint that he had obtained a U.S. commitment and other off-shore islands now occupied by Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists.

Newsman understood him to say that a U.S. pledge to protect positions deemed necessary for the defense of Formosa "of course includes Quemoy and the Matsus."

Sen. Wayne Morse (Ind-Ore) told the Senate he did not believe Yeh. He said Yeh "ought to be repudiated" if his remarks of yesterday turned out to be false.

Left Wrong Impression
But the foreign minister, about to go home to Formosa, told reporters today he never intended to leave the impression, when questioned by newsmen yesterday, that he had a pledge.

The United States, he said today in clarification, will decide whether the off-shore islands are to be treated as essential to the defense of Formosa and the Pescadores.

Formosa, Pescadores Named
Neither the defend-Formosa resolution, passed by Congress last month, nor the U.S.-Formosa mutual defense treaty, approved by the Senate Wednesday, names any territory other than Formosa and the Pescadores.

But the resolution states that Eisenhower "use U.S. military power to defend 'related positions'—in other words—off-shore islands—if he deems them necessary for the ultimate defense of Formosa."

The State Department declined to say today whether a decision has yet been made whether Quemoy and the Matsus are essential to Formosa defense.

Discussions Began Jan. 31
The Council took up the Formosan situation Jan. 31 and issued the invitation for Premier Chou En-lai of Red China to send a representative to the Council.

Western delegates—especially U.S. ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge Jr.—are determined to oppose any attempt by Russia's Arkady A. Sobolev to open any discussion on a Soviet resolution that would have the Council condemn the United States for alleged aggression against China and demand withdrawal of all U.S. forces from the Formosan area.

200 'Freedom' Balloons Launched from Capitol
HARRISBURG, Feb. 11 (AP)—More than 200 "crusade for Freedom" balloons were released at the steps of the State Capitol today as part of a drive to raise money to support Radio Free Europe.

Gov. George M. Leader lauded the plan sponsored by the American Heritage Foundation in cooperation with the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

The balloons are replicas of those used to relay messages to behind the Iron Curtain in Europe.

The Old Main chimes were donated to the University by the Class of 1937, and the Lion Shrine was a gift of the Class of 1940.

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Leader to Fire GOP-Controlled Athletic Board

HARRISBURG, Feb. 11 (AP)—Gov. George M. Leader said today the entire Republican-controlled State Athletic Commission will be fired to make way for Democratic appointees.

The new governor spent almost all day in conference with his patronage advisors to consider Democratic candidate for the posts without reaching any decision.

"We are continuing our search for the right man to head up the commission and I expect to meet again on the subject early next week," he told newsmen.

Leader, who has already pledged to back efforts to clean up boxing in Pennsylvania, declined to speculate on possible candidates for the commission posts.

Present incumbents are Chairman Frank Wiener, Philadelphia, whose term expires next July 27; George J. Jones, Williamsport, and John D. Holahan, Pittsburgh, both of whose terms expired in 1953.

The chairman gets \$7500 a year; members \$7000.

Leader sat in with Sen. Joseph M. Barr, Democratic State chairman; Miss Genevieve Blatt, Secretary-elect of Internal Affairs and Secretary of the Democratic State Committee; James Finnegan, Secretary of the Commonwealth, and Atty. Gen. Herbert B. Cohen.

Jets Grounded Pending Probe

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—At the manufacturer's request, the Air Force today grounded its B-57 twin jet light bombers pending further investigation of two crashes Tuesday.

The grounding order, described as a precautionary safety measure, applies also to the RB-57 tactical reconnaissance planes.

One of the B-57s crashed at Beallsville, Md., less than 30 minutes after taking off from the Glenn L. Martin factory in Baltimore on a delivery flight to Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma City. The pilot was killed and a crewman seriously injured.

The other B-57 crashed while on a routine test flight near Apple Valley, Calif., killing both men aboard.

A third B-57 crashed several weeks ago between Baltimore and Washington but that accident was not mentioned in the Air Force announcement, which said the Glenn L. Martin Co. requested the grounding.

Fine Off GOP Council

HARRISBURG, Feb. 11 (AP)—Former Gov. John S. Fine was removed today from the Republican State Executive Council.

A new 32-member committee named by Miles Horst, GOP state chairman, failed to list Fine's name but included such GOP leaders as Sen. James H. Duff and G. Mason Owlett, GOP national committeeman.

Seventh Fleet Completes Evacuation of Tachens

TAIPEI, Formosa, Saturday, Feb. 12 (AP)—The U.S. 7th Fleet took the last Nationalist soldier off the Tachens last night—still unmolested by Chinese Reds only eight miles north.

The 200-mile trip south to Formosa, completing the touchy 5-day evacuation, was expected to be fully under way before noon today.

The last Nationalist soldiers went aboard a landing ship at 11:10 p.m. while unboxed ammunition, set off to keep it out of Communist hands, shot balls of blue, green, red and orange flame into the night sky.

Chilled Workers
Bone-tired and chilled work parties under Marine Col. Edmond Williams of San Francisco, escorted the final group of Nationalist 46th Division men up the gangplank after having them set the fires.

There were no last minute reports of opposition either by the Red garrison eight miles north on Yikiangshan Island or on the mainland less than 20 miles west.

Helena, Last to Leave
The flagship Helena of Vice Adm. Albert M. Pride was scheduled to be the last to weigh anchor. The cruisers, anchored so close up their guns could fire on any last minute Red move to interfere, were covering the pull-out.

Smoke hung low over the Tachens Friday from repeated explosions ripping apart the tunnels, caves, pill boxes and other installations which might be of any use when the Communists move in.

Adm. Loren'o Sabin Jr., commander of the amphibious force loading the Nationalist 46th Division, said "not a tin can will be left on the Tachens."

FCC Asks Hearing On 'Phonevision'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (AP)—The Federal Communications Commission said today it wants to hear from the public before deciding whether to hold full-scale hearings on the question of pay-as-you-see television.

The commission rejected a petition by Zenith Radio Corp. of Chicago for immediate authorization of its "Phonevision" plan of subscription TV. This is one of several systems proposed by which special programs could be seen only by those paying a fee.

The commission said it "does not believe it would be appropriate at this time to authorize subscription television operations on a case-to-case basis, as requested by Zenith."

Rothschild Given Post

THOMASVILLE, Ga., Feb. 11 (AP)—President Dwight D. Eisenhower today picked Louis S. Rothschild, who has been serving as chairman of the Federal Maritime Board, to be undersecretary of commerce for transportation.

Red Consul Called Top Spy Leader

FRANKFURT, Germany, Feb. 11 (AP)—U.S. Intelligence officials charged today the Russian consul in Vienna is a top-flight Soviet intelligence officer who has been sending spies into the West for 10 years.

The Consul, Boris Nalivaiko, figured in a cloak-and-dagger incident in a Vienna cafe last week. The U.S. Embassy there said Nalivaiko tried to trap two Americans, a colonel and a civilian. The Russians declared the Americans, Col. Francis Manning and Robert Gray of Falls Church, Va., had sought to induce Nalivaiko to desert to the West.

Major in KGB
Intelligence officers here told newsmen Nalivaiko was a major in the KGB, a Soviet intelligence service, who "doesn't spend much of his time on consular duties."

A spokesman said that from 1945 to 1951 Nalivaiko was vice consul in the Soviet Embassy in Berlin, and that he recruited agents there and sent them into West Germany to collect information.

Recruited Germans
He told newsmen of two cases in which Nalivaiko recruited Germans in Berlin as couriers only to have them caught and imprisoned in West Germany later.

"He's an old time KGB operator," the spokesman said, "and we have no reason to suspect he has changed to anything else. Old KGB characters never graduate into pure councils."

Reds Charge US Press With Distortion of Facts

MOSCOW, Feb. 11 (AP)—The Soviet press said today the American, British and French press used "distortions" and "sensational, vociferous headlines" in reporting the downfall of Premier Georgi M. Malenkov and other actions of the Supreme Soviet this week.

Pravda, official newspaper of the Soviet Communist party, and other central papers devoted a full page of their rationed space to foreign reactions to the events.

The newspapers accused the Western press of filling their pages with "slanders and inventions about Soviet happenings."



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