

# U. S. Undecided on Move If Chinese Attack Island

WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—Senators who discussed foreign affairs for two hours with President Dwight D. Eisenhower today reported the administration has not made up its mind what to do if Red China attacks Quemoy and the Matsus. As Democratic leader Lyndon C. Johnson of Texas put it, "The question of war or peace" in the Far East "is still with us."

## Quiz Tactics Protested By Stassen

WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—Foreign Aid Minister Harold B. Stassen and the Senate investigations subcommittee fell into a hot argument today over how to question his employees about a grain elevator in Pakistan.

Stassen said he was available to the committee at any time. He also said it would be all right for senators to question his aides.

But, he insisted, it wasn't "fair or reasonable or wise" for members of the committee to put questions in the absence of senators and without an employee having a lawyer "of his choice" on hand for advice.

**Stassen Outlines Stand**  
Stassen outlined his stand in a statement, after the committee heard from Willard J. Saccie, deputy general counsel for Stassen's Foreign Operations Administration.

Saccie's testimony, that Stassen wouldn't let his employees be questioned by the committee's staff unless he or one of his two top lawyer-aides was on hand, set off an angry reaction.

Sen. Samuel J. Ervin (D.N.C.) was moved to borrow a question from Shakespeare: "Upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed that he is grown so great?"

**Stassen Compelled to Come**  
At one point in their consideration of what Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.) called "the most unheard of thing I have ever seen," the committeemen voted to compel Stassen's appearance next Wednesday with a subpoena.

However, Chairman John L. McClellan (D.Ark.) said later Stassen had agreed to appear, and this subpoena would not be issued.

There remained a conflict between the lawmakers and the FOA. The committee told three employees to come back to testify tomorrow about the grain elevator for Pakistan. An FOA spokesman said they would not be there.

McClellan, advised of this, said the instructions remain as issued "but I don't know if they will come or not."

stepping stones in an assault on the Chinese Nationalist bastion of Formosa. The United States is pledged to help defend Formosa, but it hasn't committed itself regarding the islands.

"The President has not made any decision on defending Quemoy and Matsu," Sen. Alexander Wiley of Wisconsin, ranking Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee, told newsmen. "The decision will depend on the development of facts in the future."

**Nothing Alarming**  
Other senators said nothing alarming came to light at the White House conference.

The President served lunch to the Senate leaders and then, with Secretary of State Dulles, gave them a briefing on the latest international developments. He held a similar bipartisan meeting with House leaders yesterday.

Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.), chairman of the Armed Services Committee, reported: "If they know what they are going to do about Quemoy and Matsu, they didn't tell us."

**Two Areas of Thought**  
In both the administration and Congress there are two schools of thought about the defense of the islands. One holds that the United States should intervene at once if the Communists attempt to capture them. The other believes that this country should not risk war for the islands, and that the defense should be left in the hands of the Chinese Nationalists.

The Democratic chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Walter F. George of Georgia, said today he thought Eisenhower is right in not committing himself on the question now.

Democrats attending the briefing, Johnson told reporters, were "glad we were taken into confidence to the extent we have been." Asked whether the possibility of a Big Four meeting with Russia was discussed, he said any general talk about foreign affairs "naturally would include the possibilities and probabilities" of such a conference. He did not elaborate.

## Changes, Repeals Asked For Fair Trade Laws

WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—A government appointed committee urged today the repeal of "fair trade" laws directed against cut rate retail sales.

It also endorsed legislative restrictions on labor union activities that might hamper trade and competition, but was not exactly specific on this.

## Premier of Viet Nam Gets Help

SAIGON, South Viet Nam, March 31 (AP)—The Cao Dai religious army and its commander deserted the antigovernment coalition today and rallied to embattled Premier Ngo Dinh Diem.

The defection of Gen. Nguyen Thanh Phuong and his troops was a complete surprise to the "United Front of Nationalist Forces," which seeks to overthrow Diem, a Nationalist himself.

It left the private armies of the Binh Uyen society and the Hoa Hae religious sect alone in the front. But it did not lessen the danger of a revival of the brief revolt which cost 26 lives Wednesday.

**Action Uncertain**  
No one could say what Gen. Le Van Vien, the Binh Xuyen commander, might do. Stung by the Cao Dai move, he could decide to stake everything on a military showdown in the front's quest for additional power in the government. The three groups have shared eight seats in the Cabinet.

Gen. Paul Ely, French commissioner general for Indochina, sought in a series of talks to hammer the precious truce he arranged last night into something more permanent. At sundown he was able to report some progress, but neither side committed itself irrevocably to keep fingers off the triggers.

**Coup Staged**  
Most observers agreed the American-supported Premier staged a coup in getting the Cao Dai over to his side.

Phuong says he commands 25,000 troops, more than half the front's total of perhaps 40,000. Though the figures are not exact, it is estimated 10,000 of his men will be incorporated in the National army. Among them are 42 officers.

The National army, including many veterans of the Indochina war, totals about 200,000. It is slowly being reduced in the interests of efficiency. American officers have a part in the training.

## Stock Market Picture

NEW YORK, March 31 (AP)—A moderate advance in the stock market today ran into a little profit-taking which clipped the top of the rise.

# Leader Desires Tax Program To Pay for Vet Bonus Plan

HARRISBURG, March 31 (AP)—Gov. George M. Leader said today it would be "highly desirable" to accompany any Korean veterans bonus plan with a tax program to pay for it.

"It is certainly highly desirable to do it that way—the mechanics of working it out, I don't know," he told his weekly news conference.

**Vet Groups Back Bonus**  
Veterans organizations are backing legislation to pay a 150 million dollar bonus to Pennsylvania veterans of the Korean conflict. Payments would range up to \$500 each.

The proposal now before the legislature, however, contains no provision suggesting that voters balloting on the bonus also consider financing it.

Asked if mentioning taxes in the same breath as a bonus would mean defeat of a bonus proposal in a voter referendum, he said:

"I think people like to be realistic."

The governor said he would support "a properly drafted" bonus proposal.

He was queried on whether he would back a bonus plan in the form of the 440 million dollar bonus paid World War II veterans.

"Not necessarily," he shot back.

**Takes Neutral Stand**  
Then a newsman said that the governor's present position apparently was that he neither approved nor disapproved of the bonus plans now in the legislature.

Leader replied: "That's right."

Leader, a Navy veteran of World War II, was quoted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars in a newspaper ad during last fall's election campaign as saying: "When I am governor, I will support legislation to pay a bonus to veterans of the Korean war." The Democratic campaign platform made no bonus pledge. The

Republican platform did.

Veterans groups are strongly opposed to accompanying a bonus plan with a tax proposal on the ballot. A move to do this when the World War II bonus was authorized in 1949 died in committee.

New Jersey voters defeated a World War II bonus several weeks ago when the ballot also listed a tax question.

**Voters Must Approve**  
Any Korean bonus would have to go before the people in order to amend the constitution to permit the 150 million dollar bond issue.

The bonus idea would require approval in this and the 1957 legislature before it could go on the ballot.

The World War II bonus was financed by a 440 million dollar bond issue. The issue is being paid off over a 15-year period. In the current biennium, it cost 65 million dollars in taxes.

**Russia Farm Group**  
WASHINGTON, March 31 (AP)—The State Department said in effect today that a farm delegation from Russia will be invited to watch the corn and hogs grow in Iowa as soon as a few details are ironed out.

**Horse Racing Bill**  
FARRISBURG, March 31 (AP)—The Senate may have another chance to vote on a proposal for a statewide referendum on the question of legal horse race betting, a Democratic senator said today.

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