

# Soviets Attempt to Limit Air Access to Berlin

BERLIN (AP)—The Soviet Union yesterday challenged America's determination to maintain free air access to Berlin. It warned any new high-altitude flights through the Berlin air corridors would risk collision with Soviet fighters.

A Soviet Embassy spokesman in East Berlin insisted the dispute over Western air access routes to this Communist-encircled city is strictly a matter of flight safety. But U.S. officials said it involves the principle of Western rights in Berlin, now threatened by Moscow's diplomatic offensive on Germany.

Specifically at issue is whether the Soviets have a right to put a 10,000-foot altitude ceiling on the three Western air corridors, each running about 100 miles from West Germany to Berlin.

Three Soviet fighters buzzed an unarmed American transport above 20,000 feet last Friday as it flew through one of the corridors.

The United States backed down on a plan to send through a sec-

ond test flight Wednesday, possibly because of stern Soviet warnings.

A high-altitude C130 Hercules transport was at an air base somewhere in West Germany standing ready to try again when Washington gives the green light.

## General to Investigate Rank Pulling Incident

TOKYO (AP)—The general who commands U.S. forces in Japan has emerged as a GI hero—along with a spunky enlisted man who took a protest right to the top. Lt. Gen. Robert W. Burns ordered a military airliner back to Japan, put aboard five enlisted men on emergency home furlough, and opened an investigation of the lieutenant colonel they said had bumped them.

"All I can say is that as far as I'm concerned, I had nothing to do with keeping those people off the plane," said Lt. Col. Charles Platt Jr. of New York City. He had been headed for a vacation in Hawaii.

# Chinese Claim State Policeman Fired for Brawl

NEW DELHI, India (AP)—Red China's radio claimed yesterday Tibetan rebels fleeing Chinese Communist pursuit have brought their young god-king, the Dalai Lama, into India.

There was no confirmation here or at India's northern frontier.

The New China News Agency said the 23-year-old Dalai Lama was brought across the border March 31 and the Indian government ordered border and police authorities to meet the party.

An Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman, told of the Peiping report, said "we have no information."

On Formosa, the official Nationalist China News Agency reported fighting still in progress between rebels and Red Chinese troops.

HARRISBURG (AP)—Col. Frank G. McCartney, Pennsylvania state police commissioner, reported yesterday that trooper Charles E. Pierce has been dismissed from the force for engaging in a brawl with other troopers at the Greensburg barracks.

McCartney emphasized that the dismissal was completely unrelated to Pierce's having arrested Gov. Lawrence's son "Jerry" last summer near Butler for speeding.

Pierce, who operates a restaurant in Westmoreland county, said he had no comment to make on McCartney's order which was handed down last January.

He was on the force since 1938.

# U.S. Pledges Allies Defense

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States pledged yesterday to use its full array of aircraft and missile power to defend its Atlantic Pact allies if it should become necessary.

It made this pledge shortly after President Eisenhower had cautioned this country's North Atlantic Pact Allies against 'substituting illusions for reality' in seeking tension-reducing agreements with Russia.

Speaking on behalf of the U.S. Government, acting Secretary of State Christian Herter also told the 15-nation Atlantic Pact Council that the United States is now making faster progress than Russia in developing missiles.

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