

U.S. Challenges 'Nikita' To Agree to Disarmament

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States challenged Nikita Khrushchev yesterday to follow through on his troop cutback proposal by agreeing to an effective international disarmament plan.

As for itself, is said the United States is "prepared to go as far toward safeguarded disarmament as any other country."

State Department press officer Lincoln White issued the U.S. reply to Khrushchev's Moscow speech while U.S. strategists studied the Soviet Premier's text.

Khrushchev announced the Soviet Union will cut its armed forces from 3.5 million to 2.4 men over the next couple of years, and will quit production of manned bombers while pushing ahead with production of powerful missiles.

Initial reaction here was that Khrushchev is reorganizing, not disarming his forces and trying at the same time to reap propaganda benefit from the move.

"A masterpiece of propaganda effectiveness," was the description applied by Sen. Hubert M. Humphrey (D-Minn.), chairman of the Senate Disarmament subcommittee.

Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas said Khrushchev "holds out an olive branch and at the same time tries to hit us over the head with it."

Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel of California, the assistant Senate Republican leader, said the Soviet Premier apparently was announcing only a shift from men and planes to missiles.

Rep. Thomas E. Morgan (D-Pa.), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said Khrushchev's speech was a combination of boasting and propaganda and "should not be allowed to affect our foreign policy in any way."

The State Department statement focused on the 10-nation East-West disarmament talks slated to start in Geneva March 15 in declaring America's readiness "for safeguarded disarmament."

"It is hoped," the statement said, "that this announcement by the Soviet Union is an indication of its willingness to participate in the forthcoming negotiations in the same spirit so that world accord can be established through concrete and verifiable measures of disarmament, thereby removing suspicions and building real security."

H-Bomb Satellites

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nuclear scientist Ralph Lapp speculated yesterday the Russians may be working on plans to orbit hydrogen bombs around the earth as weapon satellites that could be called down upon an enemy at will.

Dr. Lapp, a consultant on atomic energy, told reporters this thinking may be behind Premier Nikita Khrushchev's talk yesterday of Soviet work on fantastic weapons.

Grand Jury Cuts Parker Investigation

BILOXI, Miss. (AP)—A special federal grand jury ended its investigation of the Mack Charles Parker lynching yesterday without returning indictments in the 9-month-old case.

Charles Long, of Gulfport, the jury foreman, read the decision to U.S. Dist. Judge Sidney Mize that the basis of evidence presented, we were unable to arrive at any true bill.

The action apparently has the effect of ending the Parker case unless authorities uncover new witnesses or new testimony.

Mize congratulated the jury on its work during the deliberations which started Jan. 4, saying he thought jurors had conducted themselves "diligently and fairly."

He then recessed the jury until the regular Feb. 25 term of federal court, cautioning members they might be called back sooner to take up other matters.

A mob of hooded men dragged Parker, 23, a Negro truck driver from Lumberton, out of his second-floor jail cell at Poplarville last April 25 and killed him. His bullet-pierced body was recovered from the Pearl River 10 days later.

The lynching came two days before Parker's scheduled trial on charges of raping a pregnant white mother. The woman and her small daughter had been left in a stalled auto near Lumberton while her husband sought a mechanic.

'K' Speaks Of Russian Might

(continued from page one) sixth of the earth's land surface. Khrushchev said the United States "is aiming to overtake the Soviet Union in rocket production in the course of five years," but that the U.S.S.R. meanwhile would not be standing still.

He proposed (an automatic parliamentary approval is certain) a cut of 1.2 million men in the armed forces, reducing the total to 2,423,000, the lowest figure since 1937. But at the same time he told the deputies Soviet military fire power exceeds anything known in history and that Soviet defense never has been so strong.

"In cutting the number of our armed forces we are not decreasing their fire power," the Communist party chief said, "On the contrary, in a qualitative way, the fire power will be increased many, many times. I am sure the Western powers know this, and if they don't, I have to warn them."



Khrushchev

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Ike Asks for Study Of Super Rocket

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Eisenhower yesterday ordered a quick study of whether more money should be pumped into a high priority effort to develop a super space rocket.

Eisenhower also authorized overtime work to speed the Saturn super booster project.

U.S. scientists hope will lead to a rocket engine far more powerful than anything the Soviets are believed to have used so far.

Sending these new instructions to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the President declared it is "essential to press forward vigorously to increase our capability in high thrust space vehicles."

Eisenhower's action came as a followup to two special messages he sent to Capitol Hill earlier in the day. In those messages he:

• Asked Congress to concentrate responsibility for the nation's peaceful space program in the civilian-run NASA.

• Informed Congress of his plans to shift to NASA, the Army's rocket research team, headed by German-born Dr. Wernher von Braun.

Writing to T. Keith Glennan, NASA chief, Eisenhower directed him "to make a study to be completed at the earliest date practicable of the possible need for

additional funds for the balance of FY fiscal year 1960 and for FY 1961 to accelerate the super booster program . . ."

It was disclosed some time ago that the administration would ask Congress to appropriate 140 million dollars for Saturn in the 1961 fiscal year starting next July.

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