

Editorial Opinion

Khrushchev Fumbled By Dooming Conference

Nikita Khrushchev, who so adeptly intercepted the United States' errant pass in the big summit game, had a clear field to paydirt in ostracizing the U. S. and dealing a severe blow to its prestige in the eyes of the peace-seeking world.

But we can't help but feel that as he turned his eyes to gloat over the response of the fans to his grandstand play, he lost sight of the goal and fumbled on the one-yard line by causing the end of the conference last night.

His adamant attitude refusing to compromise his impossible ultimatum sounded the death knell for the hopes of a tension-weary world that any solutions for such ominous problems as the Berlin situation, German reunification or disarmament would come from the conference.

President Eisenhower had already granted certain concessions and said the spy flights over the Soviet Union would cease. He could go no further. And he was wise in holding his ground.

The thing that caused the greatest loss of U. S. prestige last week was not the discovery of spy flights themselves, but the various and uncoordinated prevaricated statements and explanations made by different departments of the U. S. government. Eisenhower's stand at the summit was at least an improvement in this aspect.

Khrushchev smartly handled the spy plane incident by releasing just portions of the information at a time and allowed the U. S. to wallow in its own quagmire of lies, excuses and conflicting statements, where all the world could see.

U. S. stock crashed in the uncommitted nations. Her allies were sorely distressed. Britain and France, which had been chastised by the U. S. in the 1956 Suez flareup, were thrown into a position where they had to return the favor.

With the great propaganda victory he had just scored, if Khrushchev had gotten down to business at hand, i. e. Berlin, Germany, disarmament, he would have been in a superior bargaining position for pushing such arguments as elimination of American foreign air bases.

But he bypassed this opportunity and forced the closing of the conference, thus proving that he was not really interested in resolving these issues. And this was his mistake.

Britain and France and other Western allies are migrating back to the U. S. side. Neutral and uncommitted states can see that the resolving of disputes that threatened world peace was not the Soviets' paramount objective but merely the perpetration of anti-U. S. sentiment. They now have equal cause for rebuffing the Soviet Union.

So things are once again at a stalemate except for a couple of important questions. What about Berlin? What about disarmament?

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Behind The Summit Conference

Snowed

by joel myers

Although a U. S. spy plane was shot out of Russia's skies more than two weeks ago, the strongest shock wave emitted by the clash of steel caused by Russia's remarkable rocket striking the U. S. aircraft just reached the earth's surface on Monday.

It rebounded off the ground at the French city of Paris on Monday amid four world leaders sitting around a conference table.

The shock wave caused great damage to international relations and reliable estimates say this damage will take a year or more to mend.

In a period of world history when decisions that are made in seconds will determine the entire course of future events, the question arises as to whether we can afford this year of delay.

What were the hidden factors behind the breakdown of summit negotiations? A glance at superficial reasons may direct one's attentions to the infamous spy plane.

But, it appears to go deeper than this. If there was no spy plane incident and Khrushchev arrived in Paris without an excuse for wrecking the conference that he had campaigned so long to set up, would it have accomplished anything concrete? Obviously no one but Mr. K. knows the answer to this question.

It does appear likely that Khrushchev was sincere in his bid for world peace and it is highly possible that if a more peaceful atmosphere had preceded the meetings, some progress would have been made.

The Red Premier is faced with internal problems often resembling those faced by our own president. Although Russian public opinion doesn't exert an obvious part in government policies, the Soviet leaders are not stupid enough to ignore it. The time and effort they devote to promoting favorable propaganda is an example of their effort to mold public opinion.

The recent spy incident appears to be more than just a normal propaganda campaign. The incident showed a weakness in the Russian defenses which scared many Russians and provided material for Khrushchev's political enemies to use against him. So, while having no choice but to derive all the propaganda value that he could from the incident he still attempted to save the summit conference.

That's why he didn't recall Eisenhower's invitation immediately. That's why he said that the president might not know of the spying. This gave Eisenhower an "out." All he had to do was say that the flights were unknown to him and the conference might have succeeded.

However, once Eisenhower publicly admitted that he was always aware of the spying practices carried on by the Central Intelligence Agency, the internal pressure on Khrushchev left him

no choice but to snub Ike.

However, by doing this, Mr. K. failed to exploit his most promising opportunity. We were the guilty ones and France and Britain had condemned us. His nation had an additional psychological advantage created by the launching of man's largest artificial satellite.

Yet, because of internal forces, he was unable to take full advantage of one of our biggest blunders in recent years. By blasting the Western powers he re-united France and Britain solidly behind the United States.

The question that is still present in American minds is how such a crucial issue like spying could be handled in such an absurd manner.

By now everyone is familiar with the conflicting statements that U.S. officials issued after the plane was shot down. Then in an attempt to explain the entire af-

fair how the United States violated a corollary of international relations by formally admitting the spy incident. It might have been wise for the White House to follow an often quoted phrase "Discretion is the better part of valor."

The lack of a clear-cut policy in this matter has caused more damage to our international prestige than billions of dollars of foreign aid will be able to re-establish. Let's hope the government adopts a uniform and concrete policy before another "incident" occurs.

The apparent moodiness of both Khrushchev and Eisenhower on Monday reminded us of two third graders arguing over baseball play. Both saw the play through prejudiced eyes and neither was willing to budge an inch.

Let's hope that world leaders with the fate of mankind depending on their moody decisions have the ability to compromise.



MYERS

Little Man on Campus

by Dick Bibler



"DON'T KICK ME OFF TH' TEAM COACH - DO YOU WANT ME TA FLUNK OUTTA COLLEGE?"

Letters

Soph Asks Return of Bike

TO THE EDITOR: I thought I could do it. I really believed that I could have a bicycle for a whole year without having to lock it every time I go into a class. But I was wrong. I was sorely wrong. I guess my report of a stolen bicycle will only add to the already long list.

I still find it hard to believe that my bicycle was stolen; it could be that someone was in a hurry and borrowed it, to be returned upon his earliest convenience.

I sincerely hope that the person who borrowed it will return it; because if it isn't, all my opinions about the honesty of Penn State and State College will be shattered.

I would just like to remind the person who takes a bike that it is not like taking an object which

can easily be replaced; it is not something that a student will miss for a week and then write out another check for. There is value in this object than its apparent worth. To me, my bicycle was a transportation necessity, which means now that I will no longer make some of my eight o'clock classes after working in the morning.

It stands for many enjoyable trips; it stands for all the care that went into it; it stands for 1700 miles since September. And I can not write out a check for another one, as it is no longer replaceable.

Will my cycle be returned, or must I go on for two more years at the University knowing that at least one dishonest person exists at Penn State?

—Frank Banker, '62

Seckinger Praises Students

TO THE EDITOR: Now that Spring Week activities are concluded, I would like you to know that the behavior of your student body was outstanding.

In my fourteen years here, I can't remember when what is necessarily a period of vast confusion went off without an incident.

The police department is most grateful for the students' adult attitude and their willingness to cooperate with us as we carry out our duties. What's more, several residents of the fraternity section went out of their way to comment about the splendid manners of those working so hard to get ready for the big celebration. A word about the floats, too,

although it may not be a police matter. In past years, the Spring Week themes were not particularly of major interest to all of our residents. But the Mother Goose motif, carried through with such skill, was of universal appeal to children of all ages.

As your student body increases in numbers, all the evidence of past history would indicate that our police problems would multiply accordingly. I'm happy to be able to say that, thanks to an understanding student leadership and University administration, the opposite seems to be true at the moment.

—Matthew A. Seckinger, Sgt. Acting Chief of Police State College

Gazette

TODAY
"A Geologist's Model of the Crust and Subcrust of the Earth" Lecture by Dr. A. F. Huddington, 8 p.m., Mineral Industries auditorium
Anthropology Club, 8 p.m., 218 HUB
Armed Forces, 8 p.m., HUB cardroom
BX Candidates Conflict Exam, 6:15 p.m., 218 HUB
Camp Interviews, 5:30 to 8 p.m., 218 HUB
Chess Club, 7 p.m., HUB cardroom
Christian Fellowship, 12:45 p.m., 218 HUB
Forestry Convocation, 11 a.m., 121 Sparks
Jazz Club, 7 p.m., 217 Willard
New Comers, 7:30 p.m., 214 HUB
Sports Car Club, 7 p.m.; 212 HUB
TIM, 7 p.m., 203 HUB
TIM Movies, 11 p.m. and 1 p.m., HUB assembly room
UCA Politics, 9 p.m., 217 HUB
WSGA, 8 p.m., 217 HUB

HOSPITAL

Helen Borek, Donald Evans, Marcia Hartwick, John Hoffman, Carol Kelley, Robin Krause, Goldie Laris, Joseph Lawrence, Anne Mahoney, John McCollough, Marcia Michalski, James Nelligan, Carol Oswald, Vincent Salico, Donald Schnitzler, Mary Ann Schott, Carole Sweeney, Elizabeth Taylor, Barbara Watchorn.

