

SEATO Set for War To Secure Laotian Peace

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Foreign ministers of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization warned yesterday they are ready to make whatever sacrifices are necessary—including war—to prevent the Communists from capturing Laos.

SEATO thus was mobilized as the West's military voice in a coordinated diplomatic dialogue with the Soviet Union.

All eight members of the anti-Communist alliance fell into line behind the United States

except France, which shied away. French Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville viewed the Laos situation as grave and his speech to the opening of the SEATO foreign ministers conference stressed the need for negotiation.

SEATO was described as ready to consider dispatching soldiers and weapons to Laos if the Soviets fail to choose a peaceful course in the neighboring kingdom before the conference ends here Thursday.

Informed sources said U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk came to the conference to sell this policy. The speeches of his fellow-foreign ministers on the first conference day indicated he had just about succeeded.

Rusk told the council "peace is possible only through restraining those who break it in contempt of law."

"Speaking for my country," he continued, "I wish to assure the members of this organization and the peoples of South east Asia that the United States will live up to those responsibilities."

Many in the audience felt that an even tougher view of SEATO objectives was outlined by British Foreign Secretary Lord Home whose country has been taking the lead in pressing Moscow for a cease-fire and negotiations on Laos.

The British foreign secretary said SEATO so far had acted with restraint.

"Because civilized countries feel obliged to try to find a political and peaceful solution, I must give a warning that the Communists would be extremely foolish to presume too much on this restraint."

Jury Convicts Finch, Tregoff

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Dr. R. Bernard Finch last night was convicted of first degree murder in the bullet-in-the-back slaying of his socialite wife. His former mistress, Carole Tregoff, was convicted of second degree murder.

The penalty for first degree murder is death or life imprisonment; for second degree, automatic five years to life.

Miss Tregoff, her long red hair streaming loosely over her shoulder, broke into tears at the verdict. The ending came with dramatic swiftness after more than 21 hours of deliberation.

The jury, composed of 10 men and two women, took the case March 22.

Finch, 43, one-time wealthy physician in suburban West Covina, admitted holding the gun which fired the fatal bullet on the lawn outside his fashionable home. But he said it was an accident while he tried to wrest the weapon away and throw it out of his frantic wife's reach.

The prosecution charged that Finch and his one-time employee, coolly planned the slaying after a hired killer failed to do the job.

Recession at Bottom Budget Head Says

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Kennedy administration believes the recession has about reached bottom, Budget Director David E. Bell said yesterday.

Bell told the Senate-House Economic Committee that the economy should start moving upward in the April-June quarter, and recovery should be under way at a good rate by summer.

However, Bell said the upturn is not expected to be anywhere near as rapid as the administration would want.

For example, he said that while it appears unemployment has reached its peak and will soon turn downward, the jobless rate still will exceed six per cent at the end of the year. This is a far from satisfactory figure, he said.

Bell, who defended President Kennedy's sharply increased budget estimates, testified that production and personal income figures seem likely to start advancing soon.

Asked about chances of an income tax cut to stimulate the recovery, Bell said if Kennedy finds in mid-April that the economy is not responding satisfactorily "I assume he will consider very seriously the idea of a temporary tax reduction."

In his prepared statement, the budget chief said hope for a tax cut probably would have to depend on a reduction in military spending.

"Meeting our national needs responsibility in the years ahead," he said, "may well mean increased rather than reduced federal spending, until and unless we can arrive at a satisfactory agreement for the reduction of world armaments."

Bell asserted it would be a serious error of public policy as well as false economy to reject Kennedy's proposals for expanded efforts and outlays in science, education, health and service.

"This nation can afford higher expenditures, public or private, up to the limit of its capacity to produce — a limit it has not approached for several years," he said.



David E. Bell

Students Fined At Lauderdale

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—Thousands of high-spirited college students, here on Easter vacations, were warned yesterday the National Guard will be called if they get out of hand again.

Mayor Edward Johns had announced plans to ask the City Commission to close down seaside bars until the youngsters go home but said later he'll wait and see how they behave from now on.

He also will defer action on his proposed curfew for the college students.

There were rumors that students will try to invade beaches from which they have been banned and police were alerted for the possibility.

Some 3,500 youths rioted Sunday night when police barred them from their favorite beach, an unlighted stretch of sand north of the city. About 50 were arrested and many were fined yesterday on charges ranging from disorderly conduct to public intoxication.

Fines ranged from \$5 to \$25. Those cited included one girl, a University of Miami student charged with "open profanity."

The student invasion includes both sexes. The dark beach was a favorite spot for romancing.

Mayor Johns announced guard units will be requested if Fort Lauderdale police lose control of any future disturbances. Officers from six nearby cities were called in as reinforcements Sunday night as students hurled rocks, beer cans and bottles at patrolmen.

The beaches were peaceful yesterday but crowded as never before. Police said news of the riot had attracted thousands of curious who mingled with the collegians.

Rockin' Religion Aired in England

LONDON (AP)—Stacks of letters poured into Britain's commercial television headquarters Monday in the wake of a rock 'n' roll version of the life of Jesus Christ.

Wearing blue jeans and a striped sports shirt, Roy Harkness, 19, played the Son of God.

"The idea of Christ in blue jeans thrilled many viewers," said a spokesman for the Independent Television Authority. "Of course, there were others who complained."

Earlier, 17 members of the House of Commons offered a motion to protest in Parliament. But the play, "A Man Dies," went on. Viewers saw it during a regular Sunday night religious program aimed at youth.

Beer-Guzzling Rescheduled

MUNICH, Germany (AP) — The City Council has rescheduled the beginning of Munich's famous beer-guzzling celebration from Sept. 17 to Sept. 20 because West Germany's national elections will be held Sept. 17.

Communists Gain in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — A Communist group took over leadership of Rio's port union Monday. It was elected during the weekend.

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Through the Looking Glass with Gabbi

HAPPY EASTER

For those of you who haven't left yet, that is. Everybody's taking off early for that Florida sun or just plain home rest. And then there are people like me who get off before noon on Tuesday and have to wait until the end of Wednesday to get a ride! It happens every time. So far, it looks like the Easter Bunny won't have to wade through snow to reach us. Judging from the weather around here, though, he might have to use Santa's Sleigh yet. Before you go home, drop in at Ethel's and pick up something to take along.

PRESENTS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED

(especially if you have the money to buy them!) Ethel and I agree that the matching gold and white lighter and ashtray will make an appropriate present for any person, and match any decor.

THE MORE THE MERRIER . . .

(on the arms, that is), as far as girls are concerned. The large selection of D-necraft silver bracelets would win the heart of any girl. They range from the large eye-catching slave bracelets to the dainty and smart ring bracelets. Ethel also has onyx watch bands for your arm, too, girls.

HAPPY EASTER EGGING, Gabbi

Ethel Meserve