

# THE *ghost* AT THE GENEVA FEAST

By Samuel B. Pettengill

WHAT DO the enslaved millions in Russia, Poland, China and all the Kremlin's conquered provinces think as they see pictures of President Eisenhower hob-nobbing on cozy terms with their tyrant masters?

Here were men guilty of more crimes against more people than history records. Here were men who have slaughtered more of *their own people* for resisting despotism than all the Czars and Neros who ever lived. And here were the leaders of the western world making every effort to cultivate their friendship and work out a *modus vivendi* with them. Mr. Eisenhower's purpose in going to the summit was to arrive at some permanent arrangement which of necessity would have to be satisfactory to the Kremlin cut-throats, not to the Russian people.

No one imagines that President Eisenhower has the slightest sympathy with the police state. Yet the logic of events points toward the

strengthening of that state over its own people as a result of the discussions at Geneva.

This is the ghost at the feast. Except for East Germany, no one spoke for the slaves.

How far will appeasement with tyrants go in the next meetings with the foreign ministers of Red Russia and Red China? Were these the same men who helped kill thousands of our sons at Korea, or were they some other men?

What a change since 1952! The Republican platform accused the Truman Administration of abandoning the Atlantic Charter "in favor of despots who consider murder, terror, slavery, concentration camps and the ruthless and brutal denial of human rights as legitimate means of their desired ends."

Continuing it said: "We look happily forward to the genuine independence of these captive people. We will end the negative and immoral policy of 'containment' which abandons countless human beings to despotism and Godless terrorism which in turn enables the rulers to forge the captives into a weapon for our destruction."

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In his first speech as Secretary of State, on January 27, 1953, Mr. Dulles said this: "To all those suffering under Communist slavery, to the timid and intimidated peoples of the world, let us say this: 'You can count on us!'" In October of that year he said that a forthcoming London meeting intended to formulate a policy for a world society based on "consent" as opposed to "coercion."

All forgotten. Nothing, it seems, is to be done or even said for the slaves any more. The "freedom loving people" behind the Iron Curtain have become a nuisance to statesmen. Except for East Germany (where we hope to benefit militarily), the Geneva love-feast seems to have tacitly ratified the worst of Yalta, Teheran and Potsdam. At those meetings we enacted a fugitive slave law for millions of people.

Don't forget that the GOP also promised in its platform to repudiate the secret pacts at Yalta which sold millions of men, women and children into slavery.

IT SEEMS PLAIN that the Kremlin was the big winner at Geneva. Hope of successful resistance against tyrants, which our forefathers said was "obedience to God" must grow dim in the breasts of the slaves.

Again, if the slave masters believe Mr. Eisenhower's assurances that the United States will never go to war against them, unless they first attack, they can now reduce their

military appropriations and divert more time and money to shore up their tottering industrial and agricultural economy. This helps to get them off the hook with their own hungry people. Meantime, because we don't trust the Moscow murderers, we will continue to spend billions on uneconomic military hardware.

What an abandonment of American principles!

America's historic sympathies have always been on the side of oppressed people (as we were once oppressed), whether in Ireland, South America, Haiti in 1804, Greece in 1825, Germany in the 1840's, Hungary in 1851, Cuba in 1898. We refused to sacrifice our own sons in wars to free them, but the oppressed always knew we were on their side. That helped. The Statue of Liberty in New York harbor is the symbol of our friendship for the oppressed.

It was the ardent hope of the founders of this Republic that the lamp of liberty they lighted on this western shore would shine in humble homes in far-off lands and that the down-trodden masses of the world would stand a little straighter because of us.

Lincoln said that "there is something in that Declaration [of Independence] giving liberty not alone to the people of this country, but hope to the world for all future time."

This was during the century of American independence before the policy of universal interventionism

made us the ally of some tyrants to fight others.

America's sympathy for the down-trodden did not mean war. For with it we coupled the great policies of neutrality and non-intervention. As President John Quincy Adams put it: "America goes not forth in search of monsters to destroy. She is the well-wisher of the freedom and independence of all. She will *recommend* the general cause by the countenance of her voice and the benignant sympathy of her example. . . . But she well knows that by *enlisting under other banners than her own . . . the fundamental maxims of her policy would insensibly change from liberty to force.*"

Under this known policy of sympathy for the oppressed but without military involvement, the United States could logically recognize any *de facto* government without appearing to approve foreign despots, including the Czars. And thus also "the land of the free" won the admiration, respect and homage of mankind.

It was a wise policy. It "kept us out of war" with foreign foes for one hundred years, without compromising the one thing that gave a radiant meaning to the word "America."

SINCE ABANDONING this policy we have fought two and a half world wars in which 50,000,000 people died — wars won by our soldiers and lost by the politicians of "collective security" and "indivisible

peace." Now, as Churchill says, we "lie in the grip of even worse perils than those we have surmounted." This is what we got when we turned our backs on Washington, Jefferson, Monroe and Lincoln.

When we abandoned our time tried policy of neutrality and non-interventionism and began to pass *official* moral judgments upon selected "gangster" governments and went to war to reform them, with the help of such other gangster governments as had reasons of their own to join us, we corroded basic American ideals. *It is a strange sight to see our present leaders march domestic Communists to prison and officially invite their foreign bosses to dinner!*

If governments derive their just powers from "the consent of the governed," we could not do legitimate business at Geneva. Where were the just powers of Bulganin, Khrushchev and Zhukov to speak for the Russian people? Such powers as they had were written in "murder, terror, slavery and the ruthless and brutal denial of human rights" as the GOP platform said.

Four presidents and their secretaries of state, including Charles Evans Hughes, refused to deal with such international bandits. When President Roosevelt was about to "recognize" the Bolsheviks in 1933, the labor statesman, Sam Gompers, said, "The Soviet power can not be recognized because it is an autocracy forced upon the people of Russia without their consent."

With reference to membership in the proposed United Nations, the Catholic Bishops of America in 1944 made a similar statement. In 1939, Pope Pius XI said, "No one who would save Christian civilization may collaborate with it (the Kremlin) in any undertaking whatever." When Russia attacked Finland, even Mr. Roosevelt said that Russia was a dictatorship as absolute as any the world had ever known. Within two years, however, Roosevelt called it a "freedom loving" outfit, which was a lie then as it is now. The League of Nations expelled the Soviets as outlaws.

As long as we have forsaken our historic policy of non-interventionism it would be better to say that the United States of America, "the land of the free," will not recognize any government that denies its people the right to free and uncoerced elections. Such a government, of course, should rest on the existence of free speech, a free press, the right to organize opposition political parties and to have a parliamentary form of government.

Many believe there can be no true peace for us as long as the gangster government of Russia and her kidnapped satellites exist. Many believe that our real allies in the search for a genuine and not a phony peace are not France, Italy, England, or Yugoslavia, but the oppressed underground in the Soviet Empire. What do we say to them — not in unofficial political platforms, but in

official statements from the White House itself?

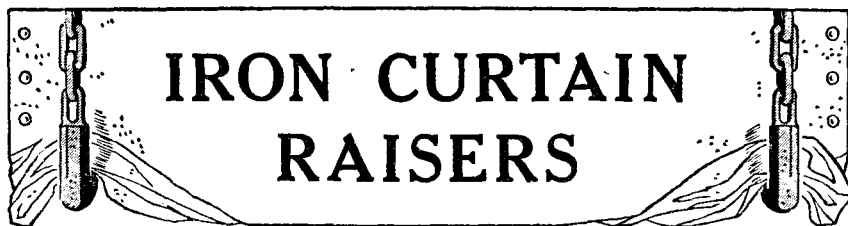
Whether successful revolution against their police state is possible, I do not know. But why close the door of hope to the millions in the Russian slave labor camps, and in Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the other conquered provinces behind the Iron Curtain?

It may be that the officials of both parties now in charge of our country have decided to close the book on the Declaration of Independence and its legacy of liberty. It may be that the policy has already been decided to cultivate the friendship of the masters of the slaves and thus buy "peace in our time."

It may be thus. But as long as a minority that will not sacrifice the Declaration of Independence to appease international criminals exists, and it will exist, they can warn Americans today as Lincoln did in 1858:

"What constitutes the bulwark of *our own* liberty? . . . Our defense is the preservation of the spirit which prizes liberty as *the heritage of all men, in all lands, everywhere*. Destroy this spirit and you have planted the seeds of despotism around your own doors. *Familiarize yourselves with the chains of bondage and you are preparing your own limbs to wear them.*"

What we should have presented to the masters of the slaves is the Declaration of Independence and the Emancipation Proclamation and say to them: "When you recognize these, we will recognize you."



# IRON CURTAIN RAISERS

► A high party official was inspecting a new hospital in Prague. In one ward he viewed a strange group of men who were hitting their heads against the wall. "Who are these people?" he asked. "Why do they act like this?"

The escorting physician explained: "These are people who have recently returned to Czechoslovakia from abroad."

► Marshal Bulganin made a personal inspection of the housing situation in Moscow. When he walked through a public park with his aides, he noticed two or three people sleeping on each park bench. He turned to an aide and said: "Comrade, we must correct this situation at once — see to it that more benches are put up immediately."

► A pledge by one Red worker in the Russian zone of Germany was hastily scrapped by horrified officials. The man's occupation: coffin bearer at the cemetery. The man's pledge: to "overfulfill" his monthly quota.

► A recent convert to Communism met a friend on a Prague street. "Long live Molotov!" he shouted with enthusiasm.

"Didn't you shout 'Long live Hitler' only a few years ago?" asked his friend.

"I sure did, but didn't he die?"

► Rules for Intellectuals: 1. When you think, do not talk. 2. When you talk, do not write about it. 3. When you do write something, deny it immediately.

► A Communist official in Poland met a non-political friend. "It's awful," said the Red, "NATO chiefs training troops and uniting Europe against Russia and what's worse, their headquarters in France."

"That's the worst of it," said the friend. "Why couldn't they have selected Poland?"

— PAUL STEINER

# *That* **OUNCE** *of* **Prevention**

*By the Reverend*  
**R. R. REED**

I WAS in my office at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary. The telephone rang sharply. I lifted the receiver and a voice inquired, "Chaplain Reed?"

"Yes, sir."

"This is Warden Waters. Can you come to my office right away?"

"Yes, sir. Be right there, Warden."

We all knew what was to take place on this day, but none of us had known who was to be the one responsible for the failure or success of it; "it" being the plan of a Tulsa judge. Now the Warden had called me and the responsibility was mine. I knew it was going to be an ordeal.

Usually we show the best within penal institutions, but this time I must show the worst, rottenest, basest, most degrading and sordid

part of prison life — and I must make it stick. The soul of a 16-year-old boy was at stake.

We will call the boy "Jim." He was charged with robbery with firearms, which can carry the death penalty in Oklahoma. Two things were in Jim's favor: It was his first offense and he had a judge who took the duties of his office seriously and was concerned about youth.

Jim's parents were of the middle income bracket, which as a rule does not spawn delinquents, and Jim had

never known want. He was an only child, was acquainted with Sunday school and church services. He had quit school but, contrary to most cases of this sort, was not running around with the "wrong crowd" at the time of his trouble.

The outcome of the case had been due to the combined efforts of the

