

The Trickery in Our Viet Withdrawal Offer, P. 3

De Gaulle's Noble Indignation and the State Dept.'s Effort at An Icy Retort

"We find it totally detestable that a small country should be bombed by a very big one."

—Gen. de Gaulle at his press conference, Oct. 28.

"State Dept. reacted icily yesterday to de Gaulle's advice to withdraw American troops from Vietnam on the

ground that a military victory there is impossible. The General, U.S. officials noted, is a professional military man and apparently thinks about victory only in military terms, which is not an avowed objective of the U.S."

—Associated Press in Washington Post, Oct. 29.

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Why China Builds Bombs At the Expense of Bread

Those whom the gods would destroy they first render complacent. China's giant strides to nuclear power represent the most important political and military development of our time. But both the great capitals challenged are doing their best to pretend nothing has happened. *Pravda*, in the prize journalistic underplay of the century, gave 16 words at the bottom of page 5 to the news that China had successfully tested a guided missile with a nuclear warhead. In Washington the *Daily News* hit the streets with a banner headline which should be preserved for the wry amusement of posterity. It said, "Red China's Missile Test Doesn't Scare Pentagon." If we had been editing that paper we would have put a second line under it, "But Pentagon's Smugness Scares Us."

Rusk's Crystal Ball Cracks Up Again

Secretary Rusk, seven days after the first Chinese nuclear explosion in 1964, assured the country that it would be "a very considerable number of years before there is anything there" i.e. in China "that would impose any serious problem." This remark should rank with his assertion in 1950 that Communist China was only a "Slavic Manchukuo", i.e. a Russian puppet state. In their fourth nuclear test in two years, the Chinese have shown that they could (1) build an operational intermediate ballistic missile, (2) perform the difficult feat of miniaturizing a nuclear warhead for it and (3) perfect the safety factor to the point where they could detonate it over their own territory. These were no small achievements. They were enough to make *Le Figaro* (Oct. 28) say that China had overtaken both England and France in the field of nuclear missiles (neither has yet tested a missile with live nuclear warhead) and must now be regarded as the No. 3 nuclear power.

Chinese nuclear capacity has been even more underestimated than was the Soviet Union's. In a Senate speech Oct. 18, just before the latest Chinese blast, Senator Jackson (*D. Wash.*) expressed surprise at "the weapons sophistication displayed" in the first three Chinese tests. The surprise in the first was the use of enriched uranium-235 instead of plutonium, which meant that the Chinese could build up a stockpile faster than expected. The surprise in the third, last May, was the use of "thermonuclear materials", which indicated that they could build H-bombs of an advanced type. The new feat, requiring a high degree of engineering competence, was accomplished faster than Secretary McNamara expected in the predictions he made

Songs The Pentagon Never Taught Them

His [the city based staff adviser] intelligence is six months old, his native wit is nil,
For him the trees teem with VC's and regiments crowd each hill,
He has no kinfolk in the woods, there's naught for him to lose,
So if in doubt he'll always shout, "Send in B-52s!"

The FAC [Forward Air Controller] rides forth to battle, a warrior without match
In his monogrammed flak jacket and his F-100 patch,
Put napalm on a hamlet and burnt the whole thing flat,
Got a thousand noncombatants and he's sorry about that.

The JG's [a Lt. Jr. grade acting as naval gunfire spotter] daily recon is the terror of the beach
As he calls for naval gunfire on everything in reach,
He sees supplies in every hootch [hut], the foe in every boat.

He's killed 100 fisherman, 12 chickens and a goat.

—From ballads the GI's sing in Vietnam, as reported in the New York Times Sunday Magazine, Oct. 30.

last December to the NATO Council. His forecast of a Chinese ICBM by 1975 may be an underestimate. "Considering the progress made in developing a nuclear missile system with an operational warhead," the famous nuclear physicist Ralph Lapp told the *Weekly*, "it would not be surprising if the Chinese could test an ICBM in two years." Senator Jackson, who is chairman of an atomic military applications subcommittee, believes China might put nuclear missiles on those of its submarines which are outfitted with tubes for surface launching of missiles. This would be enough to threaten our coastal ports. The Chinese may be able to deter us from an atomic attack on them earlier than we expected. The mere prospect will change the politics of Asia and the world.

The Chinese announcement of their nuclear missile test is too quickly being dismissed as propaganda. Much can be learned by a thoughtful reading. When they say that "at no time and in no circumstances will China be the first to use nuclear weapons," this is no more than a recognition of our nuclear superiority. All they can hope to do for many years to come is to have enough missiles to be able to inflict unac-

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The Pentagon Prepares The Way For A New Military Dictatorship In Santo Domingo

We're Starting to Help Balaguer The Way We Helped Diem

What little news filters through indicates that basic liberties are disappearing and trouble brewing again in the Dominican Republic. Two opposition Senators complained Oct. 19 that two radio programs, one by the 14 June Movement, the other by La Romana Sugar Mill United Union, had been suspended in their provinces in violation of constitutional rights. The radio stations which broadcast these programs were shut down to make them drop both programs. A similar and more serious incident occurred Oct. 25 when a leader of Juan Bosch's PRD was cut off the air after he criticized the government for giving land to foreign companies and the U.S. Embassy for interfering in domestic affairs.

Bosch Leaving in Protest

This was but the latest in a series of moves restricting the PRD, though it has been acting as a responsible opposition, trying to lay the foundations of a democratic society. These restrictions plus a continued right-wing terrorism which seems to have at least the tacit sympathy of police and army have created resentment inside the PRD. A substantial section of the youth has seceded and formed a democratic socialist movement. Bosch himself has broken silence to accuse the U.S. of "drastic intervention" in Dominican affairs and the Balaguer regime of repressing all political activity. Bosch has announced that he is resigning his leadership and leaving for Europe. The hope of peaceful change may go with him.

At this juncture, the Pentagon is taking steps which will make it easier to impose a military dictatorship again. An AP dispatch from Santo Domingo we saw in only one paper (*Washington Post*, Oct. 16) carried the disturbing news that the U.S. army is assigning bilingual advisers to the Dominican army "for a training program similar to the one begun in Vietnam in 1960." Though the Inter-American Force has departed, a U.S. Military Aid and Assistance Group remains. The Dominican Army will be the only one outside Vietnam to have U.S. advisers assigned to it down to the company level. The commanding officer of the U.S. mission was a military adviser in Vietnam in 1961. This should be enough to make Balaguer nervous. It certainly does us.

What the Manila Razzle-Dazzle Hid

"Manila—In an address to the National Press Club in Washington last month, President Marcos accused the previous Philippine administration of having 'coddled' the Hukbalahap guerrillas in Central Luzon. . . . Officials of the ousted Macapagal administration replied that Marco's police constabulary were shooting people just on the suspicion that they were Huks and that peasants had been 'massacred'. . . . When a sudden upsurge of Huk activity towards the middle of this year brought the Government forces into punitive action, some of the blunders that marked the early years of the Vietnam war were repeated. . . . What emerges principally from charge and counter-charge is the story of Government neglect that dates from the death of President Magsaysay in 1957. Magsaysay broke the Huks by winning the confidence of the peasants. Successive governments, having seen the Huks eliminated, did not trouble to eliminate the legitimate causes of peasant unrest."

—Denis Warner in the London Telegraph, Oct. 29.

The Dominican army is to be provided with enough trucks "to move to any trouble spot in the country" quickly. The AP said it is hoped thereby to prevent the sort of breakdown in communications "that paralyzed the Dominican army during the April rebellion last year." In short we are out to make sure that another revolt to reestablish constitutional government will be unsuccessful. We can see here the real meaning of military aid in Latin America. It was in just such a training program that the Trujillo dictatorship in the Dominican Republic originated. Instead of using our leverage to force Balaguer to restore political freedom, we are strengthening the "gorillas"—the military. This is Pax Americana as the Caribbean and Central America have known it for two generations.

To those who still believe military aid the best assurance of internal security we cite again the case of Costa Rica, the only securely democratic regime in Central America. It owes this to the fact that it long ago abolished its Army altogether and with it any danger of help from the U.S. military.

Will the FCC Sneak Approval of the ABC-ITT Merger While Congress Is Out of Town?

To permit ITT to acquire ABC by merger would be to hand over one of the big three TV-radio chains to the military-industrial complex. International Telephone & Telegraph is a major supplier to the military; half of its domestic income is from the government. Eighty percent of its total profits come from foreign operations in 118 countries; it is notorious in the history of our Latin American relations as a supporter of dictatorships and a beneficiary of big stick diplomacy. To let ITT take over ABC would hardly contribute, as Senator Gaylord Nelson (D. Wis.) suggested in a letter of protest to the FCC, to "the public's interest in objective news reporting."

A staff report to the Federal Communications Commission said the proposed merger "eclipses in size and surpasses in importance any other transfer of broadcast interests the Commission has yet been called upon to consider." Senator Morse warns the Commission may be planning to speed approval while Congress is out of session. Only two days of

hearings have been held by the FCC; no public spokesmen, only the two companies, have been heard. The FCC is said to be lined up 4-to-3 for the merger, and FCC Chairman Rosel Hyde has not agreed to Nelson's request that he hold up action until Justice Department has decided whether the merger is in violation of the Clayton Act.

Whether the merger is or not, the FCC has broad power to block it, for the law requires that the merger must be found to serve "the public interest, convenience and necessity." One critical member of the FCC, Nicholas Johnson, subjected one of the witnesses for the merger to sharp interrogation. He asked whether situations might not arise when ABC's desire to do a public affairs documentary might not clash with some of ITT's wide-ranging interests. "I couldn't imagine that," said the witness. He was former CIA Chief John A. McCone, named an ITT director just before the proposed merger was announced. He and Ike's old press secretary, Jim Hagerty, are its chief lobbyists.