



THE REPORTER'S NOTES

The British Decision

On a first reading, it is hard to find anything to be thankful for in the present Great Britain gave this country in its White Paper on the eighth anniversary of the founding of NATO on April 4. That document, announcing flatly that the British Isles were no longer defensible against nuclear attack, and that Britain's entire defense establishment must now be drastically overhauled to provide a nuclear deterrent only, impressed Washington as carrying a message of defeatism and despair. It will doubtless have a very special impact on an economy-minded Congress when its full implications for U.S. strategic interests around the globe have been weighed. But by the same token it may also supply a needed corrective to the divided counsels and wishful thinking that seem now to prevail in Washington.

For some time now, Americans have known or felt that Britain was reaching the point where it could no longer sustain a vast military establishment when economic security at home was in doubt. In a sense London has simply torn a leaf out of Admiral Radford's own notebook on the justification for giving priority to nuclear weapons. The British government's White Paper brutally confirms the obvious. While it narrows Britain's military defense to accord with hard atomic facts, it is based on the need to provide a firmer ground for peacetime economic strength both in the home islands and throughout the sterling area.

Other European capitals may follow London's example. A general movement is afoot in Europe to broaden each country's economic base. The six-power European common-market agreement is its most recent and dramatic single result. The chain of Franco-German accords is another. All the signatories and participants in these moves are weak countries militarily, relative to the

East-West giants. Turning away from the armaments race in which they cannot compete, they are now focusing on economic alternatives that may yet be their salvation—and ours as well. The military leadership of the West is ours. But we still need allies—now perhaps not so much because of divisions they can mount as because of their stability and social strength. So it may be that today, when calls upon us for atomic arms are likely to increase, our priority more than ever should be to encourage and help provide sound economic underpinnings.

Prayer

Robert Briscoe, Lord Mayor of Dublin, was greeted in Boston by the Reverend Joseph E. Manton, a priest of the Redemptorist Order, with an invocation of extraordinary grace:

"Almighty God, our good and gracious Father, we find ourselves a bit bewildered this morning. You know that the first President of the Irish Republic was a Protestant; the present Lord Mayor of Dublin is a Jew; the news is going around that the Lakes of Killarney belong to a Yank; and the historians keep hissing in our ears that St. Patrick was a French-

man. Please keep the blackthorns from becoming bamboo.

"But when we remember that Daniel O'Connell was named after a Jewish prophet, and Michael Collins after an archangel whose name is Hebrew, and that David is practically a synonym for harp, it makes us realize that the Jordan and the Shannon cannot be complete strangers as each goes running down to its separate sea.

"Help us then this morning to hold high the brimming cup of hospitality to a good and great man who represents both; and to greet him not as a stranger, but as a treasured friend. And while he is over here, make him in the best sense of the word a fair-weather friend, with none of those 'soft' days they have in Ireland, where, of course, it never really rains—those are only silver harp strings coming down—just a few drops of holy water sprinkled on the wind-shield. Deign to give him (mostly) serene and mellow weather so that he will go back as bright as the colors in the Book of Kells.

"And, dear God, stay the man up with monumental patience as he heroically endures a hundred toastmasters from here to the West Coast who will gaily imagine that the very fillings in their teeth are fragments

MODERN REPUBLICANISM

"Meade Alcorn renewed charges tonight that the Democratic party had 'coddled Communists' and provided a climate for 'corruption.'"—New York Times.

At moments it is hard to see
What's new about the G.O.P.,
As once again it reaffirms
In all the old and dog-eared terms
The list of Democratic C's
That brought this nation to its knees,
Contrasting past prolonged perdition
With its unswerving "sense of mission."
I guess it only goes to show
Old jokes from little Alcorns grow.

—SEC

of the Blarney Stone, as they ring all the obvious changes on a Jewish Mayor of Dublin. Help the poor man not to be banquet-weary of all these glib attempts to paint a green beard on Moses, or by the end he will be seeing little Leprecohens.

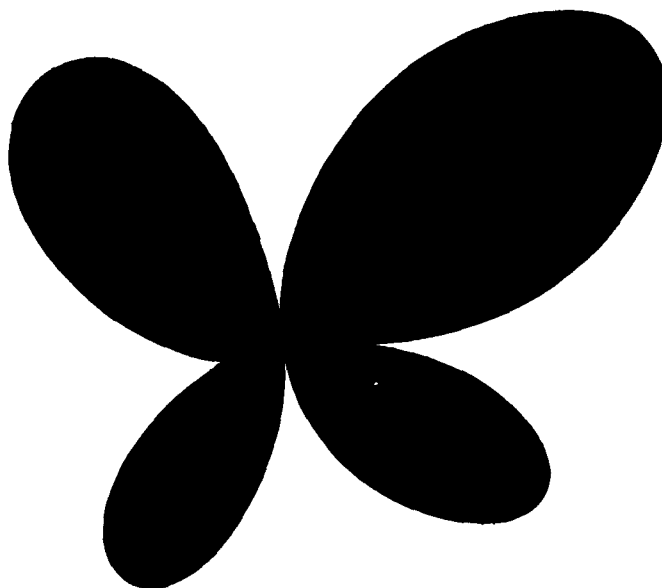
"Deliver him, O Lord, this real Irishman who risked his life for the land he loved, from any professional Irishmen (with an angle)—there are mercifully very few—but spare him even these; the sham shamrocks, the bogus bogtrotters, the synthetic Sinn Feiners, and especially the extravagant psycho-Patricks who love too loudly through a green haze an Ireland that never was. Instead, let him meet our wonderful best; the many, many genuine, practical people who appreciate that the purpose of this trip is not merely the wearin' of the green, but the sharin' of the green—by touring in Ireland and by trading with Ireland.

"Finally, dear God, bless this man, our friend; and this meal, our food; and today let the blessing come down generously even on the English muffins and the orange juice, so that having broken our fast at the top of the mornin', we may rise thanking You from the bottom of our hearts. Amen."

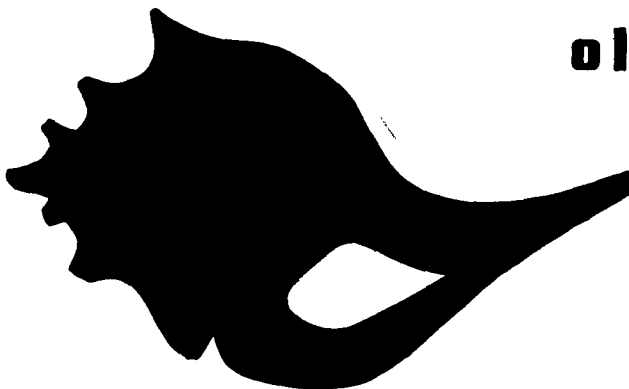
Buck Lateral

A President is fortunate when he knows his own mind and those of his closest associates in the Executive Branch as well and can get them all to agree—at least in public. President Eisenhower, however, evidently has had difficulty even in agreeing with himself on his \$71.8-billion 1958 budget, not to speak of getting together with his own Treasury Department.

When he first approved his record peacetime budget and presented it to Congress in January, he took cognizance of Secretary Humphrey's objections to its size and admitted that possibly it should be cut. This suggested that he was not completely sold on his own figures. Then when the House asked him for advice on how to cut, he passed the suggestion back like a man washing his hands of the matter and said Congress ought to do the job on its own. But in the first days of April he veered again and declared that he was, in



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fact, wholeheartedly behind his budget and against cutting it. Thereupon Mr. Humphrey's right-hand man, Under Secretary W. Randolph Burgess, took the occasion to say that, quite to the contrary, the budget could and should be slashed by as much as two or even three billion dollars.

The concept of teamwork is dear to the President. He prides himself on his way of applying it in the Administration. But in the present budgetary game it is not clear just who actually is playing on whose team. The ball, having been kicked from the White House to Capitol Hill and back several times, lies momentarily somewhere between the Treasury Department, Congress, and the Executive Mansion. Defense Secretary Wilson has been running interference for the President, crying that "not one dollar" should be slashed from Defense. On the other hand, Under Secretary Burgess insists that the President is really on his side and feels the budget should be cut after all. The result of such teamwork is to declare a field day in which anyone may pick up the ball and run any which way with it—from the Democrats on the Hill to the Republicans' own John Taber, ranking minority member of the House Appropriations Committee, who thinks the budget could come down by nearly \$7 billion.

Even now, after the President has come out once again to say that he is solidly for his budget, some indications remain that he is not really for all of it. At his April 3 press conference, he was asked whether he agreed with provisions in it that would add forty thousand people to the Federal payroll. After some hesitation he answered: "I don't agree that we need forty thousand more . . ." He had fought such an increase from the beginning, he added. But there that increase stood—written into the budget he had approved.

Faced with such cross-purposes, a Congress on the loose is inevitably adding confusion of its own. The House, under the slogan of "Economy," had made a show of slashing nearly \$200 million from vital social-welfare provisions, including medical aid to American Indians. Some of this has already been restored. More will have to be in order to

meet the requirements of existing legislation. The Senate, also crying economy, has slipped through a \$1.5-billion rivers-and-harbors pork-barrel bill of its own. In the free-for-all of pressure groups and lobbies, foreign aid is due to come up soon for rough treatment—and, as the President himself has pointed out, foreign aid has no lobby behind it. If on top of that it does not even have a team behind it, the going will be very rough indeed. But the President, these past months, has hardly given the impression of a leader quite sure in his own mind of anything.

Progress Report

April 3: Queried at his press conference about the current negotiations with Egypt on the Suez Canal, the President replied: "This is the problem that . . . is assigned to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. . . . we are supporting the United Nations . . ."

April 4: Queried about the same subject at his first press conference with U.N. correspondents since November 12, the Secretary-General stated that he was being kept "fully informed" by the governments involved in the negotiations and that "there is no need for me, so to speak, to squeeze myself in between."

April 4: The New York Times reported in a dispatch from Cairo: "Raymond A. Hare, United States Ambassador, has taken on the role of chief negotiator for the West on the Suez Canal issue."

April 5: "The West has given up all real hope of seeing the Suez Canal run as anything but Egypt's private ditch in the foreseeable future."—Wall Street Journal.

Pay Now, Gripe Later

Lord Brabazon of Tara, who holds British pilot's license No. 1 and has been variously a Minister of Transport and a Minister of Aircraft Production, has formed an organization called the International Society of Air Travelers and Air Transport Users, the main object of which is to stop airlines from treating passengers like "half-witted sheep."

Herewith we apply eagerly for membership, incensed by memories of long waits in bleak airports sus-

tained with no information beyond "There will be a slight delay in departure," the word "slight" being infinitely flexible.

The airlines are hell-bent on playing it cozy with their public-address messages in flight, wishing us a good trip and telling us that the stewardess's name is Miss Hoopersnoofer, but if they really want to keep their passengers one big happy family, they might give them a clue as to why engine No. 3 is making that funny noise and what other planes are stacked in the fog above and below us. It might also be diverting to pipe the pilot-to-tower talk into the passenger compartment. It can be as flavorsome as it is informative.

Gloom of Night

Congressman Clarence Cannon, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, got angry enough recently to declare that Postmaster General Summerfield had "violated the law" by spending his department's money too fast and that he would have to take the consequences. Mr. Summerfield, pointing to the rise in mail volume in the past few years, had asked for more money, but his appeal was initially rejected by Mr. Cannon and a House subcommittee. If the money were curtailed, Mr. Summerfield said, the services would have to be curtailed. This was when Mr. Cannon got mad.

We remember the suggestion made some time ago that somebody make bricks without straw. The consequences then were awesome. Rivers turned to blood, frogs came from everywhere into the houses, beds, and ovens; rain turned to hail and broke all the trees in the fields, and this was only the beginning.

Mr. Summerfield, with far less backing and not intending any Exodus, threatened that the refusal of the necessary wherewithal could mean no mail delivery on Saturdays, as well as other dire things. Nowadays, apparently, it is not necessary to hold punitive miracles over people's heads: You can gain your point merely by threatening to suspend existing ones. The Appropriations Committee, a mail-conscious body if ever there was one, quickly granted Mr. Summerfield \$17 million as a stopgap.



Age 4 . . . He Works Every Day Till Midnight

This is Antonis Pavolopoulos, age 4. At an hour when other children are sleeping, he sells almonds at an outdoor cafe every day till midnight. Thus he struggles to support himself. His ill parents cannot even provide him with his most basic need—his daily food. Two older children cannot find work, for this area in Greece is economically depressed. Like Antonis the younger children sell almonds to keep from starving. "Home" is one room with no ceiling. "Bed" is a bundle of old rags on the cement floor. Antonis begged his parents for permission to work. He cried till his father made a wooden basket for him. He tries to wrap the almonds himself in the little paper cones, but his tiny hands are too small. Only the parents' anguish of misery and poverty forced them to permit Antonis to work. Heartsick and weary, they look with despair on Antonis and their other children who go to bed at night only with hunger and distress. Won't you help a distressed child like Antonis and his family—for your help today means hope for tomorrow.

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PEOPLE TO PEOPLE

To the Editor: I was indeed interested in William Harlan Hale's article, "Every Man an Ambassador," in the March 21 issue of *The Reporter*. I am purchasing copies of this to distribute to the various members of my committee and presume that many of the People to People Committee will do likewise.

This is a real contribution to a better understanding of the purpose of this Presidential committee.

THEODORE S. REPPLIER

President

The Advertising Council, Inc.
Washington, D.C.

To the Editor: I don't go along with William Faulkner's idea of making every American shut up and prohibiting Americans from traveling abroad for a year, but I assume that when he said this he was expecting to get some pretty snappy comebacks which would add to the spice of discussions with his Committee.

CYRUS S. CHING
Washington, D.C.

To the Editor: Thank you very much for the boost given to the program.

ARTHUR LARSON

Director

U.S. Information Agency
Washington, D.C.

To the Editor: As a former State Department and U.S. Information officer, I have studied this development from the beginning in September of last year. I think Mr. Hale's article is well written in its description of the varied efforts made toward accomplishment of the President's objective of common understanding. I personally have some reservations as to the reaction abroad to such a widespread and apparently spontaneous and sincere activity. The tendency in our country, demonstrated by history, is to seize an appealing idea and play it for all it's worth, sometimes to the exhaustion of the beneficiary.

With so many involved in this new program, it seems we must be particularly careful that the principle of communication does not give way to the principle

of propaganda or straight publicity. Among the earlier difficulties of the U.S. Information Program in Europe was the "split philosophical approach" by which our information and cultural officers, in their mission of presenting America, its potentialities, and its foreign policy in a very favorable light, found in many instances that the foreign nationals, enthusiastic and hopeful over the possibilities of visiting the United States, were only frustrated, if not rebuffed, by the elaborate mechanisms established in our consulates for the control of travel to America. This, combined with the lack of a unified foreign policy, as expressed by representatives of the State Department sometimes differing from the expression of the U.S. Information Agency officers, brought about additional confusion. There would appear to be a danger of overselling this "People to People Program."

The merit, attractiveness, and validity of the program are beyond question. The timing of various stages and the worldwide publicity attendant on these developments poses a far more serious consideration. It would seem essential that the spontaneity of these early months be kept alive. If this can be done the basic sincerity and wholeheartedness of each American will eventually be recognized abroad and serve as a major force to the improvement of international understanding.

DAVIS O. HARRINGTON

Royal McBee Corporation
Port Chester, New York

To the Editor: Mr. Hale tells a fine story about the important People to People Program, but I do regret that he did not include a good statement on the importance of the youth activities. I am of the opinion that the Youth Committee of the People to People Program with its thirty-two agencies participating, many of which have counterparts abroad, will undoubtedly influence more people than any other committee and at a point in the lives where this influence will be of tremendous value to the future.

Understand, I am not critical. It is only that I regret that this very important work was not included.

ARTHUR A. SCHUCK

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To the Editor: William Harlan Hale's article is a timely reminder that travel agents should advise the two million tourists they help send abroad each year that every man is an ambassador. Whether they realize it or not, Americans abroad are constantly observed. Their actions, speech, and conduct help to shape foreign opinion of our country.

There is a very useful booklet, "What Should I Know When I Travel Abroad," published by the Common Council for American Unity, Willkie Memorial Build-

ing, 20 West 40th Street, New York 18, which should be included with every traveler's tickets.

R. W. HEMPHILL
President
American Society of
Travel Agents, Inc.
New York

To the Editor: For most of the past decade I have advocated a more gainful employment of the traveler as a force for good in propagating democratic processes, mutual understanding, and peace among the peoples of the world. This may seem like a large mouthful, but certainly worth the chewing when we stop to consider its ultimate benefits.

Recently, I recommended to the American Society of Travel Agents that it consider working for the designation by President Eisenhower of an annual World Travel Week. It was my feeling that such a proclamation would serve to focus world attention on travel and tourists and set the scene for countless good strokes on the part of every facet of the industry in promoting the worthy tenets of the People to People Program. As World Travel Week's theme I suggested the slogan "See the World and Meet the People."

NORMAN READER
Public Information Director
French Government Tourist Office
New York

THE FLOOD THAT WAS

To the Editor: In the February 21 issue of your always interesting publication there was a *Reporter's* "Note" headed "The Flood That Wasn't" which may have left some readers with a mistaken impression of the January floods in the South.

Your comment applied only to the situation around Chattanooga, of course, and in that narrow sense the title was quite justified. Unfortunately, the people in large areas of eastern Kentucky, West Virginia, and southwestern Virginia were not so lucky. Nearly twelve thousand homes in these states were damaged. Hundreds were destroyed. Approximately thirty thousand people driven from homes by water had to be sheltered and fed. It became necessary for Red Cross to assign nearly 350 staff workers to the area, many for a considerable time, to help the victims get back on their feet. And Red Cross has had to budget well over \$4 million for this particular operation. Hence, to Red Cross it is hardly a "Flood That Wasn't."

As a result of the "Flood That Was" in the lower Appalachian region, the Red Cross has had to increase the goal of its current 1957 Campaign for Members and Funds to a total of \$95 million. The American people have always given generously to Red Cross and are doing so again this year, of course. But they are hardly likely to increase their giving—as must be done if Red Cross's capacity to respond quickly in disaster is to be restored—if the idea gets around that this flood "wasn't."

So, with no desire to quarrel or quibble over your original premise, we do feel you

could render a genuine service to the American people in their own behalf by noting that there *was* a flood in the lower Appalachian region in late January and that it has exhausted the Red Cross disaster funds *and* reserve funds. There has never been a greater need for contributing to your Red Cross than there is today.

HARRY MARTIN
Director
Office of Public Information
The American National Red Cross
Washington, D.C.

IN RE SEC

To the Editor: I regretted the sneer at the Philippines which occurred in the jingle on the second page (*The Reporter*, April 4). It is much more than an island in the sea, and there is urgent reason for having the "first and fittest in the line of major-league diplomacy" sent there.

I am sorry also to see language made the sole criterion in other appointments. When Mr. Conant went to Germany, he could not speak German, though he made a great effort to learn it very promptly. Mr. Bruce is a seasoned and accomplished diplomat, a symbol of bipartisanship, and if his only deficiency is current lack of being able to speak German, I do not think that should be decisive. What Mr. Houghton will do we will know at a later time.

I think it is essential for our professionals to have high language competence, but not nearly so important for the non-professionals, though it is desirable they should attempt to acquire it.

HENRY M. WRISTON
Executive Director
The American Assembly
Graduate School of Business
Columbia University
New York

LINES TO SEC


To thee I dedicate these humble rhymes,
Whose poetry, enticing in its style,
Has little use for garish jargon, while
Expounding gross injustice in our times.

These timely poems the cells of thought
excite,
Congealed by daily waves of witless prose;
And every line reveals profound insight
Of world events, of truth and how it grows.

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Thou brave, undaunted, controversial SEC.

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WHO—WHAT—WHY—

IT IS A truism but too many people forget it: What counts in Russia is the Russians. In one of the very early issues of this magazine (August 10, 1949), **Max Ascoli** pointed out in an editorial that "the Soviet man is . . . perhaps the most important fact of our contemporary life . . . for our own survival we must try to see clearly what he is to us." And he added: "Man is never totally motionless or uniform; even the Soviet man changes." Once again *The Reporter* takes a look at the Russian people, who, though molded by their régime and imprisoned within it, alone can change it. We look at the Russian soldier, for whom memories of Stalingrad are now tarnished by memories of Budapest. What happens to the morale of an army, especially a "people's army," when it is called upon to shoot down plain working people and peasants? **George Bailey** is exceptionally well qualified to answer this question, for he knows the Russian soldier at first hand. In 1945 he was General Walter Bedell Smith's interpreter in Russian and German at the surrender negotiations in Rheims. He was chief liaison officer to the Fifth Russian Guards Assault Army in Czechoslovakia and later was in Weimar with the Eleventh Russian Guards Shock Army. From 1951 to 1954 he was liaison officer to the Soviet forces in Germany, and from 1954 to 1956 was Senior Consultant on Soviet Affairs at the Pentagon (DAC).

The Italian novelist **Alberto Moravia** gives us his traveler's impressions of Russia with a novelist's skill and understanding.

Louis Fischer made his first trip to Russia in 1922. His article is based on a chapter from *Russia Revisited: A New Look at Russia and Her Satellites*, which Doubleday will publish in August.

THE VIEWS of Hollywood and the motion-picture industry that Robert Ardrey has given us (January 24, February 21, March 21) have aroused wide comment. **Dore Schary** now gives another side of the pic-

ture, based on his own experience. Mr. Schary, writer, producer, and executive, has served in Hollywood for almost twenty-five years. During the last eight and a half years he was head of M-G-M studios. He now intends to go into a diversified program that will keep him writing, and possibly producing some plays in addition to motion pictures.

Edmond Taylor, our regular European correspondent, describes one of the most important and controversial political figures in West Germany today: that nation's new Defense Minister, Franz-Josef Strauss. The recent publication of John Robinson Beal's biography of Secretary Dulles and the controversy this book has aroused may perhaps focus even sharper public attention on Senator Fulbright's newly launched investigation of American Middle East policy. Contributing Editor **William Harlan Hale** has just returned from Washington with a story founded on his talks with the chief figures concerned with the investigation.

Patricia Alvis Kosobud's short story "Interim" is the first she has published. **Sydney D. Bailey**, U.N. representative of the Friends World Committee (Quakers), has written a history of Ceylon and is the author of a textbook on British government to be published shortly by Houghton Mifflin. **Christine Weston** was born in the United Provinces of India of French and English parents, and lived in India until her marriage in 1924. Since then she has lived in the United States.

Roger Maren, who describes the new and fantastic instruments science has now put into the hands of composers of music, is a young musicologist living in Princeton. **David Demarest Lloyd** served in the American embassies in Paris and London after the war as a legal consultant; he is executive director of the Harry S. Truman Library, Inc., in Washington, D. C.

Our cover, a rendering of the Church of St. Basil in Moscow, is by **Ruth Fluno**.