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The International Week

The nations of Western and Northern Europe continued on the anxious seat awaiting congressional determination of what US military aid they could expect. In the Indonesian case, a cease fire agreement was finally signed between the Netherlands and the Republic, further paving the way for holding the proposed round-table conference at The Hague. The SC approved Liechtenstein's application to become a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice. The UN Atomic Energy Commission adopted 9-2 (USSR, Ukraine) the US resolution suspending further atomic energy talks until great power agreement is reached. Meanwhile, the Commission for Conventional Armaments approved the French arms census proposal 8-3 (USSR, Ukraine, Egypt) in the face of an inevitable Soviet veto when the plan reaches the SC.



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French veto position to force modification of US plans.  
While the USSR is certain to obstruct any plan to curtail the veto, disclosure of disagreement among the Western Powers on this issue would bolster Soviet propaganda. Consequently, some change in US plans for the approaching meeting of the five permanent SC members, may be necessitated by the divergence between the US-Chinese veto position on the one hand and the French, and to a lesser degree British, position on the other.

The French wish to retain the right of veto in five classes of SC decisions where the US and China are ready to waive this right: -- (a) admission of UN members; (b) determination to investigate a dispute or situation; (c) determination whether a dispute or situation may endanger the peace; (d) determination whether a dispute which the parties refer to the SC may endanger the peace; and (e) recommendation of terms of settlement to parties which have referred a dispute to the SC. The British position is parallel to that of the US except as to (d) and (e) where it clings to the veto.

Lack of agreement between permanent SC members other than the USSR leaves the US with two alternatives. First, it can follow a French suggestion whereby five-power discussion of details regarding veto modifications would be avoided, relying on the USSR to reject the whole program out of hand. Second, it can embark on detailed five-power discussion in the hope of persuading the French to modify their stand. In such a case, the British position occupying the middle ground, might well furnish a basis for compromise between the Western Powers.

SC elections plague the West. Selection of a replacement for the Ukraine on expiration of its Security Council membership next December has become a ticklish problem for the Western Powers in view of the impending change in the political complexion of the Chinese delegation. At the present time, the USSR alone of the Communist bloc possesses a veto. Furthermore, only two Communist states have sat in the Council at one time -- the USSR and an Eastern European state, first Poland then the Ukraine. If a Communist China is seated at the Council table, the USSR will be able to share its veto power with it, in this way avoiding the odium of repeated vetoes. The Communist bloc would also be expanded to three, thus impairing the moral impressiveness of previous 9-2 SC votes. To avoid this eventuality, both the UK and Canada are considering replacing the Ukraine with a non-Communist state -- a move which

would encounter considerable Slav opposition. Recently it has been suggested that the Western Powers unobtrusively back Yugoslavia for the Eastern European seat since this would manifest that due regard for equitable distribution of SC seats enjoined by the UN Charter. The USSR is apparently not even considering Yugoslavia since a member of the Soviet UN delegation recently stated that while no decision had been reached on the Ukraine's successor, "the field was limited -- limited in fact to Byelorussia, Poland and Czechoslovakia." Yugoslavia's election would leave the USSR nonplussed and much discomfited. Accustomed to being the sole spokesman for Eastern Europeans, it would constantly be annoyed by an apostate at its side. However, the Tito Government might find SC membership an embarrassment at this time because of the necessity of taking sides between East and West. Until recently, Tito has sided with and received support from other Slav states at international gatherings despite dissension in the Communist bloc. However, forcing Tito to choose sides in the SC would be liable to push him faster than he is willing to move and thus prejudice the ~~choice~~ *chance* of Yugoslavia's possible approach to the Western fold.

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SC likely to lift Palestine arms embargo. As a logical sequence to the conclusion of armistices between Israel and all its Arab neighbors, UN Mediator Bunche favors lifting the arms embargo. In view of the dismantling of the machinery of truce supervision, Bunche feels it would be unrealistic to prolong the embargo. Moreover, he fears that debate of the issue in the Security Council would inevitably focus attention on Israel's past violations of the truce with respect to "immigration" of fighting men and importation of arms from Eastern Europe.

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Possible repercussions of congressional attacks on the UN Secretariat. The indiscriminate publicizing of loose and unsubstantiated charges, in some cases by anonymous witnesses, against the UN Secretariat by the Senate Judiciary Committee is likely to set up an unfavorable reaction against the US among other UN members. In fact, it would not be surprising if the US were to be made the subject of open criticism on this account during the next GA. The US occupies the role of host to the UN, with all the obligations implied from that status, and if its hospitality should be abused, the terms of the US-UN Headquarters Agreement provide ample remedial machinery. Meanwhile, the uncritical magnification of such commonplace as that of the presence of followers of Communist ideology in an international organization, serves merely to antagonize even those UN delegations which are by no means Communist.

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Austrian labor chief would let Austrian Communists stay in WFTU. Responding to a Communist demand to clarify its relationship to the World Federation of Trade Unions, the Socialist-oriented Austrian Trade Union Federation is considering a compromise permitting its Communist faction to stay in the WFTU but committing the Federation as a whole to membership in the Geneva Free Trade Union International. Under this arrangement, informally proposed by the Federation's Socialist president, the Austrian Federation would first withdraw from the WFTU and then allow its Communist elements to rejoin on the basis of its estimated Communist membership. This proposal probably reflects the desire of Austria's Socialist labor leadership to leave the WFTU without too much commotion. It may also reflect a desire to postpone a final showdown with the Communists. However, it is opposed by some Austrian trade unionists who point out that Austrian Communists remaining in the WFTU would doubtless be accepted as representatives of the national Federation and would thus be able to misrepresent its policies. Such a solution, they contend, would only increase friction inside the Austrian Federation and eventually lead to its dissolution. This arrangement would probably be even less acceptable to the Western labor organizations backing the Geneva international since it would encourage leftwing labor unions (such as the US westcoast longshoremen and Canada's electrical workers) to assert their right to join the WFTU in defiance of the decision of their national organizations to withdraw.

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Soviet attacks on MAP. The US Military Aid Program (MAP) is coming under increasingly heavy fire from Communist propa-

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ganda media. The standard line accuses the US of seeking to "satellite" Europe by assuming control of Western European armed forces in order to utilize them to enslave the working classes and furnish cannon fodder for US aggression. A more subtle and potentially more effective propaganda charge is that MAP is designed to increase European arms production in order to decrease the output of goods which compete with US export production. This theme, which can be neatly dovetailed into persistent Soviet predictions of an imminent US economic crisis, will probably obtain greater credence than reiterated warnings of US imperialism.

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IOG NOTES

A "nasty nice lesson in ethics". India, seeking votes for its election to the Security Council, recently solicited Pakistan's support. In replying, the Karachi Government intends to reveal its own candidacy but to add that it will not raise this issue so long as its dispute with India over Kashmir is before the Council.

SC approves Liechtenstein as a party to ICJ Statute. In a move perhaps indicative of a desire to avoid expending vetoes on trivial issues, the USSR recently abstained on the question of Liechtenstein's eligibility to become a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice. Accordingly the SC decided that Liechtenstein was a sovereign state and approved its application to adhere to the Statute 9-0-2 (USSR and the Ukraine). The two Soviet members had vigorously objected that the tiny principality was not a sovereign independent state and had charged that the application was sponsored only to enable the Western bloc to pick up an additional vote in UN organs. The representative of that outstandingly sovereign and independent republic, the Ukraine, (mirabile dictu!) went so far as to denounce Liechtenstein as a mere satellite of "imperialistic" Switzerland.

Council of Europe to meet. European unification will take one more short step forward with the opening of the first meeting of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg next week. The Council, at present limited to the UK, France, Italy, Ireland, Benelux and the three Scandinavian countries, will consider expanding its membership to include Greece, Turkey and possibly Iceland. Action on Austrian and German membership will probably be postponed pending developments both as to Austrian treaty negotiations and the new West German state. French sponsorship of the Saar will undoubtedly encounter unsurmountable opposition.