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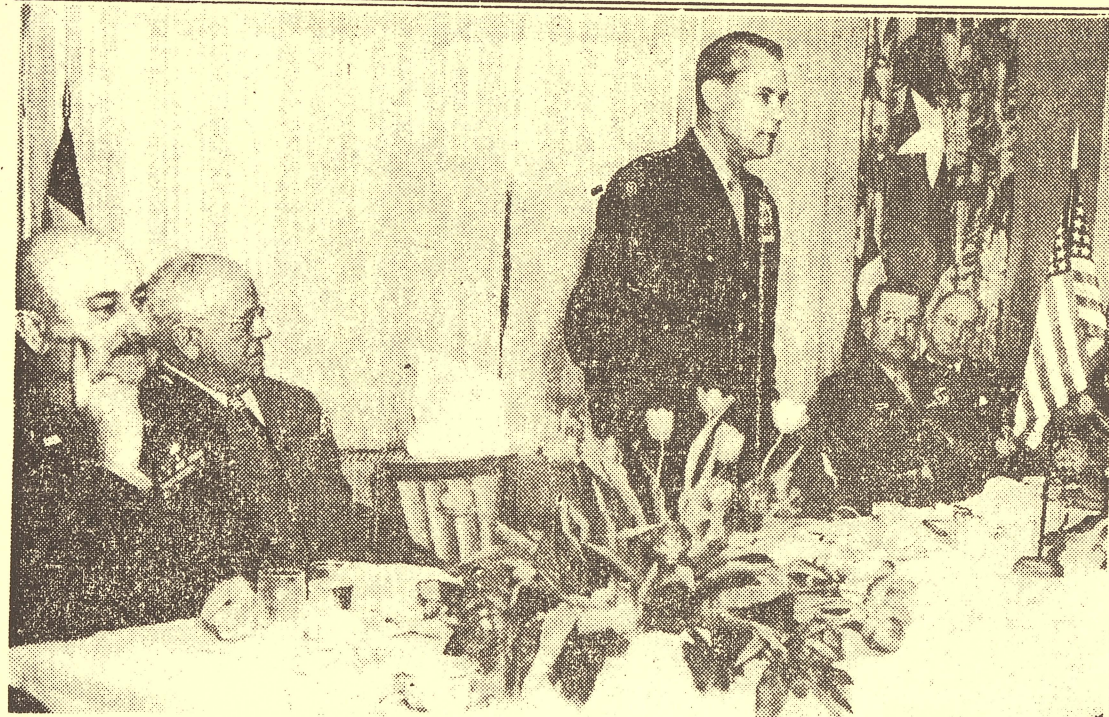
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FORT WORTH, TEXAS •••Where the West Begins••• WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1949.

TWENTY-TWO PA



Red Charges Are 'Absurd,' Smith Says

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (INS). Ambassador to Russia Walter Bedell Smith ridiculed as "absurd" Tuesday Soviet charges that he and other American embassy officials acted as spies and black-marketeers in Moscow.

The envoy implied that the lurid accusations, hurled by an American-born former woman employee of the embassy, were made under threats from the Soviet propaganda machine. Smith, General Eisenhower's wartime chief of staff, asserted:

"I am certain that the Kremlin itself would absolve me of any charge of espionage."

Miss Annabelle Bucar, daughter of a well-to-do Pennsylvania businessman, kindled the newest diplomatic hot spot in the "cold war" when she made her charges in a Russian-language book entitled "The Truth About American Diplomats."

Smith said he doubted whether Miss Bucar, whose father disowned her after she married a Russian baritone, ever wrote the book. He pointed out that she is the mother of a young child whom she wants to bring to the United States and is in no position to refuse to co-operate with Soviet propagandists.

(In Clairton, Pa., Ivan Bucar, the girl's father, said "she is in a web over there" and added he would like to see her come home to America.)

Diplomatic quarters in Washington regarded Miss Bucar's published accusations as another episode in Russia's "hate" campaign against the United States.

CHILD'S HEARTACHE

Actress Sobs As Mother Weds Again

PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 22 (AP).—Tears streamed down the face of 12-year-old Movie Star Margaret O'Brien Tuesday night as she watched her mother, Mrs. Gladys O'Brien, married to Orchestra Leader Don Sylvio.

The real life drama was almost too much for the tiny screen player.

Margaret stood quietly in her mother's hotel suite, her hands clenched and her eyes red during the five-minute civil ceremony performed by Palm Beach County Judge Richard P. Robbins.

Afterward she refused to kiss her new stepfather when photographers made the request. She wiped her eyes and smiled briefly for group pictures, like a good trouper, and then began weeping again.

Timely Rescue Rushed by Mother

Lightning 'Butts in' on Phone Talk, Leaves Fireman's Wife Near Death

A bolt of lightning put an abrupt end to a telephone conversation between mother and daughter at noon Tuesday and left the 23-year-old daughter close to death at her Lake Worth home.

When the lightning struck near her home, Mrs. W. F. Hardisty, wife of a city fireman, was talking to her mother, Mrs. W. L. Hammontree, who was at a downtown store.

The electrical jolt stunned Mrs.

Hardisty but she managed to stammer out, "Mother, lightning struck me... call Franklin," before losing consciousness.

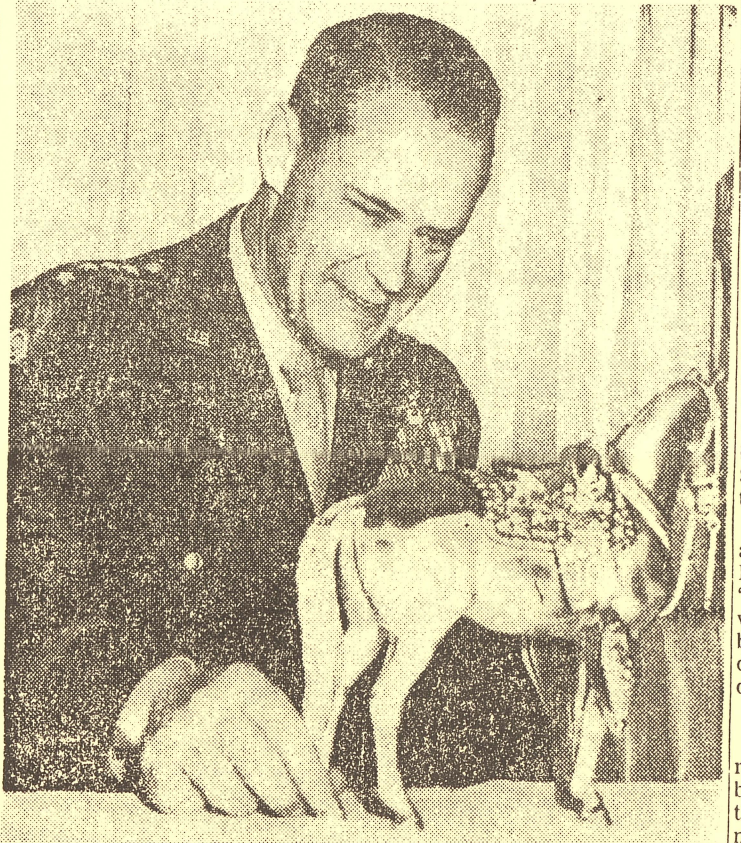
The frantic mother quickly called her husband, a North Side used car dealer, then contacted her son-in-law, Franklin Hardisty, at the Lake Como fire hall. All began a mad dash to the Meandering Road home where the unconscious woman lay.

When Miller Brother's ambulance attendants arrived, Mrs.

Hardisty was not breathing and her pulse was weak. She was given oxygen en route to St. Joseph's Hospital, however, and was revived after 45 minutes.

Electric service in the neighborhood was disrupted by the bolt, but telephone circuits apparently were not affected.

Mrs. Hardisty was kept under hospital observation Tuesday afternoon, but sent home about 5 p. m. when no lasting effects of the jolt could be found.



—Star-Telegram Staff Photos.
TOPS IN WORLD—Calling the 8th Air Force and B-36 bomber "tops in the world," Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg pulled no punches in a Washington birthday address Tuesday, defending the B-36 from critics and insisting the Air Force has the backing of President Truman. Below, he is shown admiring a miniature golden horse presented to "the top sky cowboy" by Amon Carter. Upper photo, left to right, hearing the Air Force chief's luncheon talk are: Brig. Gen. A. Robert Ginsburgh, deputy Air Force information chief; Mayor Deen; General Vandenberg; Maj. Gen. Roger Ramey, 8th Air Force commander; and Web Maddox, Chamber of Commerce president.

VANDENBERG RATES B-36, 8TH A. F. TOPS

Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg "rode herd" on the B-36 bomber and the 8th Air Force Tuesday and gave them his approval as "tops" of anything else in the world.

The chief of the Air Force, here for his first inspection of the "new" 8th since it has become the nation's most expertly trained unit for atomic warfare, cautioned that "the way to start going down hill is to get the idea we've reached perfection—and we haven't done that. We're going to keep improving the 8th Air Force."

Hitting back at unseen critics, he told guests at a Washington birthday luncheon at River Crest Country Club:

"The B-36 has been attacked quite a bit in the press and my answer to that criticism is this: If the B-36 does what we are confident it will do, it will make certain other things obsolete. Under such circumstances, there are a lot of people who would not like to see a plane like the B-36 in production."

Test flights already have proved the B-36 has exceptionally long range and operational altitude, he pointed out, and its altitude alone toughens the problem of fighter plane interception.

"That problem increases with the cube of the distance as you go upward, to put it mathematically," he explained. "With every 7,000 feet you go upward with a bomber, the fighter has to have 100 miles an hour more in speed. When you get up to 40,000 feet, the eyesight isn't so keen and the fighter can't maneuver very rapidly. What's more, the fighter is coming toward the bomber's bullets and gets them first." He

Turn to Vandenberg on Page 2.

Hitchhikers Sought For Slugging Airman

State, county and city officers were alerted late Tuesday night in search for two hitchhikers who slugged an 18-year-old Hensley Field airman and robbed him of his auto.

Victim was Pfc. Ernest T. Davis, who reported that the men, whom he had picked up earlier in the night, forced him to drive up a country lane one mile north of Village Creek about 10 p. m.

There, they forced him from his sedan, beat him and took his wallet, containing identification papers, Davis related.

Key Issues Confront City Council

Sale of Coliseum, Casa Manana Bonds Up for Study Today

Two important issues—sale of the North Side Coliseum and issuance of \$500,000 in bonds for construction of Casa Manana—will confront the City Council at 9:30 a. m. meeting Wednesday. An overflow crowd is expected. Injection of the Board of Education into the coliseum question since last week's meeting may delay again a decision by the council. E. O. Gillam, North Side soap manufacturer, has offered \$10,000 to the board to help in the building for the schools.

The board does not plan to be a representative at the meeting. Dr. F. E. Garrison, president, said: "I believe the council knows how we feel, and if it should deviate by tomorrow morning that they do not, we'll send a letter stating our position," Garrison stated.

Many Angles.

There are many "angles and ramifications" involved in the building sale that Garrison and the board want to study before making a decision.

He pointed out that the educators had an architect survey the coliseum five months ago for possible purchase, and decided against it.

George Conner, board member, said the building was available at that time for \$75,000 to \$100,000 and that the board decided against the purchase.

"We talked about buying it a year ago and one member said we might want to consider it again after the basketball season," he said. The building is open to our consideration at the end of the season when we have added up our statistics, we then can either confirm or deny our prior judgment, Conner said. The city's high school basketball teams have been using the building under a lease arrangement with the presalesman, R. G. McElyea. The season is over March 1.

Reiterates Offer.

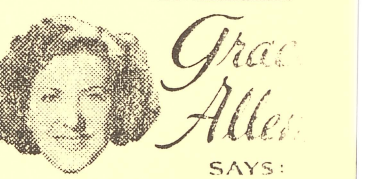
Gillam reiterated Tuesday his offer of \$10,000 still stands, and that there has been widespread response to the offer. He clarified his stand somewhat.

Gillam wants the city to transfer title of the coliseum to the schools, use his and other contributions for rehabilitation of the building and enlarge its use.

"I think we have good men on that council and I don't believe they'll take the people's property away. I don't believe they're that kind of men," Gillam said.

Gillam offered to help pay money for repairs on the building, if the board wants him to do so.

McElyea and his attorney will turn to City Council on Page 2.



SAYS:

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 22 (AP).—There are probably a lot of places where it might be wise for Christian Dior, the famous Paris designer, to stay away from these days, and one of them is Jacksonville, Fla., when nylon hose are falling in pieces on the legs of Jacksonville girls on account of acid rain something in the air. Mr. Dior wants to raise the length of women's skirts about four inches.

I don't know much about Dior's past life or environment beyond his having been responsible for the "new look," but I would guess that his mother must have spent a lot of time in elevators. A year and a half ago, he would haul them up again.

I must say my husband is very sympathetic about the idea of shorter skirts. He handed me a pair of scissors and said: "Go, fashionable." And he also said that with the ladies' "new look" gone, there may be a reason for men taking a "second look" again. Two of them, in fact.

Released by Consolidated News Feature

Leaders Spur US Arms To Bolster Atlantic Alliance

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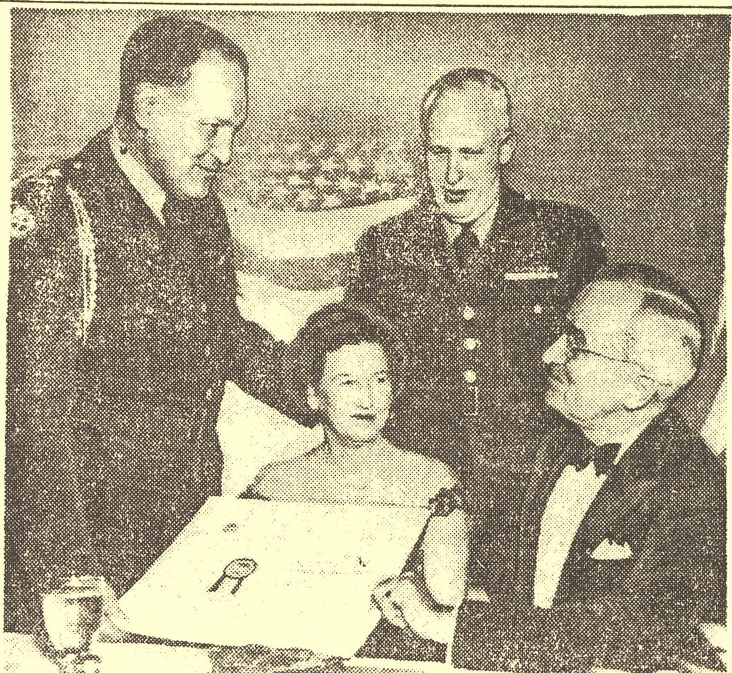
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TRUMAN AIDE HONORED—President Truman and

Congress Will Program Arms

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 (INS).—The administration has expedited plans Tuesday for a bill for submission to Congress to speed up the arms program.

The armaments legislation passed around April 1, soon after it has been signed and sent to the Senate. In addition to providing for arms to ease defense deficiencies of European members of the seven-power pact, the legislation is expected to include military aid for Greece and Turkey and other countries in the strategic orbit of the non-Communist world.

Provides Authority.

Since Norway's adherence to the Atlantic Pact seems assured, it is assumed that her requirements will be provided for.

MORE ABOUT VANDENBERG

Continued From Page 1.

added that "the B-36 is a wonderful ship and we're glad we have it."

Vandenberg linked with the B-36's intercontinental range the urgent importance of establishing a radar screen around the United States, to give warning of approaching attackers, especially in Arctic northwest and northeast.

"The United States has the greatest communication network in the world," he reasoned, "while other countries which might be regarded as potential enemies have nothing like our communications system or at best a primitive one, vast expanses and tremendous problems."

Pulling no punches in his principal address of National Security Week, the Air Force chief referred to "a lot of talk in the press, particularly the unfriendly press, that Secretary Symington and myself are bucking the president in the matter of a 70-group Air Force, when nothing could be further from the truth."

Need 70 Groups.

"Since 1945 we have said we need a 70-group Air Force," he explained, "and we have never changed. That position is backed by statistics and consideration of potential targets we would be required to hit in the event of a war. However, we have always recognized other factors. We consider there are two ways in which this country could 'go under'—it could be captured and overrun, or it could spend itself into bankruptcy and defeat. The president has the job of balancing the budget. Whatever program he comes out for, that we are for. He has to look at both the military and economic factors."

He added emphatically that "Mr. Truman has given us permission to seek authorization for the 70-group Air Force, the sort of basic authorization the Navy has always had for its expansion and we never have—and Congress apparently is going along with that."

"This year the president has decided on an amount of money that will support 48 groups. We could support 70 groups on that but they would not be groups 'ready to go.' An Air Force is no good unless it is ready to go, the minute an offensive is actively started against us. We're going to have an Air Force ready to go, as well-manned and well-equipped as we can make it."

Amon Carter, host for the luncheon, presented General Vandenberg with a Shady Oak hat, then with a miniature golden horse, "since a cowboy must have a horse."

Vandenberg responded that "Of all the people in the United States who have boosted aviation and air power, the one who stands out is

Amon Carter. We appreciate his help, because we in the Air Force are young and we need it."

Congressmen Praised.

He praised also the Texas delegation in Congress, particularly Sen. Lyndon Johnson, saying: "That fellow has gone to bat for the Air Force and for Texas. We're proud he's on our team. Congressman Kilday of San Antonio has done the same thing, and they have the complete backing of the Texas delegation."

Pursuing a fast schedule from breakfast at the Fort Worth Club until his plane left for Washington in mid-afternoon, Vandenberg first made an inspection trip around Carswell Air Base with Maj. Gen. Roger Ramey, 8th Air Force commander, accompanied by Brig. Gen. A. Robert Ginsburgh, deputy chief of the Air Force information service; Maj. John G. White, General Vandenberg's aide; Col. Alan D. Clark, Carswell base commander; Col. Cecil Combs, 8th deputy commander, and Col. John A. Roberts Jr., 8th chief of staff.

Met at the Convair plant by Ray O. Ryan, division manager, Vandenberg went into the main assembly building and climbed a workmen's catwalk to the top of a big ship's wing, then hurried across the ramp by automobile to climb into the pilot cabin of a new ship being readied for delivery to the Air Force and tried out the controls himself.

The Air Force chief was welcomed at the luncheon by Mayor Deen and Web Maddox, Chamber of Commerce president. He responded: "I know Fort Worth is glad to have the Convair plant—and so is the Air Force!"

House Panel Approves Bill On Lynching

AUSTIN, Feb. 22 (AP).—A bill defining and providing penalties for lynching was approved 9 to 3 Tuesday night by the House criminal jurisprudence committee.

It adopted a subcommittee report under which persons from 14 to 17 years of age would not be subject to criminal prosecution for second-degree lynching—mob assault not resulting in death. The provision including this age bracket was objected to when the measure by Representative S. J. Isaacks of El Paso was originally heard by the committee.

The bill, which now goes to the House calendar, defines first degree lynching as any act of violence by a mob upon the body of any person, which results in death.

Brotherhood of Man Cited As Only Way to World Peace

Jews and Christians, each beholden to a single deity and concerned alike with persecution and the fearful shadow of another war, looked to the brotherhood of man Tuesday night as the only proposition that will bring lasting peace to the world.

Through a meeting of B'nai B'rith Lodge of Temple Beth El ran the thread of a single thought: Acceptance by the rulers and the ruled of the basic precept of the world's three great faiths—namely, that all men are equal before God—will provide the only assurance that men can live without fear of aggression, savagery and destruction.

Trio of Speakers.

On the rostrum of the synagogue sat a trio of speakers—one a Jew, one a Catholic and, one a Protestant.

Before they spoke, the chairman of the meeting, I. E. Horwitz, reminded the audience that history is studied with scores of civilizations and races which "died because of vicious bigotries, hatreds and prejudices."

Horwitz was forced by illness to cut short his participation and return home.

Positive Goodwill Needed.

Bernard Lunt said goodwill—the touchstone of Brotherhood Week—is not "mere toleration." Rather, he defined the objective as "dynamic, positive goodwill." And he called attention to the need for thinking of the responsibilities of man at the same time thought is given to the rights of man.

Richard Simon argued that, to achieve peace, men must begin thinking in terms of universalism. Pointing out that each of the three faiths is monotheistic, he said religion impels the western world toward universalism rather than nationalism.

Ernest May asserted that too much faith is placed in leaders

and the atomic bomb, and enough faith in individual man. "Ideologies," he said, "will bow and ideals will not yield to the atomic bomb."

Land Bill Limited To Disabled Veterans

AUSTIN, Feb. 22 (AP).—The state affairs committee proved the veterans land bill Tuesday after its benefits limited to disabled veterans.

Opponents of the act indicated they would be satisfied if bill is amended on the Senate floor to apply to all World War II veterans with disabled veterans given top preference.

A constitutional amendment authorizing a veterans' land fund was approved by voters in 1946. The present bill Senator John J. Bell of C would allow the board to operations.

If approved by the Legislature and signed by the governor, the land board could issue up to \$1,000,000 in bonds. The board could buy land and resell it to veterans for a 10 per cent down payment and 40 years to pay the balance at 4 per cent interest. The bill carries a \$100,000 direct appropriation.

Azle Rites Thursday For William F. Ash

Services will be conducted 2:30 p. m. Thursday at Ash Baptist Church at Azle for William Frank Ash, 49, who died Monday in Long Beach, Cal. Martin Landers will officiate assisted by Rev. J. A. Lovell.

Ash was a member of the Baptist Church at Newark.

Survivors include his wife, daughter, Barbara Ann, 10, Long Beach; two sisters, Jack Roberson, Fort Worth; Lamont Redmond, Los Angeles; three brothers, Wayne of Carl A. of Fort Worth; a car Ash of Oil Center, N. M.; a half-brother, Hobby Palm Junction.

Lincoln John Dead

Lincoln John, 88, a resident of Fort Worth from 1915 to 1920 died Tuesday in Joplin, Mo. who is survived by his wife, Leatha John, was connected with the Singer Sewing Machine company here. Services will be conducted in Joplin Thursday

Mrs. Kate Dorris Dies in Hospital

Mrs. Kate E. Dorris, 76, of 1621 S. Jennings, a longtime resident of Fort Worth, died Tuesday night in a hospital after a long illness.

Survivors are three sons, W. C. of Norfolk, Va., F. E. of Fort Smith, Ark., and T. J. Dorris, Longview; a granddaughter, Mrs. Douglas Elliot, Fort Worth, and two brothers, R. L. of Austin and William Midkiff of Gonzales.

Harris Funeral Home will announce arrangements.