

L.T. - Deleo. Wed. Apr. 20 - 55.

President Eisenhower sent a special message to congress today, proposing -- a foreign aid program of more than three billion, five hundred million dollars. The ^{special} ~~immediate~~ purpose -- made clear by the president. Who told congress: "Immediate threats to world security and stability are now centered in Asia." Military and economic aid -- to go to count^{ri}es _^ threatened by Communism in the Far East.

The timing is equally eloquent. The President announcing the huge foreign aid program -- while the Asian-African conference is on in Bandung, in Indonesia.

FORMOSA

The Chinese Nationalists announce that about three-fourths of the air power of Red China -- has been shifted to the Mainland opposite Formosa. The Communists have a total air force estimated at twelve hundred planes. Eight hundred of which have been concentrated along the Coast. Five hundred jet fighters and three hundred propeller-driven aircraft -- now at bases from which Formosa could be assailed by air. Obviously they could also be used against the off-shore islands of Quemoy and Matsu.

The Japanese wanted -- New York. But Moscow came back w/ saying -- London or Geneva. Of the two, the Japanese prefer London, apparently. The Tokyo Premier -- expecting talks to begin in the British capital next month.

This, of course, follows the Moscow X2 call for a conference on an Austrian Peace Treaty. To be held - in Vienna.

TOKYO

In Tokyo the word is that "peace" talks between Japan and Soviet ~~Russia~~ Russia will be held in London next month. That's the opinion expressed by Japanese Premier Hatoyama.

Technically, ~~Russia~~ Russia remains at war with Japan -- not having joined the Western alliance in peace agreements. Recently, the Japanese government sent a note to Moscow, suggesting negotiations for a ~~peace~~ treaty. Yesterday, a reply was received. The contents -- not made public. But now the word is that Moscow said -- okay. The only point of dispute being -- where a conference should be held.

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INDOCHINA

There was another wild outbreak of shooting in Saigon, today, the capital of Southern Viet Nam -- in the grips of revolutionary violence. Today's ~~fuselade~~ ^{fuselade} came, when a truce ran out -- a shaky armistice between the regime of Premier Diem and a religious-political sect called Binh Xuyen. The absentee emperor, Bao Dai, advised the contending factions to agree on an ~~extension~~ extension of the truce. But his counsel was ignored.

Today in Saigon government soldiers tried to intercept a truck loaded with rebel troops. Described ~~as~~ ^{as former river} as ~~X-River~~ ^(sects) pirates. The religious-political have recruited buckaneers of the sort that infest the rivers of Southern Asia. The truck load of ~~X-River~~ ^{ex-} pirates, instead of ~~waiting~~ halting -- opened fire with machine guns. The government soldiers -- replying with volleys of their own.

Just at that moment, a bus came rolling along, a bus full of passengers -- and got into the line of

fire. That was how the casualties occurred. The bus -- riddled. Passengers hit. One -- killed.

The street battle ended -- with the

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X-River pirates getting away.

I've been wondering myself. And, if you listen in tomorrow night, I may have some further information on this for you. Also, I hope to have some news about the great flood in Tibet which did so much damage and which caused the Dalai Lama's brother and some of our Tibetan friends to send out an appeal for help. In fact, through one of the Dalai Lama's brothers, I am sending some funds to help a little on that relief.

Tibet, Lhasa, and everything beyond those lofty Himalayan peaks seems to have caught the imagination of the whole civilized world.

TIBET

Wherever I go I am asked the question: What news from Tibet? Have I heard how the young Dalai Lama is getting on with the Reds? Is it true that the Chinese are changing that fabulous country?

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WEDDING

The news tells of a wedding -- which gives a ~~grrf~~ graphic picture of a mingling of East and West. ~~King~~ King Hussein, the nineteen-year-old sovereign of Jordan--- getting married. His bride -- Princess Dina. They ^{are} cousins, both being members of the Hashemite dynasty. A family -- descended from the Prophet Mohammad, ^{- through his daughter Fatima,} Among the guests -- young ~~King~~ ^{King} Feisal of Iraq, a cousin of the bridegroom.

Certainly sounds like Islam. But at the wedding in Aman, the capital of Jordan, everybody was dressed in Western clothes, Except the young king's uncle, Emir Naif -- who wore the flowing robes of the desert. Including -- ^{the usual} ~~an~~ ^{curved} ornamental dagger. Five of the guests were attired in academic robes and mortar boards ^d -- in the style of an American university. Students -- from a college in Cairo, where the bride, Princess Dina, has been a teacher. A teacher -- of English.

WEDDING - 2

Well, the clothes worn at this royal Moslem wedding may have been Western. The ceremony, however, strictly Mohammadan -- according to the old ways of Islam. No tune of -- "Here Comes the Bride." The bride wasn't there. She was waiting in another part of the palace -- while her own wedding was being held. An all-masculine affair. The royal bridegroom, and the bride's father, Prince Abdel Hamid, signing the marriage contract. The old way of a wedding -- in the lands of Islam.

All of which was followed by a popular celebration in the streets of Aman. Music, dancing, and fireworks.

BILLY GRAHAM

In Scotland Billy Graham is being plagued by autograph hunters. The American evangelist is concluding a huge ^{by} successful preaching tour -- with nearly eighteen-thousand people jamming into the hall at Glasgow last night. The success of a star can be measured by the number of people asking for his autograph. Billy Graham -- besieged.

Last night, in Glasgow, a special plea was made -- asking the autograph hunters to refrain. They have been crowding on to the platform, ganging up on the evangelist. He doesn't mind having to sign his name those hundreds of times. But the autograph hunters have been crowding out people who have been converted. ^{who} They want to talk to the evangelist on spiritual matters. ^{and} But they can't get through the crowd -- clamoring for autographs.

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ATOMIC

Elaborate preparations are being made for the big atomic show -- on Tuesday. The explosion on the Nevada desert -- to be publicized with all the resources of modern show business. Including -- television. Four TV cameras -- to be focused on the blast.

The last time they televised an atomic explosion, things went haywire -- on the screen. The flash produces ^{ing} -- too much of a blinding glare. This time, they are taking precautions against anything like that. The cameras will be regulated in such a way -- that they won't go into action until a fraction of a second after the flash. Otherwise, the intensity of the glare might cause a fuse to blow, somewhere.

The four cameras will be eight and a half miles from the bomb. ~~But~~ But the flash of an atomic explosion -- is a stupendous ~~phenomenon~~ phenomenon. They'll get everything ~~phenomenon~~ but that first shock of light.

POSTAL

The House of Representatives, today, voted a pay raise for postal workers. A hike -- of eight and two-tenths per cent. A committee had recommended a boost of seven and six-tenths percent. But the House upped the figure, today. ~~It was a tentative vote, possibly might be reduced later.~~

President Eisenhower has ^{hinted} held that he might veto any figure higher than seven and six-tenths per cent. Holding that this is the proper increase of pay for the postal workers.

In Washington, today, the Senate wound up its investigation of Harvey Matusow, the turn-coat witness.

Hard words were spoken. The chairman, Senator Eastland, of Mississippi, telling Matusow:

"I have had a lot of experience with vicious liars, but you're the worst I've seen."

After which the Senator expanded that by saying: "Once a vicious liar, always a vicious liar." But Matusow denied that, insisting that he has reformed and is now ~~xxx~~ telling the truth.

He repeated his former charge, that Roy Cohn, while assistant district attorney in New York --- had coached him as a witness. Roy Cohn -- who hit the headlines as counsel to the McCarthy subcommittee.

The committee will now prepare a report -- on the Matusow contention that, as a government witness, he gave false evidence against a number of alleged communists.

DAM

The Senate passed the bill, today, for the Colorado River storage project, refusing - to eliminate Echo Park Dam. There was plenty of opposition to the dam - which will be in the Dinosaur National Monument, where so many fossils of prehistoric monsters have been found. The Site for the Echo Park Dam is a beautiful spot, and conservationists are against putting a dam there. Creating - a lake. But an amendment to ~~eliminate~~ eliminate the dam was beaten by fifty-two to twenty-three. which will bring much agony to Steve Bradley and ~~many~~ many who have fought the idea of invading Dinosaur.

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after
matthew

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~~So the fifteen million project goes~~

~~through -- in full.~~

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On the sports page of the San Francisco Examiner, I notice -- the remarkable record made by a rat, who lived in an ancient automobile.

college baseball team. They're champions -- at losing

The College of the Pacific ball team has lost ~~thirty-one~~ thirty-one straight games. San Jose State leading them -- their thirty-first defeat in a row.

For three innings it looked as if the College of the Pacific might shake off the jinx, and win for a change. But in the fourth inning, they were panned all over the ball park.

The team hasn't won a game in the last two years. The last thing to a victory having been in one ~~long~~ solitary tie game.

The College of the Pacific should be a whiz in an academic sense. The boys play baseball -- so badly.

BASEBALL

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The College of the Pacific ball team has lost ~~thirty~~ thirty-one straight games. San Jose State ~~handing~~ ~~beating~~ them -- their thirty-first defeat in a row. For three innings it looked as if the College of the Pacific might shake off the jinx, and win for a change, ^{but}, in the fourth inning, they were ~~planned~~ slammed all over the ball park.

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BOY

The sports pages here in California are ~~hitting~~ hailing a twelve-year-old boy -- as a combination of Babe Ruth and Richard the Lion-hearted.

At La Mesa, Gary Whitcomb hit a home run worthy of a ^{junior} ~~junior~~ Babe Ruth. The ball went three hundred feet and crashed through a window of the local police station. So Gary started running. He ran around the bases. Then -- ran to the police station and said to the cops: "Please give me back my baseball." So that's ~~xx~~ what qualifies him as Richard the Lion-hearted.

The cops, admiring his courage, handed him the baseball.

And now Hugh -- I'll hand you the Mike -- right across the continent!

LT from
Los Angeles.

Apr. 21,
1955.