

EDEN

L.T.-K. Thursday, April 1, 1954

The British Foreign Secretary today used the same adjective that I used last night, calling the latest Soviet proposal - "astonishing". Anthony Eden, referring to the Kremlin's suggesting<sup>on</sup> that the West sign a European Security Treaty, with Russia to become a member of Nato.

Eden told the Commons that the proposal is astonishing - because the Russians have not yet subscribed to the principles of individual liberty and the rule of law, which are the basic principles of Nato.

Said the London Foreign Minister: "Nato was the answer to Soviet policy - and not the cause of it." Adding that Britain could not allow the Russians to step or ~~make~~ squirm in - and make Nato ridiculous. Such was the implication of his words.

A State Department spokesman calls the Soviet proposal an attempt to delay western rearmament - a manoeuver to weaken it.

## H BOMB

Hydrogen bombs of the future will be - cheap as well as terrifying. This from an official in Washington who remains anonymous. He says we now have a new ingredient for the bomb - much cheaper. Dollars per pound, instead of thousands of dollars per ounce. H bombs - at a fraction of what we had expected them to cost, was the way he put it.

The chairman of the Congressional Atomic Energy Committee announces that several more will be exploded in the Pacific. That the tests will go on.

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French planes are bombing and strafing around the city. Returning pilots say that the valley outside the city is an expanse of rocks and

INDO CHINA

In Indo-China, again we are hearing about what is called - the biggest pitched battle of the war. The Reds using human sea attacks - attempting to swamp the defenders of Dien Bien Phu. Troops of General DeCastries, fighting back desperately. With violent fighting all around the perimeter. The French describing the situation as "very confused."

The Reds are using three divisions. One group managed to get as far as the airstrip - bursting through the lines of the Viet Nam loyalists. But soon after they were all wiped out.

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French planes are bombing and strafing around the clock. Returning pilots say that the valley outside the city is an inferno of smoke and

The commander of Paris is General Euzene May  
flame. Some planes have been shot down, and more  
American planes are on the way.

The French admit their own losses are  
high. But say the Reds have suffered at least six  
thousand casualties in this battle for Dien Bien  
Phu. General DeCastries appealing urgently for more  
ground troops, warns that without them, the city may  
fall under the weight of the human sea attacks.  
General Navarre, replies that reinforcements are being  
rushed as quickly as possible.

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## JUIN

The commander of Nato in Central Europe may lose his post. Marshall Juin, because of his criticism of Nato. The Marshall was summoned to a cabinet meeting by Premier Laniel. The Cabinet wanting an explanation of the Marshal's remarks.

Instead of obeying, Juin went to a meeting of Reserve officers - and there repeated his attacks. Last night, the Paris government removed him from all of his military posts. This, in spite of the fact that Juin is the only living marshal of France.

Paris is reported to have informed Nato - that it no longer considers Juin suitable for his command in that international organization.

Final decision on this ~~xxxx~~ will be up to General Gruenther, Supreme Commander of Nato. In the meantime, we hear that the members of the Supreme Council are hoping that the Marshal will resign - and not force General Gruenther to fire him.

## SEARS

The lawyer who will handle the investigation of McCarthy versus the Army? Samuel Sears. The choice, made today ~~was~~ at a session of the sub-committee. For more than two weeks, the sub-committee has been searching for a counsel - someone prominent, and ~~strong~~ impartial. (Not an easy man to find - considering the charges that have been made on both sides.)

It ~~is~~ was offered to William Jameson <sup>one of leads</sup> of the American Bar Association, who declined. <sup>^</sup> Second candidate, Samuel Sears - who accepts.

All six members of the sub-committee voted for him - including the three Democrats. Acting Chairman Carl Mundt says that Sears will begin selecting his staff on Monday. Public hearings, to begin the following week. The hearings, as we know already, to be covered by radio and T.V.

At a news conference, Sears said he was fully conscious of his responsibilities. And he added:

"I am resolved to conduct this investigation as dispassionately as I can - without partisanship."

Lawyer Sears - (wears a clipped mustache, smokes a pipe, and is) a graduate of Harvard Law School, and is on record as opposing fellowship funds for two Harvard law students who used the fifth amendment in refusing to answer loyalty questions.

ALASKA

Up in Alaska, they are at it again -- after that pot of gold. You get it if you predict the moment at which the ice in the Tanana River breaks up. Everybody in the North puts in a dollar. Then it all goes to the one who guesses right. When the ice in the Tanana starts to move down into the Yukon and on out to Nord<sup>e</sup>n Sound ~~into~~ into Bering Sea.

The time is decided by a mechanical gadget - a wire ~~is~~ connected to a tripod on the ice and ~~to~~ a time-clock on shore. The moment the ice starts to move - the clock stops. And that's it.

The earliest the ice on the Tanana has ever broken up was April twenty-sixth, Nineteen Twenty-Six. The latest - May Sixteenth, Nineteen Forty-five. So this time it no doubt will be ~~xxxxx~~ somewhere between the end of April and early May.

Mike, two hundred thousand dollars in that ice breakup pot of gold.

F/3  
2:20



## HAWAII-ALASKA

Today, the Senate agreed to statehood for Hawaii and Alaska. The vote - fifty-seven to twenty-eight -- an overwhelming majority. This Senate bill now goes to the House. And if approved there, the two territories will become the forty-ninth and fiftieth states.

The House has already approved statehood for Hawaii. But, pigeonholed the Alaska bill. The word is that an okay for both is not likely in the House during this session. The Senate by including Alaska just putting the whole thing right where it has been - nowhere.

## AIR FORCE

President Eisenhower has signed the bill authorizing an Air Force Academy with one hundred and twenty-six million dollars - to be set aside for the West Point of the Air.

The bill does not mention any site. But a five-man board will consider that tough problem. (If the board is unanimous, then any location named will be accepted. Otherwise the board will recommend a number of sites - and leave it to the Air Force Secretary to choose.)

The bill signed by the President today also authorizes one million dollars for a temporary Academy. (Students to begin training there a year from now. Then move into the permanent academy - when it is ready - say in Nineteen Fifty-Seven. So, the Air Force, along with the Army and Navy will have its own academy.)

## INDIANS

*Lo! The Poor Indian! My eye!*

The Menominee Indians of Wisconsin may form a new county - an all-Indian county. The reason - they are so wealthy that they don't want to pay taxes *to support the paleface* ~~to the older counties~~. The Menominees live in northern Wisconsin, just about where they did in the Seventeenth Century. They were given reservation land in Eighteen Fifty-Four. Like other tribes, the Menominees could have divided the land among individuals. But they chose to run the reservation in common. Since then, they have had an elected advisory council to handle their affairs. The reservation occupies more than ~~is~~ two hundred thousand acres - of excellent timber. So the Menominees went ~~is~~ into the lumber business. They set up a careful system of inspection; planted new trees when they cut down the old ones; built up a ~~is~~ prosperous ~~is~~ lumber industry and today have about the same amount of standing timber as they had around the turn of the century.

It's estimated that these smart Indians have

made around ninety million dollars from their lumber industry. Now they want more independence, and the question is - should the Menominee be allowed to form an entirely separate county - one all their own? The chiefs of the tribe say - yes. Because why should they give what they have to the pale face who wasn't wise enough to do likewise?

Lo the poor Indian, is a phrase that doesn't apply to the Menominee.

blazer of over-ocean air routes, Captain F. C. Taylor, the first ever to land a plane on Clipperton atoll. He calls it: "A strange, lonely island, almost dead - destined, through the centuries, to appear suddenly important for some purpose. And then - to pass back to the ocean, forgotten by the world."

In his book called, FORTY-SEVEN ISLAND Captain Taylor tells how, in 1858, a British Company with a concession from Mexico, went there to mine phosphate. They took one hundred people out there and settled them on that coral reef in the Pacific

I have a message about that radio-ham expedition, which set out for Clipperton Island. Night before last, I told how a party, headed by Bob Denniston and Leo Olney, of Newton Iowa, was on its way, and suggested - wondered would be the word - if those radio hams might get lost. Clipperton Island being about the nearest thing-- to nowhere.

Here's how that coral atoll, out in the Pacific, is described by the Australian flyer, and blazer of over-ocean air routes, Captain P. G. Taylor, the first ever to land a plane on Clipperton atoll. He calls it: "A strange, lonely island, almost awash - destined, through the centuries, to appear suddenly important for some purpose. And then - to pass back to the ocean, forgotten by the world."

In his book called, FORGOTTEN ISLAND Captain Taylor tells how, in Nineteen Six, a British Company with a concession from Mexico, went there to mine phosphate. They took one hundred people out there and settled them on that coral reef in the Pacific

between Acapulco and the Marquesas. Also, a small Mexican Army garrison. A vessel regularly brought supplies. Then, after about eight years, for some unknown reason - the vessel stopped coming. Were the people forgotten? Most of them died of starvation and sickness. The commander of the garrison set out for Mexico in a small boat to get help, and was never seen again.

Airman Taylor says that, when most of the men had died, the light keeper, on the volcano called the Rock-- a huge negro - conceived a plan to kill the rest of the men, enslave the remaining young women, and make himself King. And he did kill the men. Then he chose one of the women, a high-spirited girl named Tirsa Randon, to be his first queen. She took a dim view of this, and when his back was turned she hit him over the head with an axe. Finish King!

Finally, three women and eight children remained, and were picked up one day by a U.S. Naval vessel, the Yorktown.

But what about this radio ham expedition that has now been looking for Clipperton? Well, the message I have comes from amateur operator D.B. Mitchell, at Winnebago, Illinois. Who picked up word that those radio ham navigators - did get lost. They have not found the Forgotten Island, and ran into a storm. Further word is wired to me, from Fritz Franke, of Chicago. Who is connected with a company, Hallicrafters, which sponsors radio ham activities. He says the expedition got into trouble in rough weather, and almost lost the navigator overboard. Did lose their sextant- and without that navigating instrument, hadn't a chance of ever finding the tiny atoll. So they now are heading back for the Mexican port of Acapulco - which they hope they can find.