

# Bull Session Time is Now to Stop Teaching Gloriousness of War

By THOMAS M. FONTAINE  
Battalion Staff Writer

MILITARY MEN, public officials concerned with foreign policy, and other speakers of more or less importance have been discussing, and getting dressed down because of discussing, one idea of international relations which in its very name is a mockery of definition. Preventive war is a fallacy in both meaning and thought.

A preventive police action—military action on a small scale to prevent a specific action—seems both logical and necessary at times for the preservation of peace in the world. But when we speak of preventive war against Russia—which carries the connotation of a sneak atomic attack against Communism's strategic war areas, or a war brought on by a Russian breach of a United States ultimatum—we are talking pure nonsense.

## WW II Needed Preventive Action

Preventive police action would probably have prevented World War II. If the United States, France, and Britain had been wise enough to send troops to stop Hitler's march into the Ruhr, Italy's aggression against Ethiopia, and Japan's invasion of Southern China and Korea, it is more than likely that the Axis would never have threatened the whole world as it did.

But Russia is already too strong and too determined to

beat in a full scale, but conditional peace, war. If we attack Russia as a nation, we will not be able to stop until we have become completely militarily victorious.

By staying alert and holding our ground in Europe and Asia against Red aggression, we may be able to prevent a major war with Russia. But such action can not be termed preventive war.

## People Must Understand

Besides throwing away that unreasonable term, war-to-prevent-war, we should begin to define our foreign policy and international relations in terms that make sense to the American people. If we were to go to war with Russia, would it be in the interest of that vague term "peace"? No, our soldiers aren't fighting to preserve peace. They are fighting to preserve the way of life, the principles, and the future of the United States of America.

Why don't we accept that fact, teach that fact, be proud of that fact? Why must we attempt to tell the world that we are so altruistic as to care hardly anything for our own personal interest as a free nation? Foreign countries and people aren't so easily fooled as to believe that the United States has forsaken nationalism. Until the rest of the world is ready too, we won't sacrifice national patriotism for the "One World" principle.

Preventive war is just another term to be added to the

vocabulary coined to further American whitewash of our history and politics. It is just another hammy attempt to glorify and/or purify war and war "heroes."

## Suckrs for War Glory

How long are we going to keep on being suckers for the military music, the stirring stories of personal exploits in war, and the little bits of glory personified by the ribbons and little pieces of brass? When are we going to stop teaching our young people of the glory of dying in a "preventive" war, of fighting "to make the world safe for democracy"?

There is so much more glory and honor in working and planning for things that will help people to live better. Our schools reflect our infantile worship of the bullet dodger. What heroes were we taught about in our history classes? Napoleon, Alexander the Great, others whose chief accomplishment was the planning of the deaths of others. Sure, we should know what these men did. But we should have been taught to respect the real heroes—the inventors, the thinkers, the writers, the philosophers, the scientists, who worked and fought to increase man's consciousness, better living conditions, or increased his chances for a longer, healthier life.

## Schools Must Begin Campaign

Our schools should begin at once a campaign to rid our youth of the old ideas of the gloriousness of war. From the

first grade, our school children should be taught that war is immoral, degrading, profitless, and uncivilized. They should be impressed with the fact that no one has ever won a war. They should learn to understand and realize the value of human lives.

When we are fully conscious of what war is, we will not allow our leaders to procrastinate as they did before World War II; when we know that war is liable to mean death for our own selves, we will not fall for such stupid reasoning as led us into imperialistic battles such as the Spanish-American or the Mexican War.

## Defending Is A Responsibility

As our schools teach that war means horror, destruction, and, most of all, death, they must teach that death is preferable to sacrifice of the ideals for which we live.

So many of us, trained by a system that teaches war in patriotic and sugar-coated slogans, have asked ourselves and our elders time and again, "Why must I risk my life with its dreams and ambitions, why must I face death in war." We should have been taught that facing death is the responsibility we owe our country, our family, our sweetheart.

To have the right to the opportunities offered us by this country, to have the chance at a better way of living, to expect the freedom that advances man's knowledge of himself and other people, we must be willing to accept the obligation of fighting and dying for those things.

## Battalion Editorials

Page 2 THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1951

### 'Fifteen' for Legislature...

WITH A MINIMUM of delay the Texas Legislature has voted a fairly even redistricting of the state for purposes of legislative representation, and the people have themselves to thank for it.

Even though the Constitution makes it their duty to redistrict the state after each federal census, so that each section will be as fairly represented as possible, legislatures traditionally have been loath to carry out this mandate.

Past legislatures have evaded the responsibility so that, in spite of the growth and shifts in state population, no change in the makeup of House and Senate districts had taken place since 1921.

It is entirely probable that no redistricting would have occurred at the current legislative session except for a constitutional amendment the voters of Texas had the good sense to adopt in 1948. This amendment furnished a spur to reluctant legislators by providing that if the job were not done promptly by the Legislature a special redistricting commission would do it.

It is, of course, impossible to redraw the lines of representatives and senatorial districts according to a formula that would please everybody concerned, and especially all present members of the Legislature whose political fortunes may be affected by the redistricting. But the primary object of redistricting should not be either to favor or hurt present legislators. It should be to provide as nearly as is possible for fair and equal representation of the population of Texas in the Legislature.

Within limits set by another amendment to the Constitution, that seems fairly well to have been done by the redistricting legislation. By reason of an amendment adopted in 1936, counties are limited to seven mem-

bers of the lower house for the first 700,000 of their population, with one additional representative for each 100,000 of population above that figure. This makes for some unavoidable disproportion of representatives for the larger counties. Tarrant County, however, fares exceedingly well. Its representation will come close to the mathematical standard of one for each 51,000 population, based on the ratio between total number of representatives and the total state population.

The people can congratulate themselves on having brought about a long overdue reshuffling of House and Senate districts and the Legislature on promptness and efficiency in carrying out the task.—Fort Worth Star-Telegram

## Facing Facts

TRADITION is fine, but it should not be given value above and beyond the point of reason.

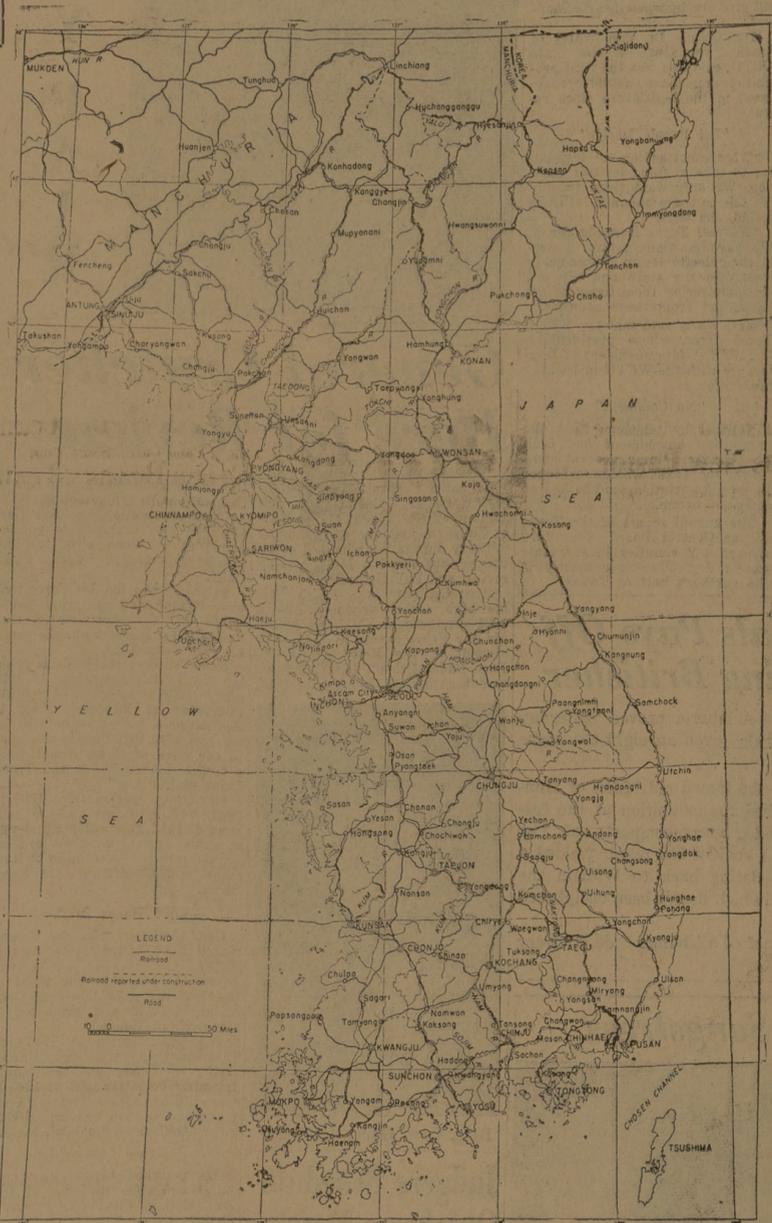
"Britannia rules the waves" is such a tradition of the naval command that will be charged with protection and transportation of troops and supplies to Europe.

The facts indicate that the U. S. Navy is to bear by far the greater burden in this task. Admiral Fechteler's appointment as Supreme Commander in the North Atlantic has been held up because Winston Churchill and the British people in general can't face this fact.

Maybe we should ask Stalin for a "time out" while the British and U. S. Navy shoot it out to settle this point of honor.

Then there is always the chance that the new Russian submarine fleet would be interested in taking on the winner.

## World Shaking Peninsula



## Arming Necessary For 'Police' Force

(Continued from Page 1)

ing speaker explained. "We are like an actor on stage who has forgotten his lines." We cannot leave the stage; we are forced to improvise and make policies where we had none before. "We should not be discouraged by our mistakes, but learn from them."

### "To Avert War"

Turning to our present strength buildup, Mrs. Dean praised General Eisenhower's recent statement that the U. S. is arming "to avert war." "Armed strength is necessary now and probably will be necessary for the preservation of world peace," she told her listeners. "It is necessary for the same reason that a police force is needed in a community."

As for starting our rearmament program, she expressed the opinion that the U. S. obligated itself to arm when it joined the United Nations. She said she felt U. S. demobilization after WW II was a tragic mistake, but that the people had demanded it.

We can be safe in using our troops for the cause of world peace by committing them to action under sponsorship of the United Nations, Mrs. Dean told the group.

### UN is Success

Commenting on the success of the United Nations, she said that she felt its biggest benefit at present is as a forum for world powers to express themselves. "It is far better to have Vishinsky popping off at Mr. Austin, than to have atomic bombs dropping," she said.

Discussing publicity given the atom bomb, she said she thought we had deceived ourselves into believing it alone a sufficient weap-

on, and that we had scared our allies by advertising it. They are afraid, she said, that atom bombs will be dropped on them, not on the United States, in the event of war with Russia.

### Don't Quit Talking

Expressing keen feeling about the value of diplomacy compared with military might, Mrs. Dean quoted Winston Churchill as saying, "We must arm and tell Russia we will fight, but talk as long as talk is possible."

"Don't dismiss negotiations as appeasement." To do that, she explained would be to say, "no negotiating should be done." "Armed might is meant to back up diplomacy. It won't lead to agreement between nations."

There are two facts to our problem with Russia, she explained. We are concerned both with Russia's busy imperialism and her position as fountainhead of world Communism, but, she said, neither is as tough a problem as it seems. As evidence, she referred to Russia's history before WW II and Britain's successful efforts in keeping the Soviet "contained."

She said, too, that Russia is losing her control of Communism, and cited Yugoslavia as a special example. Mrs. Dean's opinion is that we can and should get along with these "break off" Communist countries, and should welcome them as allies.

### Blames Impatience

Viewing the American attitude in matters of foreign policy, and the United Nations, Mrs. Dean blamed impatience and a desire for immediate results for most opposition.

"The world is not settled, nor will it stay settled."

We must feel that the world always offers a new challenge, and we must be prepared to meet the challenge without getting too excited, thinking that we can settle everything once and for all, or that we can obtain perfect order, ever, she said.

## Teague Newsletter Reports on Cotton

A Department of Agriculture report indicates that there will be a sufficient supply of insecticides for the 1951 cotton crop Congressman Olin E. Teague reported in his weekly newsletter.

In addition to the insecticides there has been favorable weather conditions for killing insects in hibernation, the letter continued. Teague believes that every effort should be made to insure that all of the factors necessary for producing a 16 million bale cotton crop will be available.

The general weather outlook is favorable unless abnormal conditions prevail in certain sections of the cotton belt, Teague stated.

## Agronomy Society Hears Dr. Boyd

Dr. Boyd Page addressed the Agronomy Society at their meeting held in the Memorial Student Center Tuesday.

Dr. Page spoke on "Soil Structure in Relation to Crop Production" and used colored slides to illustrate his talk.

"No matter how much fertilizer is added to a soil, it can be made unfit for use because of poor conditions," Dr. Page said.

## The Battalion

Lawrence Sullivan Ross, Founder of Aggie Traditions  
"Soldier, Statesman, Knightly Gentleman"

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## West China Province Under Russian Occupation

By R. K. KAK

SRINAGAR, KASHMIR, March 8 (AP)—West China's mineral-rich Sinkiang Province "has passed under Russian occupation and control for all practical purposes," says a former Sinkiang Nationalist official now in Kashmir.

Isa Yusuf-Effandi, 44-year-old former secretary general of the province and advisor to Chiang Kai-Shek, told a news conference that Russian troops are now manning strategic Sinkiang outposts. He said Russia wants Sinkiang both as a source of mineral deposits—uranium, platinum, coal, iron, and oil—and as "a safe military base and a naturally guarded center of Russian war industry" far from the range of any potential allied bombing.

Estimating that Russian and Chinese Communist troops in Sinkiang total nearly 200,000, Isa said 30,000 troops had been stationed in areas bordering Kashmir and Tibet and larger contingent assign-

ed to northwest districts near the Kansu province of China.

"The Russians are exploiting to the fullest extent possible the uranium deposits of Sinkiang," he added. "Batches of Russian

experts and specialists have been rushed with the necessary equipment to a new uranium field near Gochi, east of Urumchi."

Isa, now a refugee in Kashmir, said that in the last six months

the Soviets had turned the airfield at Illi into one of Asia's largest for handling heavy aircraft.

Six vast underground storehouses also have been constructed near the Illi airfield, he said, and a new

airfield erected on the site of the old one at Kashgar.

In addition to a Soviet regiment posted at Qomul on the northeast border, Isa claimed that another (See REGIMENT, Page 6)



By Al Capp