



PIPER GIVES SUBMARINE SENDOFF

RCAF Sgt. J.L. MacLaughlin endured below freezing temperatures and arctic mist swirling off Halifax harbor to give the British submarine Aurochs a traditional Nova Scotia sendoff. Sgt. MacLaugh-

lin played until his pipes froze and his fingers numbed as the Aurochs sailed out to sea, completing an 18-month commission in Halifax during which she steamed 40,000 miles and spent 325 days at

sea. Sgt. MacLaughlin, who serves on the staff of the Maritime Commander Atlantic in HMC Dockyard, is a veteran of the army and navy. (CP PHOTO)

Decision On Nuclear Arms Remains Hidden In Canada

By DAVE McINTOSH
OTTAWA (CP)—The government's year of decision on nuclear weapons could be 1962. But don't count on it.

A lot of people thought 1961 would be the year in which the government would announce final rejection or acceptance of American nuclear warheads for weapons such as the Bomarc anti-aircraft missile, CF-101 Voodoo jet interceptor, CF-104 low-level jet bomber and the Honest John artillery rocket.

But as the year waned it became more and more clear that a decision was not imminent. It appeared that Prime Minister Diefenbaker did not want to make nuclear weapons an issue in a general election now expected in June or October of 1962.

NOT NEEDED YET
On military grounds, this apparent attitude was not unusual. The two Bomarc bases at North Bay, Ont., and La Macaza, Que., are not expected to be in operational readiness until well on in 1962. The five CF-101 squadrons will not be operational until the summer of 1962. The first CF-104 squadron is scheduled to go to Europe until November, 1962. The four-launcher Honest John missile battery joined the Canadian brigade in Europe in December.

The United States has stockpiles of nuclear warheads in Europe. Under war conditions, they could be used in Canadian weapons whether or not there was a Canada-U.S. agreement on their use and control. BOMARC DIFFERENT
But authorities said the situation would be far different in the case of nuclear warheads for the Bomarc. Under war conditions, it would be impossible to transport warheads from the U.S. to the Canadian Bomarc sites. Thus an agreement would be required for storage and control of the warheads in Canada—if this country decided to accept them.

Because the government realized from taking a final decision, the Liberals and New Democratic Party didn't have much of a target to shoot at in this field, except government "indecision."

On Sept. 12 there was a defence debate in the Commons and the subject of nuclear weapons was discussed.

There were only hints from Defence Minister Harkness in his first Commons speech since he assumed the defence portfolio 11 months previously. RESTATES POLICY
He said, for instance: "It is the policy of the government that our forces should not be required to face a potential enemy with inferior weapons."

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Public Opinion In Russia Causing Kremlin Concern

If there was one thing Joseph Stalin didn't worry about in running the Soviet Union, it was public opinion at home. Now, an Associated Press reporter and student of Soviet affairs reports, there are indications of a change that may well prove important to the West over the long run.

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
Associated Press News Analyst
If the Soviet leadership's past performance is a barometer, the future will yield growing evidence of Kremlin concern with Russia public opinion.

Years hence, historians may consider the publication last November by the newspaper Izvestia of an interview with President Kennedy as the most significant event of 1961.

That strengthened a belief among students of Soviet affairs that public opinion is increasingly important in a society going through a long and agonizing process of coming of age.

Soviet public opinion meant next to nothing while Stalin lived. After Stalin died in 1953, the collective leadership had to break up the awesome power of the secret police army. This meant more and more reliance on persuasion. Russians were quick to note the change.

USE PERSUASION NOW
Upon persuasion now depends the amount of effort expended by Soviet people in the 20-year economic program, and the amount of effort expended by the manager-professional class in directing it.

In recent months there have been many evidences of the growing influence of public opinion. Soviet leaders move cautiously.

News of Soviet resumption of nuclear tests last year was broken slowly and gradually. The full story of the extent of the tests was not given at all to the Soviet people.

On Berlin, the Kremlin has been careful to avoid the impression that the door has been finally slammed on negotiations with the West.

In civil defence, the Kremlin has been cautious, as if wary of frightening the public too much. There is little public display of defence measures against the possibility of nuclear war.

EAGER FOR NEWS
In the Soviet Union one detects among a literate public a hunger for information about the outside world, particularly the United States. People seem to want information free from a suspicion of official tampering.

People on farms, in factories, at their jobs, at home listening to radio, in public places, are subjected to constant lectures against "remnants of the past," a catch-all phrase for all straying from the approved lines.

There are innumerable complaints in the press about hooligans and "stilyagi" — the dressed-up beatniks of Russia — about crime, gang warfare, brawling, drunkenness among young people, manifestations of rebellion against the elders.

The controlled press frequently prints readers' complaints seeming to express public moods from time to time. Perhaps this is to provoke, other countries and uncover areas of dissatisfaction.

TIRED OF SPUTNIKS
In October, 1959, the newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya printed a letter from a young man who said angrily: "Enough of covering ourselves with sputniks and airplanes. Let's come down somewhat lower—to ordinary shoes."

A little later, the youth newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda printed a letter complaining that if it were not for the cost of rockets, perhaps there would be things like electricians in the stores.

"Rockets, rockets, rockets!" moaned the letter. "The hell with them and the moon! Give me better things for my table!"

The renewed and furious de-Stalinization campaign undertaken by Nikita Khrushchev seems a reflection of the symptoms.

Few who have visited the U.S.S.R. doubt the burning desire among ordinary people for world peace.

Today's situation seems to require gestures, such as publication of the Kennedy interview, to indicate that the Soviet public is getting some of the uncontrolled, uncensored information many appear to desire.

All this does not mean there is any prospect for sudden revolution from below in the U.S.S.R. What it can mean for the hopes of world peace is a gradual softening of the Soviet system and a concomitant weakening of the world movement as years go by.

MINING EXPERT
James Douglas, Quebec City native who died in 1918 and who developed Arizona copper, was twice president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

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Machinery For Election Overhauled

OTTAWA (CP)—The annual revision of polling division arrangements in federal constituencies has been ordered by Chief Electoral Officer Nelson Castonguay, who instructed his returning officers to complete the work by April 1.

"This is a routine annual procedure," Mr. Castonguay stressed. The deadline for completion of the revision was in no way connected with an election date.

The oiling of the country's election machinery is intended to ensure it is ready for a general election in the minimum amount of time—57 days from the issue of the writs to voting day.

Population shifts make the revision necessary. Each electoral district is divided into polling divisions and the aim is to have 250 to 300 eligible voters in a division.

The April 1 target for completion of the revision does not mean a general election—one is virtually certain this year—can-

not be held before that date. An election before April 1 would just mean the returning officers would have less time to finish the job.

BOMB HOAX

QUEBEC (CP)—Police evacuated a lower town bus station Monday after receiving a telephone tip a bomb had been placed in the station. No bomb was found. It was the latest of several such hoaxes in Quebec City recently, one of which delayed a Montreal-bound train for about an hour while baggage cars were searched.

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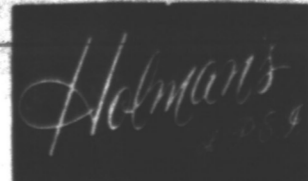
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