

Marked Increase Noted In Russian Naval Power

LONDON (Reuters) — Jane's Fighting Ships, the standard reference book on world navies, said today Russia has a growing fleet of more than 400 submarines.

Nazi Germany had only one-tenth that number in its pre-war fleet.

Jane's, classing Russia as a major naval power second now only to the United States, said the Soviet Union built more cruisers and destroyers since the end of the Second World War than all other countries combined.

But it said in the submarine buildup "the most significant development in Russian grand strategy since the Second World War."

"The severance of NATO communications and the prevention of the entrance of United States naval forces and shipping into the waters surrounding Europe and Asia would be the Russian strategic purpose," Jane's 1956-57 edition said.

The authority added that Russia is expected to commission another 75 to 85 submarines each year for the next two years.

A large percentage of Russia's submarines are long-range vessels, the annual said, and the post-war surface ships incorporate the latest technological equipment.

Russia's rapid ascendancy has influenced America's shipbuilding, Jane's observed.

"In the short space of about 10 years many U.S. navy ships will be powered by atomic energy and most U.S. navy ships above and including the submarine category will have guided missile capabilities," the book predicted.

Pro-Soviet News Only Is Permitted In Syria

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Egypt's crisis brought a silent coup to sister Syria.

The country was brought under martial law—proclaimed the day fighting broke out in Egypt and control of the army empowered to enforce the martial law, is in the hands of a group of pro-Soviet officers under the current strong man, Col. Abdul Hamid Saraj.

These officers are not Communists. But they place a high value on Soviet arms and Soviet political support. They will permit no criticism of the Russians.

A handsome Arab, Saraj is a powerful, tough-looking man about five feet seven, barrel-chested, with sleek black hair, and piercing eyes. Most observers credit him with being sincere in the belief he is doing right for Syria, and with having little taste for absolute power.

The night martial law was declared, Damascus had its first "air raid," and there was a good chance that the wall of the sirens was largely political. Thereafter the sirens wailed frequently, with no visible evidence of menace in the sky.

So far as the frightened and unsophisticated population was concerned, the raids were real. The sandbagged and blacked-out buildings of Damascus heightened the illusion of imminent danger. Anti-aircraft batteries fired often.

CIVILIAN GROUP WANES

The "air raids" also impressed on the public the need for continued martial law, which left the army in full control. The civilian government became less and less effective.

Yoga Has Gained Some Following

MONTREAL (CP)—A far eastern philosophy that originated some 4,000 years ago is gaining a surprising number of converts in Montreal.

In a small St. Catherine St. apartment, Swami Sivananda-Radha leads groups of yoga students in exercises designed to "subordinate the body to the spirit and achieve a pure, simple and divine life."

Swami Sivananda-Radha, whose real name is Sylvia U. L. Hellman, recently returned from the Yoga - Vedanta Forest University in the Himalayas and now is initiating Montrealers to the ancient philosophy.

However, not all who attend her classes, which appear largely devoted to silent meditation in a darkened room, can hope to become full-fledged yogis.

She says yoga involves extraordinary ascetic and athletic discipline, such as holding breath for two hours and halting the heartbeat for a minute at a time.

Feats such as these many of her students will never be able to attain, she says.

"Many people regard yoga as a mass of superstitions, but we feel that it will do much for the western world in the next 25 years," Swami Sivananda-Radha says.

"Yoga does not proselytize and welcomes interest from all religions. Our object is to bring a student back to his own church with a higher knowledge, or send him on to a higher life."

"We try to teach the ideals of yoga ethics—purity, self-control, truth, charity, peace and compassion for all living things."

Swami Sivananda - Radha rises at 4 a. m. each day. After one hour of meditation, she rests for a half-hour and meditates for several more hours. She then interviews students until well on into the night. Her diet is confined to fruit and vegetables, no meat.

Under martial law, an actual open and public coup d'etat in the style customary in Syria was hardly necessary. The army could rule without it.

When the big crisis broke in Egypt, the civilian government ordered a military guard around the pumping stations for Iraq Petroleum Company pipelines. That same night, while the stations were supposed to be under heavy army guard, all three were blown up, halting the flow of Iraqi oil not only to the Mediterranean and Europe, but to Syria herself. (Iraq Petroleum is owned by British, American, French and Dutch interests).

The same martial law, with Saraj and the army in control, made the entire press and radio pro-Soviet.

The press was deliberately blinded to the Soviet military subjugation of Hungary. Not a line of news from any Western source was carried by the press or radio. Only Moscow Radio and the Soviet official news agency Tass were quoted.

SPEECH IS EDITED

When Prime Minister Nehru made his statement Nov. 19 on the world's crisis, the Indian legation in Damascus gave the Syrian government a translation for publication. Nehru's criticism of the Russians for the Hungarian events was suppressed. Only the Middle East sections of Nehru's remarks were used.

This was the work of Saraj. This colonel of about 33 is a nationalist in the style of Egypt's Gaeel Abdel Nasser.

He is pro-Soviet in the sense that he places a high value on Soviet assistance. He is not considered Pro-Communist through the net results of his policies have helped the illegal but now openly operating Communists.

Popular emotion tended to make Saraj the strongest single individual in the country.

GEORGETOWN

Mrs. William Prosper left recently for Pictou, N.S., where she will visit her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Chaisson.

Mr. Joseph "Sonny" Johnson, Canadian National Railway Station Agent, who is employed in Prince County stations, was a recent visitor to his home in Georgetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Picketts and family of Halifax, N.S., motored to Georgetown, where they were weekend guests, of Mrs. Pickett's mother, Mrs. Annie Gardner.

Friends of Miss Annie Robinson are sorry to hear of her illness, and all wish her an early return to good health.

Mr. and Mrs. Stillman MacDonald and two children, Marilyn and Kevin, of Little Pond, were recent guests of Mr. MacDonald's aunt, Mrs. Annie Gardner.

Mr. Stewart Lavers of Sackville, N.S., motored to Georgetown on Saturday, Nov. 24th, where he was a weekend guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lavers. He was accompanied by his son, Miss Beatrice Skinner, who was returning to her home in Georgetown following a week spent in Sackville, N.B., as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Lavers.

Mr. Stewart Hansen of the staff of The Bank of Nova Scotia in Montague, was the weekend guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Hansen.

On Saturday, Nov. 24th, Mr. and Mrs. Spurgeon Walker, Miss Carol Walker and Mrs. W. J. Fitzgerald motored to Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robinson were in Charlottetown on Sat.

Bell Telephone Co. Plans Huge Construction

TORONTO (CP) — Bell Telephone Company of Canada plans to spend \$170,000,000 on its 1957 construction program — the largest year's program in its history.

Thomas W. Eadie, the company's president, said Tuesday night in an address to the Toronto Junior Board of Trade.

In the 10-year period 1946 to 1955 the company had spent \$780,000,000 on construction and accounted for one-quarter of all the equity financing carried out in Canada. Afd it expected to spend a similar sum in the five years 1956 to 1960.

With the national economy showing inflationary tendencies, the company realized that both the scale and make-up of the construction program required careful attention. At the same time, thousands of customers were waiting for service, and certain developments were ready which would both improve the service and limit the cost of providing it.

HIGH DEMAND

The company could not curtail essential construction if it was to meet the high demand for service. However, it was arranging to spread out certain items.

Mr. Eadie's comments were contained in a text issued to the press in advance of delivery.

Speaking of the recently-invented picture-phone, by which the telephone would carry the speaker's voice, and a picture of his head and shoulders, Mr. Eadie commented:

"One thing I will assure you—any picture-phone we install in the years ahead will carry an on-off switch of the utmost reliability, so that you'll never find yourself 'on the air' when you'd rather not be."

GREAT PORT

Hong Kong off the China coast, one of the world's great ports, has more than 20,000,000 tons of shipping annually.

SENT MILLIONS IN ARMS

LONDON (Reuters) — Britain exported \$5,300,000 worth of arms, explosives and aircraft to Egypt in the year ended June 30, Trade Minister Peter Thorneycroft told the House of Commons Wednesday. Britain halted all such exports a month later, after Egypt nationalized the Suez Canal operation.

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