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# Russ Keep Jump Ahead In Initiative

## Troop Data Demand Called Tie-in With Campaign to Get Western Allies Out of Europe

By NAT A BARROWS  
Times Special Writer

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., Nov. 22.—Boil it down to its original essentials and this roar and fury about allied troops statistics proves little more than one fact:

Soviets actually don't care much whether the Anglo-Americans agree to tell them about military strength on China or Palestine or Venezia Giulia or anywhere else. Their

military attaches here and there could uncover such figures merely by intelligent reading of the newspapers, as Herschel Johnson, the American delegate, said in the security council long ago. What

is proved by Viaschslav Molotov's grandstand appearance before the United Nations general assembly political committee comes to this:

Russia quite obviously built this fire under the Anglo-Americans three months ago merely to keep the Soviets a jump ahead in United Nations initiative. It gave Andrei Gromyko then, and it gives Mr. Molotov now, a chance to show Russia as a crusader against what they call imperialism.

Every schoolboy follower of Russian policy knows that Soviet tactics during international meetings call for aggressive action, punching one surprise move at the other big powers, and hurrying along to another surprise plan while the other, in righteous indignation, are still concentrated on the first move.

### Russ Seek Confusion

Thus, in their inspired campaign to make the other allies tell about their military units in non-enemy territory the Russians are aiming at, not so much as a real census. They are aiming at an issue with which to confound and confuse Anglo-American leadership within the United Nations.

Some think they see concession and retreat in Mr. Molotov's willingness to broaden the scope of the inquiry to make it world-wide. That, of course, is one of the oldest tricks in diplomacy. Ask for more than you expect to get; start low in your own offers and then take credit when you give more than was originally proposed.

It is reasonable to assume that the Russian demand for military figures—now one of the dominating issues before the United Nations general assembly—ties in with a long-range Soviet campaign to get western allied troops out of Europe.

### Not Pleasing to Kremlin

Russia doesn't find it pleasing to Kremlin policy to have other big-power soldiers sitting close to the Communistic frontiers.

But regardless of the more subtle motivations behind this setting controversy, it is conceivable that the Anglo-Americans themselves may salvage some helpful points of benefit to the United Nations.

Mr. Molotov, as usual, has led the way. He suggested Wednesday that a complete picture of armed forces of individual states would be of value to the security council in studying the problem of a world police force under the United Nations.

Senator Tom Connally, in pledging U. S. support for a military census on the widest terms, came out hard and heavy against the Molotov implication that American troops aboard are a threat to peace and security or justify uneasiness in any part of the world.

### Asks No Territory

"The United States," he thundered at yesterday's historic session, "is asking for no territory, no changes in borders, no reparations. And we are not trying to squeeze the lifeblood out of victims of war to enrich ourselves."

Some delegates, looking only at the surface, saw the embattled old Texan overplaying the grand orator's role, capitol-hill style. But others appreciated that all this was mostly lost upon Mr. Molotov.

The Russian, sitting two seats away, was engrossed in the running translation being whispered into his ear by his tireless shadow, Vladimir Pavlov.

Mr. Molotov heard Mr. Connally only as a roar of unintelligible sound; it was Mr. Pavlov's Russian on which he was concentrating.

### Campaign Started Suddenly

Russia's drive to embarrass the Anglo-Americans and build a homefront campaign against western "imperialism" started suddenly. It started without the slightest advance notice during an August session of the security council. As the council was about to adjourn, Mr. Gromyko abruptly asked for the floor. His colleagues, stunned by the implications, heard him demand:

THAT the security council should study the question of the presence of allied troops . . . on the territories of members of the United Nations and of other states, with the exception of former enemy territories.

THAT this information (which so clearly excluded a census of Soviet troops anywhere) should refer to placements as of Aug. 1, 1946.

Britain, worried about having to disclose its military strength in, for instance, Palestine, took a poor view of the demand. The U. S., while admitting it had no secrets, joined with the British against the Soviet proposal. It was defeated Sept. 24 by seven to two. France and Egypt abstained.

Mr. Gromyko then moved his campaign to the general assembly and that is how it reached the assembly's political committee.

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## SOLDIER STABBED ON TRAIN HOSPITALIZED

Garland Watson, 18-year-old soldier from Trenton, Ga., was removed from a train at Union station here last night in a serious condition with four knife wounds in his body.

He was taken to Ft. Harrison hospital in an ambulance.

The stabbing occurred on a train en route from Chicago. At Lebanon, another soldier, Lindsay Reed, 23, of Madisonville, Tenn., was taken off the train by police and held for military authorities at Ft. Harrison.

## Emergency Train Stop Hurts 40

CHICAGO, Nov. 22 (U. P.)—A veteran whose objections to walking prompted him to push an emergency stop button resulting in the collision of two trains and minor injuries to 40 persons, yesterday blamed battle wounds for his action.

The veteran, Edward Pokropinski, 22, boarded an express instead of a local Illinois Central suburban train Wednesday afternoon. He pushed the emergency

button when he noticed the train pass his station. The train immediately halted and was struck from the rear by a South Shore suburban express.

Mr. Pokropinski told police his toes had been shot off in Italy. He said he became angry when he realized he was on the wrong train and would have to walk back several blocks to his station.

Thirty-seven of the passengers were treated at hospitals and released. The other three were given first aid.

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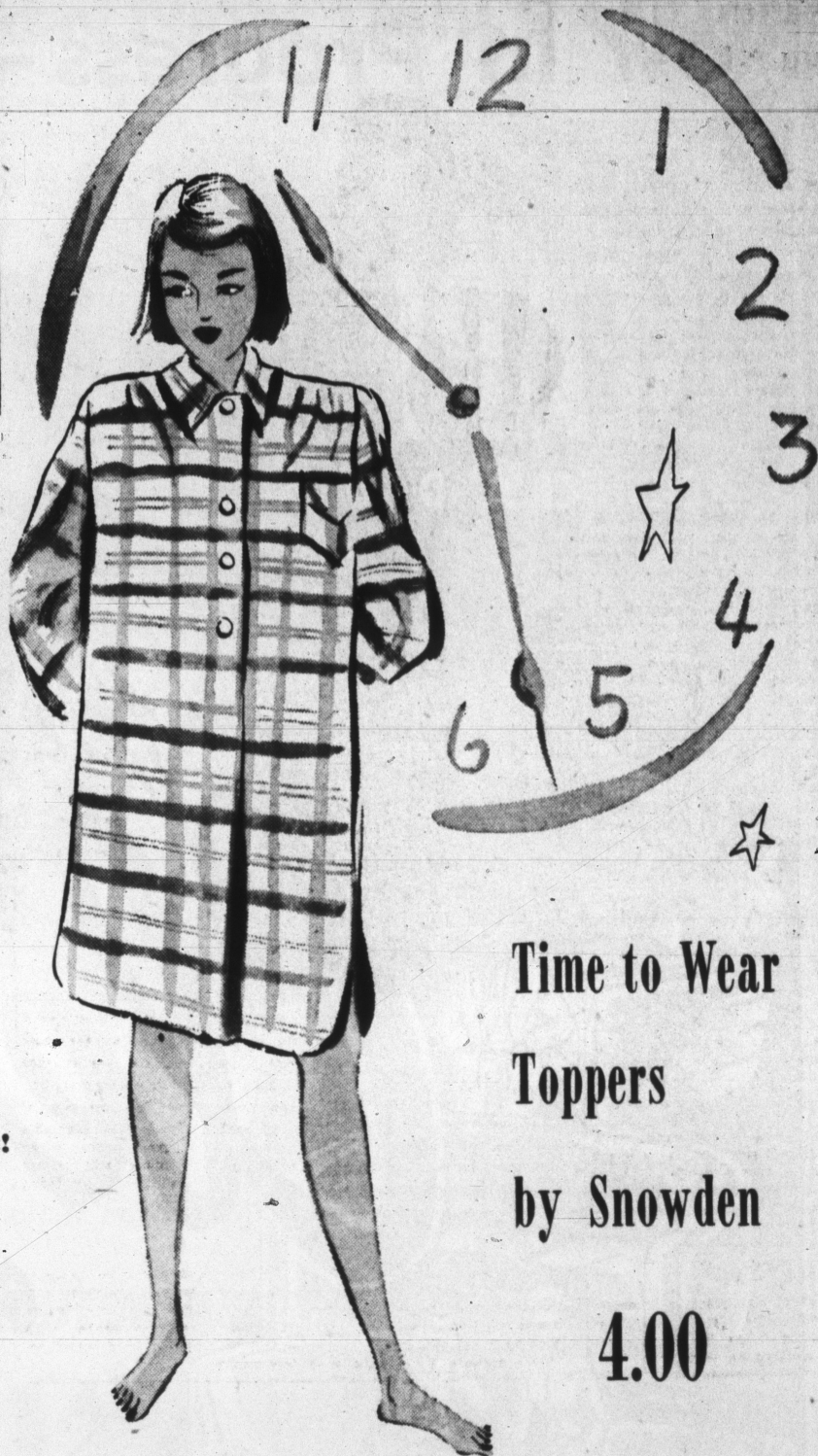
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