

# Europe Not Yet Fully Secure, But No 'Pushover,' Dulles Says

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Post Reporter

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles told the Nation last night that "Europe is not yet fully secure, but it is no longer a pushover."

The Secretary's speech by radio and television was his first since returning from the 14-nation North Atlantic Council meeting in Paris, and was his most confident statement since the Inauguration.

He said that just before leaving Paris last weekend he had talked with Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, the Supreme Commander in Europe, and Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, the Chief of Staff.

"Naturally," said Dulles, "they would like more land and air strength and they are particularly anxious to see the defense forces rounded out with German contingents."

"However, they believe that there is today enough strength so that if the Soviets planned to overrun Europe, it would be necessary for them first largely to reinforce the Red armies in or near Eastern Germany."

"This they could do without our knowledge. This fact alone is of great importance. It means that we would probably get the opportunity to bring into final readiness counter-measures, both in Europe and elsewhere, which might, in fact, deter the actual assault and preserve the peace."

In contrast to his confidence

about Europe last night, the Secretary had talked gloomily to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee earlier in the day about the latest Communist drive in Indo-China.

According to Chairman Alexander Wiley (R-Wis.), Dulles said the invasion of the Kingdom of Laos had created a "very serious" new problem in the Far East. It was so serious, said Wiley, that the Administration was considering a substantial shift of military aid from Europe to the French and native forces of Indo-China.

But in his speech last night the Secretary did not mention the Far East. Nor did he mention the recent Soviet "peace" overture — preferring, apparently, to leave discussion of this subject to President Eisenhower from now on.

Instead, he devoted his entire speech to NATO, which he described as "prevention, we hope, against a repetition of 1914 and 1939."

At the Paris meeting, he said, the ministers of 14 nations "tried to find practical ways of making NATO even stronger"—agreeing on "new ideas" which were "largely drawn from President Eisenhower's personal experience and judgment."

The first, as Dulles described it, was to seek military strength "which would be born of economic health, not economic sickness."

The European members have been straining toward a theoretical goal and now they are beginning to get out of breath," the Secretary explained.

"Since we cannot foresee the year of greatest danger, President Eisenhower believes that it is safest to adopt a pace which can be maintained with growing strength, rather than run the risk of dropping exhausted by the wayside before the haven is reached."

Therefore, said the Secretary,

the NATO meeting decided to concentrate this year and next year largely on "improved quality" rather than on adding to the number of divisions. The result, he predicted, would be less strain on national budgets and yet "a big lift to NATO's combat effectiveness" — a lift which he estimated at 30 percent this year alone.

The second main agreement at Paris, he said, was to call for the prompt creation of the European Defense Community, which would bring German units into a mixed six-nation army. The delay up to now "strains our patience," the Secretary said, "but should not break it."

The third step taken at Paris, Dulles said, was to agree on a three-year program for building new airfields, oil pipelines, supply depots and radar stations, with each nation contributing a fixed percentage of the cost each year.

Finally, he said, "we have much thought to new tactical weapons, and to the increased power which they can give to the defense of western Europe."