



Nikita Khrushchev: The Man Nobody Knows

Editor's note: He is in the news almost every day, but he is almost a man nobody knows — Nikita Khrushchev, the man the West must deal with in any summit sessions. What makes him run? How did he get where he is? How smart is he? These are some of the questions William L. Ryan, long a close student of the Soviet Union, takes up in the first of five informative articles.

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
AP Foreign News Analyst

Long before anyone dreamed of Nikita Khrushchev as a future czar, a Western diplomat sized him up shrewdly as "that brilliant borehead."

The man can bluster and guffaw his way with a terrifying air of carelessness toward the edge of global disaster. But he is no genius. His career has been dotted with bonehead plays.

In a meeting at the summit, nonetheless, Western statesmen would find a formidable antagonist, a dynamic lumbar of ideas, energy and dazzling paradoxes, far less predictable, potentially far more dangerous than the mighty Stalin.

One of his success secrets seems

to be an astonishing knack for blaming his own mistakes on others—and getting away with it. Another has been an Olympian scorn of weakness and what he would regard as bourgeois morality.

ONE TRUTH

Khrushchev knows only one truth. In a sense he is a missionary. He has referred, piously to his "Communist faith." In propagating this faith, he has shown himself a true disciple of Lenin.

World communism as developed under Soviet control has one basic aim: to impose its political philosophy on the whole world. To accomplish this, any subterfuge, any beguiling any tactic is justified in Communist eyes.

Through a combination of this faith and his political ability, Khrushchev has survived revolution, civil war, bloodthirsty purges and dark intrigues. Nearing a durable 65 in April, he sometimes seems like an amiable hippie on a tightrope.

As Russian as a bowl of borstcht, Khrushchev is master of the Soviet Union for the moment. And, for the moment, he is master of the world conspiracy which goes by the name of communism.

Nikita Sergeevich Khrushchev

is by Soviet standards an "ochten umny chelovek"—a very smart fellow. He boasts the physique of a Russian bear. He combines seemingly boundless energy with a taste for intrigue and a talent for turning defeat into victory.

These attributes, along with his native peasant shrewdness, a stubbornly dogmatic mind and a lack of scruples, have made Khrushchev's life story a Communist-style saga of rags to riches.

The Khrushchev era in the U.S.S.R. is now about five years old. In that brief historical period the 5 foot 5, 220 lb., former coal miner has assumed a political Sputnik to the top of the Soviet heap.

Perhaps he went too far too fast. He is not yet the sole inheritor of Stalin's awesome power. Those who stood in the way of his climb have been silenced, but not eliminated. His victories have been dazzling, but their foundation is flimsy.

COMPLEX SOCIETY

Khrushchev inherited a complex Soviet society, its needs enormous, its demands frightening. Unchecked until he was in his mid-thirties, Khrushchev hardly could hope to understand the com-



NIKITA KHRUSHCHEV

plexities of a new generation doubting, searching, questioning, arguing, wondering.

Khrushchev had been a far different world when he was a ragged boy tending sheep and learning the trades of blacksmith and locksmith.

He was born in a hovel in Kalinovka, in Kursk province, not far from the Ukraine, April 17, 1894. His father, Sergei, may have owned a small plot of land around the mud and red hovel and thus have been a "kulak"—a landowning peasant. But his chief trade was that of coal miner. Nikita's grandfather had been a serf, one of the agricultural slaves freed by czar Alexander in 1861.

Nikita at 17 was working as a locksmith in a factory at Khrushchev in the Ukraine. From there he traveled to the Donets Basin to work, like his father, in the coal mines. He was there, a young man of 23, when the Russian revolution burst out.

Khrushchev took no active part in the revolution against the czar. But in 1918, when the Bolsheviks were striking for power, he joined the party and served in the First Proletarian Regiment in the Donets Basin during the first party of the bloody civil war.

Somewhat Khrushchev managed

to bring himself to the attention of his superiors. While the civil war still raged, he became head of the agricultural section of the Kursk city Soviet. Then he was placed in command of a battalion to fight White forces in the Ukraine. Khrushchev's talent was wiped out.

But Khrushchev's talent for blaming his mistakes on others came to the fore. He became political commissar of a big guerrilla detachment.

After the war, Khrushchev worked for a while in an iron mine and for the first time, at 27, got a chance to go to school. He studied at a railroad workers' faculty for three years in Kharkov, and went from there to party jobs in Stalingrad and Kiev. Then came his first big break.

Khrushchev's party work came to the notice of Lazar Moiseyevich Kaganovich, the dreaded "iron commissar," then first party secretary in the Ukraine. Kaganovich had Khrushchev sent to Moscow Industrial Academy in 1929 for further studies.

Under such important auspices, Khrushchev became a member of the Communist party committee in the academy. Once again he showed his talent. He led an attack against those in the academy

who sided with Trotsky and other enemies of Stalin.

His studies completed in 1931, Khrushchev became secretary of a regional Moscow party committee, once again the protégé of Kaganovich, then secretary of the Moscow committee and member of the ruling Central Committee.

Khrushchev went to various industrial centers to root out Stalin's enemies.

Khrushchev also threw himself with a will into Kaganovich's program for transforming Moscow, doing much of the work of organizing labor for such projects as the celebrated Moscow subway.

A quarter century later Khrushchev would repay his benefactor by bouncing him out of the post-Stalin hierarchy, labeled an enemy of the party.

But in 1934 Khrushchev was just a Kaganovich man, and his boss was still really on the powerful central committee. He now had a firm grasp on the first rung of his ladder to power.

For Nikita Sergeevich Khrushchev, life began at 40.

Tomorrow: All-out for Stalin

Adv. for Monday PMs Mar. 30.

U. S. Bases In Japan 'Illegal'

TOKYO (AP)—A lower Japanese court ruled today that the presence of U.S. bases and troops in Japan is unconstitutional.

The decision, if upheld by higher courts, could wreck the U.S. defense setup in this strategic Far Eastern nation.

It also would bring into review all of the international commitments made by Japan since she regained independence in 1892.

The surprise verdict was made by the three-man Tokyo District Court in acquitting seven men indicted in 1957 after they broke into the U.S. Tachikawa Air Base outside Tokyo to protest its expansion.

The court, freeing them, said the presence of U.S. bases and personnel in Japan violated the famous "no-war" Article 9 of the Japanese constitution, which was largely written by the American occupation authorities after the war.

SPECIAL LAW

It also declared that Japanese citizens were discriminated against by special laws connected with the treaties giving the United States the right to station troops. It was under one of these laws, the special criminal code, that the defendants were indicted.

The Japanese government has 14 days to appeal.

The American Embassy said any comment from it on the actions and decisions of a Japanese court would be improper.

Any appeal will be filed first in the Higher Court, and that tribunal's decision can be appealed in turn to the Supreme Court. Both the government and the defendants can appeal, and it might be years before a final decision is handed down.

Executioner Has Record In States

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Capt. Herman Marks, who has risen to the post of executioner for Cuban Rebel Chief Fidel Castro, left a long criminal record behind him in the states. Warden John C. Burke of Wisconsin State Prison, where Marks served 3½ years for a morals offense, describes him as "a real stinker."

Marks, a native of Milwaukee, has made no secret of his Wisconsin connections, nor for that matter of his police record. Files at the prison at the Milwaukee County sheriff's office show the slim, 37-year-old firing squad boss has at least 32 arrests in his U.S. behind him.

His record includes arrests for auto theft, robbery, burglary, assault, drunken driving and disorderly conduct. The prison term of one to four years was imposed Jan. 12, 1952, on a charge of carnal knowledge and abuse of a minor girl.

Warden Burke said that during his term, Marks frequently caused trouble, and refused to work. He was discharged from state custody June 3, 1955—the last date on his official file in his home state.



(AP Thompson)

Billy Relaxes At Beach

Billy Graham prepares for a dip in the Pacific Ocean at Bournemouth, Australia, where he is vacationing after conducting an evangelistic meeting. He goes to New Zealand Friday for another series of meetings.

Peace Prayers Highlight Easter

Christians over much of the world celebrated Easter Sunday with services and prayers for peace. Outside American churches there was the usual Easter parades.

Pope John XIII, in the first Easter Mass of his pontificate, pleaded for peace. But he declared that "the good Christian does not yield and is wary of compromises."

Despite an all-day downpour, 100,000 persons were in St. Peter's Square for the pontiff's blessing. Among them were 65 contest-winning newsmen from 38 U.S. news papers. Afterward, the boys presented an Easter egg to Italian movie queen Gina Lollobrigida.

In West Berlin, a crowd of 100,000 tourists converged on the city 10 miles inside Communist East Germany.

Pilgrims of numerous denominations hailed the Resurrection in the Jordan-occupied old city of Jerusalem.

Coptic bishops held services at the far end of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, while Greek Orthodox and Armenian Christians conducted services in other parts of the building.

Among those attending a later pontifical high mass in the basilica were Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and her 16-year-old granddaughter Nina. Danish newspapermen had noticed Mrs. Roosevelt's visit because of her friendship for Israel, but there were no incidents.

Low this morning
High tomorrow
Low tomorrow morning
High today
High yesterday
High tomorrow
Sunrise today 6:13 a.m.; sunset today 6:43 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 3-A

India Stir Over Tibet Revolution

NEW DELHI (AP)—Prime Minister Nehru today rejected Communist China's attempt to get out of discussion of the Tibetan revolt in the Indian Parliament but still took no firm stand toward the Red military campaign to suppress the revolt.

Criticism mounted in Indian newspapers of Nehru's failure to back the Tibetan rebels' attempt to free the Himalayan country of Communist control. "Let us hold our heads low today," said the Communist Party, "in the face of the Himalayan country of Communist control."

Nehru told Parliament that he would make firm statements on Tibet when he was in a position to make them.

Nehru said India's sympathies "go out to the Tibetans."

But he voiced no condemnation of the Chinese. He declined to comment on Peking's announcement that the Dalai Lama had been ousted as head of the local Tibetan government and told a questioner his government had made no inquiry to Red China on the matter.

DENIES CHARGE

Nehru also denied Red Chinese charges that the "commanding center of the rebellion" was in Kalimpong, the Indian town near the northeast border where many Tibetans have taken refuge.

Russia's Communist party organ Pravda, echoed the Peking charge that Kalimpong was the seat of rebellion and also claimed the Nationalist Chinese planes were flying arms to the rebels.

Western observers in Hong Kong discounted the latter charge because of the considerable distance between Formosa and Tibet.

Communist China was expected to launch an all-out drive to conquer Tibet following the ouster of the fugitive Dalai Lama's rebellious government by a puppet regime headed by the country's former spiritual leader, the rival Panchen Lama.

Despite Red China's claim that the rebellion was quelled March 21, two days after it erupted in Lhasa, widespread resistance was reported continuing in various sectors outside the capital.

Border reports said Chinese rule extended only 20 or 30 miles south of Lhasa. A rebel "national defense army" was said to be collecting arms in the south. A rebel radio was reported operating there.

JUST TEN?

ROCHESTER, N. Y. (AP)—Easter notes: ten bunny rabbits were stolen from the Rochester Zoo Sunday.

Reds Okay Ministers Conference In Geneva

LONDON (AP)—Soviet Russia today handed notes to the Big Three Western powers agreeing to an East-West foreign ministers conference beginning in Geneva May 11, Tass agency reported.

Tass said, "According to information received," the Soviet government agreed to attend the talks "in order to consider questions concerning Germany, including the peace treaty with Germany and the Berlin question."

Tass said Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko received the U.S., British and French ambassadors and handed them the Soviet notes in reply to the three Western notes of March 26.

The notes had differences in emphasis, but all looked beyond the foreign ministers conference to a summit meeting later in the year.

The Soviet government expressed regret in its notes "that complete mutual understanding has not yet been reached on the question of the participation of Poland and Czechoslovakia in the conference of foreign ministers."

WESTERN SUGGESTION

The allies have suggested the two Communist ministers should join the later stages of the talks.

Moscow, however, it "considers it possible that the question of the participation of Poland and Czechoslovakia should be solved during the conference."

The question of the representation of the two German states at the conference of foreign ministers can be regarded as mutually agreed.

The West has proposed that both West and East German representatives sit in on the talks as observers.

Identical twins Rita and Deborah Stanish of Philadelphia appeared to be having a serious discussion as they showed off identical spring outfits yesterday in Philadelphia's Easter parade.

'Kidnappers' Halted In Highway Chase

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP)—"Kidnappers' Kidnapers"—The cry echoed along a swanky street in this desert resort, and the chase was on. Two men, holding two screaming boys in a station wagon, roared from the scene. They held the lead for four miles.

Several carloads of citizens pursued, in a horn-blasting posse. Four miles away an accident blocked the station wagon's path. The possum called police.

The police—after much investigation—said they uncovered this story.

Richard Ruse, executive vice-president of Greer Steel Co., Morgantown, Va., was visiting with his sons, Richard Jr., 10, John 8, and David 6, at the home of a friend, orchestra leader Eddie Le Baron.

Richard Moulton, 49, of San Jose, Calif., was driving home, said he and Charles Lewis, 23, a railroad conductor of Warm Springs, Calif., were off \$5,000 by Ruse's former wife, Mrs. Jane Kelly, to bring the boys to her custody in Florida.

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U. S. Defenses Can 'Break Russia's Back'

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
The nation's military chiefs told the free world today that American air, land and growing missile might can break Russia's back — destroy her "many times over" — the Kremlin opens World War III.

The assurances came as members of the 15-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organization conference prepared to open Thursday a strategy session here marking the 10th anniversary of the NATO pact.

By intent or coincidence, the soberly confident statements put Russia on notice the Western Big Three will be leading from strength if they take steps at a summit conference this year.

DEFENSE READY

Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy told a Detroit audience America has airborne nuclear power, poised and ready, in sufficient force to "destroy the Soviet Union if it should attack us."

It is coupled, McElroy said, with mobile forces which have proved their ability to land by air or sea and stamp out brushfire wars in the world's far corners.

A more explicit, though heavily censored, picture of American strength was painted in testimony by the chiefs of the uniformed services before the House defense appropriations subcommittee in January and February. The cut-down transcript was released over the weekend.

Adm. Arleigh Burke, chief of naval operations, asserted that if Russia launches a nuclear war "we can destroy her many times over with the weapons we now have in existence. . . . We would break her back."

Gen. Nathan F. Twining, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that "the administration's cause for optimism."

Twining said a Soviet nuclear assault, if delivered today, would come almost entirely from manned aircraft. And the Soviet Union's air threat, he added, is "as great as ours and not nearly so effective."

MANY TIMES OVER

Burke said that in an all-out war "we can destroy her many times over with the weapons we now have in existence. . . . There is no way that she can stop that. We would break her back."

HE GUESSES IT WILL COST ABOUT \$2,000

GASTONIA — (AP) — Schenker DeLoach, collector of stolen cars from Alabama, guessed the 1959 red and white convertible would cost \$2,000. His guess, on a national television program, was the closest to the price tag and he won the car.

Sunday morning, Dean and Douglas Smith, a fellow student at Huntington College in Montgomery, Ala., were riding back to school in the flashy new convertible. Dean was asleep on the back seat and Smith was driving.

But Smith dozed off too. The car drifted across the four-lane U. S. 29 highway between here and Charlotte and smashed into a pine tree. Both Dean and Smith were bruised and cut, but not hurt seriously.

Patrolmen guessed it would cost \$2,000 to repair the prize.

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