

Washington News

Washington, D. C.—Washington is getting conflicting reports, as always, concerning its recent get-tough policy with Syria. Egypt is responsible for some of the confusing misleading information it would seem but this time the U. S. isn't being fooled by such typical Communist propaganda tricks.

Reports have come from various Arab capitals in recent days that tough action on the part of the United States would only push Syria irretrievably into the Com-

munist camp, that such action would silence the few pro-Western spokesmen in that nation.

U. S. arms shipments to Jordan and other Arab neighbors of Syria have continued, however, and the State Department has served a blunt warning on Russia that U. S. policy and determination in the Middle East should not be misinterpreted. It seems that the Reds may think that our eagerness in the recent London disarmament talks and their success in the

Road Petitioners To Gather In Asheville

Raleigh — The State Highway Commission is inviting all municipal and county officials and other interested groups in counties and cities west of Hickory to appear at its Asheville meeting, Monday, October 7.

Highway Director W. F. Babcock said that groups interested in particular road improvements or projects are urged to attend the meeting in the Council Assembly Room of the Asheville City Hall. Highway Commissioner Robert Bunnelle of Asheville is in charge of scheduling group appearances before the Commission. Each group should contact Bunnelle at his Asheville address—14 O'Henry Avenue—for a definite time to appear, Babcock added.

The line was, and it was printed in U. S. papers, that Nasser wanted closer relations with the U. S. This theme was dashed by Nasser's speech just after this apparent propaganda was circulated.

United States policy is to maintain the integrity of the non-Communist Arab countries in the Middle East and there is to be no weakness about it. The President is reported ready to use the power Congress voted him—to employ U. E. armed forces in the area, if necessary, to maintain the status quo.

In political circles some of the experts have already narrowed the 1968 presidential election to five names. Three are Democrats and two Republicans. The latter two are well known candidates—Vice President Richard Nixon and Minority Senate Leader William Knowland. Ironically, both are Californians.

In the Democratic party three names are offered. Senator Lyndon Johnson, the Texas Majority Leader of the Senate who steered the first civil rights bill through Congress in eighty years, Senator John Kennedy of Massachusetts and Governor Mennen "Soapy" Williams are the three mentioned.

In many quarters it is admitted that the nomination of Williams would set off a third-party movement, which might achieve a permanent split in the party. The main objection to Williams is that he is too pro-labor, with his four-day work week advocacy, etc.

Johnson, of course, is from a Southern state and the party leaders have always argued that the rest of the country was prejudiced against a Southerner. Kennedy is a Roman Catholic, and there is known to be a reluctance on the part of many Americans to elect a Roman Catholic to the White House.

In the end, the race may be between Johnson and Kennedy. Johnson wants Kennedy as the number two man on his ticket and it may be that it turns out this way in 1968. Kennedy is young and has time to wait around (possibly as Vice President) for his presidential bid.

CHAIN LETTERS
Following reports that chain-letter schemes are being revived, Postmaster-General Arthur Summerfield has warned senders that such letters are illegal and that they will be investigated by postal inspectors.

up the new seven-member State Highway Commission specified that three out-of-Raleigh meetings must be held each year. Two other out-of-Raleigh meetings, similar to the Asheville one, will be held later for the areas between Raleigh and Hickory, and between Raleigh and the coast.

The purpose of the out-of-Raleigh meetings is to acquaint the Commission with the needs of the

various areas of the State. In addition, it brings the activities and policy-making decisions of the Highway Commission closer to the people of North Carolina.

Babcock said that municipal officials and county boards of commissioners as well as other interested groups in the western part of the State are being notified of the Asheville meeting and are being invited to attend.

President Nasser of Egypt has been reported seeking improved relations with the United States without abandoning his neutralist stand.

FEDERAL PRISONS

The population of the Federal prisons, at the beginning of the current fiscal year on July 1, was 20,574, an increase of 440 in the first half of 1967.

President Eisenhower admitted his second term had not started the way he had hoped and cited setbacks in Congress, particularly on the foreign aid appropriation bill, as reasons for his disappointment.

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