

Hitler in '37 - Khrush in '57?

WASHINGTON

MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON

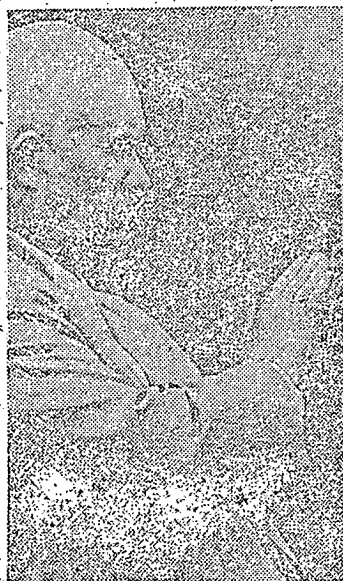
WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—While the nation's capital is paying homage to the Queen, the Western world is haunted by certain ominous similarities between Khrushchev's tactics in 1957 and Hitler's tactics in 1937.

It was in 1937-38 that Hitler started taking over Austria and large hunks of Czechoslovakia purely by psychological warfare.

He did it by exhibiting the might of the Nazi Army, by showing foreign diplomats motion pictures of Germany's military might, and by subversion inside Austria and Czechoslovakia. He didn't have to fire a shot.

Today, 20 years later, awe of the Russian ICBM, amazement over the Sputnik, plus savage warnings from the Kremlin are doing the same thing for Khrushchev.

In the past week, the Arab world, much of it previously pro-West, has started swinging into the Soviet orbit. Here are the swings:



KHRUSHCHEV



HITLER

Twenty years later—An Encore?

Swing No. 1—President Chamoun of Lebanon, hitherto a staunch friend of the United States and no friend of Syria, now is backing Syria and wants to renounce the Eisenhower Doctrine. This reversal came

about one week after Khrushchev launched his Sputnik and 48 hours after Khrushchev, growling viciously at Turkey, warned that Turkey would not stay alive more than 24 hours in case of war.

Lebanon leaders, listening to Khrushchev, knew that if the Red Army once obliterated Turkey it would sweep on down into the Arab world. So they jumped to get on the right side of the fence.

Swing No. 2 — Simultaneous with Lebanon's rightabout-face, King Saud made a statement which just about tore up the Eisenhower Doctrine. Saud had been wine and dined by Eisen-

hower, receives his total income from American oil companies, has no reason to love Russia. Yet he lined up with Syria, a country which is becoming almost wholly dependent on the Kremlin.

Swing No. 3—Colonel Nasser has recently been making noises about a friendlier Egyptian policy toward the United States. But one week after the launching of Sputnik and 70 hours after Khrushchev unleashed his savage verbal blast against Turkey, Nasser landed troops in Syria to support Syria against Turkey.

All this fits into a pattern—a pattern all too similar to that which Hitler used to terrorize central Europe shortly before the start of World War II.

LAST MONTH, Allen Dulles, head of Central Intelligence, whose job it is to know what's going on inside Russia, stated publicly that there was ferment inside Russia and that Khrushchev seemed to be in trouble. He expected another political purge.

Other advices I picked up in Europe and the Near East bear this out. Khrushchev not only has the old Kremlin leaders against him, but the bureaucrats. Furthermore, his much-ballyhooed farm program isn't clicking. Reports on crop failures are staggering.

Russian scientific advances obviously have made Khrushchev cocky. The political situation at home might make him desperate. I don't like to be a pessimist, but where the future of the free world is concerned, it's much better to be ready than late.

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