U.S. is alienating friends, warns a Washington official

WASHINGTON — A top State Department official, frustrated in his attempts to break through the White House guard with urgent warnings, has turned to us to sound the alarm. We have agreed not to disclose his identity at this time.

Washington has affronted and antagonized and alienated other nations, he says,

Jack Anderson

until U.S. influence is on the wane around the world. There was a nasty, anti-American undercurrent to the resounding United Nations vote to oust Nationalist China. In most countries, it has become a popular political sport to make Uncle Sam a whipping boy. Even our Canadian cousins could scarcely refrain from thumbing their noses at the U.S. as they escorted Soviet Premier Aleksei Kosygin on tour of the land.

Unless the trend is reversed, the alarmed official makes these predictions:

President Nixon has delivered a series of stunning blows to Japan's Prime Minister Eisaku Sato, whose government has been our staunchest ally in Asia. These buffetings will bring Sato's downfall. Sato's successor, seeking to avoid the same political pitfall, will take pains to demonstrate his independence of the U.S.

Latin America ignored

The Nixon Administration, in its global maneuvers, has virtually ignored Latin America. Among the resentful Latin Americans, hostility toward the U.S. is on the rise. The first manifestation will be a resumption of diplomatic, economic and political ties between our Latin American allies and Communist Cuba. This will be followed by closer contacts with China and Russia. By the end of the decade, Latin America will be Washington's biggest headache.

U.S. pressure upon Israel will result in the reopening of the Suez Canal. But most of all, this will benefit the Soviets by linking up their Mediterranean and Indian Ocean fleets. Meanwhile, they will move into the vacuum created by the British departure from the Persian Gulf. This will give the Soviets a firm hand on the world oil faucet.

Trade war?

President Nixon's new protectionist policies have already caused angry rumblings in Western Europe. Trade battles reminiscent of the early 1930s can be expected. This will lead, as it did in the 1930s, to a worldwide economic slump. The Kremlin will take full advantage of the resulting hostility between Western Europe and the United States. This will bring a dramatic increase in the Soviet role in European affairs.

Although Canadian-American ties are too strong to be broken, they are sure to be loosened. The Canadians are thoroughly soured over what they believe to h President Nixon's high-handed treatment of them. The 10 per cent surcharge on imports is hurting the Canadian economy, and the Amchitka Island nuclear tests were scheduled in complete disregard of Canadian protests. Hereafter, Ottawa will no longer take its diplomatic signals from Washington.

It isn't President Nixon's policies, so much as his methods, which alarm this official. He agrees the White House should set the nation's course—without consulting the professional diplomats, if the President wishes. But the professionals should be used to implement the policies once they're set.

The official fiercely believes that urgent steps must be taken to halt the worldwide recession of U.S. power and prestige. For one, he suggests the U.S. should strive to put Japan, the world's third industrial power, on the Security Council. He thinks Latin American countries should also be invited to join the U.S. in a Common Market geared to increase hemispheric prosperity.

It will take dramatic moves, he warns, to stop the diplomatic deterioration. The old diplomacy no longer is good enough.

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