

SFChronicle MAY 9 1975 WALLACE
George Wallace's Notion of Foreign

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Washington

In a rambling interview, Alabama Governor George C. Wallace has given a group of foreign journalists perhaps the most extensive outline so far of his ideas on the past, present and future

conduct of American foreign policy.

"I think we were fighting the wrong people, maybe, in World War II," said Wallace in one of the rare statements of any length he has made on foreign policy issues. "In fact," he told a Japanese journalist, "I wish we'd been on the same side in World War II." Wallace is

expected to announce his presidential candidacy next month.

Wallace was outspoken during the 75-minute interview two months ago with 25 foreign correspondents taking a United States Information Agency tour of "The New-New South." As the interview began, for example, Wallace asked the newsmen

if they were going to visit "The New North" — especially Boston, which has had racial strife over busing of school children.

A tape of the interview, which has not before been made public in this country, was made available to The Washington Post.

Throughout the interview,

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Wallace exhibited a strong, distrust and fear of communism.

"My foreign policy, if I were the President," he said, "would be based on the fact you can't trust a Communist.

"You never have been able to trust 'em. I don't be-

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lieve in confrontation. I believe in negotiation, and I believe in detente. But while I'm detenting, as they say, I wouldn't turn my back on 'em."

He made it clear that he considers military might to be the cornerstone of any foreign policy. Disarmament, he said, should be on a one-for-one basis with the Soviet Union and China.

"I think the best foreign policy we can have at the present time, with the situation of the Soviets and the Red Chinese, is to be the strongest nation on the face of the earth because the people we're dealing with don't understand anything but strength," Wallace said.

He said the Japanese "who are now conquering Southeast Asia in a business fashion . . . (in a way they) . . . couldn't conquer it in

war" benefit from America's nuclear strength.

He said he opposes with drawing U.S. troops from NATO, but believes that "people in West Germany and West Europe ought to help us with the cost involved because after all it's for their protection."

On Vietnam, Wallace said he opposed "getting militarily bogged down in a land war in Asia, but once they got bogged down I was for them winning it. And if they couldn't win it, they should have gotten out.

(The interview was given before the fall of South Vietnam.)

He said he opposed the Paris peace agreement on Vietnam, and told that to former President Nixon.

"I knew that the Communists would never keep a single agreement," he said.

only \$1 million, Wallace replied, "Is that all? Then you must have gotten our secrets then because it costs us more than that."

Later, he chastised a Swedish television correspondent, Bo Helmquist, for his government's opposition to the U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

"We just saved them (Sweden) from the Germans back in World War II, but that was a long time ago," Wallace said.

"In other words, he continued, "You people in Scandinavia were mighty glad when we came over and saved you from the Germans, but when we go to Vietnam to save the Vietnamese, you give us hell.

"So what's the difference? Why didn't we just let you go to the Germans as we let them go to the Communists? I don't see any difference. I

Wallace said he would run his foreign policy on what was best for the United States, not what other nations thought about it.

"I'd stop worrying about whether the Netherlands liked what we did or not. I'd stop worrying about whether Czechoslovakia liked it or not. And the Russians didn't give a damn about what they (Czechoslovakians) thought. They (the Soviets) just moved the tanks in."

But, Wallace continued, "I'd like to have love on the part of other peoples in the world. I'd like to have them respect me."

At one point in the interview Wallace criticized the Indian government for spending money on a nuclear bomb while some of its people starved. When Indian correspondent Easwar Sagar told him the bomb cost

don't think we ought to have the kind of criticism we get from your country for doing to other people what we did for you . . .

"Now that's my attitude. You thought I didn't know they (the German army) marched through Sweden, did you?"

(Actually, Sweden steered a neutralist course during World War II while the Nazis invaded Norway and Denmark.)

One of the correspondents, Stein Savik of Norway, said he was "shocked" by Wallace's attitude during the interview. "I don't know why he was so aggressive," Savik said.

Billy Joe Camp, Wallace's press secretary, explained that the Alabama governor hadn't realized until midway into the interview what kind of group he was talking to. By then, Camp continued,

"It had gone too far for diplomacy so he had to go on with it."

Wallace insisted that he's not anti-Soviet Union. "I watched the Soviet athletes on television and I marvel at 'em. I think they're great and the people are great."

When asked if it is fair for him to talk about countries he has never seen without giving them a chance to explain themselves, Wallace said:

"I do know without having been there that we gave Russia \$10 billion of aid to help her win Stalingrad. Had we not done so she and the Germans would have fought themselves to death. I don't have to go to Soviet Russia to know that.

"I don't have to go to Soviet Russia to know that they're sending Soviet arms and missiles to (the) North Vietnamese and they've invaded South Vietnam and they've told an untruth about it . . .

"I don't have to go to Norway and Denmark to know we freed you. That's something everybody knows . . . If I went over there, I'd see a bunch of buildings and a bunch of grass and a bunch of trees. You can tell about as much about a country as you can by looking at moving pictures."

Wallace ended the interview, as he began it, by talking about American foreign policy before World War II. He said he doesn't believe in Nazism, "but that was not the German people." "The German people," he continued, "were mistreated after World War I. The Versailles Treaty that was imposed on them . . . was a treaty that

brought Hitler to power . . .

"The Japanese people, in my judgment, were provoked to a certain extent by people, by interest in this country that helped to bring about Pearl Harbor.

"What I'm saying is that our true foreign policy in those years ought to have been cultivating the friendship of the Japanese and the Germans instead of being antagonistic. . . .

"I think we were fighting the wrong people maybe in World War II." He continued, "and I say that with all due regard to the Soviet person (one of the correspondents) here. We fought on your side, but I wish the Soviet Union, or government rather, had been contained somewhat.

"And I do think we helped build up enemies in Western Europe and in Germany and in Japan that we ought to have been 50 years ago friendly to.

"And then there wouldn't have been any Hitler and there wouldn't be any Jewish tirade," Wallace concluded, without further elaboration.

Wallace explained in a telephone interview Wednesday he meant that the Versailles Treaty drove Germany to Nazism and allowed Hitler — whom he called "the most despicable, unjust criminal in the history of the world" — to rise to power by using Jews as scapegoats for Germany's economic troubles.

He added that, "A demagogue cannot rise in a country unless there are economic or social problems. When I say a social problem, I mean crime in the streets or something like that."