

Tough Battler

Gavin Able in Peace or War

WASHINGTON (AP)—The 53-year-old former combat paratrooper President Kennedy has named to be U.S. ambassador to France has a reputation as a tough opponent in peace as well as in war.

Gen. James M. Gavin in war let his deeds speak for him but as a peacetime officer he didn't hesitate to speak his mind—even when his job was at stake.



GEN. JAMES GAVIN
... speaks his mind

He told what he considered the truth and resigned, refusing an offer of promotion to four-star rank.

His testimony, and his resignation, made him a public figure overnight.

Says U.S. Faced with Total Challenge

That gave Gavin a chance, before taking a job with a civilian research firm, to air his views. He believed that the United States was faced with a total challenge from the Soviet Union, economic, military, technological and scientific.

Cooperation among free world nations, and greater effort by the United States, was essential for survival, he maintained.

Born March 27, 1907, in New York City, Gavin does not know who his parents were. He took the name of the people who adopted him.

Gavin entered the Army by enlisting as a regular in 1924. The next year, he enrolled in West Point and was graduated in 1929 with a commission as second lieutenant in the infantry.

There has been some criticism of Gavin's appointment. Critics note his French is not fluent and he does not have the personal financial resources which an ambassador to a major European post is usually obliged to draw on. Nevertheless, many observers consider him a good choice to deal with French President Charles de Gaulle.

A Man Dedicated to Ideals

Like DeGaulle, Gavin is dedicated to ideals, and unflinching in his pursuit of them. Like DeGaulle, he has a strong sense of the economic challenge to the free world.

Perhaps most important, he is a professional soldier and a soldier who has seen more than his share of war at first hand. Finally, like DeGaulle, he has the knack of inspiring those he leads.

Gavin led the crack 82nd Airborne Division in World War II. He was first man out the door of the plane on the divisions first combat jump over Sicily, and also made the division's other three combat jumps—Salerno, Nijmegen, Holland and Normandy.

The story of Sgt. Charles Burt illustrates the esteem with which Gavin was held during the war.

Gavin once called for volunteers to parachute into Sicily. Burt, a 56-year-old Army cook who had never jumped before, volunteered.

He did so, Burt recalled later, because Gavin had been the officer who asked. "There was never a better man made," said Burt.

SHOE FIRM MERGES

BELOIT, Wis. (AP)—Merger of the Freeman Shoe Co. into the Textron Corp. group of industries was announced yesterday in a joint statement by William E. Freeman and Textron Board Chairman Rupert C. Thompson.

BIG GEORGE!



"Awright, what have you been up to?"

Boy Thrown from Roof Survives Fire Killing 5

NEW YORK (AP)—The woman stood on the roof of a two-story Queens home yesterday as flames raged beneath her. She held a young boy.

"Throw the child!" a neighbor screamed. The mother hesitated only briefly, then dropped her precious burden. He landed in a snowbank.

But five other children died in the flames of the William T. Ryan home at 127-10 94th Ave., Richmond Hill.

Four of the children were those of Mr. and Mrs. Ryan. They were Dawn, 3 months; Doreen, 2 years; Erin, 3, and Kenneth, 4.

The fifth was a sister of Mrs. Ryan—Gertrude Bittrolf, 16, who was visiting Mrs. Ryan.

Saved by his mother was William Ryan Jr., 5, who suffered a back injury. The mother was cut in many places in crashing through a window while getting to the roof with him.

After Mrs. Ryan's successful leap, she and her husband tried to fight their way into their blazing home, but

were forced back by the heat and flames and suffered burns.

A neighbor, Thomas Claire, he heard commotion. He saw ran to the Ryan home when Mrs. Ryan on the roof with her son.

"I kept screaming to her to throw the child down," he said.

Claire took the child to his home for shelter after the mother threw him into a snowbank.

Jail Rate for Tramps Boosted in Bill

ALBANY (GNS)—A municipality would get \$5 from the state for every day a convicted tramp was kept in the pokie under a bill which passed the Assembly and went to the Senate tonight. The bill, by Assemblyman Philip Chase of Syracuse, would increase the state reimbursement rate for tramps serving time in penitentiaries from the present \$1.65-a-day.

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Tests for College, Scholarships Out of Hand, Principals Claim

DETROIT (AP)—The testing of high school students for admission to college and for scholarships is getting completely out of hand, a survey of high school principals reported yesterday.

The principals said the so-called "external" tests produced by outside agencies are costly, time-consuming, and a threat to local control of education.

A preliminary report of the survey, a year-long project sponsored by three major educational associations, was released at the annual convention of the National Association of Secondary-School Principals.

Charles C. Holt, director of the project, said the principals are agreed that some sort of testing for scholarships and college admission is necessary at a time when college costs and college enrollments are growing by leaps and bounds.

Not Foolproof

But, he said, there are too many such national tests, too much duplication in what they try to measure, and "a widespread but unfortunate belief that the tests are foolproof and the answer to all our problems."

Some students spend up to \$20 on test fees, travel hundreds of miles to take them, and spend as much as 23 hours on the tests, the survey showed.

But 80 per cent of the principals who replied to a questionnaire, Holt said, believe that the greatest danger of the tests is the effect they have on the curriculum.

Programs Juggled

"Schools will juggle their academic programs, not to improve their curriculum but just to give their students a better chance of passing the tests," he said. "Teachers, naturally, want their students

to get good scores, so they try to teach for the test.

"Most of the major testing agencies disclaim either the desire or the ability to influence curriculum. However, one of the most noted test makers . . . recently was quoted as saying, 'Not only do these tests influence the curriculum, they should.'"

There are 20 national testing programs in this country, Holt said, and as many as six of them are used in some states. Principals reported they are pressured into giving the tests by both the general public and the colleges.

1 in 500 Assisted
Last year 550,221 high

school students in 14,549 secondary schools took the scholarship tests of the National Merit Scholarship Corp. Of this half million-plus, only 1,008 students were given scholarships, fewer than one in 500.

Many others were given letters of commendation, which may have been helpful in getting into college or getting other scholarships. However, most of these same students also took tests distributed and administered by the College Entrance Examination Board, American College Testing, or Science Research Associates, designed to serve the same purpose.

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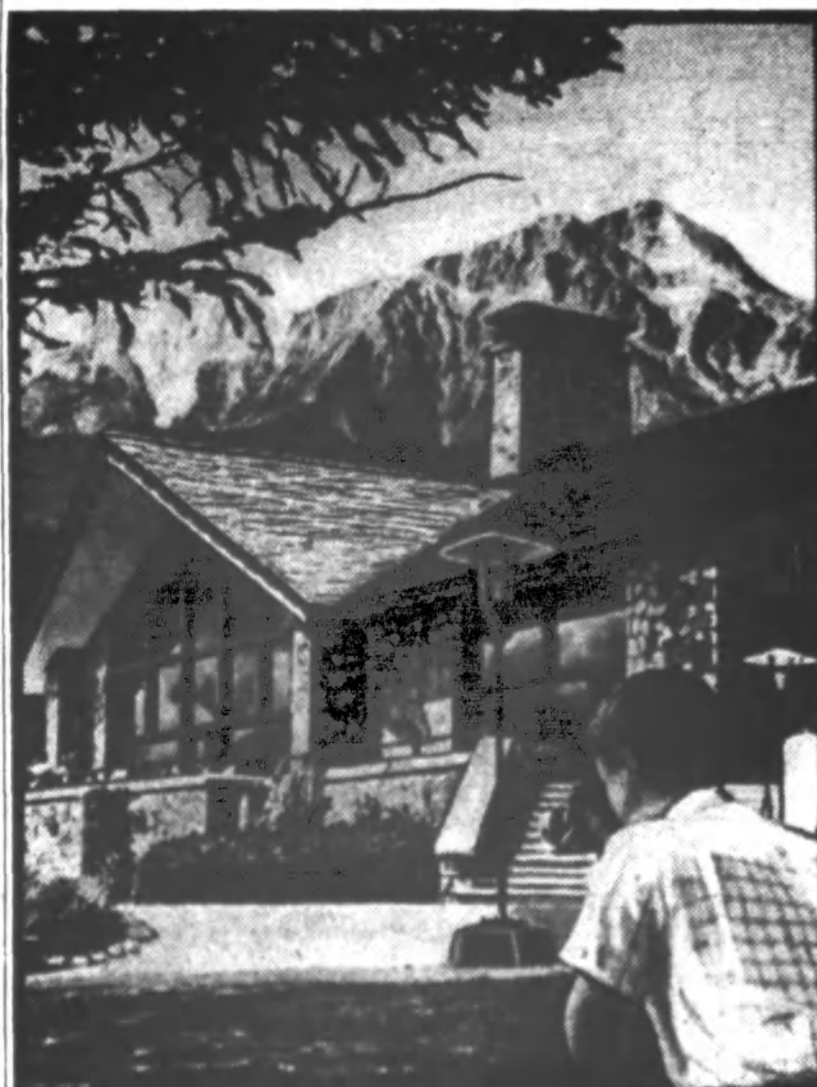
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