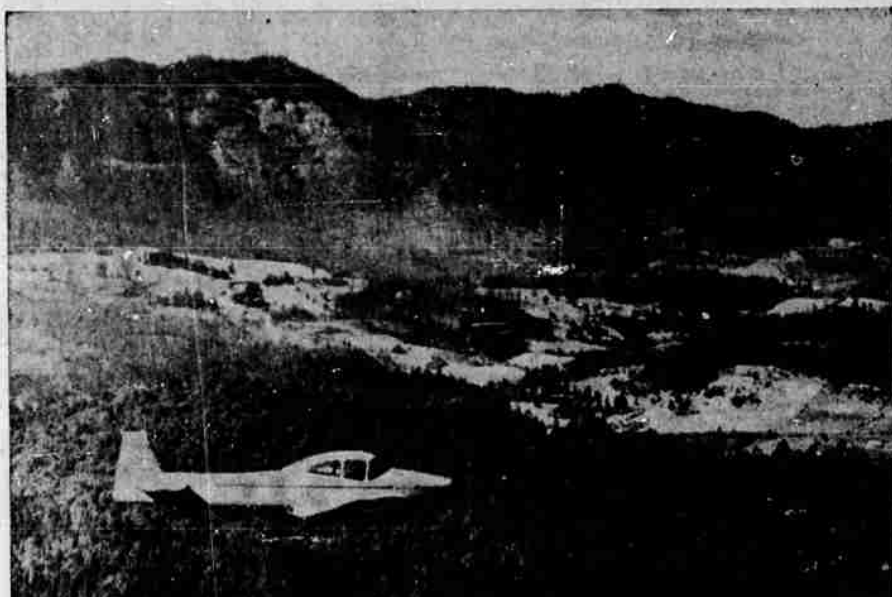


'Needles In Haystacks' Job Of Air Squadron

Tues., Sept. 16, 1952 — The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 3



PRACTICE MISSION by members of the Douglas County Sheriff's Aero Squadron is planned by flyers. From left they are two unidentified men from Coos Bay flying club, Wilbert Anderson (left rear), Marion Britton, Commander Ira Byrd, E. M. Schwader, Walter Reich, Howard Carnes and William Wishart. (All staff pictures).



AERIAL SEARCHES are conducted for lost persons and missing planes by Aero Squadron whenever necessary. Most recent was search for missing Tacoma plane. Above William Wishart, in near plane, and Paul B. Hult scour forested areas for missing aircraft.



AERIAL ANTICS performed by Ira Byrd, former air cadet instructor, entertains squadron whenever it gets together. Group has regular meetings third Monday of each month.



FLY-IN PICNIC held at Howard Carnes' Ranch near Elkton, attracts members of Aero Squadron from throughout Douglas County. Ranch has air strip and river site shown above frequently is scene of squadron picnics during summer.

Local Flyers Stage Searches For Missing Planes, People

By KEN METZLER

If you're lost in the mountains, you are virtually a "needle in a haystack" unless you devise some way to attract attention of an aerial search plane.

The advice of Deputy Sheriff Ira Byrd, commander of the Douglas County Sheriff's Aero Squadron is that you stay where you are and prepare a fire to light when a plane flies over.

Another method of attracting attention of a search plane is to flash a mirror or shiny object in the pilot's eyes.

"Waving your arms isn't going to do it," Byrd says.

During the three years of operation of the squadron, several "needles in haystacks" have been sought. The group has taken part in five major searches for lost airplanes—the most recent being the hunt for a missing Tacoma plane.

Twelve to 15 local planes took part in the search in the Roseburg area without finding a single "needle." The search under direction of the U.S. Air Force Search and Rescue Unit, fanned out over much of southern Oregon and Northern California.

Local planes during the past three years have also searched for lost persons in the mountains, and have found lost articles and bodies in rivers, have flown doctors to inaccessible spots, and transported prisoners to jail.

Objective Cited

The local squadron, organized in September, 1949, at the request of Sheriff O. T. Carter, has as its objective:

"To constitute a volunteer flying force for service in major disasters, national or local emergencies, search for downed or lost aircraft, search for lost persons or persons in distress in mountain areas, assist in policing the air under the law of the state and cooperate with the CAA in enforcing safety regulations and in fostering and promoting civil aeronautics."

Some 35 members—all of them private pilots or higher—use their own time and airplanes in squadron activities. If they are taking part in a widespread search for a lost airplane, the state pays for their gas. There are 22 airplanes in the group.

Flights of the local squadron are centered in Roseburg, Reedsport and Elkton. A flight at Tri-City disbanded when the airfield was sold.

The local group was one of a few pioneers in aerial squadrons. The idea started in the state in Multnomah County. Baker County was the second to try out the new idea, Byrd says, and Douglas County formed its group about the same time as did Tillamook County. Since then the squadrons have become common throughout the state.

Helps In Flood Emergencies

An example of the squadron's work came in late 1950 when the South Umpqua River overflowed its banks. Squadron members flew blankets and food to a stranded Dillard group and also flew supplies to Myrtle Creek. Considerable property that had floated away was recovered through the aid of the flyers.

Each of the three flights of the squadron is equipped with parachute food, medical supplies or whatever may be needed, to stranded or lost persons. During practice maneuvers, one man will often land his plane in an out-of-the-way field and the rest of the flight will search for him.

"They always find him," Byrd

Slow Appointing Of Judges Delays Justice, Charge

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The nation's lawyers were told Monday that slowness in filling vacant federal judgeships has resulted in "intolerable delays of justice during the past three years."

The Federal Judiciary Committee of the American Bar Association mentioned directly neither President Truman—who has the power to nominate judges—nor the U. S. Senate—who confirms the nominations—in its blast at "the appointing power."

However, in a report to the opening session of the 75th annual ABA convention, the committee traced the time lapsed between the dates of vacancies in wide sections of the country and the dates of presidential nominations to fill them.

It concluded its report by quoting without comment from a June 1952 resolution adopted by federal judges of the Ninth Circuit (West Coast, Hawaii and Alaska) that "the impression has been created at the bar and with the public that federal judgeships are but a part of the patronage of politicians."

Eugene Register Guard Now In New Building

EUGENE (AP) — The Eugene Register-Guard moved into its new million dollar newspaper plant at Tenth and High Streets Monday.

Construction of the building started a year ago, after the newspaper outgrew a plant designed for a circulation of about 3,000. The Register-Guard now has more than 30,000 circulation daily.

It is a quarter-block, one-story building with a basement. A four-unit press has a 64-page capacity. Plans for the future allow for addition of two more floors, and two more press units.

According to the current Geneva Convention, signed in 1949, enlisted captives can be worked but must be paid. The work may not further the enemy's war effort.

says. When the "Lost" plane is located, the rescuers parachute supplies.

In aerial searches sections to be combed are divided among the group, each pilot having a search square marked off on a map. Planes without radios are sent out in pairs—never alone.

When the search is over, findings, if any, are reported to the commander and then to state headquarters.

Applications for membership are still being accepted. To be qualified a flyer must have a private pilot or higher rating, and pilots having their own planes are preferred.

During its three years in operation the squadron has conducted air shows—and taken part in breakfast flights in various parts of the state. "Fly-in" picnics are frequently held during the summer.

Reserve Board Lifts Restriction

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve Board Monday suspended its Regulation X which limited the amount of credit purchases of new housing could secure.

The board acted upon advice from the Department of Labor that during June, July and August the number of housing units started was below a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,200,000.

Amendments put into the Defense Production Act by Congress last spring required that Regulation X be lifted whenever housing starts in three consecutive months were under 1,200,000 units per year.

Regulation X required that purchasers of new housing put up down payments of not less than five per cent on houses costing \$7,000 or less. The required payment ranged up to 40 per cent on houses valued at \$25,000 or more.

The Federal Reserve suspension of Regulation X means that limitations on housing credit revert to standards that applied before the regulation went into effect in October, 1950.

O & C Timber To Go On Sale This Month

PORTLAND (AP) — The Bureau of Land Management will put nearly two million dollars worth of timber up for sale in Western Oregon late this month.

At Salem 10,832,000 board feet in six tracts will be offered for sale Sept. 22. On the same day a Medford sale will offer 18,906,000 board feet in eight tracts.

There will be 38,345,000 board feet in five tracts up for auction at Coos Bay on Sept. 23; 16,375,000 in two tracts at Roseburg Sept. 24; and 9,365,000 in four tracts at Eugene Sept. 25.

The bureau said \$871,500 in O & C timber was sold in August, plus \$100,796 in public domain timber.

Sen. Morse To Address Big Convention Of AFL

NEW YORK (AP) — Sen. Wayne Morse (R-Ore.) is scheduled to address the AFL convention here Thursday or Friday.

The AFL Executive Council extended an eleventh hour invitation to Morse Sunday night.

The invitation was extended after Morse indicated he would not campaign for Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower for president.

Morse was reported by the New York Times to have accepted the invitation.

Morse, who previously had offered to campaign vigorously for Eisenhower, indicated his enthusiasm for the general had cooled, partly because Eisenhower has agreed with many of Sen. Robert A. Taft's views.

Eisenhower will address the AFL convention Wednesday and his Democratic opponent, Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois, next Monday.

Scientists Say Newest Volcano On Decline

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (AP) — Scientists back from their first aerial view of the world's newest volcano said today the belching mountain on an island off Mexico's West Coast already is on the decline.

Dr. Robert S. Dietz of the Naval Electronics Lab here said the volcano on uninhabited Benedicto Island in Mexico's Revillagigedo Group probably had its big blow-off when it started erupting six weeks ago.

While the volcano still belches clouds of smoke and yellow ash every 20 minutes, Dietz said gas odors from the 1,050-foot ash cone indicate the volcano is declining.

Columbia's Reserve Fleet To Be Tested

ASTORIA (AP) — The Columbia River's reserve fleet is going to be inspected from Monday through Friday next week.

Capt. L. M. Garvin, inspector general of the Pacific Reserve Fleet will head the party from headquarters. Purpose of the inspection is to determine whether the ships in the reserve fleet are being held to proper standards.



START OF SEARCH three planes (count 'em) fly over Umpqua River in start of search for missing plane. In lead is twin-engined Cessna flown by Walter Bergen.

Swindling Minister Described As Sick Man

ROSEVILLE, Calif. (AP) — An overflow congregation of 250 jammed the First Presbyterian Church Sunday and heard their imprisoned pastor described as a "sick man who did not know what he was doing."

Dr. Thomas Holden of San Francisco, executive secretary of the California Presbyterian Synod, substituted for the Rev. William C. McCalmont, who is in the county jail at Auburn accused of grand theft in a \$22,408 swindle.

Dr. Holden asked the worshippers to pray for the recovery of Mr. McCalmont.

Sheriff's officers say McCalmont, 35, and Harry Daniels, 42-year-old rail yardmaster, admitted

posed as federal agents to frighten a Loomis couple into giving them their savings. They were arrested Friday.

Ostrich Egg Is Meal For Eight Persons

PORTLAND (AP) — An ostrich egg from San Francisco's Fleishhacker Zoo fed eight people Friday morning, with some left over.

The egg, seven inches long and five inches in diameter, was brought here by Carey N. Baldwin, director of the San Francisco zoo. It equalled a dozen and a half large hen eggs.

Cooking honors went to Mrs. Ana

Watson, veteran hotel chef, who scrambled the egg for Baldwin and his breakfast guests.

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