

## West Montana Is Treated To Cosmic Display

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) — A big chunk of Western Montana was treated to a cosmic display Tuesday night, and it was speculated that it may have been a mighty explosion of a meteor from outer space.

Men and animals over a vast area were frightened by the phenomenal great light and thunderous noise. Light appeared to be different in color at different points, possibly because it was snowing.

One observer reported that it seemed to strike the ground but nothing was found.

Bill Maloney, near Round Butte, said he was driving the cows home when the snow was lit up redly. He said he looked up, saw what appeared to be an arrow with a flash behind it and it seemed to hit the ground to the northwest.

A Hot Springs high school girl, Lorraine Marsh, reported the sky lighted up "as though a light had been turned on." She looked and saw a ball of light, then heard a "noise like thunder" in a few minutes.

Others at Hot Springs saw the light as pink or orange. The time lag of the sound was estimated at from 2 to 5 minutes.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration in Missoula reported no airplanes were in the vicinity. A CAA official said he felt the observation could be explained by the explosion of a meteor.

## Mystery Veils Booby Trap Death

SAN ANGELO, Tex. (AP) — Deepening mystery today veiled the booby trap death of attractive Mrs. Harry E. Weaver, wealthy wife of a prominent architect and geologist.

Mrs. Weaver, 52, was killed yesterday about 8:30 a.m. as she set out for a local hospital to visit her ailing mother.

A Houston businessman, questioned following officers' long conferences with Weaver, was accompanied to the Harris County Court House by Texas Rangers and sheriff's deputies and his two small children.

Four Rangers accompanied the man and the children back to their home in a well-to-do section of Houston. Neither he nor officers would discuss what took place in the long session behind locked doors.

Officers would not answer questions either about the man's identity or any other development in their hunt for the person or persons who planted the nitroglycerine bomb in one of the Weaver automobiles.



**IN THE THEATER NOW** — NEW YORK — Posing just like an actress, Gloria Vanderbilt talks with newsmen in her Gladstone Hotel apartment. Gloria, who is rehearsing for a part in a forthcoming Broadway production, said she moved to the hotel with her two children "for budgetary reasons." She said she will have an announcement soon on her plans to divorce orchestra leader Leopold Stokowski. (AP Wirephoto).

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**ICY VIGIL** — With the traditional patience of the Orient, these two Korean fishermen squat for hours beside holes they have chopped in ice of the Han River near Seoul, despite the five-below-zero temperature. Their discomfort is offset by the value of the large river salmon, each worth two day's ordinary wages—and sometimes they catch three in a day. Four years ago the big steel bridge in the background, scene of Associated Press Photographer Max Desfor's Pulitzer Prize picture, was a mass of twisted girders over which pathetic refugees painfully fled southward before the Chinese Reds. (AP Wirephoto).

## Richfield Oil Co. Submits Lowest State Gas Bid

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States Wednesday barred Russian citizens from sketching or photographing military objects, railway stations, radio installations or other places or things in this country having possible strategic importance.

The ban is comparable to one which the Soviet Union has imposed on American citizens and other foreigners in Russia.

Secretary of State Dulles gave formal notice of the action in a note to Soviet Ambassador Georgi Zarouhin. It applies to all Soviet citizens in this country except those for whom the United Nations is responsible.

Russians are also barred from purchasing aerial photographs, large scale maps, navigational maps or "detailed development plans of industrial cities."

Dulles' note ended with an offer to ease the restrictions if the Russians ever decide that they want to liberalize their similar regulations.

On Jan. 3, the United States put in regulations declaring more than one-fourth of the U.S. land area off limits to Russians. This also was in reprisal to similar curbs against travel by Americans in the Soviet Union.

## Bing Crosby Successfully Undergoes Operation

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Bing Crosby, in surgery for about four hours for removal of a kidney stone, came through in "excellent condition," his doctor said Wednesday.

The doctor's announcement, made through Crosby's paramour studio, said the famed crooner was resting easily in his room after the surgery.

Dr. Frederick Schlumberger said before the operation it would probably last an hour and a half or more. Hospital sources said several hours is not unusual for such surgery.



**REPRIMANDED** — WALTHAM, Mass.—Col. Arthur J. Redland, above, commanding officer of Murphy General Hospital has been reprimanded in the promotion to corporal of a doctor who invoked the 5th amendment on questions about communism. The Army said Marvin S. Belsky, a New York physician, had been demoted from corporal to private because his promotion "violated" regulations. (AP Wirephoto).

## Californian Wants Little Atomic Energy Board

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Creation of a Little Atomic Energy Commission for California was proposed Wednesday by Sen. Dale Williams (D-Calif.).

"The atomic age is here to stay," declared Williams, "and the growing use of radioactive materials for commercial purposes is bringing the hazards of radiation closer to our people."

## Snow Tapers Off Over Country; Weather Cold

Snow tapered off over most of the country Thursday but moderately cold weather continued in nearly all sections.

Freezing weather extended southward to Atlanta while in Northern Florida. Cross City reported an early morning low to 36. Temperatures were mostly in the high 40s in Southern Florida and Southern Texas.

Coldest readings, zero and 5 below, were in Wisconsin and Michigan. Temperatures moderated a little across the Plains with the Dakotas reporting early morning marks in the 20s. It was generally below freezing in most of the West except in the far Southwest and near the Pacific.

The Weather Bureau reported the major storm track across the country for the last two weeks has been consistently farther south than normal. This has brought an extensive snow belt across the middle sections of the country from the Rockies to the Atlantic Coast while there are considerable bare spots farther north.

Snow measured one to five inches deep across Kansas and Missouri. From Tennessee and Kentucky eastward to near the Atlantic snow was on the ground with depths ranging up to about a foot in the mountain areas.

There were nine inches on the ground at Raleigh, N.C.

Snow flurries fell during the night over most of the Northeast while light snow was reported over the Northern Rockies. Light rain fell along the Pacific Coast from Washington to Southern California.

## NOT WEB OF TV

PENDLETON (AP) — The facts are that Jack Webb is Pendleton's outstanding junior citizen of the year.

He received the award at a Junior Chamber of Commerce banquet about the same time as Pendleton viewers were watching the TV Webb collar a couple of criminals on his program.

Pendleton's Webb, 29, is in the radio business too. He is assistant manager of station KWRC.

## Legislative War Shaping Between Railroad, Truckers

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.

SALEM (AP) — Legislative warfare between the truckers and railroads shaped up Wednesday when Sen. Lowell Steen, Millon-Freewater, announced he is drafting a bill to give the public utilities commissioner power to fix minimum freight rates for railroad shipments.

The truckers, whose rates are set by the commissioner, want this legislation, as it would prevent the railroads from reducing rates unless the PUC gave permission.

The railroads will fight it bitterly, claiming they now are under sufficient regulation by the U. S. Interstate Commerce Commission.

Steen's bill would place the trucks, barge lines and railroads under the same state regulation.

The barge lines want the bill, too, although there is a tough legal question whether the state has power to regulate barges on the Columbia River.

A similar bill was considered by

the 1933 Legislature, but was defeated.

Steen said that a new factor in the dispute is the attempt by interests in Seattle and Tacoma to upset present freight rates which favor Portland and Vancouver.

The truckers and barge operators claim that all classes of carriers should be placed on an equal competitive footing.

The railroads argue that the Interstate Commerce Commission is alert to prevent rates that are below cost.

Sen. Pat Lonergan, Portland, prepared a bill to change the primary election date from May to the first week in August.

He said that long campaigns are too expensive for the candidates. A resolution to create a nine-member legislative interim committee to plan Oregon's 100th anniversary of statehood in 1959 was introduced by Sen. John Merrill, Portland. This committee, which would confer with civic groups planning celebrations, would report to the 1957 Legislature.

Sen. Robert D. Holmes, Gearhart, introduced his bill to abolish the three-man liquor commission. He would have the state's liquor business run by an administrator who could get \$12,000 a year.

A bill to increase the one-year prison sentence for child abandonment was two years was introduced by Sen. Carl H. Francis, Dayton.

## Prices Of Coffee Will Go Down, Senator Claims

WASHINGTON (AP) — Coffee prices will probably continue to go down, according to Sen. Beall (R-Md.), who headed a banking subcommittee that inquired last year into the coffee price spiral.

The subcommittee's report, released yesterday, said there is a world surplus of coffee now.

And the report said, "There should be a surplus of coffee in the future," which led Beall to comment: "I see no reason why we can't expect further price reductions."

Government statisticians said the price shot up to as high as \$1.34 a pound for popular brands in April 1954, but since has dropped to as low as \$1.04.

The subcommittee report said "a rise in price was not surprising" last year, in view of "the devastating effect" of frosts in Brazil in July 1953. But it said the jump "was far beyond that to be expected by the natural effect of the law of supply and demand."

A conservative estimate of the cost to consumers of the big price rise in the first eight months last year was 293 million dollars, he report said.

The report said other factors had contributed to the price booms, and it declared the New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange had "contributed significantly."

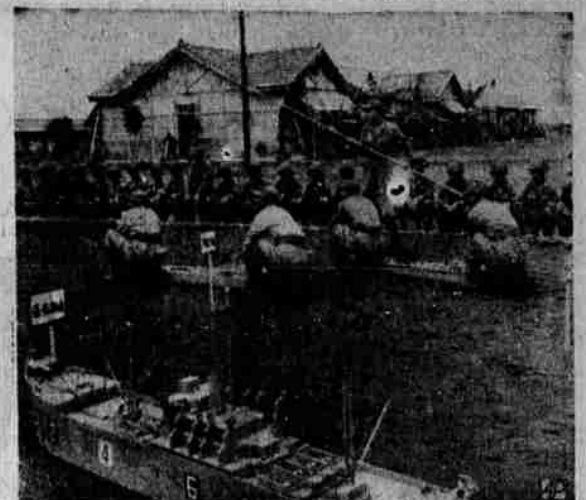
The subcommittee majority, however, did not recommend putting the exchange under regulation of the Commodity Exchange Authority at this time.

## Resolution In Opposition To Excluding Of Portland

SALEM (AP) — A memorial urging Interior Secy. McKay to intervene to protect Oregon's interest in the controversy between Portland and Seattle over air trade with Alaska was introduced Wednesday in the Oregon House of Representatives.

The memorial, by Reps. Robert E. Jensen and William J. Gallagher, both of Portland, reviews the action of a civil aeronautics examiner recommending that Seattle be given exclusive air terminal rights for Alaskan commerce. The examiner recommended cancellation of all temporary permits granted Oregon interests several years ago.

The memorial says that if CAB upholds the examiner's decision, it "would create a virtual monopoly in behalf of Seattle."



**PREPARING FOR REAL THING** — Chinese Nationalist naval and marine trainees play "sink the Reds" at a class in naval warfare on Formosa. A sandy beach at Chiang Kai-shek's island base, in the southern part of Chiang Kai-shek's island bastion, makes a handy classroom for the students of mock invasion tactics, both offensive and defensive. (AP Wirephoto).

## Contempt Charge Trial Started In Portland

PORTLAND (AP) — Trial of Donald Wollam, 40, on a contempt of Congress charge began in federal court here Wednesday.

He is one of four men indicted on the charge for refusing to answer questions before the House Un-American Activities Committee here last June. The others will be tried later.

U. S. Judge George Boldt of Tacoma, sitting here, gave Wollam's attorney, Irvin Goodman, the choice of having the trial before him or a jury. Goodman chose a jury.

The first witness, testifying under subpoena, was Robert L. Kunzig, who was counsel for the committee in the Portland hearing. Kunzig said he since has resigned as counsel but still is technically a committee employe.

Turkeys can grow to be around 70 pounds dressed weight.

## TO ADDRESS CHAMBER

PORTLAND (AP) — Albert M. Coles, U. S. housing and home finance administrator, will address a Portland Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting March 31.

R. L. Clark, chamber president, said Coles will discuss the work of his own agency and the proposed multi-million dollar federal highway program.

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