Nuclear bombs put into storage

Spokane's Fairchild Air Base feels nuclear cutback



Wash. (AP) -Maintenance ORTHWEST Crews on Saturday

removed nuclear weapons from several B-52 bombers at Fairchild Air Force Base near here in keeping with President Bush's bold plan to scale back the nation's nuclear arsenal.

In Western Washington, Navy submariners braced for a reorganization of their strategic command network. And nuclear weapons cutbacks might cost some Boeing Co. employees their lobs.

Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney Saturday morning signed an order taking off alert U.S. nuclear-armed bombers and 450 long-range missiles, implementing a cornerstone of a major nuclear arms reorganization plan announced by Bush Friday night.

Cheney said the order involved 40 strategic bombers at 12 bases, including Fairchild. He said their weapons would be put into storage and the planes turned over to maintenance crews.

Also being removed from alert status - meaning ready for launching at short notice are 450 Minuteman II longrange nuclear missiles in underground silos, Cheney said. These weapons are scheduled to be dismantled under the recently signed, but not yet ratified, Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START).

Fairchild usually keeps five

or six B-52s on "ground alert." That means the bombers are loaded with nuclear-tipped cruise missiles or nuclear bombs, and are ready to take off within minutes' notice.

Fairchild has a total of about 25 B-52s, said base spokeswoman Robin Grantham. Under most circumstances, the bombers do not fly with nuclear weapons on board.

Crews Saturday were instructed to take weapons off the ground-alert bombers and turn the planes over to maintenance 'so they would be sitting in a flight line like all other aircraft at the base," Grantham said.

Grantham said the base should know within a couple of weeks how many, if any, crew

REGIONAL BRIEFS

3,000 Oregonians collect 17 tons of coastal litter

PORTLAND (AP) - A record number of people turnedout Saturday to help clean up the Oregon Coast in the state's eighth annual effort to rid beaches of garbage, organizers said.

'It was a typical Oregon effort," said Bill Hastie, clean up coordinator for the state Department of Fish and Wildlife. People were enthusiastic, energetic and concerned. Most said they would be back next year.

About 3,000 volunteers gathered at more than 20 spots along the coast to spend several hours picking up broken glass, fishing nets, cigarette butts and various plastics, Hastie

In all, about 17 tons of garbage was collected, four tons less than last year, he said.

"Many of the reports I got indicated the beaches were generally cleaner this year," Hastie said.

But he noted there were reports of animals or birds entangled in netting, fishing line and plastic strapping.

Oregon goes after Japan and Europe

PORTLAND (AP) - The state's new tourism chief says Oregon has been marketed well in the West and Canada, but the state now must target tourists in Eastern states and provinces,

The tourism program has been good at portraying Oregon as a desirable destination. I'd like to expand on that," Joe D'Alessandro said Friday.

D'Alessandro, 35, formerly international program manager for the California Office of Tourism, took over the tourism division of the Oregon Economic Development Department on Monday. The division is responsible for promoting Oregon's \$2 billion per year tourism industry.

Oregon should capitalize on its Old West image, which has great appeal in Europe and Japan, D'Alessandro said. The 150th anniversary of the Oregon Trail is expected to draw a large number of foreign visitors in 1993.

There also is a strong potential to attract more Japanese tourists with specialty marketing, such as tours for students or golfing enthusiasts.

Cooperation from tour operators, travel agents and airlines is crucial, D'Alessandro said.

The best chance Oregon has is to develop a strong part-

nership with all those who share the benefit of tourism," he

Couple chuming out '92 ballot measures

SALEM (AP) - Marijuana would be legal for medical uses, and promotional cigarette and liquor advertising would be banned in Oregon under proposed initiative measures filed by two Lake Oswego residents.

One proposal would create a state board to study uses of marijuana for medical purposes and require the state to request marijuana from the federal government.

A second proposed measure filed with the secretary of state by Anthony Taylor and Cheryl McDonald would prohibit advertising that promotes use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages

And their third initiative petition proposes a measure forbidding possession of tobacco by people under 21. A new state law prohibits tobacco possession by people under 18.

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Packwood to pay Bush's trip expenses

PORTLAND (AP) - U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood's re-election campaign will reimburse the White House for President Bush's recent trip to Portland, but the city's general fund will be tapped to pay for police protection.

The Re-elect Packwood Committee will pay for the fuel used in Air Force One, Secret Service personnel, hotel rooms for the president's advance crew — "the whole works," Packwood aide Matt Evans said.

The White House will submit a bill for that part of the trip devoted to Packwood's fund-raiser in Portland. The president's speech pulled in \$500,000 for the four-term Republican senator. About 100 couples paid \$4,000 each for the breakfast and the chance to pose for a photo with

The Portland Police Bureau spent \$84,423.67 to protect the president, using 422 officers for the operation, Sgt. Derrick Foxworth said. The bulk of them were stationed at the Oregon Convention Center, where the event was held.

About 400 protesters showed up. Thirty were arrested on charges that include carrying a concealed weapon, assaulting a police officer, striking a police animal, unlawful burning, failure to disperse and disorderly conduct. Two police officers were injured slightly while trying to control the crowd.

Mayor Bud Clark said he would suggest the president take a helicopter next time from the airport to downtown Portland. During his last visit, Bush's motorcade temporarily closed the Banfield

Freeway during rush hour.

Meanwhile, Oregon Republican Chairman Craig Berkman said Vice President Dan Quayle may follow up with a visit of his own by the end of the year. Berkman said he looked in on Quayle at the White House on Friday, and the vice president had asked about "the protesters in Port-

Quayle was greeted by about 300 protesters during a visit last fall and about 150 protesters during a visit the year before.



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