

# U.S. Studies Plan for Outpost Beyond Earth's Gravity Pull

By Elton C. Fay  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP)—The United States, leading in the world weapon race, is now studying the possibility of creating a military outpost hanging like a tiny "moon" far up in the skies.

Disclosure of a fantastic "earth satellite vehicle program" was tucked away in an annual report by Secretary of Defense Forrestal.

One theory, completely unofficial, is that a man-made satellite platform might be established about nine-tenths of the distance to the moon, beyond the earth's gravity pull.

Aside from the name of the project and indication that earlier separate studies by the army, navy and air force now are combined under the central guided missiles project, there was no

other official information in Forrestal's report.

Some scientists believe that the nation which first creates an outer space platform for the guidance or launching of atomic warhead rockets will dominate the earth.

Scientists estimate the earth's gravitational pull would be neutralized at between eight-tenths and nine-tenths of the distance to the moon. The first such satellite might not be manned, but merely equipped with automatic instruments.

Scientists suggest these uses for artificial satellites:

1. Military — in long-range rocket firing, one of the present greatest difficulties is accuracy control.
2. Radar beams for tracking and control are deflected by the

curvature of the earth and would be useless for "homing a" rocket into a target on another continent. But if an electronic transmitter were installed on an artificial satellite, the rocket could ride the electronic beam to a pre-fixed point, then begin its descent toward a target on the earth.

2. Non-military — a satellite in a precisely-known and permanently fixed position could be used to overcome present-day handicaps of radio and television or as a new and easily-located "fix" from which navigators could work out their positions in planes or ships.

Radio, television and radar waves could be "bounced" from the satellite and deflected back to spots on the earth permanently or temporarily "blind" to reception of such signals.

## Forrestal Asks U.S. Arm European Bloc

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP)—Secretary of Defense Forrestal tonight urged military aid to non-communist Europe, even though the cost may "necessitate hard decisions by our people."

Forrestal did not elaborate on his "hard decision" remark. However, foreign pending tends to keep taxes and prices at home higher than they otherwise would be.

High prices, in turn, have prompted demands from the CIO and other sources for a revival of price controls.

Forrestal also laid down a program to bring greater harmony among the often quarrelsome U. S. armed services. Among other things he recommended that the secretary of defense's authority be strengthened, and that he be provided with an undersecretary to take over when he is absent.

In his annual report to President Truman, Forrestal also urged a universal military training law, to become effective when the draft is no longer required.

He left no doubt that he considers it imperative to provide arms to western European nations, now engaged with Canada and the United States in drafting a North Atlantic defense pact against any communist aggression.

He did not say, he said, that the United States must embark immediately on a vast program of military aid, but a "modest" beginning should be made to bolster the "confidence and hope of Europe."

Forrestal said he was "able to report that the state of the national military establishment is sound," that militarily the nation "is less vulnerable today than it was in September 1947," when the unification law became effective.

His report cited several reasons for this:

1. The army, navy and air force have more men, more equipment. Their combat capability is better.
2. So far as can be determined, the United States has "a fair margin of superiority in practically every technical area of weapon development."

He also suggested federalizing the Air National Guard, incorporating it and the air reserve into the air force and removing it from state control.

## Israel Told to 'Cease Fire'

PARIS, Dec. 29 (AP)—The United Nations security council ordered another cease-fire in Palestine today after the British delegate charged that Israeli forces attacked a town in Egypt.

The British foreign office in London said it had no reports indicating a full-scale Israeli invasion of Egypt and said it recognized that a patrol might have crossed the border in error.

The resolution on Palestine, in which the United States abstained, ordered Israel and Egypt to cease hostilities, and called upon the Jews to withdraw their arms from the Gaza and Negev desert where fighting has been going on since three days before Christmas.

## Elliott, Purcell Vie for GOP Post

PORTLAND, Dec. 29 (AP)—Robert A. Elliott, Portland insurance man, and Thomas E. Purcell, Gresham publisher, were campaigning here today for the chairmanship of the Multnomah county republican committee.

Elliott, regional director of the Young Republican Federation, was manager for Harold E. Stassen's May primary campaign. Purcell has been a county executive committee member for six years and is area chairman for eastern Multnomah county.

## Larry Got His \$20 Bill Back

Larry Brandt, 12, has his \$20 Christmas savings today — as well as a lot of faith in human nature.

Larry lost a \$20 bill two days before the Yuletide and with it the chance to buy presents for which he had saved his berry-picking money.

The incident now is ended — Charles H. Miller, 2390 N. Liberty st., telephoned the Brandt home that he had found a \$20 bill near the place where Larry last had it — and he wouldn't even take the \$5 reward I wanted to give him," Larry grinned shyly.

# The Oregon Statesman

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## Quake Jars Reno, North-Central California

### New Hanford A-Plant to Cost \$500 Million

## Project Biggest In Peacetime U.S. History

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP)—David E. Lillenthal said today a new plutonium-production plant under construction at Hanford, Wash., is "the largest peacetime construction job in American history" and will cost an estimated \$500,000,000.

"It has been begun and (construction) is rolling," Lillenthal told newsmen.

The chairman of the atomic energy commission said plutonium production at the original Hanford plant — which figured prominently in the development of the A-bomb — was "threatened with discontinuity" two years ago because of mechanical trouble. But he said the situation was corrected before production could fail.

Asked how great a volume of production is expected in the new plant Lillenthal replied:

"We are now considering in our report to congress just how much may be said about production capacity, but certainly it is intended to increase the production of plutonium as well as to assure continuity of production."

He said the new construction at Hanford would cost about the same as the wartime investment, which was \$350,000,000. He went on to say:

"In fact, with all the chemical processing plants, it will run more than that — probably on the order of half a billion dollars."

## John Simpson Dies; Pioneer Lumberman

DALLAS, Dec. 29 (Special)—John P. Simpson, pioneer Polk county logger and lifelong resident of this area, died Wednesday in the Dallas hospital at the age of 82. He was born in Lewisville, Ore.

After building the Simpson Lumber Co. sawmill in 1933 he re-logged the same area at the mouth of Pecee creek which he had first logged with oxen 42 years before. He spent his entire life in logging and lumber activity.

He logged at various times for Prescott-Veness, Sutter, G. K. Spaulding, Multnomah Lumber companies and Crown-Willamette Paper Co.

He was married in 1896 to Luvena Sheyphus who survives. A brother, F. A. Simpson of Dallas, also survives.

The funeral will be conducted by the Rev. H. R. Scheuerman of Multnomah at 10:30 a.m. Friday at Henkle Bollenman funeral chapel. Concluding service will be at 2:30 p.m. at the IOOF cemetery in Eugene.

## Omnibus Aid Bill Ordered

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP)—President Truman has ordered the state department to wrap up in one package for presentation to congress all plans for military and economic aid to foreign nations.

The state department announced this today, and said that Ernest A. Gross has been designated as coordinator for foreign assistance programs.

The aim of the project, officials said, is to provide smooth relation between economic assistance programs such as ECA and foreign military assistance, including aid to Greece and Turkey, whatever may be done for China, and proposed military assistance to western Europe.

## Truman Calm, Aides Worry as Radar Lands President's Plane

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP)—President Truman was calm but his friends were on edge today while his plane circled through fog and drizzling rain above National airport for more than 40 minutes.

When the White House plane, the "Independence," landed safely, Mr. Truman stepped jauntily down and grinned as newsmen asked whether he had been worried up there.

"Oh, my goodness, no!" Mr. Truman chuckled. "I've been reading and sleeping most of the time."

## Rain to Push Rivers Up Again

### 1 1/2 Inches Rain Fall in Salem; Gorge Still Icy

Heavy rain and snowfall in western Oregon threatened to send the Willamette river and its tributaries up again today, but Jefferson is the only point in danger of floods.

The Santiam is expected to touch flood stage at Jefferson sometime today, and other streams throughout the valley are expected to rise sharply during the day.

Near an inch and a half of rain fell in Salem in the past 48 hours and the weatherman predicted more for today and tonight. With the rain, however, the cold-snap was thoroughly broken. Wednesday's minimum was well above freezing at 38 degrees and temperatures were expected to stay above the frost level today.

Motorists are still having troubles in the Columbia river gorge highways of both Washington and Oregon. Travelers were warned to stay away from the Columbia river and Evergreen routes where snow and ice have snarled traffic.

Oregon coastal range highways were listed as potentially hazardous. Snow, melting to slush during the day was expected to freeze Thursday morning.

Heavy new snow was reported in the Cascade mountain passes Wednesday and chains were recommended for all mountain highway travel. Santiam junction had 12 inches of new snow with roadside depths reaching 118 inches. Ten inches of new snow was reported at Government camp and the Odell lake region had three inches.

## Crosby Keeps Money Crown

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30 (AP)—It's getting monotonous.

Bing Crosby, for the fifth straight year, walked off today with Motion Picture Herald's box office tabulation of the movies' best money-makers.

The Herald remarked that this is the first time any star has racked up so many wins in the poll's 17-year history.

As was the case last year, Betty Grable finished in the runner-up spot. Abbott and Costello bounced back into third spot. Others, in order, are Gary Cooper, Bob Hope, Humphrey Bogart, Clark Gable, Cary Grant, Spencer Tracy and Ingrid Bergman.

In the Western division, Roy Rogers edged out Gene Autry.

## Sen. Walsh States Pre-Session Work Nearly Finished

COOS BAY, Dec. 29 (AP)—The pre-session organization work of the state senate is nearly finished, Sen. William E. Walsh, Coos Bay, said today.

Walsh, scheduled for state senate president, said most committee assignments have been made, and will be announced when the legislature convenes.

Walsh reported an unusually large number of applicants to appointive positions. "My policy will be to reappoint old officers of the senate," he said.

He did not see a lengthy session as inevitable. "There has been a lot of talk about a long session, but there doesn't need to be one," he remarked.

## 80th Congress to Meet Friday, Just to Adjourn

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP)—The republican-dominated 80th congress is coming back Friday—but not for much or long.

The 81st congress, with democratic majorities in both houses, will convene Monday.

The 80th's last meeting shapes up as a one-day stand, with lots of swan song oratory and affectionate lament for the casualties in the political wars.

There might even be a chorus or two of the Auld Lang Syne by some of the uninhibited house members, in deference to New Year's eve.

## Dutch Agree To Halt War in Java Friday

PARIS, Dec. 29 (AP)—The Netherlands told the United Nations Security Council today it would stop fighting in Java by midnight.

BATAVIA, Java, Thursday, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Dutch army reported today the capture of almost undamaged of the Djambi oil fields in southern Sumatra.

The oil fields were the last economically important area controlled by the Indonesian republic.

New Years' eve, and in Sumatra two or three days later.

Several delegates, including Philip C. Jessup of the United States, immediately interpreted the Dutch action as defiance of the United Nations.

The statement by Dutch Delegate Jan Herman and Van Royen replied to yesterday's security council order giving the Dutch 24 hours to release captive Indonesian republican leaders, and calling on a consular commission in Batavia to report on The Netherlands' compliance with the Christmas eve order for a cease-fire in Indonesia.

Replying to the council's demand for immediate release of Indonesian republican leaders, including President Soekarno and Premier Mohamed Hatta, Van Royen said they would be freed if they promised not to endanger "public security."

Van Royen's answer was given just an hour after the 24-hour deadline.

## Motorcyclists To Build Club, Race Track

Salem Motorcycle club will build a clubhouse and race track on a 10-acre tract members have acquired six miles east of Salem just off the Macleay road.

Robert Harrington, new president of the club, said members are preparing to build the clubhouse themselves. The 25 by 30 foot wood and brick building will include a fireplace. Construction is expected to be finished by summer when work on the track can begin, he said.

Harrington also announced the club has set January 9 as date for the standard "reliability test" sanctioned by American Motorcycle association for all cyclists in competition for national trophies.

A test of timing and steadiness rather than speed, the course will cover 100 miles, with intermediate sport points along the circle route east and south from Salem. Details of the route will not be announced until the test begins.

## 6-Year-Old Girl Old Hand at Taking 'Solo' Plane Trips

Taking long flights on airplanes is an old experience for Marie Miller, just 6, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Miller, of Salem route 9.

Marie took a trip to Los Angeles a month ago with her aunt, Mrs. Herb Lange of Salem. She visited for the month with a grand aunt in Burbank, and Tuesday morning boarded the plane for Salem alone. An interim phone call to Salem asked for someone to meet the little girl at McNary field.

It was nothing extraordinary for Marie. She had made the same trip alone last summer.

MARGARET WHITING WEDS LAS VEGAS, Nev., Dec. 29 (AP) Margaret Whiting, singer, became the bride of Hubbell Robinson, Jr., a vice president of the Columbia Broadcasting system, here today.

## New Tremors Expected; Small Town Damaged

RENO, Nev., Dec. 29 (AP)—A rumbling earthquake brought widely scattered damage in the area west of Reno today, and a seismologist said all indications pointed to further quakes — "possibly another heavy one."

No one was injured by this morning's sharp tremor, but many telephone and telegraph lines were down and buildings damaged. A set off "trigger action" shocks throughout north-central California.

Reports from Verdi, a small mountain community 10 miles west of here, where most of the damage was centered, said a fissure had been found in the snow-covered earth a mile northwest of the town. It was described as 100 to 150 feet long, and an inch or two wide.

Prof. Vincent P. Gianella, University of Nevada seismologist, made the forecast of possible future quakes in answering newsmen's questions tonight. He said light tremors were still being recorded tonight, although they were too slight to be felt. There had been a series of ten quakes, three of them sharply noticeable, earlier this week.

Today's most severe tremor shattered windows, knocked over chimneys and shook plaster loose.

A Reno newspaperman telephoned from Verdi, a community of 200, that "everything in town is damaged to some extent." The wall of the 33-year-old Verdi general store was knocked over.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crump, who live in the building, said their bed rocked violently and the two-foot concrete front wall crumbled to the street with a "grinding tearing crash."

Phone Lines Broken

Overhead transcontinental telephone lines of the Bell system were broken southwest of Verdi in the Truckee river canyon. Service was continued uninterrupted through underground circuits. The earth shocks were felt across the Sierra as far west as San Francisco, 200 miles southwest of Reno, and southward into the San Joaquin valley to Fresno and Merced, 220 miles southwest of Reno.

## Czech Woman, Woodburn Man Wed Yesterday

WOODBURN, Dec. 29—Renata Leblova, who came from Czechoslovakia two weeks ago, was married to John Foltyn, at 7:30 this morning at St. Luke's Catholic church. The Rev. L. Moftenbeier, pastor officiated.

While the newlyweds went to his parents' home here after the wedding, it is understood they will live in Portland where he is employed as a mechanic.

Foltyn began writing for a year ago after reading an advertisement in a Czech language newspaper. He never saw her until she arrived here December 14 after a 5,500-mile plane trip from her homeland.

Foltyn's parents came from Czechoslovakia 18 years ago. Foltyn had lived here many years. The bride and groom have some difficulty talking with each other. He speaks very little Czech, and she knows practically no English. His parents help out over tough language spots.

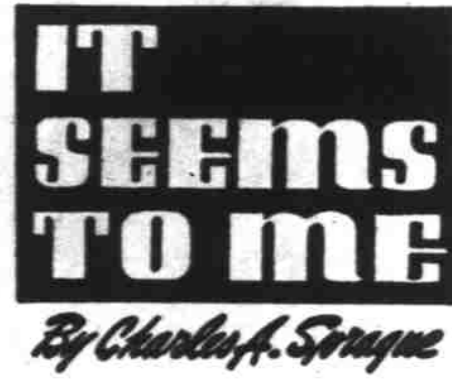
## \$35,000 Added to Lebanon Hospital Foundation Fund

LEBANON, Dec. 29 (AP)—A gift of \$35,000 was presented to the Lebanon community hospital foundation committee today by the Louise Hill family trust of St. Paul, Minn.

The committee will meet after the first of the year to decide the site for the projected hospital. Contributions are still coming in for the building. The Hill interests own timberland in this county.

## Sears Roebuck Catalog Shows Price Declines

CHICAGO, Dec. 29 (AP)—An average price decline of 1.7 percent is shown in the new 1949 catalog of Sears, Roebuck and company, the big mail order and retail merchandise firm said today. It is the first decrease on a year-to-year basis since the war, the company said.



Again President Truman is set to waging with one of his off-the-cuff remarks during an informal address. Speaking at a luncheon in Kansas city he said that certain leaders in Russia are anxious to reach an understanding with the United States. He later refused to identify the leaders or amplify his remark. It did start wires humming and radio transmitters to sparking all over the world.

What did the president mean? Does he have some inside information that no one else has? Speculation on these points arose in various capitals and newspaper offices and even the man in the street paused to wonder if some break in the Berlin deadlock might be at hand... or if Russia was on the verge of internal revolution.

Since the president's observation finds no confirmation in informed circles, and a Moscow AP dispatch, probably from its well-informed Eddy Gilmore, discounts the inference of any breach in the politburo, it seems much safer merely to set President Truman's remark down to some wishful thinking or a bit of casual conversation.

In Eugene last June the president sort of talked out of the side of his mouth when he called Uncle Joe (whom he said he liked) a prisoner of the politburo. But again that view found scant support in informed circles. Stalin may be more coy or politic than Molotov; but it is hard to prove that he is merely a figurehead for master-minds of the Kremlin. He is too strong-minded and too tough to be a prisoner of any group. The purges of 1937 proved that.

## Webfoot Fans Leave on Train

PORTLAND, Dec. 29 (AP)—A fifteen car train of Oregon football fans was en route today to Texas. The 240 passengers will cheer the Ducks in the Cotton Bowl clash with Southern Methodist on New Year's day.

The train pulled out of the Union Station late last night and is scheduled to arrive in Dallas Friday morning.

Among the fans were Governor-Elect Douglas McKay and Mrs. McKay and Edgar Smith and Henry F. Cabell, members of the state board of higher education and their wives.

## Animal Crackers



"Who put pop corn in my nest?"

## Hides Bandage



NEW YORK, Dec. 29—Elliott Roosevelt's wife Faye hides her bandaged left wrist with a fur piece here today. Investigations into the Christmas night wrist-slashing incident was declared closed by the Dutchess county district attorney. (AP Wire-photo to The Statesman.)

## Move Links Traffic Safety Office, Police

Coordination of the traffic safety division of the secretary of state's office with the state police is the new duty of State Police Capt. Walter Lansing, it was announced by H. G. Maison, superintendent of state police, Wednesday.

Lansing has been in charge of the Salem district of the state police. He will maintain state police status while working with the secretary of state. "We feel confident better results will be obtained through this cooperative arrangement," Maison said.

Maison announced that Lt. Ray G. Howard would be promoted to captain to succeed Lansing as head of the district which embraces Marion, Polk, Linn, Lane, Benton and Lincoln counties and includes patrol offices at Salem, Albany, Eugene, Newport and Florence.

Sgt. Farley Mogan is being promoted to lieutenant to succeed Howard in the Salem office. Patrolman Robert E. Baker, Pendleton, will move to Salem as sergeant to fill the spot vacated by Mogan. Lansing, Howard and Mogan have been connected with the state police department since its creation in 1931.

## Christian Church Board Rejects Bids

Construction of a new First Christian church in Salem was postponed Wednesday night with the decision of the church's building committee to reject bids submitted by three firms last week.

The low bid—\$388,495 by R. M. Robson, Portland—was termed in excess of the amount the committee felt the church could spend for the new building. The committee was instructed to make a further study of construction costs and report at the next meeting of the group.

## Paper Suggests Prince 'Drugged'

LONDON, Dec. 29 (AP)—The weekly news magazine, News Review, suggested today that baby Prince Charles was given a small dose of sedative to keep him quiet during the christening ceremony December 15.

The magazine noted that the baby dozed peacefully all through the ceremony. It quoted a specialist as saying a sedative wouldn't have done the young prince any harm.