

Army Doctor Claims Radiation Danger from Atomic Explosion Exaggerated by Bikini Reports

By Frank Carey
Associated Press Staff Reporter
WASHINGTON (AP) - An army doctor says many physicians have an exaggerated idea about the dangers of radio-activity in an atom-bomb explosion.
Major G. M. McDonnell says it's safe to enter a bombed area two minutes after the blast of an air-burst bomb - and that doctors and everyone else should bear this in mind lest there be unnecessary delay in rescue work if atomic disaster strikes this nation.
He said in an interview this would hold true for any A-bomb, provided it were burst high in the air. He declared that this would seem to be the most likely method used in any attack since an air-burst causes the greatest amount of destruction. McDonnell is with the armed forces "special weapons project."
He said he knew nothing about the radioactivity potentials of a hydrogen bomb - and that if he did know he could not discuss them.
Burns Anticipated
If A-bombs are employed in an attack, said McDonnell, rescue workers should be prepared to go in fast with bandages, blood and burn dressings - "and never mind waiting for a Geiger counter to see if the radioactivity is within safe limits."
They will find, he said, that a

large majority of the survivors will be suffering from burns, cuts and fractures - not radiation.
The reason, said McDonnell, is that the range of blast and heat effects of an air-burst bomb greatly exceeds the range in which radioactivity can cause death or injury.
Thus, while it behooves doctors to learn all they can about radiation - because some survivors would be so affected - the biggest problem will be with the types of injuries that have accompanied wars and other disasters since time began.
Dr. McDonnell did not minimize radiation as a peril of atomic combat. He said 9,000 died from radio-activity at Hiroshima.
But he pointed out that these constituted only 15 per cent of the total of 60,000 deaths.
At Hiroshima and Nagasaki, he said, deaths and injuries resulted from radiation within a radius of 1 1/2 miles from the spot directly beneath the bomb burst.
Blistering, second-degree burns were suffered by persons about 2 1/2 miles away, McDonnell said, and "within reasonable limitations" these same ranges would apply to A-bombs more powerful than those used on Japan. He did not amplify this point.
McDonnell said he believes most of the misconceptions about radiation resulted from published findings regarding the Bikini underwater test of an A-bomb.
That test, he explained, produced a "base surge" of radioactive mist which came out of the water and rolled over the surrounding area - dangerously contaminating it.
But there's nothing like this in an air burst of a bomb. Even in an underwater burst, McDonnell said, the bomb has to be detonated in pretty deep water in order for the "base surge" to be produced.
He offered no figure on how deep the water would have to be, but said there would be no such danger if a bomb were burst beneath the water of the Potomac river.
In any plans for rescue work in an atomic disaster, McDonnell said, a big point to remember is that expectable casualties will be large.
To be ready for a blast of the scope of Hiroshima's, he said, it will be necessary to have a stock of blood and plasma as big as the Washington monument and about 150,000 rescue and other workers - equal to the population of New Haven, Conn.
Fast Handling Sought
"Since burns would constitute a major problem," he said, "we'll have to make sure we have some means of handling burn cases faster than we now do."
"In an atomic disaster, we'd be faced with the problem of giving first aid, evacuating and treating a tremendous number of casualties produced in a very few minutes. Many of them would be burn cases."
The classic method of treating burns calls for (1) controlling shock by administering blood or plasma, (2) cleansing the burn, (3) covering it up and (4) combating infection.
"There are modifications of this. For example, some doctors do not cover the burn at all, but seek to protect the patient from infection by other means."
Individual Dressings
"Some doctors apply a dressing to a specific area. Others - and this is the most widely used method at present - apply what is known as a 'pressure' dressing - a huge dressing that extends beyond the burned area itself. It is designed to apply pressure over a wide area, with the intent of stimulating healing and preventing the loss of tissue fluids."
"But all of our present methods require considerable time. We may have to modify these methods, and extensive research already is underway investigating this problem."
"It might be feasible to issue special gauze dressings to every person in the country - dressings that might be impregnated with an antibiotic like penicillin and designed to be self-applied, or applied by a buddy nearby."
"Perhaps such dressings should be large enough so they could be virtually wrapped around the body."

Detectives Say Girl Thrown From Bridge

(Story also on page one)
VANCOUVER, Wash., March 26 (AP) - Police Chief Harry Diamond reported tonight that two detectives assigned to the kidnapping case of Jo Ann Dewey, whose body was found in a river 14 miles east of here today, believe she was thrown into the river - either dead or alive - from a 287-foot high suspension bridge that spans the Wind river two miles upstream from where the body was found.
He said reports on condition of the body differed in details. The police chief said one officer who had examined the body thought the girl had been slashed "as if with a meat cleaver." The gashes were on the shoulder, breasts, abdomen, legs and one foot. These wounds were all on the forepart of the body, according to Diamond's source. But he added that his two detectives were not certain the breaks in the skin were as clean as they would be if made by a sharp instrument.
Searched at River
A Washington state patrolman and a Skamania deputy sheriff were working the timbered banks of the Wind river in hope of finding the spot the girl was dumped into the river.
State patrolmen said their talks with the fishermen and residents of the Wind river sector indicated the body had washed up on the sandbar last night. The stream is heavily fished by sportsmen. Police presumed that if the body had been there yesterday it likely would have been discovered then.
Foot Bridge Near
There is a foot bridge spanning the stream 200 yards upriver and a highway suspension bridge about two miles further upstream.
Police said farm residents they talked with could not recall any incidents the past week that might be linked to the girl's fate.
The fishermen found the body face down on the sandbar. They did not touch the body, police said, and drove to the nearby community of Carson to notify authorities.
An autopsy was scheduled for tonight here by Clark County Coroner Roy Spady. He said he expected to have arrangements ready about 11 p.m. The body was brought here late today.
Parents Notified
The parents of the girl were notified by Police Chief Diamond and Mayor Van Anderson. They went to the Dewey home at the small settlement of Meadow Glade near Battleground.
The police chief said the father and mother took the tragic news stoically. Neither collapsed when told their daughter's body was found. Chief Diamond said they planned to remain at home and did not want to visit the forest scene where the girl's body was found or see the body until the funeral.
Clark and Skamania county and state police authorities conferred late today on whether to conduct a new search from the Wind river sector back along highways to Vancouver for the girl's clothing or other clues. This might lead to location of the scene of the slaying, the police said.

Chief Diamond said he would recommend that Dr. Howard L. Richardson, head of the Oregon crime laboratory, be present at the autopsy.
3 State Hospital Inmates Found in Vancouver, Wash.
Three state hospital inmates who escaped last week by smashing through a second floor window grill were back in the institution Sunday after being picked up Friday by police in Vancouver, Wash.
The escapees were: Lester A. Marrs, 44, Stayton; Earl Perry, 20, Springfield; and John I. Sneed, 25, a recent transfer from the veterans' hospital at Roseburg.
The men, none of whom was regarded as dangerous, were spotted together in Vancouver Friday night by city police there. Hospital attendants returned the men to the institution. Their escape from a second-floor window was discovered early last Thursday morning.

Dr. Brannon, Educator, Dies

GAINESVILLE, Fla., March 26 (AP) - Dr. Melvin Amos Brannon, 84, retired educator and author, died today. He had been ill several days.
A native of Lowell, Ind., Dr. Brannon had been president of the University of Idaho, president of Beloit college and chancellor of the University of Montana. He organized the school of medicine at the University of North Dakota.
Dr. Brannon was the author of several works on marine and fresh water plant life. He served as president of the National Association of State Universities in 1948.

SEE FLAME!
Dog Movie Star "Rusty" in Person
SALEM LIONS CLUB
ALL BREED DOG SHOW AND OBEDIENCE TRIALS!
• 400 DOGS • 50 BREEDS
SAT. AND SUN. APRIL 1-2
• Continuous Showings Both Days •
AT STATE FAIRGROUNDS

Girl Recovers From Week's Sneezing Siege
OLNEY, Ill., March 26 (AP) - Armynta Stover apparently was recovering today from a sneezing siege which has plagued the 12-year-old girl since last Monday.
At the outset the child was sneezing an average of every two or three seconds. Today she was sneezing about once every 15 minutes and she was able to sleep normally - without sneezing.
Her doctor said he didn't think it would be necessary to accept the offer of Joseph Dunninger, Chicago hypnotist, who said he was 90 per cent certain he could cure the girl by hypnosis if the sneezing was caused by an allergy.
The doctor said it had been determined that Armynta was allergic to flowers and certain vegetables. He said the girl told him she had been in a nearby woods gathering early spring vegetation the day before she began sneezing.
The physician said Armynta probably will be released from the hospital tomorrow.



HAMILTON FIELD, Calif., March 26 - Staff Sgt. Fairy E. Decker, 44, (above) was found strangled to death on the ground near a WAF barracks at Hamilton Field, Calif. Her clothing was disarrayed. A non-commissioned air force officer later admitted killing the woman. (AP Wirephoto to the Statesman.)

Conferences On UNESCO Work Slated

Oregon participation in the United Nations UNESCO program will be discussed at two conferences, one scheduled April 4 and 5 and the other slated April 11, in Portland.
Dr. Ernest O. Melby, dean of the New York university school of education, will speak April 4 at 6:30 p.m. at Reed college. This conference will continue on April 5 with Dr. J. F. Cramer, of the state system of higher education presiding.
At the April 11 session, scheduled from 2 to 5 p.m. at Portland central library, Clifford Patton, UNESCO reconstruction liaison officer from New York, will discuss specific projects local groups can undertake during the next year.

'Clue' to Lost Plane Revealed As Old Tractor

(Story also on page one.)
KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Mar. 26 (AP) - Search for a private plane that vanished last Tuesday with four Portlanders aboard was without any clues again tonight.
Air force paratroopers had circled a mountain late today ready to jump to yellowed wreckage of that earlier was believed the airplane. But a ground party reached the spot and identified the wreckage as an abandoned logging tractor. They signaled the air force B-17 crew and it returned to its station here.
Missing since Tuesday en route home from a 7,000 mile Oregon to Cuba mass tourist flight were Mr. and Mrs. Lee Blackbold and Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Lundstrom. Their Beechcraft biplane left Lakeview, Ore., Tuesday on the last leg of the homeward trip.

Stimson Flays Attack on State Department

NEW YORK, March 26 (AP) - Former Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson, in a letter to the editor of the New York Times, says he questions the methods and motives of attack in the present charges against the U. S. state department.
In his letter, datelined Huntington, Long Island, March 24, he writes:
"First, this is most emphatically not the proper way in which to insure loyalty of government employees."
"Second, no matter what else may occur, the present charges have already spattered mud upon individuals of the highest integrity, and in the present state of the world the denial cannot always overtake the accusation."
"Third, and more important by far, the method of the present charges directly and dangerously impedes the conduct of the foreign affairs of our government. It creates abroad a feeling that we are frightened and suspicious of each other."
"Fourth, it seems to me quite clear that the real motive of the accuser in this case is to cast discredit upon the secretary of state of the U. S. This man is not trying to get rid of known communists in the state department; he is hoping against hope that he will find some."
Name Mentioned
Stimson did not mention the name of the "accuser."
In his letter he continues:
"The man who seeks to gain political advantage from personal attack on a secretary of state is a man who seeks political advantage from damage to this country."
In a time of changing international conditions and grave world tension, he said, "... there is always room for honest differences, but now, as for many years past, the formulation of foreign policy most urgently demands an adjournment of mere partisan ship."
Stimson, 82 years old, is a Republican. He served as secretary of war in the cabinets of the late Presidents William Howard Taft and Franklin D. Roosevelt.
He was secretary of state under former President Herbert Hoover.

Slain
A black and white photograph of a woman, identified as Stimson's wife, looking towards the camera.

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There was no opposition list. Yugoslav voters had the choice yesterday of either voting for Tito and his partisans or the communists and the communists were casting a negative ballot. Voting was extremely heavy.
Tito had asked for a large vote for his party to show that this country is behind him in his fight with the Moscow-led communists. Tito's communists and the communists have been feuding for almost two years. Russia and her satellites have imposed an economic boycott on Yugoslavia.
Near 100 Per Cent Turnout
Officials said nearly 100 per cent of the 10,000,000 eligible voters were authorized to vote and came out until dusk, voters streamed to the polling places and cast their pink rubber ball ballots - Yugoslavia's customary voting system which is apparently designed to make it easier for illiterates to take part in elections.
Spic and span in the smartly tailored uniforms of a marshal, Tito himself was in a flower-filled and lushly carpeted schoolroom on the hills of Dedinje overlooking Belgrade and the Danube.
He went through the same voting procedure as the thousands of other citizens casting their ballots in the first national election since 1945 and the second since the war.
Crowd Cheers
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In accordance with election law, Tito plunged his clenched fist into each box in turn and then stepped back and held up his open hand to show that he had voted.
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Chrysler Strike Negotiators Meet

DETROIT, March 26 (AP) - Negotiators got together for an hour today in an attempt to settle the Chrysler strike now in its 61st day.

The brief session indicated either Chrysler Corp. or the CIO United Auto Workers had made a new move in peace talks aimed at getting 89,000 Chrysler employees back to work. Any development, however, was kept secret.

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Demos Want Notice of Steel Price Jumps

WASHINGTON, March 26 (AP) - In a bitterly contested report, democratic members of the senate-house economic committee called today for 30-day notice before any future steel price increase so congress can have a look at it.

Republican members lashed back in a minority report with the assertion that this and other recommendations of the majority "look strongly in the direction of government price control" for steel.

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In accordance with election law, Tito plunged his clenched fist into each box in turn and then stepped back and held up his open hand to show that he had voted.
He then received another little pink ball and stepped to two boxes to vote for the candidates for the upper house, 215 of whom are being elected. There he repeated the routine.
The system of using rubber balls in Yugoslavia elections goes back to prewar days and presumably was adopted because of the inability of many Yugoslavs to read or write.

Police Investigate Burglary Attempt

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