

Explosion of Ammunition At Gibraltar, Hurts 1,000

GIBRALTAR, April 27—(AP)—The 1,152-ton British ammunition ship Bedenham blew up today with an earth-shaking blast as she unloaded at this Mediterranean rock fortress. Ten workers were believed killed and more than 1,000 injured.

Naval authorities said 500 tons of ammunition—all aboard the Bedenham—went up in smoke. The blast, described by witnesses as the "worst ever heard," smashed nearly all the windows in Gibraltar town at the base of the rock and shattered others in La Linea, a mile away on the Spanish mainland. Many of the injured were victims of flying glass.

It was understood a fire on a lighter alongside the Bedenham touched off the ship's cargo of ammunition as it was being carried to storage houses at the ordnance wharf. The lighter also blew up.

Authorities were investigating the possibility of sabotage. Naval authorities said in an interview tonight the cause of the incident had not yet been ascertained.

Gibraltar estimates of the total casualties exceeded that of the British admiralty in London.

A British admiralty statement put the number of dead at six and indicated that neither the ship's captain nor any of the crew of 25 were among this number. The admiralty said there were some injuries, however, among the crew. Most of those unloading the ship were Spaniards from the mainland.

The explosion hurled crewmen and dockworkers into the air and sent up huge clouds of billowing smoke. It caused panic among many residents of Gibraltar town. Women ran screaming toward air raid shelters.

British authorities at this guard post to the western approaches of the Mediterranean cut off communications with the Spanish mainland and closed the frontier gates on the connecting causeway.

Ambulances rushed from La Linea and from Algeciras, three miles away, to the gates to take the injured to Spanish hospitals.

An admiralty spokesman in London said he would not comment on the possibility of sabotage until the investigation is completed.

The royal navy blamed saboteurs for blowing up nine ammunition barges at Portsmouth harbor last July 14 and for a number of other minor mishaps to British ships in the last 16 months. The Portsmouth blast, which occurred while the barges were loading ammunition for Korea, injured 19 persons. The Bedenham sailed from Plymouth, Eng., April 20.

Wrangles over Taxing Program Delay Legislative Adjournment



The American Friends (Quakers) Service committee has been publishing advertisements headed "... a Time for Greatness." Faithful to their firm belief in peace the Quakers pose the question: "Which shall it be: Swords or Plowshares?" The advertisement voices criticism of present national policy which looks to the containment of communism and rearmament to resist its extension. It professes to see a global state of indefinite duration as two great powers pile up their armaments, waiting for each other to crack under the strain.

The "other way" the Friends committee proposes includes the following:

1. A new kind of negotiation. This contemplates a fresh and less rigid approach, more flexibility in instructions to negotiators, less publicity during sessions but full publicity afterwards, open-mindedness with an aim for results rather than to win an argument.
2. Strengthening of United Nations as a peacemaking agency.
3. A new approach to disarmament now. All parties stand to gain from lightening the armament burden. New discussions should be undertaken toward this goal, which would lighten the hopes and faith of millions.
4. Economic, financial and technical assistance in a cooperative effort to eradicate poverty and disease. It would substitute plowshares for swords, butter for guns, construction for destruction, friendship for enmity.

Peace, as Father Divine says, is wonderful. And the Friends both in their consistent advocacy of avoidance of war and in their (Continued on Editorial Page 4)

General Walsh To Dedicate New Armory

Major Gen. R. L. Walsh, air force officer assigned to coordinate U.S. and Canadian civil defense activities, will be in Salem to dedicate the new army reserve armory on May 19, the Armed Forces week committee announced Friday.

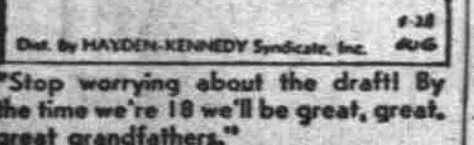
That ceremony is expected to highlight the week's program here. It will include review of an honor guard by Gen. Walsh and Gov. Douglas McKay. The general is to be the principal speaker.

He is presently assigned to the office of civilian defense at Washington, D.C.

Tax Chaser Named

WASHINGTON, April 27—(AP)—Brig. Gen. John B. Dunlap, internal revenue agent in charge of the Dallas, Tex., division, has been chosen to head a new government drive against racketeer tax evaders.

Animal Crackers



By WARREN GOODRICH

By Lester F. Cour
Staff Writer, The Statesman

Hopes that the 1951 legislature might wind up today were tossed out the window Friday when the senate and house tax committees were unable to agree on a revenue program for the next two years.

The senate tax committee voted 6 to 1 for a house-passed bill to levy a 3-cent-a-package tax on cigarettes, but refused to concur in the remainder of the house-passed tax program.

The house voted to increase the price of cigarettes an additional 2 cents a pack when it approved 40 to 18 a senate-passed cigarette fair trades act. The increase will go into effect as soon as the governor signs the bill.

The bill sent to the governor will require retailers to sell cigarettes 10 per cent above cost and wholesalers 4 1/2 per cent.

The cigarette tax will be decided in the senate today. If passed, it would bring in about \$5,000,000 a year, and would help offset a \$12,000,000 budget deficit during the next two years.

About \$7,000,000 of the total budget shortage was brought about when the ways and means committee approved a \$7,000,000 state building program. While the cigarette tax is not tied to the building program, it would finance the program during the next two years.

The fair trades provision linked with the cigarette tax was passed to insure that tobacco wholesalers will not refer the tax measure to the people. The cigarette levy has been defeated by the voters five times in the past after being passed in the legislature.

The disagreement between the house and senate tax committees Friday virtually assured that the legislature will not wind up its work for another week.

Adjournment next Friday would make the session 117 days long, 20 days longer than the previous time record of 97 days set in 1949.

Income Tax Block
The principle stumbling block confronting the tax committees is whether income tax funds should be placed directly in the general fund. The house wants to transfer the funds, but the senate wants to use them first to offset property taxes.

The differences between the two committees will be settled by conference, probably not for another week. The senate committee indicated it will either take a week to study the house-passed program or will eliminate the entire program except the cigarette tax for this session.

Another barrier to adjournment cropped up Friday when the senate elections and privileges committee clashed over whether to report out legislation to reappportion the legislature.

Discards House Bill
The senate committee discarded a house-passed bill, drew up one of its own but couldn't decide whether to introduce it.

Sen. Angus Gibson, Junction City, chairman of the senate committee, said the house held up action on reappportionment until too late in the session.

The house adjourned until Monday at 10 a.m., but the senate faces a lengthy calendar when it meets today. The house moved swiftly Friday to clear its calendar of 40 bills, while the senate bogged down on several controversial issues before finishing its work.

Give Pay Raises
A bill sent to the governor by the senate would create a department of finance and organization under the governor.

Supreme and circuit court judges would receive a 10 per cent pay increase under a bill approved in the house and sent to the senate. Supreme court judges would get \$10,450 a year and circuit court judges \$9,350.

Another bill sent to the senate by the house would give district attorneys and their deputies increases averaging 10 per cent. The senate will meet at 10 a.m. today and the house at 10 a.m. Monday.

CANDY RATION BOOSTED
GILLINGHAM, Eng., April 27—(AP)—Food Minister Maurice Webb announced tonight an increase in Britain's candy ration of two ounces a month, beginning May 20. The increase will bring the ration to six ounces a week.

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precl.
Salem	53	49	45
Portland	54	49	45
San Francisco	60	43	trace
Chicago	62	50	40
New York	62	50	40

William River 0.3 feet
FORECAST from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem: Considerable cloudiness today and tonight becoming partly cloudy Sunday. High today near 62, low tonight near 38.

SALEM PRECIPITATION

Since Start of Year	Last Year	Normal
46.79	39.43	33.53

Beef Price Ceiling Order Due Tonight

Allies Yield All Along Muddy Front

Seoul Menaced By Advancing Communists

By Don Huth
TOKYO, Saturday, April 28—(AP)—The allies were withdrawing all along the muddy Korean battlefield today before Chinese communists hordes who cut a vital east-west supply road and menaced Seoul.

United Nations forces on the western front pulled back an unspecified distance north of the ruined capital of south Korea. Until the new withdrawal heavy fighting had swirled within 10 miles of the battered city.

Thousands of civilians streamed south out of Seoul while allied artillery within the city hammered away at the onrushing reds.

Kapyong Abandoned
On the central front, the strategic highway town of Kapyong on the important Seoul-Chuncheon highway was abandoned to attacking communists.

Kapyong, 33 air miles northeast of Seoul, lies on the road which has linked the western front with the central front.

The enemy cutting of the highway however, was too late to trap any allied units. Reports to eighth army headquarters said all allied troops in the area had withdrawn before Kapyong fell.

Of all the hard-won U.N. territory in north Korea only a narrow bridgehead remained between the Pukhan river and the Inje-Hyon road on the mountainous east-central front.

Munsan Threatened
Back in the west, the U.S. eighth army communique said the communists put heavy pressure on the allies south of Munsan all day Friday. But in the late afternoon U.N. forces broke contact and withdrew to a new defense line.

Munsan, 23 air miles northwest of Seoul, is on one main red invasion path leading to Seoul. Along this path were massed an estimated 300,000 Chinese reds.

The pressure of this horde was felt in terrific fighting around Uijongbu, gateway to Seoul 11 miles north of the capital.

An entire enemy battalion was destroyed northeast of Uijongbu by artillery and rifle fire.

Rain, haze and smoke hampered the strong allied aerial strikes. But carrier-based naval planes and land-based fighters and bombers of the fifth air force teamed to help pile up the huge toll of communist casualties.

Some 625 sorties were flown in spite of the weather.

Turner Store Destroyed in Night Blaze

TURNER, April 27—The Turner Variety store, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pearce, burned tonight.

Flames burst out in the store part of the combination store and apartment building at about 9:30 o'clock. Turner firemen fought the blaze for nearly an hour. The store, the Pearce's living quarters in the rear and store stock were burned.

No estimate of the loss was available tonight but the building was almost a total loss. Cause of the fire had not been determined. The single-storied wooden building had been remodeled after a disastrous fire over a year ago.

Three Hit in Raging Gun Battle at Textile Factory

WAKE FOREST, N. C., April 27—(AP)—A raging gun battle, touched off by a dynamite explosion, at a struck textile mill, rocked this college town tonight. It was the worst outbreak tonight. It was the 27-day-old southern textile strike.

Old Washington School Coming Down



Old Washington school's familiar outline is now gone as wrecking crews work at speeded tempo to remove the building. The familiar landmark will be razed and excavation for a new Safeway store will be completed in about three weeks. Demolition is being done by the Gaylord Construction Co. of Portland. (Statesman photo).

School Bus, Truck Mishap Injures Four

Statesman News Service
LEBANON, April 27—Four students of Foster grade school were hospitalized in Sweet Home this morning after a loaded school bus and a logging truck crashed two miles west of Foster. One boy was in critical condition and his sister serious.

The truck and bus drivers had 14 and 11 years, respectively, of driving without an accident.

The drivers said both vehicles were heading west on South Santiam highway, going down the mountain. The bus was turning off the highway at a blind curve, nearing the school with 18 students aboard.

Back End Hit Bus
The empty truck attempted to miss the bus by going into the ditch but its rear end swung around and hit the back of the bus.

In Langmack hospital at Sweet Home was Charles Cotton, 7, who was unconscious for several hours after the accident, in which he suffered a fractured skull and concussion and was listed as very critical. Others in the same hospital were Betty Lou Cotton, 11, in serious condition with scalp lacerations and possible skull fracture; Beulah Wallace, 11, facial and dental injuries, good condition; Dale Sturdevant, 6, left ear crushed, jaw injuries, good.

Another Girl Hurt
Hospital attendants reported another girl was to be brought in for observation after having been thrown from the rear of the bus to the front and through the windshield.

The children's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Louis Cotton, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Sturdevant, all of Foster.

Clyde W. Hackney of Lebanon was driving the log truck, owned by Ed P. Barton of Lebanon. Virge Stevenson of Foster was driving the bus, which was the only one the school had in operation since the other bus went into the garage for repairs.

Half-Inch of Rain Ends Mountaintop Landing Costs Fine of \$350

LONGMIRE, Wash., April 27—(AP)—A ticklish landing atop Mount Rainier by careful air force pilot cost him a \$350 fine and a six-months suspended jail sentence today.

The pilot, Lt. John Hodgkin of McCord air force base, was sentenced by U.S. Commissioner Earl Clifford on charges of landing a plane in a national park, which is against the law.

Do Not Forget To Move Up the Clock Tonight

By The Associated Press
Remember to set the clock up tonight when you go to bed, for daylight saving time begins at 12:01 a.m. Sunday.

British Columbia, most of western Washington, all of Oregon, California and Nevada will leave standard time—along with much of the eastern U.S.—not to return until September 30.

At 12:01 a.m. turn the clock ahead to 1:01 a.m. You'll lose an hour that way, but get it back on September 30. (Story also on Page 8.)

Scores Hurt in Missouri Gas Explosion

MARYVILLE, Mo., April 28—(AP)—A huge gas tank exploded early today about 100 feet from a dormitory housing 150 women college students. A large number of the women were injured, the fire department said.

Attendees at St. Francis hospital said so many injured were coming in that "we can't count them yet."

One wall of the three-story brick dormitory was blown out and the structure burst into flames, the Maryville Daily Forum reported.

The building normally housed 200 women, but about 50 had gone home for the week end.

The explosion rocked the entire city of 7,000 population, located in northwestern Missouri. Plate glass windows in the business district several blocks away were smashed, and windows in houses surrounding the college were broken, the forum said.

Calls for firemen went out to St. Joseph and Clarinda, Ia.

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Milwaukee Honors Gen. MacArthur

MILWAUKEE, April 27—(AP)—Milwaukee honored Douglas MacArthur's wish to be regarded as a native son today with a roaring six-hour homecoming celebration.

"I cannot tell you what emotion I come again to my ancestral home," the general of the army told 60,000 persons jammed into MacArthur square when it was over. "The warmth of the welcome has moved me more deeply than words can express and has etched on my heart a memory I will not forget."

Thus ended an absence of 39 years, although, as the general said, "it was 52 years ago that Milwaukee sent me forth into the military service."

He added, "I report to you that service now is ended."

At that point the crowd stopped him, roaring "No, no." But he smiled, waved his hand to stop the protest and concluded, "I want you to know that I have done my best and always have I kept the soldier's faith."

From his speech, during which MacArthur square—named six years ago by the city—was dedicated, the general and his party went directly to Billy Mitchell field. After a lingering farewell, he took off for New York in the Constellation Bataan at 5:55 p.m.

Altogether, the general, his wife, son and party were greeted by crowds police estimated at between 750,000 and 1,000,000 persons, which meant the state turned out to reinforce the metropolitan population of 850,000.

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Midsummer Rollback on Prices Seen

WASHINGTON, April 27—(AP)—The government plans to announce dollar-and-cents ceiling prices on beef Saturday night.

Officials who reported this tonight said the orders provide for progressive rollbacks on prices of live cattle with eventual lower prices to consumers—but with no immediate effect on retail prices of meat.

One official told a reporter the orders will bring cutbacks of three to four cents a pound at retail in mid-summer, with a similar reduction to follow next fall.

Price Director Michael V. DiSalle was reported to have met stiff opposition from the agriculture department in his plan to cut at wholesale and retail levels and regulate the price which packers may pay for live cattle. By setting a ceiling which may be paid for live animals, the government would be putting the rollback into effect.

Meat prices are now frozen under the general freeze on prices and consequently there is a variation in the top prices for different meat products based on the store-to-store differences prevailing when the general freeze went into effect.

Fix Specific Prices
The forthcoming price order will set specific price levels for different types of meat items sold at retail, in addition to fixing wholesale prices and prices on live cattle.

But officials said while the fixing of retail price levels for beef might result in some adjustment there would be no substantial changes insofar as the consumer is concerned.

An office of price stabilization (OPS) official said that any starting at the live animal base, a price squeeze on wholesalers and retailers will be relieved. Slaughterers have had to pay steadily rising prices for animals but have been forbidden to pass on these increased costs.

Cut Back Expected
One OPS official who helped draft the beef price orders said they would do this generally:

Reduce for a rollback at once in live cattle prices with no immediate change in wholesale and retail prices.

There would be another cutback in live cattle prices about mid-summer accompanied by reduction in wholesale and retail prices.

A third reduction across the board—at wholesale and retail and in the prices slaughterers may pay for live animals—is scheduled for next fall. This cut, the official said, would bring the overall retail price down to an estimated seven to eight cents a pound.

The delay in cutting wholesale and retail prices at once will give feeders, who buy live cattle and fatten them for slaughter a chance to dispose of the high priced cattle they have on hand, the official said. Otherwise they would be faced with heavy losses.

What? No Two Party System

Portland legislators were discussing reappointment problems Friday with eastern Oregon lawmakers in a senate committee.

Sen. Rex Ellis, Pendleton republican, asked Sen. Thomas R. Mahoney, Portland democrat, "Can you name one problem that Multnomah county has that Umatilla county doesn't have?"

Mahoney's answer was quick. "Democrats."

BASEBALL

Western International
At Wenatchee 9, Spokane 10
At Salem-Tacoma, rain.
At Yakima-Vancouver, rain.
At Tri-City-Victoria, rain.

Coast League
At Los Angeles 5, Sacramento 8
At Portland-Hollywood, rain.
At San Diego 3, San Jose 2
At Seattle-San Francisco, rain.

American League
At Boston 4, New York 3
At Washington 6, Philadelphia 1
Only games scheduled.

National League
At New York 3, Boston 1
At Philadelphia 5, Brooklyn 1
At Pittsburgh 4, Cincinnati 1