

Combat-Designed H-Bomb Test Due In Marshall Atolls

WASHINGTON (AP) — The new series of atomic tests, which will include the first trial of an actual combat-designed hydrogen bomb, is expected to begin within the next month at the mid-Pacific Proving Grounds.

Construction crews are understood to be rushing to completion building projects and the installation of intricate instrument systems at the two atolls in the Marshall Island group now designated as test sites for full-scale nuclear devices and weapons.

Official reference to thermonuclear (hydrogen) "weapons," instead of the test "device" which was exploded at Eniwetok in the fall of 1952, points to the probability that an H-bomb will be dropped from an aircraft.

The United States is believed to have at least two bomber types which can handle an H-bomb—the high-speed Boeing B47 jet medium bomber and the huge, long-range Convair B36 jet-piston engine bomber.

Changes in the size and design of the bomb bays of new models of the B47 series suggest that those planes, as well as the big B36, are now capable of flying the H-bomb to a target—either a test target in the Pacific or an enemy target if necessary.

Emphasis is on jets.

The Air Force is placing emphasis on jet-powered bombers, with the speed and maneuverability needed to elude swift jet intercept-fighter planes.

The characteristics of the hydrogen bomb place a new premium on bomber speed. The reported range of destructible blast and heat means that an aircraft dropping the weapon, even from very high altitude, would need to get away fast.

During the past few months engineers, technicians and construction crews have been busy refurbishing the old, 1946 atomic test site at Bikini Atoll.

Bikini, where the first two post-war tests of fission bombs were conducted in 1946, seems marked for the experiment with the first actual hydrogen bomb.

Russ Ignore Compromise Moves by West

By DANIEL DE LUCE

BERLIN (AP) — Soviet Russia ignored three compromise feelers by the West on German unification Saturday but refused to let the Berlin conference shelve this deadlocked question to take up the Austrian independence treaty.

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov wound up the second fruitless week of the big four parley by reviving last year's Soviet demand on the Western powers to cut their occupation costs.

It seemed another grandstand play by the shrewd Russian, who has showered his diplomatic opposition with unacceptable proposals that made Communist headlines but brought the conference no closer to a solution on Germany.

French Foreign Minister Bidault, again the West's vanguard, offered two concessions to the Soviet viewpoint in a last ditch try to start German unification rolling.

He dropped the idea of Big Four supervision of all German elections — hotly attacked by Molotov — and suggested instead that supervisory commissions to protect the voters' liberties be made up of one West German, one East German and one neutral as an arbiter.

Britain's Anthony Eden immediately followed up this French effort to soften the Russian stone wall on unification. He offered to extend the British-Soviet mutual defense treaty against German aggression. It was signed in 1943 and is due to expire in 1953.

Molotov tossed out his demand for lower Allied occupation costs in West Germany after accusing the Western ministers of indicating here that the occupation "will go on for an indefinitely long period."

30 Barbers Said Fired in Race Dispute

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Holland (D-Fla.) said Saturday he has asked Secretary of the Navy Anderson for an explanation of the reported firing of 30 white civilian barbers at the Jacksonville, Fla., naval air station because they refused to serve Negro sailors.

"I am advised," Holland wrote Anderson, "that the entire complement of white civilian barbers of the Jacksonville Naval Air Station has been discharged because they refused to personally provide barber service to colored naval personnel."

Asserting that Negro barbers were available, Holland said: "It is difficult to understand why the Navy is forcing such an explosive issue that flies in the face of age-old customs and conventions in the Jacksonville area, particularly where equal facilities and service, if not better, have been provided at the same places."

According to Holland's information, the firings took place on Jan. 25 after a new non-segregation order was issued by Anderson.

Holland said he was aware of President Eisenhower's non-segregation policy for the armed forces, but suggested to Anderson that the barber shop problem should be worked out at the local level.

There was no immediate comment from the Navy.

Locomotive Located in Swift River

MAUPIN, Ore. (AP) — A 125-ton diesel locomotive, which carried two men to their deaths when it plunged into the turbulent Deschutes River near here, probably has been located.

C. F. Thomas, chief engineer for the Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railway, reported that search crews think they have located the missing engine about 200 feet downstream from the point where it was toppled into the river by a slide on the tracks last Sunday night.

The river has been too swift to use divers to locate the engine which apparently still contains the bodies of engineer Ernest Barton of Portland and fireman Earl Sutton of Wishram, Wash.

An electronic device which indicates the presence of metal was maneuvered over the river on a long boom. When the device registered the location of a quantity of metal, a man equipped with prodding bars was swung over the area. The prodding bars scraped off paint similar to that used on the engine.

Another car, filled with canned goods, is believed to be about 300 feet further downstream from the diesel unit, Thomas said.

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Pope Better, Say Vigilant Physicians

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Pius XII was able to maintain Saturday a flicker of renewed strength noted during an anxious night, but doctors kept up a constant bedside vigil over the stricken 77-year-old pontiff.

Prof. Riccardo Galeazzi Lisi, the Pope's personal physician, reported symptoms of a "very slight improvement" but said general weakness persisted. Later the Vatican press office announced the slight improvement continued during the day.

As he left the Vatican shortly before midnight, Galeazzi Lisi again reported that he had found the Pope "slightly improved."

The words kindly heaped among millions of Roman Catholics who offered up prayers in many parts of the world for their ailing spiritual leader.

From his simple wooden bed in his Apostolic Palace apartment the pale and gaunt Pope painfully gave instructions and conferred for an hour with his faithful secretary of state, Msgr. Giovanni Battista Montini.

The Pope has been confined to his bed for 13 days with a stubborn and not fully explained internal ailment. It attacked his aged body at a time when he was weary and worn from prolonged overwork.

Unable to hold down his usual meager diet, his condition has grown dangerously feeble. Intravenous feeding has become necessary. The Pope's inability to keep down fluids has made it impossible to conduct further X-ray examinations of his condition, described at first as a persistent gastric ailment.

A source close to the Pope said the next five days were believed important in the outcome of his illness.

Dr. Paul Niehans, a Swiss specialist called in for consultation, apparently spent Friday night at the Pope's apartment. Dr. Niehans is noted for his operations on the prostate gland and research on glandular disturbances in the aged.

French Burn Indochina Towns

SAIGON, Indochina (AP) — French forces fighting a delaying action on the threshold of Red-threatened Luang Prabang put the torch to outlying villages Saturday to deny food and shelter to Vietnamese forces advancing on the royal Laotian capital.

There was no indication whether the three-pronged rebel thrust aimed at Luang Prabang had yet reached the defense area the French have set up 50 miles from the capital.

Four Alabama Escapees Caught

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — Four of nine convicts who tunneled out of the Alabama's Prison farm's "Little Alcatraz" were captured Saturday in a stolen car near Huntsville without resistance.

The four were halted by Highway Patrolmen William Holland and J. C. Floyd on a speeding charge.

They were identified as Donald H. Allison, 24; John Burwell Garrison, 31; Willis Andrew Pirkle, 34; and James Harold K. Green, 27.

900 COLLAPSE
SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Nine hundred persons collapsed Sunday in the enormous crowds which gathered to see Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh attend divine services at St. Andrew's Cathedral. The temperature was 82 degrees.

WORKERS RECALLED
CHICAGO (AP) — International Harvester Co. said Saturday that in the six-week period ending March 1 it will have recalled nearly 2,000 workers in six Illinois and Indiana farm equipment plants.

MCCALL ANNOUNCES
PORTLAND (AP) — Lawson (Tom) McCall, Portland radio commentator and former administrative assistant to Douglas McKay, made his expected announcement Saturday to run for the Republican nomination for Congress.

U.S. Teachers, Clergy 'Nearly Free' of Reds

By WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Un-American Activities Committee Saturday night gave a clean bill of health to the overwhelming majority of American clergymen and teachers, while deploring that "a few" are Communists.

In its annual report to Congress, the committee also declared that it has not conducted, and does not intend to conduct, any "investigation of the clergy of religion."

Similarly, it said, it has never probed into "the curricula of any school" or "into classroom procedures or the teaching methods of an educator."

Mexico Quake Damage Said 'Catastrophic'

MEXICO CITY (AP) — An earthquake was reported to have wrecked four towns Friday and damaged three other villages in remote coffee-growing Chiapas State of Mexico bordering Guatemala.

Gen. Augustin Muties, military zone commander in Chiapas, said he had the French Union force Saturday night he knew of but five deaths, but shaken survivors arriving at the state capital from the stricken area were telling stories of widespread death and destruction.

Gen. Muties said the information he had been able to gather indicated the destruction was catastrophic. He said the town of Yajalon, whose population he gave as 5,000, was hardest hit and completely ruined.

Three other towns with a total population of about 3,200 were reported destroyed, and the disaster was said to have hit a 50-mile area.

Troops were sent into the area to preserve order.

Arms, Legs Protrude
A dispatch to the Mexico City newspaper Excelsior, from Tuxtla Gutierrez, the state capital said the disaster apparently was greater than was first believed.

The Excelsior correspondent said survivors flown in from Yajalon saw arms and legs protruding from the rubble after the quake struck.

Rescue teams with medicines, food and temporary shelter was dispatched over primitive roads to the disaster zone.

The quake was recorded on seismographs in New York, Boston, Cleveland, Pasadena and other distant points.

Girl Cyclist Hits Car Head-On, No Serious Injuries

A six-year-old bicyclist was involved in a head-on crash with an automobile but apparently escaped with non-serious injuries Saturday in East Salem.

In Salem General Hospital for treatment was Darlene Miller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Miller, 2625 Larsen Ave.

She was hurled to the pavement from her cycle Saturday afternoon as she rode from Livingston Street into Lansing Ave. Lester C. Sebern, 1640 N. 5th St., said he was driving south on Lansing Ave. and did not see the girl until she was just in front of his bumper.

Her condition was described as "fairly good" by her physician who reported she suffered head and leg injuries in the mishap.

The average temperature of the sun is about 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

Police Cars Rush Blood to Ailing Woman

Pints of blood — oftentimes the answer between life and possible death — were speedily transferred in the early hours of Saturday by state police car relay from the Portland Red Cross Blood Bank to Lebanon Community Hospital.

In the balance was the life of a 63-year-old woman suffering from ruptured ulcer. She underwent surgery later in the day and was reported still in serious condition late Saturday.

The blood, four pints of "A-positive" encased in a large metal box, left Portland at about 12:30 a.m. via a hurrying state police car and was transferred to a second car at Aurora.

From Aurora the blood was rushed to a waiting patrol car at Salem and taken to Albany and rendezvous at a crossroad with a fourth patrol car. The blood arrived at the hospital shortly before 2 a.m.

The relay service is part of the state patrol's help in emergencies.

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U.S. Steps Up Aid to French In Indochina

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has put into operation an emergency plan to help French and loyal Indochinese forces turn back what is regarded here as the most threatening Red offensive of the eight-year-old Indochina war.

The Defense Department announced Saturday it is sending some more B26 bombers and about 200 more Air Force ground crew technicians to help the French and Vietnamese forces fighting the Communists there.

In addition, the flow of American military supplies has been stepped up so critically needed equipment can move to the battlefront in time to help beat back the mounting Red drive, particularly in Laos.

Substantial numbers of big C119 "Flying Boxcars" have been "loaned" to the French to speed supplies to threatened areas.

The department did not disclose the number of B26 light bombers immediately involved, but it was understood to be small, about 10. They will be flown by French crews.

The decision to send mechanics and ground crews, approved by top Eisenhower administration leaders, represents a far-reaching step. Similar action was taken secretly, but on a much smaller scale, last May when a surprise Communist invasion of Laos posed a serious problem to the French.

American military leaders are reported confident the French and loyal Vietnamese and Laotian armies can contain the present Communist drive. The big aim is to hold the Laotian capital of Luang Prabang.

Yamhill River Lock to Close

McMINNVILLE, Ore. (AP) — The Yamhill River lock, built at the turn of the century, will be closed to navigation in a brief observance Sunday.

Several members of a yacht club at Canby are expected to take their boats through to be lodged as the last users of the lock, which is located between Dayton and Lafayette, about seven miles upstream from the confluence of the Yamhill and Willamette rivers.

Army engineers built it 53 years ago. Since then, it handled more than a million tons of traffic, mostly logs. It is been used seldom in recent years. It can be reopened if the necessity arises.

Truck Gas Tanks Drained

Frank Frederick, manager of Fitts Market, 216 N. Commercial St., reported to city police Saturday night that gas tanks of three delivery trucks had been drained sometime Friday night or early Saturday morning, police reported.

The trucks were parked on a service station lot at 365 N. Commercial St., police said. A pipe wrench was used to remove the locked caps, they added.

Stockholders Wealthy After 17-Year Wait

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP) — A 17-year wait that to many often seemed in vain has rewarded about 1,000 stockholders of the Williamsport Wire Rope Co. with a \$4,073,124 bonanza.

The stockholders—most of them elderly former employees of the company residing in the Williamsport area—received checks this week averaging \$1,500 to \$3,000.

The payment of this money is the result of a long court fight to force the Bethlehem Steel Co. to pay an additional six million dollars for the Williamsport firm it took over in 1937.

Bethlehem originally purchased the wire rope company for \$3,000,000. However, the U. S. District Court set aside the sale in 1952 and later approved Bethlehem's offer to settle the case by payment of an additional six million dollars.

Atty. Charles R. Bidschpacher Jr., who steered the case for higher payment on its eight-year path through the courts and his associates stand to gain the most from the settlement. They took over the case on a percentage basis to be paid only if they won. They probably will make about \$1,800,000 in legal fees.

Fire Strikes Zion, Illinois

ZION, Ill. (AP) — Fire struck a crowded downtown store here Saturday night, and quickly ravaged and nearby structures — but with no reports of deaths or serious injuries.

Firemen from 15 communities in Lake County, Ill. and nearby Wisconsin communities brought the blaze under control three hours after it started.

The fire razed the 50-year-old, frame Zion Department Store — crowded with Saturday night shoppers. Police said the shoppers escaped, but many suffered from the effects of smoke.

Capt. Howard Garnant, of the Waukegan fire department, estimated damage as at least half a million dollars.

Flames visible for 30 miles shot up from the fire, and attracted thousands of spectators from scores of communities.

ILA Calls for Trade With China

PORTLAND (AP) — The executive board of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union Saturday called for unrestricted world trade with all countries, including Red China.

The board's statement said that expansion of Far East trade would decrease unemployment.

The board also affirmed support of ILWU president Harry Bridges and Jack W. Hall, union regional director in Hawaii. Bridges faces his fifth trial which might result in his deportation and Hall recently was convicted on a Smith Act charge.

The board opposed pay raises for members of Congress.

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