

Writer Explains Chances of Being Killed in Atomic Attack

By ELTON C. FAY
AP Military Affairs Reporter
WASHINGTON — What's your chance of being killed in an atomic attack?

Obviously, it's a lot bigger than a year ago, before Russia learned how to set off a hydrogen explosion, and bigger than five years ago, before she produced her first atomic detonation.

But it's lessened by the increasing U.S. power to strike back, and by the improving rings of defense being set up around the country and its major cities. And even in an area where a bomb hits, some persons—and you could well be one of them—will escape death or even serious injury.

Can't Foretell Attack
Not even the best geopoliticians and strategists can calculate the prospect that Russia would make an atomic attack. But if she does, here are some factors you can consider in figuring your chances:

1. The prospects that the Soviet Union could maintain an atomic war, once launched, are substantially less than they were two or three years ago. Expanding air power has given this country the ability to strike back swiftly at Russian airbases and factories. The more enemy installations taken out by retaliatory air strikes, the fewer will be the bombers that can take off for American targets.

2. A network of early warning radar stations is growing, and while it is not now and never will be airtight, the chances of detecting and tracking approaching enemy aircraft are improving. Interceptor forces are expanding with a constant flow of jet fighters from the production lines.

3. Some enemy planes will get through, and each one carrying an A-bomb or H-bomb can do great damage. But then they run into the close-in defenses, including conventional and "Skysweeper" anti-aircraft guns and guided missiles such as the "Nike."

4. Against the threat of planes that actually get through with their bombs, here is "passive defense"—shelter from explosion and heat and radiation, and evacuation of cities after warning.

Even within the area of complete annihilation it might be possible to survive in a well-built bomb shelter or deep subterranean place.

Centenarian Dies in Fire

CINCINNATI — Mrs. Ella Smith, who lived to be 100 years old, died Saturday in a fire started by a cigarette she had been smoking.

Mrs. Smith, a semi-invalid, was trapped in her small room by dense smoke. Firemen said she suffocated.

She had no known relatives. Mrs. Smith's neighbors said they knew little about her background except she was born 100 years ago.

PERMANENTLY MISSING
BURLINGTON, N. C. — It's doubtful part of the cargo that fell from D. E. Riggins truck will be returned in a hurry. Among the missing items are 84 one-pound bags of coffee.

AFL Union to 'Boycott' City Of Redding

REDDING, Calif. — The AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union voted Saturday to "boycott" the city of Redding. Its 1,500 members were told to buy nothing here; to purchase, outside of the city, whatever they need.

This action was taken while the AFL Central Labor Council, of which the union is a member, was voting to seek public support of a resolution blaming the Shasta County Hotel and Restaurant Assn. for prolonging the 8-month strike against Redding cafes and hotels.

The dispute started over wages, but has gathered a number of corollary issues as time went on. Some of the places are picketed but all are operating.

Luther A. Sizemore Jr., labor council strike chairman, said the "stay out of Redding" campaign voted by Local 2608 of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union was intended to arouse community pressure toward strike settlement.

Sizemore said the local has 1,500 members working in the area between Cottonwood, 17 miles south of Redding, and Dunsmuir, 52 miles north.

McKay Tells Ways to Test Evaporation

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Interior McKay Saturday announced the development of two new methods of determining reservoir evaporation losses.

He said the alternate techniques, developed in years of research by Interior and Navy Department scientists and engineers, have been tested at Lake Mead, in Arizona and Nevada.

They showed close agreement, he said, and both confirmed previous estimates of water losses.

One method involved keeping an account of all incoming and outgoing heat energy, with the difference being that utilized for evaporation. The other required measurements of the water vapor leaving the reservoir surface.

"The new techniques permit the firming up of present estimates of loss of water stored in reservoirs by actual measurements," McKay said.

Undersecretary Ralph A. Tudor told newsmen the new techniques represent refinement of more or less crude procedures previously used.

Dewey Signs Protection Code For Witnesses

ALBANY, N. Y. — New York became a pioneer Saturday in legislation to prevent smearing of witnesses at state investigations.

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey signed an administration measure establishing a code of fair procedure that he said would protect witnesses and still preserve the government's right to "root out rascality or subversion."

The new law prohibits one-man investigations, except by single-member agencies, and allows persons whose reputations are attacked in testimony at public hearings to answer by taking the stand or filing a sworn statement for the record.

TEACHER PAY OLD PROBLEM
EAST HARTFORD, Conn. — A Committee looking into the history of the East Hartford School found that in 1839, the authorities approved this motion: "That Miss Stanley be obtained to teach school if she can be obtained at \$3 (three) a week. If not at that price, to empower the district committee to offer her 50 cents more per week."

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Juin Wants Frenchman to Replace Him

LE HAVRE, France — Marshal Alphonse Juin, ousted from his French military duties, said Saturday he would leave his NATO assignment only if he is certain a Frenchman is named to replace him.

Jun is Central European commander under Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, NATO commander in Europe. The marshal was ousted from high level defense advisory jobs two days ago in a midnight session of the French Cabinet. He had refused to meet Premier Joseph Laniel and Defense Minister Rene

Pléven at a designated hour to explain an earlier speech denouncing the European Defense Community Treaty support by the government.

If your coffee does not taste as good as you would like, it may be because you are not using your coffeemaker to its full capacity.

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• It's always straight talk when the top 5 auto editors describe new cars. It's all praise when they write about the 161 h.p. Mercury with ball-joint front suspension!

"HOT AS STRAIGHT TOBACCO ON THE ROCKS"—TOM McCAHILL, MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED—"The guy who buys a '54 Merc will be getting a really new car, not a warmed-over old one. Some of Merc's competitors are still peddling old fangled coupes and are overdue for a change. When these changes come, the buyers of these competitors will be as out-of-date as an Indian-head penny—and when he goes to trade in, they'll talk to him in pennies."

"161-HP PUSH, BUT DRINKS NO MORE GAS THAN BEFORE"—WILBUR SHAW, POPULAR SCIENCE—"When I drove the car on the evergreen-screened test track in Dearborn, Mich., and again on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, I was struck by the smoothness of the power pick-up as the accelerator went down."

"THIS CAR IS A KNOCKOUT!... AND REALLY EASY TO DRIVE"—WALT WORON, DON McDONALD, MOTOR TREND—"You'll like the 1954 Mercury, particularly if you like power that'll make you sit back in your seat when you stomp the throttle."

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