

Radford Says Russ Power Overestimated

By EDWIN B. HAAKINSON
WASHINGTON (AP) — Adm. Arthur W. Radford says there is a marked tendency in this country to overestimate the air power, missiles and other military strength of the Communists.

Radford, who holds the top military position as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, gave this testimony before the Senate's Air Power Investigating Subcommittee.

"There is good reason to believe that we normally overestimate the Communist capabilities in almost every respect," Radford said in closed door testimony made public by the subcommittee Tuesday after screening by the Pentagon.

Radford testified June 21, "I think we are in a dangerous position vis-a-vis the Communists in that respect today, because there has been an almost hysterical assumption of great capabilities on the part of the Communists, some of which, in my opinion, actually do not exist," he said.

Radford, chief military adviser to President Eisenhower and Secretary of Defense Wilson, stoutly defended the administration's defense policies.

He disagreed sharply with Sen. Symington (D-Mo.), chairman of the Senate group investigating relative U. S. and Soviet air power, and other Democrats who have been urging crash programs for stepping up production of the jet B-52 bombers and long range missiles.

Radford said new equipment would not bring the proper returns if there weren't qualified persons to operate them.

Instead of pouring more billions into additional B-52 long range jet bombers, Radford said "I would urge the Air Force to come up with a better airplane and I don't care whether it is medium or heavy (bomber)."

Holmes Asks Safeguards For Climbers

PORTLAND (AP) — State Sen. Robert D. Holmes Tuesday asked Oregon's Democratic congressional delegation to look into the possibility of a federal law aimed at preventing mountain climbing accidents.

Holmes, who is Democratic candidate for governor, said that forest rangers in the Mt. Hood area do not have authority to enforce safety precautions for climbers.

In telegrams to Sens. Morse and Neuberger and to Rep. Edith Green, Holmes urged that steps be taken to amend laws giving rangers enforcement authority, to avoid such tragedies as occurred last weekend at Mt. Hood.

In that accident 18 youthful climbers were injured and one was killed.

Timber Sales At \$25 Million On BLM Lands

PORTLAND (AP) — The Bureau of Land Management reported Tuesday that timber sales from Western Oregon O&C lands and Coos Bay Wagon Road lands totaled \$25,024,093 in the 1956 fiscal year.

Some 664,335,000 board feet of timber changed hands in 94 sales in the 12-month period. Sales in fiscal 1955 totaled 644,729,000 board feet and brought nearly 4 1/2 million dollars less, said Virgil T. Heath, BLM supervisor here.

The average price per thousand board feet increased from \$28.45 last year to \$37.64 in 1956, he said.

Of the timber sold, 337 sales were for 228,384,000 board feet of salvage timber with a value of \$8,795,837.

Oregon public domain lands under the supervision of the BLM produced \$792,942 in the sale of 27,993,000 board feet.

No Boost in Milk Prices Expected

PORTLAND (AP) — There are no present indications of a milk price increase this fall, but the situation could change, according to Will W. Henry, general manager of the Dairy Co-operative Assn.

He told a recent meeting of members that "a number of large producers are going out of production now or planning to do so by Oct. 1, and these conditions, coupled with a prolonged dry spell, could rapidly change the picture."

Henry reported that milk now is selling in the Vancouver-Longview, Wash., area for as low as 68 cents a gallon and 17 cents a quart. Higher prices prevail in the Portland milk shed.

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