

Candidates Ask Radio, TV Time Eisenhower Speech Starts Controversy

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Sen. Taft and Kefauver of Tennessee are among the candidates for the Republican presidential nomination, Tuesday. The senator from Ohio, who is battling with Eisenhower for the nomination, wrote the network that they are providing unprecedented coverage for Eisenhower's homecoming speech.

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Petitions Filed On Six Issues

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—(AP)—Several petitions have been filed with the State Election Board, asking for changes in the law governing the election of members of the State Senate.

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Forest Service Training Jumpers

Woods Fire Season Begins

By JOHN RAMPS
Associated Press Staff Writer
WASHINGTON—(AP)—The federal Forest Service is lining up 252 flying firemen for work on timber fires in the Northwest this summer.

About 150 of the smokejumpers, parachuting to fires in the wild mountain country, will work out of Missoula, Mont. The rest will be stationed at Intercity Airport, Wash.; Cave Junction, Ore.; and McCall and Idaho City, Idaho.

A few have been signed up and are training now. All are expected to be on the job by June 10, when colleges will be closed for the summer vacation.

They will include many college students—future foresters getting some practical training—and a few former Army paratroopers.

Ground crews, who find the going rough in the forests, have called the smokejumpers the glamor boys of the fire-fighting business because they travel to work in style.

But they are a rugged lot. They have to be rugged to get through the four-week training period required to get them ready for work.

They get along sessions of calisthenics and obstacle courses aimed at limbering and toughening muscles and developing legs.

One feature is the stockade, called a back-buster. The trainees' legs are tied below the knees to vertical stakes while he does raise-ups from a prone position.

Then there's the tower jump. Trainees leap daily from a tower while laden with fire-fighting equipment, simulating a parachute drop.

Dangling from a high boom, the trainees learn how to steer open parachutes and how to get loose when one hangs a tree and threatens to hang its wearer.

They make several actual parachute jumps, take many long hikes, and to some project work and fire fighting.

The SAFETY ANGLE is stressed in all lectures. This has paid off, because in the 11 years that smoke-jumpers have been used, not a man has been killed while jumping.

Twelve smokejumpers died in Mann Gulch near Helena, Mont., several years ago, but their deaths are not blamed on the jumping operation. Flames trapped them while they were fighting the fire several hours after they had hit the ground.

Since the crew foreman survived by burning an area and lying in it while the main fire roared around him, the use of escape fires for safety has become a training must.

There are other safety measures. Men are not dropped at elevations more than 8,000 feet above sea level; when winds are strong; when the plane is less than 1,000 feet above the ground; in heavy timber; or where cliffs, boulders or other hazards make a jump too dangerous.

Smokejumpers are paid a minimum of \$284 a month, compared with \$246 for ground crew members.

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Smog Good
LONDON—(AP)—A government scientist said Tuesday the horrible weather of the British Isles is a shield against burn injuries from atomic bombing.

Civil Defense Expert E. C. Allen explained that the burn effect which injured so many at Nagasaki and Hiroshima would be reduced by the near perpetual haze of mist and smoke over the North Kingdom.

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Moonshiners Do All Right

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(AP)—U. C. McKinney, chief of Jefferson County's alcohol beverages control office, can give you all the dope on moonshiners.

McKinney, who said he gets most of his information from paid informers, estimated that the average moonshiner profits about \$335 on 1,000 gallons of the "white lightning."

A still costs an average of \$125 to set up and may be located anywhere from abandoned mines to hog pens or even inside homes.

Some have radiators from automobile junk yards as condensers. Others use special copper coil condensers.

The cost is \$7 to \$8 a retail gallon or \$27 to \$28 for a five-gallon can, McKinney said.

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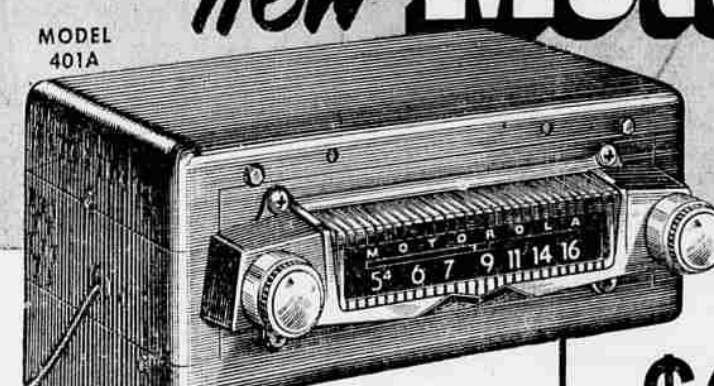
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