

Air Force Radios Draw Criticism

WASHINGTON (AP)—A House subcommittee reported Wednesday the Air Force ordered more than 100 million dollars worth of radio sets of an "untested model" which thus far has been "so unreliable as to be of no practical use." Some of the orders have since been cancelled.

The sharply critical report said that "during some periods of the Korean crisis numerous Air Force aircraft were without long-range radio equipment" because of Air Force reliance on the untested model.

The report was filed by a subcommittee on military operations headed by Rep. Riehlman (R-NY) and approved by the full Government Operations Committee.

The subcommittee said the Air Force first contracted with the Radio Corp. of America in December 1950 for 307 "revolutionary" long-range combination receiving-sending sets although the sets were still unproven.

CONTRACT EXPANDED

This contract later was expanded to call for 3,900 sets for spare parts at an estimated price 54 million dollars, the subcommittee said. As of last June 30, approximately 790 sets had been delivered. And, the subcommittee said, the Air Force now estimates that required redesigning will run the costs under this contract to 71 millions.

The subcommittee said despite serious and obvious defects in the sets, the Air Force entered into a second contract in April 1953 for 1,843 more sets at an estimated price of 38 million dollars. This second contract was cancelled three weeks ago.

UNJUSTIFIABLE

The congressmen said they would not criticize limited purchase of an untested model, to try to supply armed forces with the best of equipment. But they called the size of the first contract, and especially the letting of a second contract, "completely unjustifiable."

The subcommittee said the Air Force went into the second contract "when there were tested commercial sets of advanced design available at a fraction of the cost."

The subcommittee recommended a complete re-study of contracts for the long-range sets, and a similar study of other contracts for short-range sets including a new RCA-developed model.

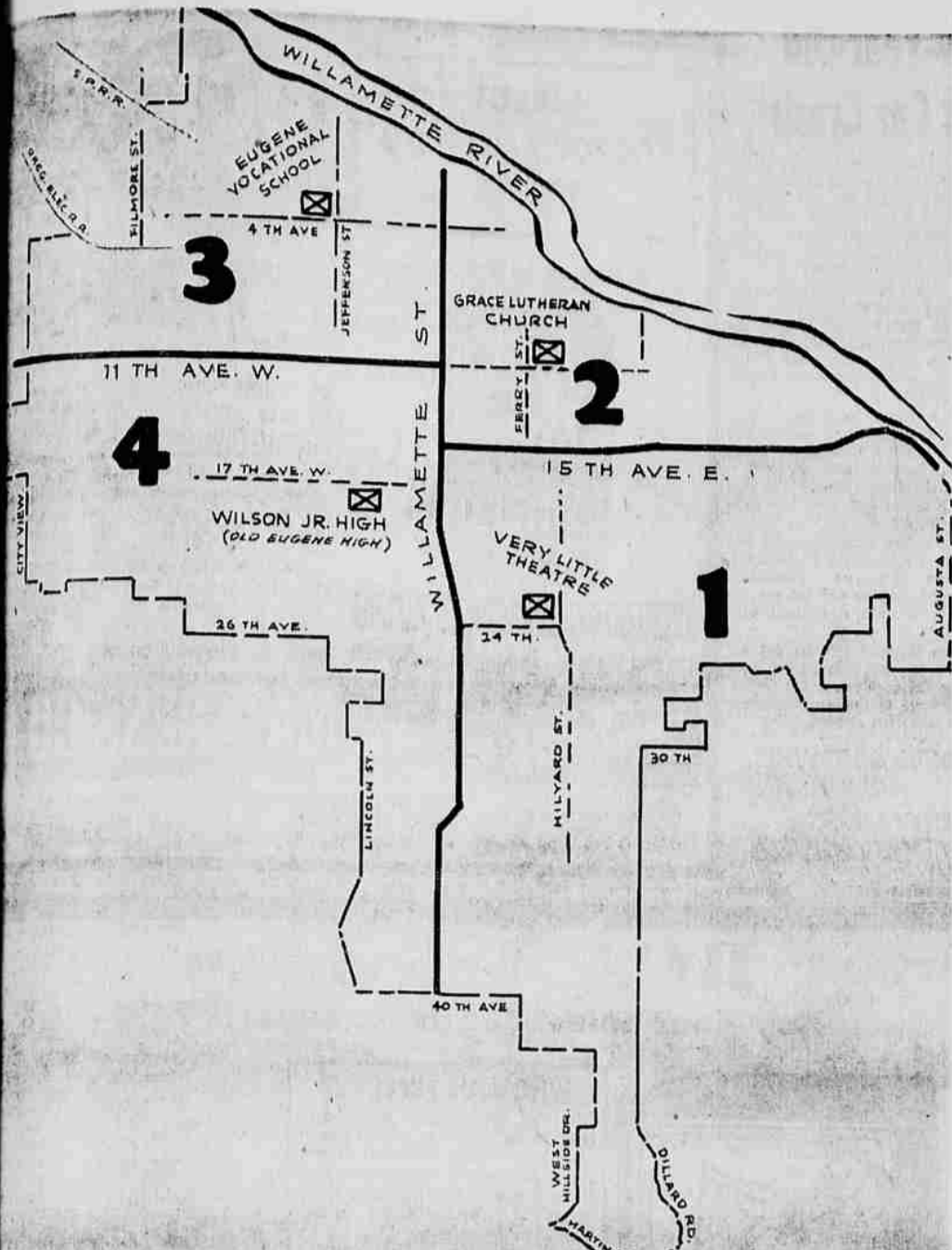
Sheet Metal Workers Continue Picket Lines

Striking sheet metal workers continued their picket lines Wednesday at sheet metal shops in the Eugene - Springfield area, following a breakdown in negotiations Tuesday.

The chief issue in the dispute centered on whether yearly contracts should expire July 1, as they have in the past, or on Jan. 1, as the contractors are asking. The union said about 60 men are on strike. Management estimated the number at 35.

CURFEW IMPOSED

BOMBAY (AP)—Bombay authorities imposed a dust-to-dawn curfew Wednesday after pitched street battles between police and rioting students in which 125 persons were injured. A policeman was reported killed.



divisions are shown in the above map. (Willshire engraving) Page 12A.)

EUGENE VOTERS ALSO will have to pass on whether sections of Bethel and the W. 11th Ave. section should come part of the city. Polling places and the ward

Protopians Praised

SOUL (AP)—Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, commander of U.N. troops in Korea, Wednesday praised the record of the 31st Airborne Infantry in a congratulatory message on the birthday of Emperor Haile Selassie.

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Bethel Topic Of Discussions

With the annexation election for Bethel scheduled for Friday, there still are three discussion meetings to go.

Two of them are Wednesday night.

The Lane County Fellowship for Civic Unity is sponsoring a forum at 8 p.m. Wednesday in the Unitarian Church, 11th Ave. and Ferry St. Panel members will be Howard Buford, planning consultant; Dr. A. Triolo, county health officer; The Rev. Herman Riley; and Councilman Ray Siegenthaler. The main topic will be the affect of the annexation upon the W. 11th Ave. section which is joined to Bethel in the annexation area.

The other two meetings are sponsored by the Bethel group which favors incorporation as a separate city (rather than joining Eugene). Their meetings, which will have speakers for their side as well as representatives of the pro-annexation group, will be at 8 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday nights in Willamette High School.

EX-OFFICIAL ILL

SAIGON, Indochina (AP)—Nguyen Huu Tri, who recently resigned as governor of northern Viet Nam, suffered an internal hemorrhage Wednesday. He was rushed to a military hospital, where his condition was considered critical.

Atomic Bill Action Pushed

WASHINGTON (AP)—Majority Leader Knowland (Calif.) called Wednesday for an around-the-clock session of the Senate, if necessary, to complete action on atomic legislation.

He punctuated his statement by directing the sergeant-at-arms to haul in cots from nearby cloakrooms and corridors for possible use.

"We're not going to have one or two votes. We're going to finish this bill if we have to stay all night to do it," Knowland said as the Senate began its eighth day of debate on the atomic bill.

Opponents of President Eisenhower's directive to the Atomic Energy Commission to sign a contract with a private utility group to supply power in the Tennessee Valley Authority informally agreed to a test vote on this key issue at a meeting late Tuesday night.

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