



(AP Wirephoto)

Dam Sites

This is the complex of power dams (boxed) and storage dams (underlined) on the Tennessee River and its tributaries through which the flow of water can be controlled to avert adding to flood conditions in the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. With a flood crest coming down the Ohio, the Tennessee Valley Authority Tuesday cut the Tennessee River flow from 350,000 cubic feet per second to 250,000 cubic feet per second. In 1958, 1960 and 1961, the Tennessee was stopped entirely to control flooding on the lower Ohio and the Mississippi.

TVA Juggles River Flows To Avert Flood Damage

By BOB HORTON
Of the Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Rain beats monotonously against a house in northern Alabama, on a tobacco field in southern Kentucky and down a gully in Tennessee.

From the farmer to the salaried man to the independent operator in the sand-hauling business along the Tennessee River, the questions are about the same—

How much is it going to rain? When is it going to quit?

What is the Tennessee Valley Authority doing about it?

No one can answer the first two with certainty. That complicates the answer to the third, which involves hours of tedious paperwork, split-second figuring by man and computer, perhaps hurried messages by microwave radio during the night, and juggling of waters behind more than two dozen dams.

The TVA that swirled with political controversy in the '30s today in the face of floods can shut off completely the Tennessee River where it enters the Ohio River at Paducah, Ky.

'We Fight Time'

One of its decision-makers is Alfred Cooper, chief of TVA's river control branch, who sums up his job: "We fight time."

If conditions call for it, white-haired, bespectacled Cooper twists the technical faucets that turn off the Tennessee.

The Tennessee was stopped dead in 1958, 1960 and 1961 to control flooding on the lower Ohio and down the Mississippi. TVA figures it has averted about \$31.5 million damages along those areas by regulating the Tennessee's flow.

At Chattanooga, Tenn., TVA

estimates it has prevented \$148 million in losses from 31 potentially damaging floods.

If Cooper has any simple formula for controlling a runaway river, it is this: Clear the mainstream of as much water as possible ahead of an expected flood crest, and hold back waters from the tributaries until the crest passes.

The hitch is deciding which of TVA's nine mainstream dams to open and which of its five major tributary dams to close, how much and for how long.

The answers are determined at TVA's 25-man flood control office beginning about 7:30 each morning, when a reproduction machine begins reeling out sheets filled with data on rainfall, reservoir elevations and discharges at each dam.

Critical Points Cited

Minutes later, a teletype begins spelling out forecasts from the Weather Bureau, where TVA pays the salaries of three meteorologists.

About 8:05 a.m., information begins pouring in from 10 area offices where field engineers have received reports from 200 rainfall stations and 43 stream gauges throughout the valley.

Armed with computations, Cooper and other experts huddle in the seventh floor of a TVA building in Knoxville to discuss where the critical flood points are.

After brief discussions, they decide to begin preliminary discharges to empty the mainstream for storage capacity. Orders go out to various dams to step up discharges by carefully calculated amounts.

With a new flood crest coming down the Ohio, TVA Tuesday curtailed the Tennessee flow from 350,000 cubic feet per

second—160 million gallons a minute—to 250,000 CFS. It may be cut to 200,000 CFS.

The idea is to slice the Tennessee flow to a minimum when the Ohio flood crest passes Paducah and then allow the Tennessee's pent-up water to flow in behind.

Project Studies To Be Completed

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Warren Magnuson, D-Wash., says design studies will be completed next August for construction of Lower Granite Lock and Dam 3½ miles above Almots, Wash., on the Snake River.

Brig. Gen. Jackson Graham, director of civil works for the Army Engineer Corps, told Magnuson the plan called for initial installation of three units producing 405,000 kilowatts.

Graham said the dam, 32 miles downstream from Lewiston, Idaho, would have a potential of six units or 810,000 kilowatts.

Personal Income Dips in February

WASHINGTON (AP)—Personal income declined in February, but government economists were not alarmed.

Analysts said the January income figure was swelled by a special GI insurance dividend payment which added \$3.5 billion to that month's total. Thus, at the seasonally adjusted rate, the normal February income really was \$2 billion greater than January, they said. The Commerce Department report said the February personal income figure was \$450.8 billion, compared to \$452.4 in January. Discounting the insurance dividend the January figure was \$448.8 billion.

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FEATURE TIMES

Thursday (Features Subject to Change)
FOX—Son of Flubber, 10:30 a.m., 2:15, 6, 9:30. Whistle Down the Wind, 12:20, 4:15, 8.
HEILIG—The Courtship of Eddie's Father, 1:40, 5:40, 9:30. The Password is Courage, 3:30, 7:30.
McDONALD—Two for the Seesaw, 1:45, 5:40, 9:40. Pressure Point, 3:05, 5:55, 10:40.

McKENZIE (Springfield)—40 Pounds of Trouble, 1:45, 5:30, 9:15. Escape From East Berlin, 3:30, 7:15.
NORTH END DRIVE IN—The Mating Game, 7, 10:30. The Horizontal Lieutenant, 8:30.
NEW EUGENE DRIVE IN (Glenwood)—The Courtship of Eddie's Father, 7:25, 11:45. The Password is Courage, 9:45.

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Plus "Escape from East Berlin"

FOX
Doors Open 10:00 A.M.
IT'S A BLAST!
Walt Disney
SON OF FLUBBER
CO-HIT
Haley Mills
"Whistle Down the Wind"

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Jack Lemmon and Lee Remick
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McDONALD
1020 WILLAMETTE
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"Days of Wine and Roses"
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