



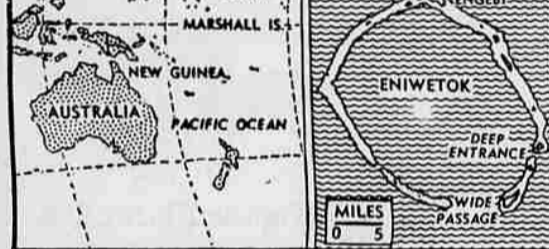
**Head Atomic Test Plan**—Lt. Gen. Elwood R. Quesda (top left), 45-year-old Air Force officer, will command Joint Task Force Three, charged with conducting new atomic weapons test at Eniwetok Atoll. His deputies will be Brig. Gen. John K. Gerhart (top right) of the Air Force; Brig. Gen. Herbert Loper (lower left) of the Army and Rear Adm. Tom B. Hill (lower right) of the Navy. Quesda led the Ninth Fighter Command in operations from England during World War II. It is expected that the new atomic weapons test will take place sometime next Spring. (AP Wirephoto)

The official announcement of the forthcoming tests, expected some time next spring, said nothing about the bomb designs which will undergo trial by explosion.

But physicists familiar with the nuclear principles involved in atomic bombs say the wartime weapons were extremely inefficient. Only a small fraction of their explosive contents actually went off. The rest was wasted.

The wartime designs were greatly improved in the years since Japan surrendered, and bombs "substantially" more powerful than the old models were tested at Eniwetok in 1948. Sen. Edwin C. Johnson, D., Colo., a member of the house-senate atomic energy committee, has said they were six times more potent than the "model T's" of 1945.

Since the 1948 tests the bomb design has been further perfected.



**New Atom Bomb Test Scheduled**—The defense department and atomic energy commission disclosed that a task force is now being organized which will test at Eniwetok in the Marshall Islands, probably next spring, at least three new atomic bombs expected to be a "major improvement" over the sensational weapons tried out there last year. Close-up of Eniwetok (bottom, right) shows the tiny atoll which is 5000 miles from San Francisco. Navy and air patrols are expected to clear the area—a region of ocean about 200 miles square—of all craft having no business there. Big map also shows Bikini where two atomic bombs were exploded in 1946. (Acme Telephoto)

**Salem Heights School Notes**

**By JOHN HARVEY**  
Geraldine Wellard, a fifth grader, won first prize for fifth graders on Station KOAC's "Land of Make Believe" program.  
The fifth grade had charge of the school bulletin board this week. They had displays of the United Nations.  
Arthur Graham and Sandra Stiles entered Mrs. Edwards' second and third grade class this week.  
Mrs. Green's first grade has started the book, "Home Is Fun." The children are bringing phonograph records for physical education class. Barry Bevers returned to school after having the chickenpox.  
The fourth grade is getting ready to give an assembly program.  
The school mothers club made 75 bean bags for the school. Each room will be given about nine.  
The fifth and sixth grades sold tickets for a concert at Leslie Junior high school November 3.  
About 15 boys, all fifth and sixth graders, turned out for the first basketball practice last Monday. The practice sessions are held at Liberty school gymnasium every Monday at 3:30 p.m., because Salem Heights school does not have a gymnasium.

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**Expect A-Bombs 10 Times Better**

Washington, Dec. 2 (AP)—Scientists believe the new A-bomb to be tested at Eniwetok may turn out to be 10 times more powerful than the wartime models.  
They figure that much improvement is feasible even without any material increase in the amount of atomic explosive used. The bombs that knocked Japan out of the war unleashed violence comparable to 20,000 tons of TNT. The new bombs therefore should be the equivalent of 200,000 tons of TNT.

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**WU Stage Manager Really Has Busy Time**

The Willamette University Workshop is being kept very busy by Rex Linkemood, who is the stage manager of the play "Our Town." The stage is very simple and there is no scenery, but there are many little things such as step units, ladders, etc. which have to be built.

His main duty is seeing that everything is on the stage at the right time, including the actors. Of course, the lack of time is one of Rex's main problems along with the transporting of equipment to the Salem high school auditorium.

Being stage manager for last year's May week-end play and on the crew for the play RUR has proved that Rex does have the experience this job requires. Rex expects "Our Town" to be the most dynamic production ever produced by the Willamette University players.

**NEEDLE-NOSED CRAFT TESTED**

**Douglas Skyrocket Scoots Through Race With Sound**

By FRANK TREMAINE  
Murco Dry Lake, Calif., Dec. 2 (AP)—The Douglas skyrocket zipped through a race with sound Thursday in a deck-level flight unofficially estimated in excess of 750 miles an hour. Test Pilot Gene May, a 45-year-old grandfather, whipped the supersonic speedster through two record passes over this desert dry lake.

A navy spokesman estimated the first pass, made on jet power alone, as "probably about equal to the present official world's record of 870 miles an hour."  
Then May turned on his four rocket engines to assist the jet for the next pass 30 feet off the ground.

Navy censorship prohibited an official speed estimate, but one research official said it was "safe to assume this was another supersonic flight."  
The speed of sound at Murco's 2200-foot altitude at today's temperature was estimated at 757 miles an hour. The navy announced last week that the Skyrocket "has repeatedly exceeded the speed of sound in level flight."

When the stocky little test pilot rolled his gleaming white, needle-nosed craft to a stop, he said he had held the plane wide open for about 10 seconds and the flight was "comparable" to his other supersonic flights.  
After making the first pass, May circled widely and approached the test course from about 20 miles out. About 14 miles away he fired the first rocket and the others followed one after another.

He swept into the course, banking slightly, then straightened out about 30 feet off the ground, and there was a quiet rumble as the plane approached the observation point.  
Then it flashed past with a thunderous roar.  
A 10-foot stream of flame spewed from its four rockets in the tail.

Within seconds May crossed the end of the lake and climbed steeply. In no time, he hit 13,000 feet, climbing to burn up the remainder of the ton and a half of rocket fuel which the plane consumes in 80 seconds.

"It was one of those everyday, routine things," May said as he climbed from the cockpit. "There was slight turbulence at the highest speed but that's all."  
It was problematical when the navy will release the planes exact top speed.  
There is an official reluctance to become involved in any possible dispute with the air force

**Uranium Ready For Experiments**

New York, Dec. 2 (AP)—Want to buy some uranium—not the atom bomb kind, of course?  
For \$50 a pound you'll be able to purchase some of the stuff, good for such uses as studying tiny objects with electronic microscopes and observing the way metals act at very low temperatures.

Two hundred pounds of uranium metal—not highly enough refined to be used for bomb making—will go on sale soon through regular commercial channels, the atomic energy commission announced last night.  
Wilbur E. Kelley, manager of the commission's New York operations, said "we are making this material available to assist and foster private research and development in the traditional manner by private institutions."  
The metal, to be produced by the Mallinckrodt Chemical Works, St. Louis, will be sold only to persons with licenses from the commission.

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**Bend to Get Health Session**

The Oregon association for health, physical education and recreation will hold its annual meeting in Bend December 9-10, the first to be held east of the Cascades.

Katherine M. Rahl, supervisor of health and physical education for the state department of education, said Claude Cook, supervisor of physical education in Bend public schools, is general chairman for the meeting, which will attract health and physical educators, administrators and recreation specialists from all parts of the state.  
Bill Bowerman, track coach

and member of the athletic department of University of Oregon, is president of the association. He has announced that the theme of the conference will be "human development and adjustment."  
Bend Superintendent of Schools James W. Bushong, representing the City School Superintendents Association of Oregon, will give "the superintendent's viewpoint on health and physical education."  
**Tops Century**  
Austin, Tex. (AP)—Dana X. Bible, University of Texas athletic director, is a member of the Sports Trail Century club, an organization which honors coaches who have won a hundred or more victories. Bible, in 34 years of coaching, won 209 games, lost 64 and tied 19.

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