

Lid of Secrecy Clamped On Guided Missile Base

Point Mugu Naval Air Missile Test Center, Calif., Apr. 15—(U.P.) The navy has slammed down the secrecy lid at this vast station where forerunners of submarine launched—and other guided missiles are being tested.

About the only definite information officers here will give out today is that they emphatically are not testing flying saucers.

However, some of the experiments indicated at least that true guided missiles are not just around the corner.

Strange Device

For example the Loon is one of the strange devices being launched from this Pacific-side base and tracked by radar stations on the Channel Islands. It is described here only as a "controlled buzz bomb," or American version of the German V-1, carrying about 3,000 pounds of test instruments.

Actually the Loon has a ramjet engine, will attain a speed of little more than half the speed of sound and probably travel for 100 miles. Its guidance system is called "command guidance," that is, it is tracked by radar and can obey simple commands from ground stations.

Low Intellect

High-ranking physicists regard this type of guidance system as having a "low order of intellect."

Another vehicle under test is the Lark, a pilotless aircraft which is boosted into the air by a rocket and is rocket propelled itself. This is called a ground-to-air type of vehicle. It is well over a year old.

The navy also is testing supersonic (faster than sound) ramjet vehicles which are prototypes of future long-range missiles. Five-hundred miles is considered long range.

Missiles Observed

Mugu, meaning "landing place," is a 4,200-acre tract where some 2,500 people—half civilians—half navy—are stationed. About 80 per cent are engaged in air missile work. Sheltering one side of the base is the Guadalupe mountain range on whose highest peak, 1500-foot Laguna, are radar stations for observing missiles.

Mugu is reported to be one of several missile test centers whose need is being re-studied by the defense department.

In any cutback in numbers of missile test centers, navy officers are expected to argue that

Mugu has these advantages: It is close to the California aircraft industry, being about 40 miles from Los Angeles; it is near communities where there are churches, schools and shipping facilities for its personnel; it has good weather; it has a string of islands where instruments are mounted to track missiles; and it is near adequate rail, air and water transportation.

YMCA Bond Issue Selling Rapidly; Tell Payment Plan

Tony Manno, president of the board of directors of the Medford YMCA, Saturday reported that \$19,000 worth of YMCA building bonds have been sold so far. More than one third of the \$45,000 issue was sold in the first 10 days, he said, and about \$4,000 worth since.

The bonds were issued to finance completion of the "Y's" big new building on Sixth street, Manno explained, and are in \$100 denominations.

In reply to some queries as to how amortization of the bond issue is planned, Manno said that each month \$250 is set aside as a "payment in lieu of rent," and is added to the bond retirement fund. This amount, totalling \$3,000 per year, will be sufficient to retire the bonds in less than the 20-year period.

The item is regularly budgeted, he said, in addition to ordinary operating costs. Funds for the operation of the "Y" are derived from membership dues, contributions and Community Chest aid.

The four per cent bonds are callable. Manno added, and are backed by the trust department of the Medford branch, United States National bank, which went into the venture as a strictly business proposition, Manno said.

Bonds may be purchased from any member of the board of directors, which is also serving as the bond sales committee. Ralph Cook is chairman of the committee, and Al Henke is treasurer.

School Funds Sent To Jackson County

Salem, Ore. Apr. 15—(U.P.)—Secretary of State Earl T. Newberry today announced distribution to Oregon counties of the state and county school funds totalling \$1,599,350.

This represents the second one-half apportionment of the state and county school fund for fiscal year 1949-50. The apportionment is computed at the rate of \$10 per capita on the basis of the number of children between the ages of 4 and 20 years within each county and the total number of such children within the entire state, as shown by the last school census.

Counties participating included: Jackson, \$73,250; Josephine, \$37,215; Klamath, \$65,455.

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Eugene Realtor Leader Of Dave Hoover Drive

Portland Ore. Apr. 15—(U.P.)—James A. Rodman, Eugene realtor and one-time chairman of the republican state central com-

mittee, said today he has accepted the post as state chairman of the Dave Hoover for Senator committee.

Hoover, who is a Lane county farmer, is opposing Incumbent Sen. Wayne Morse in the May 19 election.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads

Church Women Conclude Meetings at Corvallis

Corvallis, Ore., Apr. 15—(U.P.) The Oregon council of Church Women concluded its annual meeting Friday night by adopting a resolution urging more complete backing of the United

Nations as the best possibility for world peace.

The resolution asked all Oregon women to study the UN and learn more about how it functions.

Dead line on Classified Ads: 5:30 p.m. for following day; 10 a.m. Monday noon Saturday for Sunday & 2 a.m.

Seaside Resident Dies In Plunge of His Car

Seaside, Ore., Apr. 15—(U.P.)—Francis Benjamin Dooley, 28, Seaside, was killed late Friday when he lost control of his car and plunged over a 50-foot embankment about 18 miles east of

here on state highway number two.

State police reported Dooley's vehicle, a 1949 coupe, struck the rear of a sedan driven by Dale Hinkle, Portland, then dove over the side and struck a stump. The coupe was completely demolished.



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