

Red China Strengthening Jet Fighter Bases

Partisan Fight On Talent Irrigation Project Developing

Press dispatches from Washington, D.C., and Salem today revealed a growing partisan fight over the future of the Talent irrigation project in Jackson county. Both sides of the controversy, however, support the project.

In Washington, Congressman Harris Ellsworth (R-Ore.) said that Sen. Richard Neuberger (D-Ore.) was being "ignorant and ridiculous" when he charged earlier this week that the Eisenhower administration has "evidently abandoned interest" in the project.

Funds Seen Likely
The United Press reported Ellsworth as saying that the proposal is under active study in the budget bureau, and "it is likely" a request for construction funds "may be forwarded to Congress before too long."

Ellsworth was replying in an interview to Neuberger's charge on the Senate floor that the administration's failure to include funds for the Talent project "constitutes a betrayal of the people of southern Oregon."

Neuberger said Republicans had used the proposed project as a "come-on" to get votes during the election campaign last fall. Ellsworth said Neuberger had "injected politics" into the project, and this could adversely affect chances of congressional approval of construction funds.

Accuses Senator
He accused Neuberger of a "gross misstatement." Ellsworth noted that the budget does include \$352,000 for urgently needed rehabilitation work on the Medford and Rogue River Valley Irrigation districts, which is part of the project, and \$30,000 for planning work. He also pointed out that \$34,500 was allocated last year for preliminary work.

"This certainly doesn't indicate the project has been abandoned," he said. Ellsworth said the original budget request of Interior Secretary Douglas McKay called for \$2,000,000 for construction, but that it was eliminated by the bureau of the budget because that agency had insufficient time between passage of the Talent authorization late last session and printing of the budget to complete its independent examination of the project.

Further Data Needed
"In fact," the congressman was quoted as saying, "it decided some further data was needed, and so budgeted the \$30,000 for additional engineering."

From Salem it was learned that Gov. Paul Patterson, before leaving for Washington, D.C., Thursday, said one of the things he expects to do is get funds for the Talent project.

Patterson said he has been informed that one of the things which led to exclusion of funds was a stenographic error in the reclamation department, which made benefits of the project seem less than they are.

A second factor, he said, is that "one member of the Oregon delegation" has left the idea that there is no planning money, in an apparent reference to Senator Neuberger's statements. The governor said he has a letter from a White House staff member to the effect that money for continued planning is in the 1956 budget.

Patterson said he regrets that the project has become involved

in politics because representatives of the various states have a tendency to by-pass projects which become politically involved.

Also in Salem, State Sen. Gene L. Brown, Grants Pass Republican, challenged Senator Neuberger's criticism of the administration. Brown, a sharp critic of Neuberger during the election campaign last fall, said "Senator Neuberger is the true betrayer of faith of the citizens of southern Oregon. His repeated campaign assurances that his presence in the United States senate would assure the rapid development of the Talent project were knowingly and willfully made with the intent and purpose of futhering his political future."

Jack Hoffbuhr, manager of the Medford Irrigation district, and Glenn Jackson, Medford businessman who has spearheaded the long fight for the Talent project, are in Washington this week, seeking a supplementary budget request for construction funds.

Family's Personal Effects Destroyed By Fire in House

All personal effects of Mrs. Belle Akins and her four children, except the clothes they were wearing, were destroyed by fire yesterday. Their three-room home at 547 Effie st. was completely involved in flames, firemen reported.

Neighbors and friends were helping the family yesterday and this morning, and it was reported that bedding, including mattresses, clothing and dishes are needed by the family. Mrs. Akins is staying with a relative at 404 East California st., Jacksonville, and any donated materials or other aid may be taken directly to her. She said she would be most grateful for any help.

Stove Overheats
The children, Nancy, 12, Martha, 10, Bill, 9, and Frances, 6, had just returned from school when the fire broke out, at about 4:10 p.m. Firemen said it was caused from an overheated stove and spread from a concrete tile flue. Two trucks were sent to the blaze after several persons called in the alarm.

Mrs. Akins said this morning she hopes to find a small, inexpensive house on the east side soon so the children can be together again, and resume attendance at Roosevelt school. Her Jacksonville telephone number is 9-8153.

'Black Frost' Blamed For Missing Vessel

Reykjavik, Iceland — (U.P.) — Shipping authorities feared today the dreaded "black frost," an Arctic phenomenon that has killed 40 seamen, may have claimed more lives.

They reported that a fishing vessel is overdue and possibly lost in the icy storm that already has capsized two British trawlers.

Salem — (U.P.) — All roads except those closed for the winter were in good condition and no chains were needed, the State Highway Department said today.

Sams Valley Oil Possibilities Reported Drawing Attention of Major Companies

Sams Valley — It was revealed last night at a meeting of about 75 residents of the Sams Valley-Eagle area that two major oil companies, as well as a promotion group from San Jose, Calif., are interested in oil exploration in the area.

The companies are Shell Oil company and General Petroleum. It was stated that neither had done any work in the area as yet, but committee members stated they feel sure that if a "large enough property block were secured, a major oil company could be interested."

Many Oil Signs
There have long been signs of oil in the area, and several shallow wells have been dug, although no oil in commercial quantities has been found. Natural gas has come out of water wells in the area, and some mineral formations have led to the belief that it is an oil-bearing area.

A promotion firm, Natural Resources association of San Jose, has been investigating the area since last summer and is propos-

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Weather

FORECAST: Variable high cloudiness tonight and through Saturday afternoon. Increasing cloudiness Saturday night. Little temperature change. Low tonight 25. High Saturday 44.

Temp. _____

Highest Yesterday _____

Lowest This Morning _____

Attempt To Cope With Americans' Display of Might Communist Landing Craft Said Sunk

Taipei, Formosa — (U.P.) — Communist China has begun strengthening its jet fighter bases along the Kueikun "invasion coast" to cope with America's new display of aerial might. Nationalist Chinese sources said today.

U. S. Air Force F86 Sabrejets joined the 7th Fleet in patrolling the Formosa Straits as the Communists rushed men and materials into position opposite Nationalist-held offshore bases for one or more invasions that could come at any time.

Landing Craft Sunk
A Nationalist Air Force communique said fighter-bombers sank three Communist landing craft last night near Tachen, 200 miles north of Formosa, while Nationalist artillery on the island base bombarded Communist gun positions on captured Yikiangshan, eight miles to the north.

U. S. Ambassador Karl Rankin told a press conference today "I don't feel there is any danger of a great and important conflict will break out here."

"If we take a strong line—within reason and without provocation—the chances of avoiding war are better," he said. Evacuation Principle Agreed

High American officials said the Nationalists had agreed in principle to evacuation of the Tachens but the Americans and Chinese had not yet reached full agreement on when and how the evacuation should be conducted.

Morse Seeks Delay In O&C Regulations
Portland — (U.P.) — Sen. Wayne Morse, Oregon Independent, has asked Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay to delay proposed changes in O&C access road regulations, according to a lumber union spokesman.

A. F. Hartung, president of the CIO International Woodworkers of America, said he received a wire from Morse yesterday that he had requested the delay to enable the Senate committee on Interior and Insular Affairs to consider the matter.

CIO Woodworkers, AFL Lumber and Sawmill Workers, the Western Forest Industries association and some independent logging operations, who oppose the changes, have charged the new regulations would weaken competition for federal timber by favoring large operators already located on O&C timberlands.

Livestock Theft Case Nearing Conclusion

The case of the state vs. Robert Ellis Darrohn, 45, Star route, Trail, and a 16-year-old youth, was expected to go to the jury this afternoon. Attorneys started making their summations this morning.

The two are charged with stealing a calf owned by V. R. Mathews, route 1, box 650, Eagle Point, on Nov. 15, 1953. The trial was in its fourth day in circuit court today. Yesterday's defense witnesses included members of Darrohn's family. Two law enforcement officers were among those testifying for the state.

US, Britain Agree To Ask Red China To Meeting of UN

United Nations, N.Y. — (U.P.) — The United States and Britain have agreed to invite Red China to the United Nations in an attempt to arrange a cease fire for Formosa, it was learned today.

Authoritative sources said the two major Western powers have authorized New Zealand to make the formal proposal to the U.N. Security Council Monday.

In Moscow, British Ambassador Sir William Hayter called on Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov and urged that Russia use its good offices to persuade Red China to accept. He also asked Russia to advise Peiping to adopt a moderate attitude toward the Formosan crisis.

India was expected to be asked to play the role of intermediary in negotiations with the Red Chinese.

India's Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru was on his way to London today with what were believed to be Red China's terms for an agreement to end the dangerous clashes between Red and Nationalist Chinese forces in the Formosa area.

The Indian leader is armed with information obtained in a lengthy conference yesterday with Red China's ambassador, who had returned only 24 hours earlier from a four-month stay in Peiping.

Safety Awards Slated At Dinner Tonight

Awards for top achievements in the field of safety will be the annual meeting of the Medford presented here this evening at the annual meeting of the Medford safety council. The meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. in the Pioneer room of the Jackson hotel.

Institutional, industrial, and individual awards will be presented by Emerson T. Anderson, past chairman of the council. Featured speaker will be Capt. Walter Lansing, director of the traffic safety division of the Oregon secretary of state's office.

New council officers to be installed at the meeting are Allan Cameron, chairman; R. L. Palmer, vice - chairman; Aubrey Loper, secretary; Clyde Fichtner, treasurer, and Fred Robinson and Mrs. Carol Waltermire, directors.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES
New York — (U.P.) — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 404.68 up 2.08; 20 railroads 144.20 up 1.98; 15 utilities 61.88 off 0.45, and 65 stocks 49.58 up 0.84. Sales today were about 3,290,000 shares, compared with 3,500,000 shares traded yesterday.

Patronage Jobs Trouble Oregon Solons

US District Judge Appointment Gives Difficult Problem

Congressmen Study Faithful Workers

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington — Oregon's three Republican congressmen are having a collective headache over a new responsibility—dealing out patronage jobs—and one job in particular, U.S. district judge for Oregon.

The GOP congressmen are taking up where former Sen. Guy Cordon left off in the steady process of picking faithful party workers for vacant government jobs in which civil service regulations don't apply or can be successfully bypassed.

Judgeship Problem
The vacant judgeship has been a problem since last April, when President Eisenhower promoted Judge James Alger Fee from that position to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals at San Francisco.

Some months ago, it was agreed among the three top GOP officials of the state—State Chairman Ed Boehlke, National Committee Jess Gair and National Committeewoman Olive Cornett—that the man for the job was Ralph Holman, circuit judge of Oregon City.

This recommendation went up the line through the state officials to Cordon, who passed it on with his blessing to Attorney General Herbert Brownell. Eisenhower always takes his advice on judicial posts from Brownell.

Case Seen Embarrassing
But meanwhile, several Republican attorneys in Oregon observed that Judge Holman had handled a court matter in a manner that might lay him open to harsh criticism that would prove embarrassing to the party and to Holman. He had, in handling settlement of an estate, appointed the bailiff and the clerk of his court as appraisers, opening the way for them both to collect fees from the case.

So in December before Congress reconvened, the party leaders decided to drop Holman and substitute instead the names of several Oregon attorneys and one circuit judge who had each been backed individually by their county Republican chairman.

The circuit judge, William E. East of Eugene, immediately had the advantage on the bench, for Eisenhower and Brownell have said publicly they always prefer men with judicial experience for federal judgeships. It is noteworthy that Judge Fee won his appointment to the circuit court over on opposition candidate from Arizona who had no background on the bench; and that Eisenhower's latest appointee to the U. S. Supreme Court, John Marshall Harlan, is now a federal judge.

Decision Expected Soon
Having directed the F.B.I. to make the customary pre-appointment investigation of Judge East last week, the Justice Department is expected to make its decision within the next few days, permitting Eisenhower to send his appointment to the Senate very shortly.

The nine months' delay of the Republicans in filling the vacancy prompted Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) to urge Brownell this week to consider a Democrat, Edward C. Kelly, a Medford attorney.

Neuberger said he and Sen. Wayne Morse (Ind.-Ore.) had operated to the fullest by giving approval to a number of GOP-backed candidates for the past, including Holman, so there could be speedy Senate confirmation of the new judge after his appointment. Neuberger said he would even have agreed to vote to confirm former Sen. Cordon, "in spite of the recent bitter campaign between him and me in Oregon," if Cordon had taken the job himself after being defeated for re-election.

"Yet the court vacancy still hasn't been filled, to the detriment of orderly proceedings in our state," Neuberger wrote Brownell. "I think the time has come for Democrats to make a definite recommendation if the Republicans are unable to do so."

Woman in Hospital From Fight Hurts; Husband is Jailed

A Klamath Falls woman was in "fair" condition today following a fight with her husband south of Medford last night, according to hospital attendants and city police.

The woman, Mrs. Grace E. Pearce, 53, suffered severe head and facial injuries, attendants said. She was taken to Community hospital by Medford Ambulance service.

Downed Plane Said Moved From Scene in North Korea To Manchuria by Chinese

London — (U.P.) — A former British missionary said today a refugee Communist had told him the Chinese Reds moved the wreckage of an airplane from North Korea to Manchuria to fake the evidence against 11 imprisoned American airmen.

Saw Plane Carried
The ex-Communist, Douglas Hyde, said the missionary's informant was in the Yalu river border area at the time and saw the plane carried 50 miles by the Communists into Red China from North Korea, where it actually crashed.

A week after the crash the wreckage was photographed by the Communists as "evidence" to back up their spy charge against the airmen now held by the Peiping regime, said Hyde, a former editor of the London Daily Worker.

The missionary, now in London, would not allow his name to be revealed because he fears reprisals against members of his order who remain in Red China, Hyde said.

Visits To Prisoners In Red China Denied

Washington — (U.P.) — Possible Communist treachery and the threat of war in the Far East prevented the families of 17 imprisoned Americans from visiting them in Red China last night, officials said today.

The Chinese Communists offered to allow the visit, but Secretary of State John Foster Dulles barred acceptance Thursday night after long and careful consideration.

In letters to families, Dulles said the "increasingly belligerent attitude and actions of the Chinese Communists in recent days" forced the decision that passports could not be issued "for the time being" for travel to Red China.

Portland — (U.P.) — Retirement of Kenneth Wolfe from the U. S. Forest Service in Portland has been announced.



RAIDERS AND DEFENDERS — Nationalist Chinese fighter-bomber pilots receive last minute briefing from their squadron leader (right) on Formosa before taking off for raids against Communist Chinese ships and island invasion points along the China coast near Formosa (top photo). Nationalist Chinese Sabrejets (bottom) only recently turned over by the U.S., stand ready on airfield on Formosa to repel threatened Red Chinese aid raids. These jets are now being used to provide air cover in the evacuation of some 30,000 Nationalist troops and civilians from Red-threatened Tachen island.

Sharp Increase in Juvenile Cases Reported in County

A sharp increase in the number of juvenile arrests in Jackson county has been reported by juvenile authorities and Sheriff Howard Gault.

Some 15 cases now pending in juvenile court have been brought in since Sunday.

This total includes seven teenage girls who were to appear in circuit court's juvenile department this afternoon. They were picked up early Sunday following a beer party in Central Point. The youngest is 13.

Another group was picked up by city police. It includes several teenage boys arrested in connection with a series of thefts, most of them minor but one amounting to more than \$200. Most of the boys are about 13 years of age.