

Bombardier Describes Experience in Making Atomic Bomb Drop Over Nevada

Layer of Clouds Twice Interfered With Target Sight

Las Vegas—(U.P.)—Crewmen of the "Chuck Wagon," the giant B36 which dropped the first atom bomb of the 1955 test series, described today how they made three nerve-wracking runs before hitting their target through a hole in heavy cloud cover.

Bombardier Capt. Paul Eichenberg, 32, of Zanesville, O., said they were "trying awfully hard" to get rid of their deadly cargo, which was detonated at noon over Yucca Flats a week ago today.

Eichenberg was the only member of the 13-man crew to participate in an atomic drop before and he somewhat proudly revealed that he was dead on the 200-foot black bull's eye of the target site.

Delayed By Weather

The other crewmembers permitted to discuss the flight were Lt. Col. Eugene W. Cox, 32, of St. Louis, the plane commander; Maj. Fain H. Pool, 36, of Lawton, Okla., pilot; and 1st Lt. Jackie L. Harvey, 32, of Pine Bluff, Ark., the navigator.

The test was originally set for dawn but weather conditions forced repeated delays, and there was cloud cover over the test site all morning.

Eichenberg said that "as a safety precaution, we used both visual and radar devices to aim the weapon at the bull's eye target painted on what from the air looked like an asphalt parking lot."

Col. Cox added that the "Chuck Wagon" arrived at the target area and "went into an orbit like a race track calculated for 15 minute laps."

Two More Laps
Regulations ordered the bombardier to have the target in view for at least 90 seconds prior to the drop. A cloud layer twice interfered and the pilot made two more laps around the aerial race track.

"When the final run was made, the plane was in the drop position in slightly less than a second of the prescribed time," he said.

Cox said that Capt. Steven L. Bartalsky, Albuquerque, N.M., armed the atomic device about 30 seconds before it was dropped. The plane gave a heavy lurch when the bomb fell through the bomb bay doors, Cox said, and then was shaken by two distinct jolts when the device exploded.

Use Tribune Want Ads

Nixon Raps Former McCarthy Aides for USIS 'Red Book Hunt'

Panama City — (U.P.)—Vice President Richard M. Nixon, who yesterday rapped two former aides of Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy for their criticisms of the United States Overseas Information Services, today dedicates a new U. S. Information Service library in Panama.

Nixon said that the attacks on the program by Roy Cohn and G. Davis Schine following their widely-publicized "Red book hunt" through USIS libraries in Europe two years ago were undeserved.

Praises Libraries

The vice-president said that it was his impression, based on observations during his Far East

Auto Leaves Road; Portlander Killed

Portland — (U.P.)—Police said today a car which plunged over a 300-foot cliff on the old Columbia river highway and carried a Portland man to his death missed by only five feet a guard rail that might have prevented the tragedy.

The victim was Walmedar D. Updike, 37, whose body was found at the foot of the cliff near Crown Point in the wreckage of his 1936 model sedan.

Sheriff's officers place the time of the accident at about 4 a.m. yesterday but it wasn't discovered until about 11 a.m. when a State Highway department employee, James Bendy, saw the car below.

Peck, Hepburn Named Most Popular Stars

Hollywood — (U.P.)—Gregory Peck and Audrey Hepburn were named the most popular film stars in 50 different foreign foreign countries last night.

Miss Hepburn and Peck received "Henriettas" at an awards banquet sponsored jointly by the Foreign Press Association of Hollywood Correspondents Association. Honored as the world favorite film was "On The Waterfront."

NEW DEPUTY SHERIFF

Roy Green, Butte Falls, has been named a resident deputy sheriff for the Butte Falls area, according to Sheriff Howard Gault. Green, who is Butte Falls city marshal, will not be paid by the county.

CITY MANAGER DIES

Milwaukie, Ore.—(U.P.)—Fred J. Sperr, city manager of Milwaukie, died here last night. He had been ill for several months. Sperr, a native of Bavaria, was appointed mayor of post until 1952, when he was named city manager.

ern tour as well as his present swing through Central America, that the U. S. sponsored libraries were doing a good job.

He came out strongly in support of the program as an "essential" in the effective dissemination of information on the U. S. fight for peace.

Nixon said he would urge expansion of the program, especially in the establishment of libraries, "not propaganda mills."

Nixon gave his views to reporters while en route to Colon, Panama's second city, and a swing around the Panama Canal Zone yesterday. Panama is the vice-president's eighth stop on his 7500-mile good will tour.

Visits Leper Colony
Mrs. Nixon spent yesterday morning visiting the isolated Palo Seco leper colony on a windswept island off the Panama Coast. She was greeted by some 120 patients with native songs and dances. Many wore gay Mardi Gras costumes.

Mrs. Nixon ignored a fear of the disease that has existed since biblical times to shake hands and chat with a number of the lepers.

She was visibly moved when one wizened old woman shuffled up to her and said in Spanish: "You good king. Have in you all good qualities."

Nixon spent the last four hours of his official rounds at dinner and in conference with President Ricardo Arias of Panama at the presidential palace. He said they discussed "practical steps for the completion of the Pan-American Highway and how the U. S. Canal Zone can help solve Panama's unemployment problem."

Lebanon Singing Group Wins Gay Nineties Test

Forest Grove—(U.P.)—The Pinafour women's singing group of Lebanon took first place honors here last night in the first women's competition at the annual Gay Nineties song contest here.

Members of the group are Marge Thomas, Vangia Greig, Betty Lou Leonard and Jerry Mary.

Second place was won by the Key Notes of Pacific University at Forest Grove. Male quartets will be judged tonight.

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