

# 'Baby' Atomic Device Exploded in Nevada

MEDFORD JOURNAL TRIBUNE  
49th Year 18 Pages MEDFORD, OREGON, TUE' 35 Price 5c No. 295

## Missing British Atomic Scientist Said in Russia

Moscow —(U.P.)— Prof. Bruno Pontecorvo, the British atomic scientist who visited U. S. and Canadian atomic stations before he vanished in 1950, has been working in Russia for several years, the newspapers Izvestia and Pravda reported today.

Observers here said he probably was not in Moscow but more likely at some Russian equivalent of Britain's atomic research plant at Harwell, where he once worked as one of Britain's top scientists.

Pontecorvo, appeared both in the official Communist organ Pravda and the official government newspaper Izvestia.

Following world events with attention, I have become convinced that the imperialists of such countries as the United States and Britain have, despite the hopes of the peoples, entirely subordinated the discovery of atomic energy to the interest of preparing another war with the use of atomic and thermonuclear weapons and to achieve world domination.

## Israeli Troops Attack Egyptians In Fierce Battle

Cairo, Egypt —(U.P.)—The U. N. Mixed Armistice Commission said today Israeli troops made a "violent attack" last night against Egyptian troops in the Gaza area.

## Neuberger Write News Column About Happenings in Capitals

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
Mail Tribune Correspondent  
Washington —The Neuberger legislative team began publishing this week a news column called "Washington Report" which offered a famous bean soup recipe, tidbits about boy scouting, comment on pending legislation mixed liberally with criticism of the Eisenhower administration.

great question of war and peace, the educational problem remains the No. 1 issue before the Congress," Neuberger opened his first report to the voters.

trying to decide whether the recipe for brownies she received from a Medford housewife or that for "wonderfully-light rolls from a housewife in Madras" was the prize recipe she had received during last fall's election.

## Bob Duff Elected to Managers' Group Post

Robert A. Duff, Medford, Oregon's newest city manager, was elected to the board of directors of the Northwest City Managers' association at the conclusion of the second annual convention of the group in Astoria Monday, according to a United Press report.

## Subdivision Study Due Before Council

Medford's city council at a regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. today will hear planning commission reports relative to approval of two subdivisions adjacent to the city, according to Vernon Thorpe, director of public works.

## Appeal on Local Case Set by Supreme Court

The case of Walter Pirkey, 42, Central Point, will be argued before the Oregon supreme court in Salem tomorrow by District Attorney Walter Nunley and Medford Attorney Edward C. Kelly.

## Northwest Checks Damage by Storm

Portland —(U.P.)— Pacific Northwest residents were estimating the damage caused by a fierce storm yesterday that buffeted Oregon and Washington.

## Elks Leadership, Activities Contest Winners Announced

Mildred Gail, Crater High school student, and Frank Bash, of Medford High school, have been named winners of the Medford Elks lodge Youth Leadership and Activities contest, it was announced today by Frank Hussong, exalted ruler.

## Elks Leadership, Activities Contest Winners Announced

tion in the contest include all senior students in high schools within the jurisdictional area of the Medford Elks lodge. The schools include Medford, Jacksonville, Phoenix, Eagle Point, Prospect, Butte Falls, and Crater of Central Point.

## Voters' Names Taken Off Registration List

More than 3,240 names have been tentatively removed from the list of registered voters in Jackson county courthouse because of failure to vote, death, or for other similar reasons, Mrs. Bereth Hopkins, county clerk, said today.

## More Than 600 Dog Licenses Sold Monday

More than 600 dog licenses were sold yesterday in the Jackson county clerk's office, according to Mrs. Bereth Hopkins, county clerk.

## Elks Leadership, Activities Contest Winners Announced

Miss Gail is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Gail, Gold Hill, and Frank Bash is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Bash, 1325 Bund st., Medford. Both winners will receive \$50 bonds.

## Elks Leadership, Activities Contest Winners Announced

The records of the two first place winners will be forwarded to the Oregon State Elks association for state judging, and state winners' records will go to the National Elks Foundation for judging on a national level.

## Elks Leadership, Activities Contest Winners Announced

Portland —(U.P.)— The Portland school board has approved a \$5,500,000 building program for 1955 and 1956.

## Elks Leadership, Activities Contest Winners Announced

Washington —(U.P.)— President Eisenhower will hold a news conference at 7:30 a.m. (PST) tomorrow.

Weather  
FORECAST: Mostly cloudy with a few scattered showers tonight and Wednesday. Low near 33; high Wednesday 46.  
Highest Yesterday Temp. 49  
Lowest this Morning Temp. 40  
Prec. to 10 a.m. Today, Trace

## Stratojet Bomber Rams Into Homes; Five Persons Die

Lake Charles, La. —(U.P.)—A crippled B47 Stratojet bomber, on a radar guided emergency approach to its fogged-in base, crashed and exploded into five houses and several trailer homes late last night.

The six jet bomber, with one jet dead, struck power and communication lines, cut a swath through the top of a pine forest, crashed to earth at the edge of a line of trees and skidded about 60 yards before exploding.



TIGHTEN BELTS—Chinese Reds have ringed Quemoy Island with Soviet-built artillery that can reach every corner of this heavily-defended island outpost. Here, in photo made early this month, Nationalist soldiers dig trenches on Quemoy directly opposite a Red-held island only 2000 yards across open water.

## Alex Hamilton Gets Senate Page Job

Alex Hamilton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Moore Hamilton, 43 Rose ave., has been appointed by Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore) to serve as a page in the senate office building in Washington, D. C., according to the Oregon State College Daily Barometer.

## Congressional Salary Increase Sent To Ike

Washington —(U.P.)— The House passed and sent to the White House today a bill to raise congressional salaries to \$22,500 a year.

The legislation, previously approved by the Senate, gives lawmakers a 30 per cent pay raise. Their salaries were \$15,000 a year.

The House voted, on a roll call forced by Rep. H. R. Gross (Re-Ia.), was 224 to 113.

When President Eisenhower signs the legislation, the pay increase will be effective as of today.

It was the third time House members had voted on the politically touchy question of raising their own pay.

The measure was twice sent to a House-Senate conference committee before its present provisions were worked out. The new version eliminated earlier proposals for a \$1,250 tax-free expense account and five free round trips home per year.

Members of Congress now receive \$12,500 a year plus a taxable \$2,500 expense account and one government-paid trip home a year at the rate of 20 cents a mile.

The original compromise bill was approved by the House but rejected by the Senate last Friday. Many senators objected to the earlier provision for a tax-free expense account. They said they wanted all their pay taxable to avoid disguised pay raises.

House members, irked by Senate rejection of the tax-free expense account, then objected to increasing the number of free trips home.

The new salary scale, which would become effective today, also provides proportionate salary increases for federal judges and attorneys. Vice-President Richard M. Nixon and Speaker Sam Rayburn would have their salaries raised from \$40,000 a year to \$45,000.

Supreme Court justices would be raised from \$25,000 to \$35,000, lower court judges from \$15,000 to \$22,500 and higher court judges from \$17,500 to \$25,500.

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## Pre-Dawn Flash Declared Visible In Six States

39 Evaluations Conducted in Test

Mt. Charleston, Nev. —(U.P.)— A compact atomic test device packing all the explosive punch of the obsolete and bulky weapon that destroyed Hiroshima was detonated today during a mock bombing attack by U. S. fighter-bombers capable of carrying it.

So powerful was the device, described in advance by one Atomic Energy commission source as a "baby" bomb, that its pre-dawn flash was seen in a 1000-mile arc across six states, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, Arizona, California and Nevada.

Two hours after the blast shook the Nevada desert, the AEC officially described its potency as identical with the Washington's birthday shot last week.

That Feb. 22 explosion was never officially reported in terms of "yield."

But unofficial estimates by observers who have witnessed most or all of the 33 previous detonations here set it as equivalent of 20,000 tons of TNT or better. The Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs blasted with a force approximately 25,000 tons of TNT.

The description of the weapon as a "baby" by the AEC scientist prior to the blast and the official statement later led observers to believe the source was talking in terms of weapon bulk instead of yield.

The AEC never has revealed officially the yield of its test devices.

Today's test, the third of the 1955 nuclear experimental series was not only a practice bombing run for Air Force fighter-bombers. Thirty nine other evaluations were conducted with it.

Actually, the device was touched off atop a 300-foot tower at Yucca Flats inside the huge Nevada Proving grounds.

But minutes before the blast, eight F84 Thunderstreaks, equipped to carry the modern, compacted atomic bomb on their bellies, shot across the target at near-sonic speeds in a practice "pass" at a theoretical "invasion."

From this unofficial, off-site observation post atop Mt. Charleston, the blast appeared at least as large as, perhaps even larger than, the two previous shots.

Brig. Gen. Fred W. Sladen Jr., deputy exercise director, announced there were no casualties among the 600 troops, including 25 Marines, dug into trenches 4000 yards from "target zero" beneath the tower.

The AEC officially calculated the altitude of the mushroom cloud at 27,000-feet, some 20,000 feet less than the cloud caps of previous test shots have climbed. An icecap formed as usual atop the cloud at its peak height, the AEC said.

Observers in the control point blockhouse, 10 miles from the blast site, heard the blast as a "strong thump," but only a little noise was heard in Las Vegas, 75 miles southwest, and in communities such as St. George, Utah, some 150 miles distant.

Members of the press for the first time were permitted to fly into the atomic cloud. Fifteen minutes after the detonation, an Air Force B25 carrying five newsmen took off from nearby Indian Springs Air Force Base on a mission to track the atomic cloud and measure its radiation.

Flying at 10,000 feet, the B25 carried sensitive instruments to chart the radiation fallout and decay of the cloud. And newsmen on the five-hour flight were to get a dose of radiation, but far less than the permissible exposure for one day.

## Hawaiian Volcano, Silent For 180 Years, Spews Lava

Hilo, Hawaii —(U.P.)— A stream of molten lava from a long-dormant cone near Kilauea volcano spread its fiery fingers over valuable sugar cane land today, forcing 335 villagers to flee their homes lest they be trapped in the orange-red stream.

The evacuees were residents of Kapoho Village, which together with Pahoa and neighboring Kalapana villages, was declared a disaster area by Hawaii Island government officials.

All three villages lie within seven or eight miles of the streams of molten lava, moving slowly down a five mile gully towards the sea.

The lava came from the Pulena cinder cone, which broke 180 years of quiet yesterday with a spectacular eruption. Residents

said a 2 1/2 mile long fissure opened at the base of the 880-foot tall cone, part of the Kilauea volcano system 25 miles away.