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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
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Flight o' Time
Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30 and 40 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO
March 20, 1945
(It was Tuesday)
Three Medford high school basketball players...

20 YEARS AGO
March 20, 1935
(It was Wednesday)
Three to eight inches of snow blankets Rogue valley...

30 YEARS AGO
March 20, 1925
Frank Runtz pays fine of \$15 and costs for going 35 miles an hour in Medford.

40 YEARS AGO
March 20, 1915
(It was Saturday)
Sprague Riegler, Gold Hill, spends day in Medford on business.

Members of Gold Hill band enjoy "general jollification and banquet" tendered them by F. L. Eddings and Clyde Detherage.

What's the Answer?
(Can You Get 4 of the 7?)
Copr. 1955, Editorial Research Report

1. Gaza, new threat to peace, is in southeast Asia, Latin America, Formosa Strait, northwest Africa, or along the eastern Mediterranean?

2. The portrait on a \$10 bill is of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Hamilton or Coolidge?

3. Under the present reciprocal law, the President can abolish altogether the duty on an import; right or wrong?

4. For 50 years before the end of World War II Formosa belonged to China, Japan, Great Britain, France, or Russia?

5. Several Americans besides Bobby Jones have won the British open golf championship; right or wrong?

6. About 5,000, many more or many less than 5,000 bills were introduced in this Congress during its first two months?

7. Which of these U. S. lakes is largest: Champlain, Great Salt Lake, Okeechobee, Ponchartrain, Tahoe?

The Answers: 1. Along the eastern Mediterranean. 2. Hamilton. 3. Wrong. 4. To Japan. 5. Right. 6. More than 5,000. 7. Great Salt Lake.

Contract Signed for Centennial Survey
Portland — (U.P.) — Chairman James A. Mount of the governor's centennial committee said Saturday contract has been signed with Stanford Research Institute to make the first phase of an economic survey for a 1959 Oregon Centennial.

A finance committee has been carrying on a campaign through out the state to raise \$30,000 for a three-phase survey.

Cloves are hand-picked, the top branches being reached by long poles or from ladders.

"If F.D.R. Were Alive Today"

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt from far-off Europe says that if her husband were alive today the Yalta papers would never have been made public.

We usually agree with Mrs. Roosevelt in her judgment on such matters, but can't in this instance. If Franklin Delano Roosevelt were alive today it is safe to say he would NOT be President, and he would, one presumes, still be a Democrat.

THE release of these papers was plainly a Republican move, and as Senator Capehart, Republican from Indiana, remarked, promises to be a live issue in the 1956 campaign.

It was an issue in the last presidential campaign, and as Secretary Dulles declared, the argument promises to go on and on, "through the ages."

IF FORMER President Roosevelt were alive today however, there undoubtedly would be an answer to Messrs. Capehart and Dulles, as well as to those who claim President Roosevelt sold Chiang Kai-shek "down the river" and handed China over to the communists. And it would be an effective one, with, we have no doubt, plenty of documentary evidence to sustain it, and emotional fervor to drive it in.

NOT that even F.D.R. could deny that Stalin out-guessed and out-manuevered him at that meeting in the Crimea. Nor that the U.S. Intelligence service was bad, and the judgment of both the U.S. military advisers, and those of England, proved faulty.

But he could have shown, that he did under the circumstances what he believed at the time, to be best for the allied cause, and particularly for his own country, namely: get Russia into the war against Japan as SOON AS POSSIBLE, and thus hasten victory and the saving of a vast number of American lives, and uncounted treasure.

AS ONE reviews the past there is little doubt our late President could eloquently have revived and redrawn the picture, and even less doubt, that the decision he then made, if it had been presented to the American people at THAT time, would have been overwhelmingly upheld.

For there was no atom bomb then. There was no hope even in the highest political and military circles, that Germany would surrender in 90 days or Japan only a short time thereafter. The consensus was the war would go on probably for several months in Germany, and without Russian aid at a minimum for a year and a half in Japan. These papers show practically no one in high authority at that meeting believed otherwise.

In fact having no crystal ball handy how could any fair minded person have expected President Roosevelt, Sir Winston Churchill or anyone else to have foreseen the future and acted in accordance with facts not then known?

It is easy now to see what mistakes were made—serious ones—in view of what happened subsequently. But it is always so easy to be wise after the event, just as hindsight is always so much better and easier than foresight.

The latter incidentally is about all that Senator Capehart, and others on the partisan firing-line are proving by their claims that the former President was guilty of "a dangerous and unpardonable error." The implication is, because of that error, the Democrats should be beaten at the next election.

Well they may be. As far as this department is concerned we would place the odds at about two-to-one that President Eisenhower will again be the Republican candidate, and if so, will in all probability win.

But not because of Yalta. Not because of the mixture of old facts and new gossip, released without President Eisenhower's "ok" or knowledge, by his state department, at this particular time.

When the American people go to the polls next year we don't believe they are going to mark their ballots because of something that happened ten years ago, and good or bad, can't be altered now. They are going to vote for what has happened and hasn't happened during the past four years, and the Capeharts who are so jubilant over these Yalta disclosures, as sure-fire political ammunition for next year are, we fear, going to be very much disappointed.

WHILE in these papers nothing of great importance has been revealed, that was not known at least in well informed circles before—there are many stray items that will be eagerly seized upon by those interested more in facts than in politics, particularly by the contemporary historians.

There is the Alger Hiss case for example. Frequently it has been charged that Hiss was one of the conspirators responsible for the great Stalin victory at Yalta — the negro in the red woodpile as it were.

These papers indicate that aside from taking notes (in long hand moreover) Hiss had no more to do with shaping final policy than a score of other official stenographers. His one departure from this line was to outline before presentation the argument against Soviet Russia and its demands for three votes in the UN!—R.W.R.

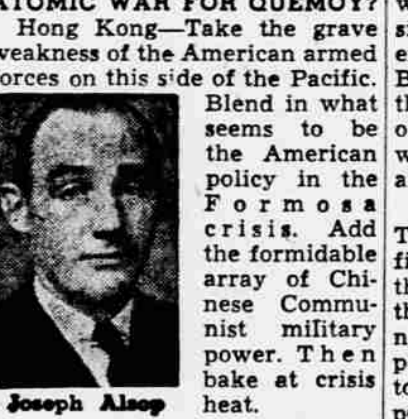
Portland Youth Killed In Car-Truck Accident
Vancouver, Wash.—(U.P.)—Clifford A. Clark, 17, Portland, was killed early Saturday in a car-truck collision 9 1/2 miles north of here on Highway 99, the state patrol reported.

Officer Jack Todd, who investigated, said Clark was north-bound when his car swerved into the path of a Consolidated Freightways truck driven by Lyman Munger, 47, Portland. He said Clark, who was alone, apparently was killed instantly.

Munger was taken to Good Samaritan hospital in Portland with a fractured kneecap and chest injuries. His condition was described as "satisfactory."

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop



ATOMIC WAR FOR QUOMOY? Hong Kong—Take the grave weakness of the American armed forces on this side of the Pacific. Blend in what seems to be the American policy in the Formosa crisis. Add the formidable array of Chinese Communist military power. Then bake at crisis heat.

What you get from this repellent recipe is the clear possibility, almost verging on the likelihood, that the United States will end by having to fight an atomic war for Formosa's offshore islands.

That is not the Eisenhower administration's intention, of course. The intention is to make a cease fire deal, or to teach the Communists to mind their manners in a "limited" fight. But the Administration's intention has less and less relation to the real drift of events.

It can be safely predicted that the Chinese Communists will not formally assent to a cease fire. In this city where the best information on Communist China is available, every competent authority, American, British and Chinese, also agrees that Peking means to attack the offshore islands this spring. Therefore, unless the National Security Council again reverses American policy, a fight for the offshore islands involving American forces is now in the cards.

In such a fight, the air battle will be crucial. A powerful Communist force is now massed for the air battle in the great Chinese airbase complex in Chekiang and Kiangsi provinces, as already described in this space. Have we, then, any assurance of beating this powerful Communist air force without using the absolute weapons?

An unhappy "no" is the only possible answer to this key question. No one can give any other answer, who knows the hard facts of our weakness.

Our only prospective allies, the Chinese Nationalists, have one unready group of F-86 fighters and one obsolete group of F-84s to match the very great Communist strength in jet aircraft. All the rest of the small Nationalist air force is composed of rotary engine types.

THE U. S. Far Eastern air force has some 500 planes less on its roster today than on the grim day when the Korean war began. Furthermore, it has no bombers whatever except for one group of B-36s on Guam. As they have atomic weapons, the B-36s cannot hit a fair sized county with conventional bombs.

Finally, there is the Seventh Fleet, with its total strength of six carriers and no replacements in sight. On the Seventh Fleet will fall—must fall—almost the whole burden of the air offensive. Refueled Air Force fighters may be used as bombers. But the main job of sweeping the enemy airfields, which is the only way to win the air battle, will have to be done by naval air.

That is the realistic situation. The Navy's leaders in the Pacific are strongly committed to the view that we must fight for the offshore islands. They do not want to discourage a bold policy. They profess to be able to do the job the situation imposes on them.

But history says it is a very risky business, to send in a carrier force against a strong land-based air force. In the present case, the risk is all the greater because the Communists are ready to use their Ilyushin-28 jet bombers, which are almost as fast as our carrier-borne fighters. Maybe the optimism of the admirals will be justified by the events. But common prudence demands preparedness for a different outcome.

This assessment of the situation is the real explanation of the recent, sensational Tokyo story reporting that high American authorities expected atomic war in a matter of weeks. The authorities in question were undoubtedly located in the Air Force.

The American air leaders in the Far East are no doubt somewhat prejudiced by the fact that they have virtually nothing to fight a war with, except atomic weapons. Airmen everywhere are also inclined to expect land-based air to win a contest with carrier aviation. The Air Force viewpoint must be discounted for these reasons.

YET however much you discount the Air Force viewpoint, it is still more closely in accord with the facts than the admirals' viewpoint. We simply have not got the forces available in the Far East to be even reasonably sure of winning a fight for the offshore islands with conventional weapons. The forces needed to give us a reasonable margin were sacrificed, long ago, to the budget and the tax structure.

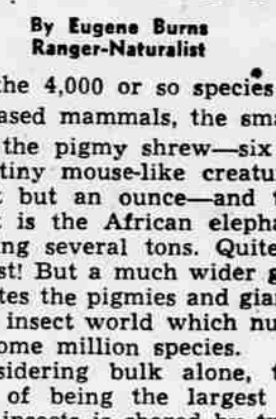
But if we enter the fight for the offshore islands, we must win at all costs. For if American forces are engaged and defeated, all Asia will regard the defeat as decisive proof of superior Communist power. And the sequel will then be total catastrophe throughout Asia.

Hence it is not hard to foresee what can too easily happen. If the fight for the islands goes against us, as it may well do, there will be only one sure way to win. Whatever may be the Administration's present intentions, the use of the atomic weapons can thus become unavoidable. And so our own weakness can end by plunging us into an atomic war for Quomooy and the Matsus.

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Is That So?

By Eugene Burns



Of the 4,000 or so species of land-based mammals, the smallest is the pigmy shrew—six of these tiny mouse-like creatures weigh but an ounce—and the largest is the African elephant weighing several tons. Quite a contrast! But a much wider gap separates the pigmies and giants of the insect world which numbers some million species.

Considering bulk alone, the honor of being the largest of living insects is shared by two: the African beetle and the elephant beetle of South America.

The latter measures more than four and one-half inches from tip of forward-projecting horn to extremity of abdomen. Of course, one shouldn't overlook the male Hercules beetle, also from South America, the latter measures more than four and one-half inches—but the huge pointed prong springing from its thorax makes up almost half of its length.

Among the scale-winged insects—not so bulky—the largest known is the Atlas moth of India, some trophies measuring 12 inches from tip to tip of extended forewings. But imposing as this may be, they are nearly equalled by the great owl moth which is not uncommon in many parts of South America.

Butterflies come smaller—yet the bird-winged butterflies of New Guinea and the adjacent islands are the largest and insofar as the males are concerned, surely the handsomest with their glossy green or orange or gold colors, however, are larger, exceeding their mates in wing expanse by an inch or more.

Although not quite as large as these beauties, many of the tropical American morpho butterflies are truly magnificent in both dimensions and coloring—varying in shades of lovely iridescent azure shot through with palest purple.

Among the bulkiest insects living, one must reckon with the giant waterbugs, gluttonous killers of fish, frogs, newts and other insects killing them by holding on with strong forelegs, driving in the deadly beak and sucking until the victim's last drop of blood has been extracted.

Although large waterbugs can be found in the U. S. and Canada, the true giants are found in Brazil, Guiana, and Trinidad where they come up to five inches—head to tail, with a wing expanse of almost seven inches, exceeding thereby the dimensions of some bats.

When sheer length is concerned, the most drawn-out insects are the "walking sticks." Some attain a length of nearly a foot from head to tail and if outstretched legs are included, the measurement is even greater. A remarkable prickly species from Australia is not only long and bulky but dangerous besides because of its kick—the spurs of its hindlegs may be driven into the flesh and cause a nasty wound.

Now, for the other end of the scale. As for the pigmies—again there are two competing for honors. One is a ladybird beetle. It barely measures 1/1000th of an inch in length—small enough to creep through the eye of an ordinary sewing needle.

Some Vastly Larger. In bygone ages, some insects may have been smaller—but this we know: some were vastly larger. For example a dragonfly belonging to the coal age has been found which measures two feet from tip to tip of its expanded wings. This compares with a present-day wingspread of six inches—a tropic South American species. However, another—a curiosity—exists in Panama. It has a 10-inch long body but its wing span does not exceed four.

The peculiar way in which insects take in air, quite likely limits their size. They have no "pumping" respiratory system, like mammals to furnish oxygen to all parts of the body. Air drifts into its body through tiny openings and circulates slowly by slight body expansions and contractions. With such a breathing system, any part of an insect body that was much more than a quarter of an inch or so from the nearest air intake would suffer from a lack of oxygen.

Doubtless this explains why large, rapidly-flying insects such as dragonflies have long narrow bodies—by this means alone their tissues are kept close to the surface.

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Free: By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best question on nature and wild-

POTLUCK

(By M-T Staff and Contributors)

A note and clipping from a Los Angeles newspaper, sent by Phil Sharp, former United Air Lines manager here and now UAL manager at San Diego, give further details of the troubles which have beset the former Medford resident, Ray Gilliland, since his marriage last May to Mrs. Elsinore Machris, 74-year-old oil millionaire.

Gilliland, who managed the fabulous Fur, Fish and Game farm near Prospect during his Medford stay, was sued for divorce last week. His bride of less than a year claimed he married her for her money, of which she has some \$15,000,000. Last January she filed a "friendly" suit for \$350,000 against Gilliland for loans which she said she had made to him since their marriage. The action was dropped a few days later, however, and they denied separation rumors at that time.

In the Forest Log, publication of the state board of forestry, a recent story talks about "maximum patrol assessments."

Do they mean minimum (an n for an x) or maximum (an a for an i)? Perhaps the assessments really were mixed up—in which case maximum may be just the word for it.

Staff member, tongue in cheek, comes up with the following, for no particular good reason: Mer-ci bo-coo

Has lost her shoe And My! does she deplore it. Leave it alone And it'll come home Wagging its tongue before it. (He should have known better, too.)

Sign seen pasted in the window of a car parked on a downtown Medford street: "Don't Louse Up the Works — Think!

David Holmes Jr., prominent southern Oregon orchardist, was speaking before the city council Thursday evening, and when he sat down he was questioned by Mayor Earl Miller.

No Army Disloyalty Found in Peress Case

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) said Saturday a week's hearings have shown no "motives of disloyalty" among army officers handling the case of former Maj. Irving Peress but "they bungled all the way along."

Ervin, a member of the Senate investigating subcommittee, said the mixup surrounding the military career of the New York dentist was "one of the best illustrations of how you can pass the buck in the army."

Abysmal Bungling. Sen. Karl E. Mundt (R-S.D.) said the way Peress was called to active duty, promoted and honorably discharged—all after refusing to fill out a loyalty form—"shows an abysmal amount of red tape and bungling."

But, Mundt told newsmen, "I'll be surprised if it ever develops that there was any Communist overlord who planned this."

Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.) charged last year that "a secret master in the Pentagon" was responsible for the Peress case. He demanded court-martial for all concerned.

Mundt, who presided over the Army-McCarthy hearings last spring, also said the renewed investigation so far has failed to

support McCarthy's charge that a meeting of high administration officials Jan. 21, 1954, was a "conspiracy" to block McCarthy's investigation of Peress.

Adams To Testify. He said that if Army Counselor John G. Adams, slated to be a witness Thursday, testifies the Peress case was not discussed at the meeting, there will be no need to question him about what did go on there.

Adams testified last year that the meeting discussed some of the Army's other troubles with McCarthy, but he did not mention the Peress case. Since then he has been quoted as saying he did not hear of Peress until three days later.

Air National Guard Called To Bring Off Lieutenant's Wedding. Houston, Tex.—(U.P.)—First Lt. Orla M. Patterson, Hoquiam, Wash., was married last night but they had to call out the Air National Guard to bring off the event.

Cupid got a jet-propelled assist on the deal but it still wasn't soon enough to meet an 8 p.m. deadline and the bride, 20-year-old Jere Diana Renschel, was left waiting at the altar for two hours.

"Did you say your name was Holmes — David Holmes?" Mayor Miller asked. "Yes," Holmes replied.

"I just can't believe it," Mayor Miller said. "In 1936 you were one of my Boy Scouts."

It couldn't happen—but it did. In last Sunday's paper was a picture with a group of people. The caption listed them—left to right—in correct order according to the original picture. But in the engraving they were in reverse order. (What had happened was that the negative of the print was backward when rephotographed on the zinc plate.) Never saw it before—hope never to see it again.

Another Oregon editor resigned his job the other day, and in commenting on it editorially he had this to say, which is a good description of the way many newspapermen feel:

We suppose to many people, the place where they work is merely that. It's some place they go each day to make money.

But to newspapermen the place where they work and the work they do is quite a bit more. A newspaper—all phases of it, from the typesetting machine to the clattering teletype—somehow becomes almost a living thing. Each day's issue is a new personality. Its front page will scream or it will whisper. Sometimes the stories of life and the living will all combine into something that skips gaily through the consciousness of the reader and sometimes it seems the paper slogs through swamps of sorrow and crime.

Each man who works on a newspaper has occasion to be ashamed of her black heart because it shows to the world how imperfect people can be. And, of course, there are many, many times when a newspaperman will be proud.

Whether it's pride, joy, shame or dejection which shows its face on the newstands each day, those of us who love newspapers never cease to think about them—and specifically about the paper to which we belong.

Communications. Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initials for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with an eye to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words.

Tribune Help Appreciated. To the Editor: In the recent religious census your newspaper contributed generous space to advertise both the census and to seek community cooperation. On behalf of the Medford Ministerial Association I express our sincere thanks to you. You were not only generous; your intelligent advice helped a great deal to make the census a success. Without your gift it would not have been possible for us to get necessary information into the homes of our community. We are grateful for your competent and willing service.

The Rev. Kenneth F. Korby, Chairman Religious Census Committee

Two Air Force Men Killed in Crash. Enid, Okla.—(U.P.)—Two Air Force officers were killed late Friday when a B26 bomber crashed on a farm and exploded. Names of the two victims were withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Air Force investigators from Vance Air Force Base here Saturday studied the scene of the wreckage on a farm 60 miles northwest of here.

The 67-mile long State-owned Belt Line Railroad serves the Port of San Francisco.