

Soviets Refuse To End 'Baby Blockade'

'Mud Bowl' Rains Drive About 5,000 People From Homes

Chicago — (U.P.)—Dust Bowl flood crests drove close to 5000 persons from their homes in a three-state area today, but broke the back of a five-year drought.

The Army, Red Cross, and state officials rushed emergency supplies of blankets, food, water and anti-typhoid vaccine to stricken areas in Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas.

Southeast Colorado, where a major dust storm raged just one month ago, was awash.

The rain swollen Purgatoire river drove hundreds of persons from their homes at Trinidad, Colo., and washed away six homes and a church.

1800 Persons Flee Homes

Seventy miles to the northeast, the Arkansas rived washed over its banks at La Junta, Colo. It forced 1800 persons from their homes and they spent the night in an abandoned World War II housing project.

States of emergency were declared in both Trinidad and La Junta and it was estimated that the Purgatoire and Arkansas floods had made 4000 persons homeless.

More flood waters drove 750 persons from their homes in Oklahoma, and the Red Cross fed more than 100 persons in rain-sodden Eastland, Tex., last night.

The flood waters came rolling down after days of torrential rains in the three states.

Mountain Runoffs Threaten

The downpours had stopped in Colorado, but mountain runoffs from the Sangre de Cristo Range of the Rockies threatened to spill five feet more of water into the Purgatoire in the next few days.

Flood threats also continued in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, although they appeared to be easing. The band of heavy rains had moved southeastward by early today and spread showers and thunderstorms from the Texas Panhandle, Southern Kansas, and Oklahoma through Arkansas and Louisiana.

Emergency supplies were pouring into the stricken areas today.

The loss of life was surprisingly low, despite the savage storms and fast spreading flood waters.

Western Proposal Draws Rejection At Berlin Meeting

Ambassadors Refer Matter To Governments

Berlin — (U.P.)—The Soviets today rejected Western proposals to lift Berlin's baby blockade and the three Western ambassadors announced they will refer the problem to their governments.

The ambassadors of the United States, Britain and France issued a communique after an unsuccessful four-hour meeting with Soviet envoy G. M. Pushkin.

Proposal Rejected

In it they said the Soviets rejected a Western proposal that the problem of exorbitant tolls levied by the Communists on truck traffic into Berlin should be referred to German experts for settlement.

The communique added that the Soviets maintained bluntly that the matter was "solely within the competence of the East German authorities."

The communique said Pushkin told the Western ambassadors the little blockade could be solved "only by direct discussions between West and East German authorities and did not fall within the scope of the four power agreement of 1949" which ended the earlier Berlin blockade.

Agreement Said Violated

The communique added that the three Western ambassadors then "decided to refer the problem to their governments."

It was the first time the Big Four envoys sat down together since the end of the 1948-1949 total blockade of Berlin. The West asserted today the new restrictions on supply trucks to Berlin violate the 1949 blockade-lifting agreement.

The "baby blockade" began on April 1 when the East German government increased 11-fold the road taxes on the trucks which bring in about half of Berlin's supplies. The West estimated the taxes will run to \$10,000,000 a year.

Threat of Bombing Here Thought To Be Hoax by City Police

A bombing threat, which turned out to be an apparent hoax, was made in Medford last night.

An unidentified man telephoned Brown's Cafe and Lounge, 101 East Main st., at about 7:05 p.m. yesterday. A thorough search of the building by Medford police failed to find any bomb.

The threat, the first reported in Medford, is the latest in a series of bombing hoaxes, threats and one actual bombing which have busied police authorities in Oregon and Washington in recent weeks. It started when a bomb exploded in Meier and Frank's Department store in Portland, in an apparent extortion attempt.

But since that time, most of the calls have been made by hoaxsters or those bearing grudges. The Meier and Frank incident was the only one where a bomb actually exploded.

DA Gives Warning

The threat brought a warning from District Attorney Walter Nunley that threatening the commission of a felony is itself a felony, punishable by a maximum of five years in the state penitentiary upon conviction.

Medford police said Ambrose Whitney (Spike) Lloyd, 36 South Stage rd., an employee at Brown's, received the call, and a male voice said "Brown's will be bombed at 11:00 o'clock."

Police immediately searched the cafe and lounge and Brown's Billiard parlor, 18 North Front st., but failed to find any bomb. They advised that the business close at 10 p.m., which it did.

Search Entire Building

Six officers then searched the building, including more than 30 offices upstairs. A guard was stationed at the cafe until 11:15 p.m. at which time it was taken off because officers came to believe that the threat was a hoax.

Police said Lloyd told them the voice was definitely a male voice, and sounded like an adult. Lloyd said he asked the person to repeat what he had said, and the person again replied "Brown's will be bombed at 11:00 o'clock."

Medford Again State's Warmest Yesterday

Medford was again Oregon's "hot spot" yesterday with an official high temperature reading of 88.

Clouds from a weak front moved in to hold the temperature down today, but a high of 84 is expected on Saturday. Maximum temperature anticipated this afternoon was 77 degrees, the Medford office of the weather bureau reported.

The local forecast of the bureau called for showers this evening but clearing tonight. Considerable cloudiness is foreseen for tomorrow morning with the weather becoming mostly fair by afternoon. Five-day forecast for western Oregon is for fair and warm weather through Sunday with partly cloudy skies and a little cooler temperatures through Wednesday.

High temperature at Grants Pass was 87 yesterday.

Portland — (U.P.)—Lois Wilson, 17-year-old brown-haired beauty from Cleveland high school, has been chosen as Portland's fourth Rose Festival princess.

School District's Budget OK'd, 7 to 1

Voters of School District 49 yesterday approved the district's 1955-56 budget by a margin of almost 7 to 1. The actual vote was 349 to 51.

The approval means that the school district, which includes all of Medford and some surrounding area, will be able to operate as in the past, and add teachers to staff the two new schools, the east side junior high school and Jefferson grade school, now nearing completion. Both will be ready when school opens in September.

The total budget calls for expenditure of \$1,758,934.39. The amount needing approval of the voters, because it was in excess of the limit allowed without an election, was \$822,449.58.

Hells Canyon Dam Decision Postponed

Washington — (U.P.)—A Senate Interior Subcommittee delayed a decision today on a bill to authorize a \$350,000,000 government dam in Hells Canyon on the Snake river at the Idaho-Oregon border.

Chairman Clinton P. Anderson (D-N.M.) said the bill was postponed to give subcommittee members a chance to study documents submitted in previous public hearings.

There also has been a delay, he said, in the printing of the record of public hearings, including those held in the Pacific Northwest. Anderson said he expects the subcommittee can meet to act on the bill within a week.

Tongue Point Naval Appropriation Approved

Washington — (U.P.)—The House Armed Services committee today approved an appropriation of \$92,000, as requested, for the Tongue Point naval station at Astoria, Ore.

Bulletin

United Nations — (U.P.)—Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav M. Molotov informed the United Nations today that he will attend the 10th anniversary session of the general assembly at San Francisco next month.

Planners Advise Early Annex Vote

The Medford planning commission in a special meeting this week recommended that an election for annexation be held as soon as possible.

The recommendation followed study of a preliminary report on annexation, in which it was stated that revenue from annexed property cannot be levied for a year unless it is included in the budget.

The commission said "in view of the urgent need of this annexation," it "recommends that the council take such action and hold such special meetings as may be required to accomplish an election for annexation prior to closing of the budget" for fiscal year 1955-56.

Mayor Earl Miller said the council probably would discuss the recommendation Tuesday night when it meets with the budget committee to discuss ways of balancing the proposed budget.

State Vaccine Plans Clear Last Hurdle

Portland — (U.P.)—One of the last hurdles to inauguration of Oregon's public Salk polio vaccination program was cleared today.

The State Board of Health announced it had received assurance from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis that "barring unforeseen circumstances" enough anti-polio vaccine would be available before June 30.

Dr. Harold Erickson, state health officer, said he received a telegram from the foundation's New York headquarters yesterday afternoon assuring him that the vaccine would be distributed as rapidly as additional lots are approved by the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Erickson said most Oregon counties planned to begin inoculating eligible school children next Monday.

Man Pleads Guilty To Taking Vehicle

Monte Louis Riddell, 22, of route 1, box 92, Eagle Point, pleaded guilty in circuit court this morning to a charge of using a motor vehicle without permission of the owner, according to the district attorney's office.

Riddell was charged with taking a Medford Corporation power wagon from Butte Falls Saturday. The wagon was found later where it had gone over an embankment about 15 miles from Butte Falls toward Fish lake.

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PMT Signs for Pay Boost



ONE THRILL IN A DAY OF THRILLS—The puzzle in this picture is: Who is having the most fun—the adults, or the eight kids from Forks of Salmon, Calif., who are watching a fireman slide down a brass pole for the first time? The stop at the fire department was only one in a long day of new experiences for the youngsters from the isolated Siskiyou county logging community. In the picture, from left to right, are Fire Chief Gordon Barker, Betty Purcell, 13; Rachel Bennett, 11; Police Sergeant Clyde Fichtner; Peggy Stanshaw, 12; Nellie Bennett, 12; Florence Kearney, 13; Mrs. Katherine George, school district clerk and mother of one of the children, who arranged the trip; Raymond Bennett, 13; Mrs. Bert Pree, representing the Chamber of Commerce; Butch Floyd, 10; Mrs. Del Brown, teacher at the 14-pupil school, and Hoop George, 12, son of Mrs. George. The blur at the right is Fireman Gene Williams scooting down the brass pole. —(Brainerd photo).

Forks of Salmon Youngsters Go Home, Thrilled and Tired

Eight youngsters from Forks of Salmon, Calif., went home late yesterday afternoon thrilled, excited and completely worn out, after the biggest day of their lives.

It was a day that was almost beyond the imagination of the average youngster.

From the time the eight, accompanied by two adults, arrived in Oregon, they saw things that they had never seen before and did things that many of them had never even dreamed of.

Welcome Surprises

They received a royal welcome from Medford residents, a welcome that appeared to surprise them as much as anything they say.

Despite the fact they were completely tired out when they left at about 5:30 p.m., the youngsters were hopefully looking forward to next year and the chance that they might be able to return to Medford.

And they promised that if Medford people would come to see them, they would give them the biggest picnic ever held in that remote section of western Siskiyou county.

They left Forks of Salmon by school bus at 4 a.m., Oregon time, yesterday. One of their first thrills in a day that was to be filled with them came at Lithia park in Ashland, where the youngsters saw their first monkey.

What Are Buildings?

Then, en route to Medford, they saw what for some was their first train. One of the youngsters

is quoted as asking "What are those buildings moving along?" when he saw the train going down the tracks.

After reaching Medford, they had their first milkshake. The youngsters had had ice cream before, but never a milkshake.

This was followed in rapid succession by a ride in fire and police cars, with the sirens going, to the Medford hotel, where they got their first elevator ride. A minor sensation at the hotel was a vacuum cleaner, the first they had ever seen.

From there, they went to the airport, taking in such unusual things as street lights, stop lights and "all those yellow cars" which turned out to be taxi cabs.

Go Through Plane

At the airport, they went through a big Southwest Airlines plane, guided by a pilot. The huge variety of instruments amazed the youngsters. The trip through the plane also was a first for the two adults accompanying the children.

On the way back into town, the youngsters made an unscheduled stop to see their first laundry, and were astounded by the fact that everybody in Medford doesn't do their own washing, the way they do at Forks of Salmon.

They had lunch at the Jackson hotel and then went to radio station KMED to record a broadcast, as they did later at radio station KYJC. The recorded programs were played back to them.

At KYJC they met a group of Medford Junior High school girls. The little visiting girls appeared to be more impressed by a group of small Medford youngsters with balloons and fancy hats, whom they saw at the television station, than they were by the overwhelming complexities of television itself.

During the afternoon, the girls visited Mann's Department store and the boys went to Sam's Sporting Goods store, where they had more time just to look in store windows.

The youngsters were accompanied during the day by Chamber of Commerce Manager Don McNeil, Barker, Mrs. Bert Pree, and Fichtner, all of whom reported they had as good a time as the youngsters.

Those making the trip were Hoop George, 12; Raymond Bennett, 13; Butch Floyd, 10; Betty Purcell, 13; Peggy Stanshaw, 12; Florence Kearney, 13; Nellie Bennett, 12; and Rachel Bennett, 11. They were accompanied by their teacher, Mrs. Del Brown, and Mrs. Kathryn George, Hoop's mother, who is clerk of the school district.

The youngsters are the older students in a school that has only 14 pupils. The trip was arranged by the Clarence George family of Forks of Salmon.

Action Brings First Break in Trucker Strike

Not All Drivers Of Company Affected

Los Angeles — (U.P.)—One of three struck long-haul trucking companies yielded to AFL Teamsters pay demands for some of its drivers today in the first break of a strike which had threatened to become a general industry shutdown in the West. A union spokesman called the settlement a "significant break" in the walkout which began yesterday.

Pacific Motor Transport agreed to grant the original 26-cent hourly pay boost over a three-year period to 250 drivers engaged in hauling new automobiles. The agreement did not affect other PMT drivers. Drivers affected get an immediate 10-cent raise and will receive 8-cent raises in each of the next two years.

"This shows what direction the strike is going," the union spokesman said. "Even the employers' association call for a general lockout because of the strike against three members hasn't been followed."

Companies Operating

The union claimed that "lots" of companies were operating despite the employers' association call for the shutdown.

The union said negotiations were continuing on a company by company basis. He predicted more settlements might be reached soon.

Effects of the strike, precipitated by a wage dispute between AFL Teamsters and employers, were felt immediately. More than 10,000 workers went off the job yesterday and the lockout was expected to bring the total to 150,000.

About 100 members of the Teamsters union in Jackson, Josephine and Douglas counties were off the job today as the strike against three major long haul trucking companies went into its second day.

The strike here involves West Coast, Consolidated and Pacific Motor Transport, according to Robert Shaw, business manager for Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Helpers Local Union No. 962.

Oregon - Nevada - California Fast Freight and Pierce Freight lines "have gone out on their own in what we call a 'lock-out,'" Shaw said.

Only Dry Freight The coast wide strike involves only the dry freight industry, including pickup and delivery and over-the-road hauling, Shaw said. He noted that the union is allowing drivers to deliver anything that was in transit at the time the strike was called at 8 a.m. yesterday.

The strike does not involve drivers for wholesale grocery houses, such as Mason Ehrman, Safeway and Pacific Fruit and Produce, Shaw said. He added that such things as necessary drugs, bread, government material and mail will be hauled.

Supporters of Dai Arrested in Saigon

Saigon, Indochina — (U.P.)—Premier Ngo Dinh Diem arrested several supporters of absentee Chief of State Bao Dai today on charges of plotting with rebel warlords to overthrow Free Viet Nam's American-backed government.

At the same time, French Commissioner General Paul Ely asked for his own recall in the wake of the bloody civil war he tried to prevent plus the departure of Gen. J. Lawton Collins, his American counterpart.

Government sources said that Diem has arrested at least four of his enemies.

Government sources said he arrests were for working in complicity with the Binh Xuyen rebels now entrenched south of the capital after having been driven out in bloody street fighting last month.

KILLS BEAR

Sams Valley — Lester James killed a black bear in his field near here last Friday. The yearling bear had been treed by James' dog. James saw the bear when he went out to quiet the dog, which had been barking.

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MAIL TRIBUNE Starting Today (See Page 5)

Armed Forces Day Flag Presentation Added to Activities

The presentation of an outside flag by Crater Lake post of Veterans of Foreign Wars to the Medford Civil Air patrol squadron at 1 p.m. Sunday has been added to activities on Armed Forces Day at municipal airport.

The presentation will be made in front of the CAP building at the airport. The building will open for public inspection and movies will be shown in the main assembly room.

A program, with Maj. Gen. William T. Hefley of Sacramento air materials area as principal speaker, will start at 1:40 p.m.

Aircraft Due

(Armed Forces Day activities will start at 9:30 a.m. Sunday when several aircraft from Oregon and California Air Force bases fly-over. Aircraft, military equipment and other displays are included in activities.

The Rogue Valley Amateur Radio club will send messages to service men from the north end of the CAP building.

Medford public works department crews today were constructing a bandstand on the concrete ramp just west of United Airlines fueling pit, and flag holders were being installed.

Evergreen Bus lines will furnish service to and from the airport between here and Camp White. Buses will leave Medford at 1:15 p.m. and Camp White at 1:40 p.m. to arrive at the airport between 1:30 and 2 p.m. Buses will leave the airport to Medford at 5:15 p.m. and to Camp White at 4:40 p.m. Sunday.

Log Truckers Reminded Of Saturday Hauling Ban

Log truckers of this area were reminded today that tomorrow afternoon is the last Saturday afternoon of the season when they will be permitted to haul logs on state highways.

A state highway department ruling, banning log trucks from the highways on Saturday afternoons during the tourist season, becomes effective after this week.

Log truckers also are prohibited from using the highways on May 30, Memorial day, under the ruling.

Weather

FORECAST: Showers this evening. Clearing tonight. Considerable cloudiness Saturday morning becoming mostly fair and a little warmer by afternoon. Low tonight 52. High Saturday 84. Temp. Highest Yesterday 88. Lowest this Morning 59.