

About 5,600 Portland Residents 'Die' in Mock Atomic Bombing of City

Pacific Coast Rocked by 'Devastation' As Mock Attacks 'Leave 617,600 Dead'

Santa Rosa, Calif.—(U.P.)—The Pacific coast "dug out" today from the make-believe devastation supposedly caused by atom bombs dropped on five western cities.

The mock raids yesterday left 1,500,000 casualties—617,600 dead and 863,100 injured in San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland. In addition, 2,065,500 were made homeless.

The attack represented the West Coast phase of the Civil Defense Administration's "Operation Alert, 1955." The 26-hour exercise was to end at 11 a.m. today.

Ten thousand Civil Defense workers throughout California took part in the exercise. Of that number, 300 were stationed at the CD's regional control center near Santa Rosa, which served as nerve center for the eight western states and Pacific territories.

The CD workers conducted the exercise on what they said was an accelerated time phasing scheme, in which a day of emergency operations was compressed into three hours, the 26 hours of the exercise covered roughly nine days of attack and post-attack operations.

Philip D. Batson, regional CD administrator, said the defense machinery ran "quite smoothly." The only problem CD officials had, he said, was maintaining contact with Hawaii, which was "also hit by a bomb."

While evacuations in the five cities supposedly bombed were carried out only on paper, two real evacuations were conducted at Travis Air Force base near Fairfield, and Castle Air Force base near Merced. A total of 12,000 people—mostly dependents—were involved.

At Travis, more than 2,000 persons, two-thirds of them children, climbed into 403 automo-

biles and "fled" to the town of Winters 22 miles away. There they had a picnic at the Winters High school, courtesy of the Air Force.

Civil Defense officials were disappointed at the results. They said only families living at or very near the field took part in the evacuation. The other, about two-thirds of the dependents' families, stayed behind.

CD officials also noted that the evacuees' cars were jammed bumper-to-bumper, despite the smallscale of the evacuation. They feared that a largescale evacuation might lead to fearful traffic jams.

At Castle, nearly 10,000 persons were conveyed 45 miles to Los Banos without incident.

The exercise at Castle was complicated by an unexpected command for dispersal of all aircraft stationed there. Nevertheless, the operation went smoothly.

CD officials released the following "attack" data:

San Francisco: Ground burst, 180,000 dead, 114,000 injured.

Oakland: Air burst; 59,000 dead, 42,000 injured.

Los Angeles: Three ground bursts; 357,000 dead, 681,000 injured.

Portland: Air burst; 5,600 dead, 7,500 injured.

Seattle: Air burst; 15,700 dead, 16,500 injured.

In addition, Honolulu was subjected to an air burst launched from a submarine. It supposedly killed 10,000 and injured 15,000.

CHANGES MIND ON PRAISE

London—(U.P.)—Former Defense Minister Emmanuel Shinwell was about to praise the post office for delivering a postcard addressed only to "Mr. Shinwell, England," when he turned it over. The message on the reverse side read: "Shut your big mouth."

7,500 Theoretically Injured; 42,500 Left Homeless

Portland—(U.P.)—Some 5600 Portland residents "died" on paper in yesterday's mock A-bombing of the city during national Civil Defense exercises.

CD officials, after an evaluation, today said another 7500 were theoretically injured and 42,000 were left homeless. Some 225,000 persons were able to "evacuate" the city.

The officials said 30,000 persons were theoretically left in Portland today, most of them doing emergency work. The "paper" bomb was "exploded" at 11:12 a.m. yesterday.

Simulated Emergency

An estimated 80 to 90 per cent of the population of Portland was evacuated before the mythical bomb was exploded. First evacuation signal was sounded at 8:17 a.m. A take-cover signal rang at 10:57.

Gov. Paul Patterson proclaimed a simulated state of emergency soon after the start of "Operation Alert," which took place in more than 50 of the nation's major cities. All food, medical and petroleum supplies were immediately "frozen."

Shortly after the proclamation, a mythical message was sent over Comelrad, the emergency radio hookup, directing medical personnel to give aid to wounded along evacuation routes.

Western Headquarters

On the Pacific Coast, the test took place in Seattle, Spokane, Portland, San Francisco, Oakland and Los Angeles. Santa Rosa, Calif., was western headquarters for the Civil Defense Administration.

If the public had participated in Portland's exercise, residents would have first gone to reception areas outside the city, and from there would have been sent to more remote areas.

For example, some 15,000 evacuees would have gone to the reception area at Scappoose. Of these, 7000 would be cared for in Columbia county and 8,000 in Clatsop county.

The reception area at Banks would get 52,000 evacuees with 20,000 going to Clatsop county; 13,000 to Tillamook county and 19,000 to Lincoln county. The Forest Grove reception area would handle 54,000 evacuees with 39,000 going to Coos county and 10,000 to Polk county. Yamhill County Gets 17,000.

Carlson would get 17,000 people for care in Yamhill county. Newberg would receive 33,000 with 23,000 going to Lane county and 10,000 to Yamhill county.

Another 44,000 would go to Brooks and be cared for in Marion county. Canby would get 46,000 with 28,000 to Lane county and 20,000 to Benton county. Another 64,000 would go to Molalla and be sent to Linn county. Still another 64,000 would go to Estacada and go to Lane and Douglas counties.

At the Sandy reception area, 96,000 would arrive and be sent to Jefferson, Clackamas, Deschutes, Crook, Klamath and Jackson counties. Some 50,000 would go to Hood River and be cared for in Hood River, Umatilla and Wasco counties. An estimated 15,000 persons would go to Woodland, Wash., for care in Cowlitz county.

Medford Rodeo Winner To Leave For State Contest

Robert Bobbett, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Bobbett, 1740 North Riverside ave., and top awards winner in the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce Teen-Age Rodeo driving contest held in May, will leave on an all expense paid trip to Portland tomorrow afternoon to participate in the state drive-off finals.

Art Van Leeuwen and Robert Bernardi, Medford Jaycee's, will also attend as hosts to Bobbett and to receive ideas and begin plans to have next year's state finals in Medford.

60 Contestants

Bobbett, a student of St. Mary's High school, will be among some 60 contestants representing 51 Jaycee chapters throughout the state of Oregon. He will participate in a written examination beginning Saturday morning at the Portland Speedway. Following the examinations will be the driving skill tests. He will attend the Awards Banquet that evening.

The Teamsters Union No. 162 of Portland is furnishing the merchandise awards, among them being a \$150 clock radio.

The winner of the state contest will join with other state representatives July 25 to 29 in Washington, D.C., to compete in the National Teen-Age Rodeo for \$3,000 in scholarships.

Flying Tigers in Air Despite Strike Action

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Officials of Flying Tiger Airlines claimed today they are operating as usual despite a strike of AFL Machinists.

A score of mechanics employed by the cargo airline at San Francisco International Airport walked off their jobs yesterday to back demands for a wage increase. The company had asked that wage talks be postponed for two or three months.

A company spokesman said Flying Tiger "is making other arrangements in order to maintain a full schedule." Headquarters of the company is in Burbank.

Logging Industry Employment Mounts

Portland—(U.P.)—The number of men employed in Oregon's logging industry increased 140.3 per cent between 1925 and 1953, the Lumbermen's Industrial Relations committee said today.

LIRC's research department said a recent study showed that during the same time period, timber industry employment decreased 17.9 per cent in the state of Washington.

Oregon's timber employment was 81,500 in 1953, compared to 33,914 in 1925. There were 52,400 loggers employed in Washington in 1953 and 63,829 in 1925.

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