

# Eisenhower Studies Progress, Mistakes Made in Government's 'Operation Alert'

Emergency White House—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower returned to the vaulted underground Pentagon today to review the progress—and the mistakes—of the government's three-day "Operation Alert."

As the nation's biggest civil defense exercise came to an end, the President was convinced that in the future, the job of moving the government from the prime atomic target area of Washington could be done much better.

His recommendations for improvement were to be transmitted today to Val J. Peterson, the civil defense administrator, and Arthur S. Flemming, director of the Office of Defense Mobilization.

**Searching Reappraisal**

The President, Peterson and Flemming arranged to meet at the underground Pentagon during the forenoon for a searching reappraisal of the evacuation exercise that sent Mr. Eisenhower

and 15,000 other key government workers scurrying out of the capital Wednesday to escape a mock atomic blitz.

After the meeting, Peterson and other government officials planned to return to Washington. Mr. Eisenhower, however, will spend the week end on his Gettysburg, Pa., farm, returning to Washington late Saturday.

On Monday, the President will fly to San Francisco to address the 10th anniversary meeting of the United Nations. Former President Truman also will be there, but he will not speak until Mr. Eisenhower has flown back to Washington.

The President's venture into an unusual peacetime world of armed secrecy had its somewhat paradoxical aspects. Reporters were under stern warning from the White House not to identify the President's whereabouts.

**Gettysburg Farm Dinner**

Yet, the President broke away

from his super-secret hideaway Thursday night to have dinner at the Gettysburg farm with his wife and her mother, Mrs. John S. Doud of Denver. It was permissible to say that he had dinner at Gettysburg. But it was distinctly forbidden to say where he slept Wednesday and Thursday nights.

The President and his staff learned a lot from his three-day evacuation exercise. Mr. Eisenhower confessed that he never knew there could be "such complications."

For one thing, he discovered that even under simulated wartime conditions of security, he could not "get away" from the public. As his big, black limousine whirred over country roads, smiling farm children chirped "hey Ike" as he went by.

Mr. Eisenhower also found that he had to move in a pack. Even when he went to a meeting of the National Security Council Thursday in the underground Pentagon, he was trailed to the cavernous front door by speeding carloads of reporters and photographers.

## Evacuation Test Seen Necessary In Civil Defense

Santa Rosa, Calif. — (U.P.) — Philip D. Batson, Federal Civil Defense chief for the West, hopes the next nationwide CD exercise will test evacuation plans.

Batson said yesterday that evacuation efforts during the first phase of "Operation Alert" Wednesday and Thursday saved lives on paper.

"But only a small number of city dwellers know which siren signal means 'Get out of town' or even which road to take," he said.

**Mass Panic Seen**

He emphasized that chaos and mass panic may result in a real alert unless people practice evacuation drills and gain confidence in their local CD organization.

Batson said Operation Alert brought out a "disturbing number" of examples of indifferent or poor planning and weak operations, as well as a number of examples of "excellent" coordination work.

He said the flow of messages was "spotty" at times and said more planning must go into Civil Defense as a result of weaknesses discovered in Operation Alert.

In the first 26 hours of the operation, five Pacific Coast cities — San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland — were theoretically blasted by atomic or thermonuclear weapons.

**Ability Tested**

The first phase of the operation ended yesterday morning after state and city civil defense directors secured their control centers. The second phase began immediately after.

In the second phase, nearly 50 federal agency offices and installations in the eight Western states and Hawaii tested the ability of the federal agencies to operate after an attack.

It was the first time key government activities have had an opportunity to appraise the realism and effectiveness of their plans to insure continuity of the most essential functions after an enemy attack.

## Guaranteed Wage Plan Won From Shipping Industry

New York — (U.P.) — The CIO won a guaranteed wage plan from the shipping industry last night ending a one-day strike of seamen against passenger and dry cargo lines.

The agreement still left at odds the National Maritime Union and representatives of tanker lines but brought a fast end to a threatened tieup of dry cargo and passenger ships.

**No Difficulty Seen**

Joseph Curran, president of the NMU, said his union still would support an unsettled strike of engineers and radiomen but Francis Greene, spokesman for the shipping operators, said "we do not anticipate any difficulty in settling the differences between the two remaining unions."

The shipping operators agreed to pay 25 cents a day into an unemployment fund for every seaman it employs. Unemployment benefits from the fund will not be paid for one year, during which time the fund will be allowed to build up.

The seamen passed up a virtually assured wage increase this year to win the principle of a guaranteed wage.

**To Work Out Details**

Under the agreement, the shipowners will supplement the state unemployment benefits of sailors thrown out of work. Curran said a joint union-company committee would work out

## Rationing of Money Included in Plans In Event of Bombing

Emergency U.S. News Center, (U.P.)—The government would expect to ration money, as well as food, and spend millions on emergency aid for evacuees if enemy planes ever rain atomic bombs on American cities.

Some idea of the plans came out of Operation Alert, the big three-day civil defense exercise drawing to a close today.

Those were some of the problems tackled by President Eisenhower and top government officials, who, for realism, worked

at 31 "emergency relocation" sites on the theory that Washington was among the 61 cities reduced to radioactive rubble by an imaginary "enemy" assault.

**Money To Refugees**

Probable rationing of money was mentioned by Treasury Secretary George M. Humphrey. He said one of the problems his department worked on during the exercise was "how to get money out to the refugees."

"All over the country you are going to have to try and ration out money . . . and try to keep anybody from getting an undue share, more than he is entitled to; to try to prevent hoarding, and to see that everybody is helped to get over this first hurdle," Humphrey said.

Humphrey said the government has enough reserve currency stashed away in apparently safe places to meet emergency needs for "a good many weeks."

**Imaginary Pleas**

Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, secretary of health, education and welfare, told how her department handled imaginary pleas for help from seven states and hypothetically "allocated" \$89,900,000 — to feed, clothe and shelter the presumed "evacuees."

Humphrey, Undersecretary of Agriculture True D. Morse and Mrs. Hobby held press conferences at an emergency federal news center set up to handle all news of the massive exercise.

The cavernous converted tobacco plant, located more than 100 miles from Washington, was also the release point for some so-called "regular" news of federal departments and agencies.

## Minister Keeps Vigil As Contact Man in Missing Judge Case

Wast Palm Beach, Fla. — (U.P.) — A minister who will serve as go-between in case a wealthy judge and his wife are held for ransom by kidnapers, kept a vigil by his telephone today for any hint of the couple's whereabouts.

Members of missing Judge C. E. Chillingworth's family last night asked that "persons who are in possession of positive information" about the judge and his wife contact the Rev. Harry H. Waller of the First Methodist Church here.

A total of \$16,500 in reward money had been posted by several groups.

The possibility that the Chillingworths had been kidnaped early Wednesday from their summer cottage was just one of several theories on which investigators were continuing to check.

"This still could be anything," said County Investigator John R. Hiatt. "It could be a kidnaping for ransom or carrying the couple away for revenge."

Judge Joseph S. White, a colleague of the missing jurist, believed it the work of possibly the same person involved in the abduction of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ferri who vanished under similar circumstances from their

blood-stained Miami home six weeks ago. Ferri had testified in the income tax evasion trial of New York gangster Albert Anastasia.

But Mrs. William Cooper, Roselle, N. J., daughter of the judge, said her parents had not been acquainted with the Ferri couple.

The 58-year-old judge, who had a dled only capital punishments, and his wife were discovered missing two days ago. Their house was found open and the beds unmade. A floodlight over the porch was shattered and drops of blood stained the porch steps and formed a crimson trail leading down to the ocean. Their wallets and other valuables in the cottage were undisturbed.

## Chemical Engineers Study Air Pollution

Berkeley, Calif. — (U.P.) — Chemical engineers from the Pacific Coast states gathered here today for discussions on air pollution and industrial waste disposal.

The symposium was sponsored by West Coast sections of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, including the northern California, southern California, Washington-Oregon and Columbia river sections.

The featured speaker was W. L. Faith, vice-president of the Air Pollution foundation at Los Angeles.

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## Wrong Prisoner Awarded \$112,290

New York — (U.P.) — Louis Hoffner, 41, said today freedom means more to him than \$122,290 he received as compensation for spending almost 12 years in prison for a murder he didn't commit.

Hoffner, a bachelor, was awarded the sum by a state Court of Claims yesterday for "loss of earnings, degradation, humiliation and mental anguish" he suffered in prison. He had asked for \$540,000.

Hoffner thanked Judge Frederick A. Young when the award was announced. "I feel awfully good that it's all over," he said. "I've got my freedom and that's the main thing."

Hoffner was convicted of the slaying of a Queens, N. Y., bartender in 1940 and sentenced to life imprisonment. The conviction was set aside on Nov. 10, 1952, by Queens County Judge Peter T. Farrell, following an intensive campaign by the New York World-Telegram and Sun, a Scripps-Howard newspaper.

Judge Young said yesterday that "inherent in this decision must be the fact that the district attorney's office had possession of evidence which, if known to defendant's counsel, would have prevented this tragic miscarriage of justice."

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