

President Asks Congress for Increased Funds for Flood Control

Better Storm Warnings, Help For Victims Asked

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower asked Congress today for increased funds to build more flood control projects, provide better storm warnings and give more help to victims of floods and hurricanes.

The President, in his budget message, specifically asked for money to:

1. Start construction on 18 new flood protection projects, 16 new flood control reservoirs and two new beach erosion projects.
2. Provide the Weather Bureau with more of the latest storm detection radar and equipment for hurricane and tornado studies.
3. Start a new \$3,000,000,000 federal-state flood indemnity program.

Immediate Aid Sought

The requests stemmed from last year's hurricane-spawned floods in the Northeast, devastating floods in the far West and tornado destruction elsewhere.

Mr. Eisenhower asked for an extra \$34,600,000 immediately in the current fiscal year for the Army engineers as the result of the floods in the Northeast.

The President also requested an immediate \$25,000,000 to replenish his depleted emergency disaster fund and for \$330,000 to review flood control plans in the Northeast.

For fiscal year 1957, which starts July 1, the President asked for \$194,200,000 for the Army engineers for flood control, an increase of \$42,600,000. That includes \$56,000,000 for the lower Mississippi river, an increase of \$4,000,000.

He requested \$1,025,000 for the engineers to continue their hurricane studies, an increase of \$30,000, and \$1,650,000 for flood control studies.

Expanding Service

The President requested a total of \$584,000,000 for the Army engineers, an increase of \$23,100,000. This included, besides flood control, \$100,900,000 for navigation projects and \$167,600,000 for multiple-purpose power and flood projects.

Mr. Eisenhower asked \$35,300,000 for the Weather Bureau, an increase of \$3,000,000 for operations which he said will include an expanded, intensive investigation of hurricanes and tornados.

He included \$100,000,000 in his budget to start a new federal-state program to help insure individuals against flood damage. The federal and state governments would join with private insurance companies to provide flood protection. As much as \$3,000,000,000 in insurance could be issued under administration measures already introduced in Congress.

Postal Increase Rejection Seen

Washington—(U.P.)—Budget Director Rowland R. Hughes indicated today that Congress will be asked again to increase the cost of mailing letters by one cent.

Congress last year rejected this and other administration requests for increased postal rates. The same fate seemed in store this year.

President Eisenhower is asking a \$350,000,000 increase in postal rates. Details were not spelled out in Mr. Eisenhower's budget message. But Hughes told a news conference that it would "be very much along the line of last year's proposal."

That called for increasing postage from three to four cents on regular letters and from six to seven cents on air-mail. Rates on second class mail (newspapers and magazines) would have been boosted 15 per cent last year and another 15 per cent this year. A 28 per cent increase would have been imposed on third class mail (circulars, advertising and similar material).

Home Economics Club To Meet Wednesday

Phoenix—The Home Economics club of Phoenix Grange will meet Wednesday, January 18, at 10 a.m. in the Grange hall. A pot luck dinner will be served at noon.

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Soil Bank Plan Not To Increase Spending, Budget Shows

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower proposed today to put his administration's new one billion dollar "soil bank" program into effect without increasing total spending by the Agriculture Department. The total would remain at \$3,600,000,000 a year.

The budget he sent Congress for fiscal 1957 was based on the expectation that the payments

farmers would get for taking land out of production would be offset by reduced government spending to buy surplus crops.

The theory was that the new two-phase soil bank plan, which the President outlined to Congress in a special message last Monday, would cut production enough to make this balance possible.

Today's budget message, covering the 12 months starting next July 1, indicated that only \$350,000,000 in new money would be spent on the soil bank plan. This would cover cash payments to farmers who put part of their acreage into a proposed new long term "conservation" reserve.

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Access Road Speedup Sought in Ike's Budget

Washington—(U.P.)—A speed up in construction of access roads in the Oregon & California grant lands in Oregon was sought today in President Eisenhower's budget.

A regular appropriation of \$4,500,000 was asked for fiscal 1957, compared with \$2,300,000 allowed this year, and the budget indicated another \$2,000,000 will be sought later.

The roads are built to "reach stands of otherwise inaccessible high quality timber," a budget statement said.

Another \$400,000,000 outlay, under the "emergency" phase of the soil bank plan, would take the form of certificates entitling the farmer to cash or kind for not growing wheat, cotton, corn or rice. These payments would be financed out of Commodity Credit Corp. existing stocks of surplus crops.

The remaining \$250,000,000 of the soil bank's estimated \$1,000,000,000 first year cost would be in payments to be made anyway under the government's long time agricultural conservation program.

Mr. Eisenhower recommended a fiscal 1957 spending budget of \$3,661,068,548 for the Agriculture department. The fiscal 1956 spending was \$3,652,751,913, only \$8,316,635 under fiscal 1957 estimates.

The President estimated the fiscal 1957 price support operations of the Commodity Credit

Corp. to stabilize farm prices and farm income would total \$1,423,437,665. The estimated total expenditure of CCC for fiscal 1956 was \$2,026,777,990.

Mr. Eisenhower called attention to a request for legislation to permit refunds of federal taxes on gasoline used in farm operations. He said these refunds would total \$60,000,000 annually.

Eisenhower's Increased Foreign Aid Request May Be in Trouble

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower, warning that "our very survival" may depend on strong allies, asked Congress today to increase foreign aid and keep it flowing for years to come.

His request was headed for trouble. It was contained in a budget message which made it plain that the lustre of the Geneva spirit has been tarnished by Russia's continued failure to give "any tangible evidence of an intention to agree on a plan of disarmament that can be verified by adequate inspection."

The absence of such evidence, Mr. Eisenhower said, means that the free world must be strengthened "to deter possible aggressors" and that impoverished areas must be helped economically "to preserve their independence against Communist threats and enticements."

Accordingly, the President proposed for fiscal 1957:

1. Spending \$4,300,000,000 in foreign aid—\$2,500,000,000 in direct military support and \$1,800,000,000 in economic and technical aid for free nations of the world. The total would be \$103,000,000 more than spent this fiscal year.
2. Appropriating \$4,900,000,000 in new funds, \$3,000,000,000 for military aid and \$1,860,000,000 for economic help. This would represent an increase of \$2,200,000,000 over the \$2,700,000,000 voted in fiscal 1956.

Airplane Traffic Funds in Budget

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower asked Congress today to appropriate \$40,000,000 for new air navigation and traffic control facilities to make the overcrowded airways safe.

He also disclosed in his budget message that federal grants to help local communities build airports will rise from \$15,000,000 this year to \$75,000,000 in fiscal 1957.

A government report last week warned that the danger of plane collisions on the "overloaded" airways has reached alarming proportions. It said passenger airliners are involved in an average of four near-collisions each day.

Mr. Eisenhower said the \$40,000,000 appropriation would enable the government to expand the traffic capacity of the airway system "by installing greatly improved air navigation and traffic control facilities."

On another aviation matter, he said government subsidy payments to commercial airlines will be reduced from \$58,000,000 to \$34,000,000, reflecting "rising profits of the carriers and continued vigilance . . . in keeping subsidy rates at the lowest possible level."

Little 'Brownout' Chance Seen in Northwest Area

Washington—(U.P.)—The Bonneville Power administration sees little chance of a power "brownout" in the Pacific Northwest this year.

The agency said in a statement in President Eisenhower's budget that streamflows in the Columbia basin have been above median.

Yuba City, Calif.—(U.P.)—The toll of known dead in the Yuba City flood disaster stood at 33 Saturday with the discovery of the body of Mrs. Bernice Specker Payne, 25, of Yuba City. The body of her daughter, Bernalee, 14-months, was found earlier.

Walter F. George, the influential chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations committee, told newsmen: "I can't see the advantage of putting up a neon sign a mile high saying, 'We got it. Come and get it.'" There were reports the plan may be dropped.

The spending and appropriation figures do not correspond because much of proposed 1957 spending would come from prior appropriations, and much of the 1957 appropriations would be spent in future years.

The appropriation proposal thus included the first installment on a new long-range aid program which Mr. Eisenhower said would assure "greater opportunity in providing economic assistance for developing projects and programs which we approve and which require a period of years for planning and completion."

This long-range feature, contemplating a possible outlay of \$1,000,000,000 in economic help over the next 10 years, was in trouble in Congress even before it got there. For example, Sen.

Long Range Program

Better Health Aim Of Budget Request

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower asked Congress today for an expanded \$411,000,000 federal program "to help the American people to enjoy better health."

His new budget called for a \$44,000,000 increase in spending in fiscal 1957 to provide more medical research, more hospitals, more free polio vaccine.

He described the expansion as "substantial, yet orderly." He said it is needed "to fill significant gaps in the nation's programs for promoting good health."

The budget called for a 28 per cent increase in spending for medical research, mainly on big killers like cancer and heart disease. It provided for a 17 per cent increase to help build new hospitals and an eight per cent increase to police the purity of foods and drugs.



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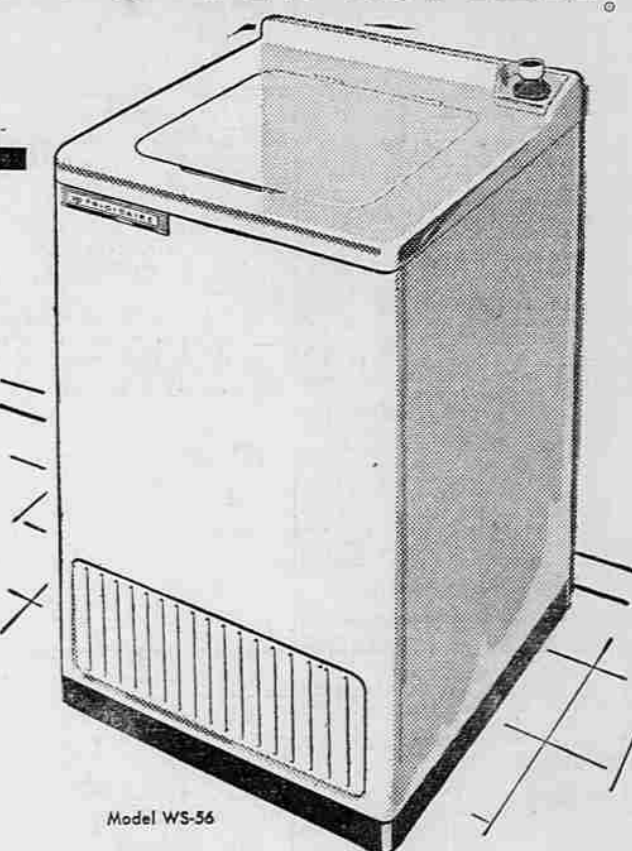
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