

SNAKE, DESCHUTES DAM PROJECTS HELD IN VIOLATION OF STATE LAW

Salem—(U.P.)—A possible new legal barrier faced dam projects on the Snake river and Oregon's Deschutes river today.

Robert Y. Thornton, Oregon's Democratic attorney general, issued an opinion holding that two private utility companies would be violating Oregon criminal law in proceeding to construct dams at Hells Canyon on the Snake and at the Pelton site on the Deschutes without a license from the State Hydroelectric Commission.

Idaho Power Company has a federal OK for construction in Hells Canyon as has Portland General Electric Company on the Deschutes.

Some officials saw the possibility of a long drawn-out legal battle which could go to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Penalties Listed.

Thornton's opinion was in a letter to State Rep. Robert J. Steward, Keating Democrat. The attorney general also sent letters to Robert F. Vaughan, Baker county district attorney, and to Warren H. Albright, Jefferson county district attorney, asking them to investigate reports that the two companies were actually engaged in building the dams.

Penalties for proceeding with construction without a license, Thornton said, were \$1000 fine or six months imprisonment, or both.

Thornton's letter to Steward said, in part: "Idaho Power, by seeking application for a preliminary permit from the hydroelectric commission of Oregon, has submitted itself to the state's jurisdiction. The company has asked the hydroelectric commission to approve this application and issue a license with the accompanying right to appropriate a certain quantity of water from the Snake river. In approving this application the Oregon Hydroelectric Commission must follow Oregon law and be governed by the mandatory limitations imposed therein, regardless of the rights and privileges granted under the federal power act, until otherwise determined by the Supreme Court of Oregon."

Thornton said that to his knowledge the commission had not waived any of the statutory requirements for a preliminary permit and added, "I advise you that the applicant, the Idaho Power Company, is in violation of the provisions of the Oregon law and subject to criminal penalties."

Thornton told Albright, the Jefferson county district attorney: "It appears that the Portland General Electric Company is proceeding to construct the Pelton dam without obtaining a license from the hydroelectric commission of Oregon. This appears to be a plain violation of the Oregon law."

Thornton said he has been studying the legal problems of the two companies since the U. S. Supreme Court upheld a federal license for Pelton dam.

Thomas E. Roach, president of Idaho Power, said his firm had been advised "by competent legal counsel" that the company "has done nothing that in any way conflicts with any applicable or overriding provisions of Oregon law."

"Idaho Power is proceeding with the construction of its Brownlee project under author-

ity of a federal license issued by the Federal Power Commission," he said.

Baker county officials, where jurisdiction of the Idaho Power case would lie in Oregon, forecast that the company would demur to any charge and take the case "all the way to the United States Supreme Court if necessary."

PGE Board Chairman Thomas W. Delzell declined to comment until company attorneys have time to study the ruling.

Foreign Policy To Move Off 'Center'

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower's decision to seek a second term will move foreign policy operations off "dead center" at a crucially important time, officials said today.

They also said the President's decision promised stability and continuity in American foreign policy during the coming months even though it is sure to be a campaign issue.

Officials frankly acknowledged that election year attacks and doubt as to whether the President would run frequently have caused indecision in foreign policy recently in the face of new Communist challenges.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles had no comment on the President's decision. But Dulles' big smile betrayed his true feelings.

Informants said foreign affairs played a big role in Mr. Eisenhower's decision to run.

They said the President wanted to continue pushing various foreign policy programs through Congress, the United Nations and other international agencies.

Also, they said, the President was "particularly disturbed" by Democratic charges that American foreign policy under his administration has been misguided and mishandled.

Japan's First Jet Squadron Formed

Tsuki, Japan—(U.P.)—Japan's first F86 Sabre jet combat squadron was formed today to the screaming accompaniment of its first eight jet fighters.

Watching proudly as the Sabre jets swept past with the blood red rising run insignia on their fuselages was Maj. Gen. Minoru Genda, a Japanese hero of World War II who was aboard the carrier Akagi for the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Genda is now commander of the fighter-interceptor training wing which came into being Dec. 1. He hopes to train pilots for 1300 planes by 1960.



FOLLOWING FLIGHT OF BALL, President Eisenhower has just taken practice swing before playing on Glen Arvin Country Club course at Thomasville, Ga. (International)

More Salk Vaccine Allotted to Oregon

Portland—(U.P.)—Another 3645 cc's of Salk vaccine have been allotted to Oregon, Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer, said today. Dr. Erickson said the additional will go into regular commercial channels.

The release, the second in five days announced for Oregon, will come with the Wyeth Company. It will be available to druggists and physicians as soon as ordered by pharmaceutical distributors.

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Mamie Joins Ike Following Message

Washington — (U.P.) — With outstretched hand, President Eisenhower last night placed "my Mamie" just where she will be in the campaign months ahead — by his side.

The public only got a glimpse of the first lady during the President's television talk. It came when, at Mr. Eisenhower's bidding she momentarily stood by his side before the cameras at the conclusion of the telecast. But earlier, Mrs. Eisenhower was giving the President moral support while sitting just out of camera range during his speech.

Her eyes never left his face. And when he finished and beckoned her to join him, she grasped his hand with a tremulous smile that gave away her feelings.

Yesterday, in response to a flood of inquiries for her reaction to the President's decision, Mrs. Eisenhower relayed to reporters that she would be at the President's side when he addressed the nation, just as she always has been. The President saw to it that she was.

Japanese Communists To Rewrite Platform

Tokyo — (U.P.) — The Japanese Communist Party said Wednesday it plans to rewrite its platform to conform with the resolution adopted by the 20th Soviet Communist congress in Moscow last week.

Party spokesman Itaru Yonehira said such militant phrases as "revolution by force" may be toned down to match the new ideas of peaceful coexistence and bloodless revolution.

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