

# Pentagon Considers Speedup in B52 Production To Overcome Soviet Lead

By CHARLES CORDDRY  
United Press Correspondent  
Washington — (U.P.) — The Pentagon is considering a major step-up in B-52 production to overcome Russia's admitted lead in heavy bomber output.

It was learned today that this government now accepts as fact that Russia is building more—perhaps twice as many—ultra-modern heavy jet bombers per month than the United States, which has always previously excelled in that field. While B-52 production is rising, presently forecast monthly rates for this country and Russia indicate the U.S. Air Force has virtually no chance of catching Russia without a speed-up.

The U. S. production rate is scheduled to reach a peak of 17 B-52s a month, about four times the current production. The Air Force is now considering the

possibility of a step-up to 25 or more a month and a substantial increase in the total numbers to be produced.

Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson acknowledged at a news

conference Tuesday that a production increase is getting "some consideration" in the Air Force. He also had had some hot retorts for Democratic criticism of the defense program

who have centered their fire on what they consider a lag in the guided missiles development.

On the eve of a Senate Armed Service subcommittee inquiry into the air-atomic and

missiles situation, Wilson had this comment for Chairman Stuart Symington (D-Mo.) — "I hope he finds he doesn't know as much as he thinks he does now." Symington declined to

comment on Wilson's observation.

## Defense Controversy

Wilson, in what looked like a direct slap at Sen. Henry H. Jackson (D-Wash.), and Symington, also asserted that there had been "too much emphasis" on guided missiles in the controversy over defense policies. On Feb. 1 Jackson said Russia might fire a 1,500-mile-range ballistic missile this year, upsetting the world power balance. Wilson said such a missile is "just one minor weapon," but he later told reporters to take out "minor" because it "might be misunderstood."

Wilson flew today to Ramey

Air Force Base, Puerto Rico, to join a secret conference of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Wilson said the joint chiefs are working on a new long-range military program to take into account

guided missiles and other new weapons. The relative strength of the United States and Russia in missiles and bombers were certain to be high on the chiefs' agenda.

## MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

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### Subscriptions for Mercy Flights Now Being Accepted

Subscriptions to Mercy Flights, Inc.'s pre-paid subscription service are now being accepted by six Medford business establishments, it was reported today.

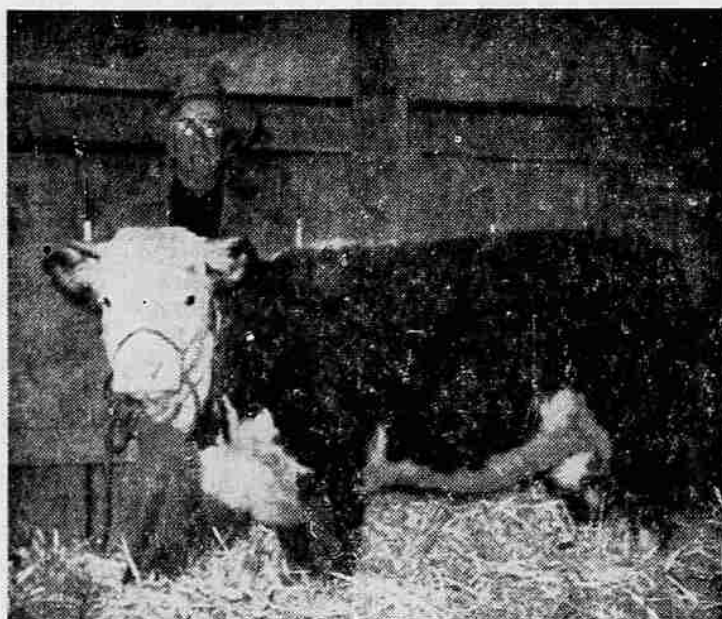
Subscription application forms are available in 11 other locations.

The subscriptions, costing \$4 per family unit and good for a year, entitle those covered to free emergency ambulance service within a radius of 400 miles. Mercy Flights officials point out, and to reduced rates for non-emergency air ambulance service.

The subscriptions constitute the bulk of the non-profit corporation's income, and enable it to keep operating for the benefit of those living in the counties of southern Oregon and northern California.

The firms which accept applications, all identified by large orange and black signs posted prominently, are Central Rexall Drug store, McClain's Drug center, Leonard's Flower shop, Medford Flower shop, Padgett Auto parts, and the T. J. Hight real estate office. Others plan to begin this service soon.

Application blank holders, constructed by Cecil Davis, one of the organizations' volunteer pilots, are located at Chuck Risse's and Earl Reed's Mobilgas service stations, Ada Bell's cafe, West Side pharmacy, Landis-Shangle studio, Johnson's Model bakery, Daley's U-Drive office at the airport, and Williams and Croucher garage.



**CAL-ORE AWARD** — J. W. Bigham, president of the Cal-Ore Hereford Breeders' association (above) shows FH Royal Countess 2, Hereford heifer which will be awarded to a 4-H or Future Farmers of America member at the annual Cal-Ore show March 14-15 at the Jackson county fairgrounds.

### 60 Hereford Cattle To Be In Cal-Ore Show, Auction

Sixty head of Hereford cattle will be offered for sale at the Cal-Ore Hereford Breeders' association show and sale March 14 and 15 at the Jackson county fair grounds.

Included will be 40 bulls, 20 heifers and six polled bulls, according to County Agricultural Agent Earle Jossy.

The stock show is scheduled for 1 p.m. March 14 and the sale at 11 a.m. March 15. Ellis White, Ontario, will be auctioneer and John Horton, Klamath Falls, judge.

A purebred Hereford heifer will be awarded by the association to a member of a 4-H club or a Smith Hughes agriculture class. Any active member of either group is eligible to register for the calf, Jossy said.

Last year's award, presented to Patsy Charley, was champion Hereford at the Jackson county

fair and won a blue ribbon at the state fair.

A sale catalogue is available by writing Cal-Ore, post office box 1069, Medford.

### Former Politburo Member Said Freed

Berlin — (U.P.) — Reports from East Berlin said today the Communists have released Paul Merker, a former Politburo member jailed on charges he took part in a Zionist anti-Soviet conspiracy.

Merker, top Communist and undersecretary in the East German agriculture ministry, was dropped from the Politburo and fired from his job in 1950.

He was arrested two years later after the trial and execution in Czechoslovakia of Rudolf Slansky.

### Dr. Schumacher Plans Jackson County Visit

Dr. Henry C. Schumacher, medical director, mental health service, San Francisco regional office, United States public health service, will visit the Jackson county public health department April 3, 4 and 5.

Dr. Schumacher will help in a study of mental health programs in the county and assist in planning future services, according to Dr. A. Erin Merkel, director of the public health department.

Miss Frances Williams, psy-

chiatric nurse consultant, and Raymond W. Craig, psychiatric social work consultant, will accompany Dr. Schumacher.

He will speak at a meeting of the Southern Oregon Child Guidance Clinic association.

Portland — (U.P.) — Thomas R. Mahoney, former Democratic state senator from Multnomah county, is a candidate for the Circuit Court judge position now held by Alfred P. Dobson.

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—Dwight D. Eisenhower

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Jacksonville, Perrydale	Luella S. Stine	Rt. 2, Box 424, Medford	3NO 4-1331
Applegate	Vivian B. Adams	Applegate	Provolt 2534
Howard, Central Point	John Chitwood	434 Berrydale, Medford	3-5120
Prospect, Eagle Point	DeLoss Barber	Trail, Oregon	3258
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