

Radioactive Fallout To Be Major Problem of Civil Defense Workers

Salem — Radioactive fallout will be a major problem facing Oregon civil defense workers during Operation Alert 1956 exercises July 20-21.

The exercise is being held on both sides by federal, state, county and city civil defense organizations and will be a simulation of an enemy attack upon 76 target areas, including Portland with nuclear weapons.

The fallout will result from an imaginary nuclear bomb dropped on Portland sometime Friday morning shortly after the exercise begins. From theoretical happenings will follow Oregon's part in the exercise which includes all 48 states, U. S. territories and possessions, the District of Columbia and Canada.

Besides the Federal Civil Defense Administration, the department of defense and office of defense mobilization will participate in the exercise.

Operation Problem
Operation Alert 1956 for Oregon will have as its problem the hundreds of thousands of evacuees who would be fleeing Oregon's critical target areas if nuclear war should ever come to the United States.

Residents of Target Portland will not be taking to the highways when Operation Alert begins July 20, as they did so some 60 years ago in Operation Greenlight. The evacuation will be simulated.

State civil defense headquarters in Salem will be receiving word from traffic control points set up to handle the theoretical mass evacuation, and from these movements will send out directions to the County CD control centers which will help them set their mass reception, registration and care programs into motion.

Problem of Fallout
This is where the unpredictable problem of fallout will cause changes in carefully laid out evacuation routes and assignment of evacuees, for as soon as the state CD control center receives word that the simulated nuclear bomb has exploded over Target Portland, weather reports and high altitude wind paths of that moment will be charted.

From the charts the path of the radioactive fallout will be determined, which would be the case if the exercise was real.

Gray Suit Wearers Typed by Clothier

Chicago—U.P.—Show Arthur Duffy a man in a gray suit and he'll tell you what kind of work the fellow does.

Duffy, the executive secretary of a tailoring firm, has gray suit wearers typed. Bankers tend toward the charcoal gray tones, he said.

"Gray is a natural for the man with iron gray hair, or graying at the temples," Duffy said. "Since many bankers possess this distinguished appearance, this would explain their adherence to gray."

Advertising executives, Duffy said, generally select the lighter gray tones and diagonal weaves. "The average advertising executive is a 'high style' man, and his choice is for suits with snap in both line and color," he said.

Sales executives rather persistently choose "Cornish" gray which blends well with almost any color accessories. He pointed out that the selection is practical for men on the move.

Lawyers generally select the more sedate grays, Duffy said, but spice them up with flashy ties.

Men in the construction and building fields choose light grays of intricate weaves. And newspaper executives cling to the salt and pepper mixtures, "perhaps because they won't give away any splashing of printer's ink."

Thus, due to the caprices of CD organizations to warn residents in the fallout zone to evacuate the area or take shelter.

With fallout plotted, state CD officials then can issue directions to re-route evacuation traffic in the fallout area, and alert local

On Friday, July 20, at 12:10 noon there will be a 15-minute nationwide Civil Defense radio broadcast.

In Jackson county, the broadcast will come from the two federal licensed "Conelrad" stations, KMED and KYJC, which will both alternate on the same frequency of 1240 kilocycles.

The broadcast is in conjunction with Operation Alert Civil Defense test exercise for 1956. All radio and TV stations in this area, except KMED and KYJC, will go off the air during the "Conelrad" test.

The "Conelrad" procedure has been devised for the purpose of reducing the navigational aid a potential enemy might obtain from our radio and television broadcast stations. The public has been requested to listen to the broadcast.

Wasco county which has been assigned 10,000 evacuees; Jefferson county, 5,000; Gilliam, 1,000; Morrow, 2,500; and Umatilla 14,000 evacuees, may all be

Quality Roughage To Fatten Cattle Urged

Davis, Calif.—U.P.—A University of California agriculture specialist advises stockmen that the higher the quality of roughage, the less concentrate will be needed to fatten beef cattle. Assistant Professor James H. Meyer held a meeting at the UC Agriculture College campus here that "roughage is the cheapest and most readily available source of nutrients for ruminants."

"Good quality lowers the amount of feed needed, on the range or otherwise," he said.

Meyer listed the following factors as determining the high quality in roughage:

The less fiber the better. Even though cattle need a certain amount of fiber in food, it should be kept low. The fiber itself will be of better quality through the absence of lignin.

Adequate irrigation applied on time is also important to the quality and quantity of roughage.

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in the fallout zone making it necessary to divert the assigned evacuees to other counties temporarily.

Additional Problem
This would place an additional problem of mass care on these counties receiving the diverted evacuees until the radiological danger has passed. Upon determining that the radiological activity has been counteracted, CD authorities then would send the diverted evacuees into the counties to which they had originally been assigned.

Other problems which could face county civil defense direc-

tors during Operation Alert 1956 will include requisition of additional food, fuel and medical supplies, security and policing details, traffic movement, sounding

of sirens for alerts; movement of fire fighting, engineering and other emergency equipment to the target area; and registration, locating and cataloguing information of evacuees, to mention a few.

The fallout pattern from the explosion of a single nuclear weapon could extend as much as 40 miles wide and 200 miles long, and thousands of square miles in the vicinity of some tar-

gets—including both urban and rural areas—would be in the mythical "front lines" during Operation Alert.

Recommend Shelter
Civil defense recommended that every family in a potential fallout area have if possible an underground shelter or basement refuge. An underground shelter with at least three feet of earth cover will reduce radiological hazard to 1/3000th of that in the open. Preparation of a basement shelter will reduce the hazard to 1/10th of that in the open.

Where no prepared shelter is available, under fallout condi-

tions, families are urged to go to an inside room on the ground floor of their home, and to shut all doors and windows.

Emergency Supplies
The civil defense shelter program calls for every family to stock emergency supplies, such as food, water, flashlight, blankets, and portable radio for the reception of civil defense news and instructions.

It is recognized that under an actual nuclear attack, the radiological danger could be so severe that it might be necessary for families to stay in shelter for as much as a week or more.

In announcing plans for Operation Alert, civil defense officials emphasized that it is designed as a training exercise, and is not in any sense a "test" of civil defense capabilities or effectiveness. They pointed out that no training exercise predicated on a make-believe attack could be a civil defense "test" any more than peacetime "war games" or naval maneuvers could be a "test" of the army or navy capability to defend America in a war.

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