

Porter Tells Views on Nuclear Blast Starting War

Editor's note: Rep. Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) said at a news conference Monday there was grave danger of an accidental atomic blast might touch off World War III. In the following article, written for the United Press, Rep. Porter explains his views.

By REP. CHARLES O. PORTER
Written for United Press

Washington—Many of my friends in Oregon are deeply concerned about the dangers of nuclear war. They believe, as I do, that such a war may mean the end of human life on this planet. They know that the tensions in the world today are acute. The relations between the

United States and the Soviet Union are much like those between the United States and Spain at the end of the last century.

Remember the Maine? There was an explosion, the origin of which was never really determined, that precipitated war. What will happen if a nuclear weapon explodes today? Assuming that it was not a planned test, how do you determine reliably whether it represents the beginning of an attack or not? Age of 'Nuclear Plenty'

This is the age of "nuclear plenty" for the United States and the Soviet Union and perhaps Great Britain. We have thousands of atomic and hydrogen bombs, all in the custody of error-prone human beings like you and me.

Sure, we have elaborate precautions against an accidental detonation of a nuclear weapon. I imagine they had some precautions against the Maine blowing up. But it blew up and the war started.

When Gen. Herbert B. Loper,

defense department secretary for atomic energy, and I discussed probability he used one in a billion as the chance of an accidental explosion caused by inadvertence or mechanical failure. He readily agreed that no such comfortable margin existed for explosions resulting from a custodian's mind cracking, his selling out or getting drunk. He accepted as true that an unauthorized explosion was probable and told me that the department's plans were being made on that premise.

Blast Inevitable
The common sense conclusion is that an unauthorized nuclear explosion is not only probable, but inevitable. Some custodian's mind will crack under his responsibilities or for other reasons, or he will get drunk, or sell out, or perhaps act for purposes he believes idealistic.

Then what happens? Of course it is tragic for those in the vicinity, but that may be the price of deterrence and I do not propose

giving up our strength to save lives in this respect. Guns frequently kill their users but we don't give up their employment. We do make it clear that this danger exists—and this is what we have not done for our nuclear weapons.

A nuclear explosion is hard to investigate. You can't probe into twisted wreckage and reconstruct circumstances by inference. You have a hole many miles in diameter and all the possible witnesses are very dead.

Washington—The Defense department today scoffed at a congressman's statement that it is "more likely than not" an atomic bomb will explode by accident.

Herbert B. Loper, retired major general who is special assistant for atomic energy to Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy, agreed he told Rep. Charles O. Porter (D-Ore.) such an accidental blast was "a mathematical probability."

However Loper told newsmen he went on to estimate to Porter that this probability was about one in three billion.

"Which means the likelihood of such an accidental nuclear explosion is practically non-existent," Loper added.

These were almost the same words used by former Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson last Feb. 20 when he announced U.S. air defenses would use nuclear weapons.

Wilson said tests by the Atomic Energy commission had established that chances of a nuclear explosion were "virtually non-existent."

Schools Add Up Grants, Gifts

Eugene—Oregon's nine state-supported institutions of higher education counted almost \$3 million in gifts and grants during the past six months, exceeding the previous record for an entire year.

Gifts and grants totaling \$2,924,651 were received for the six month period ending today. \$1,000,000 more than was received for the entire 1956-57 fiscal year. The bulk of the money went for research with \$175,000 for scholarships and fellowships.

Chancellor John R. Richards predicted that the increased tempo of donations to state schools would reach \$16 to \$20 million during the 1957-58 biennium.

Oregon State College received the highest amount in gifts and grants, the past six months with a total of \$1,288,495. The University of Oregon Medical School received \$1,063,396 and the University of Oregon \$497,270.

Other institutions received: University of Oregon Dental School, \$36,122; Oregon College of Education \$7123; Eastern Oregon College, \$5051; Southern Oregon College, \$9750; Portland State College, \$15,200; and the General Extension Division, \$1234.

The report also said small business was getting a decreased percentage of the contracts it was capable of handling. The committee said this percentage shrank from 69.4 two years ago to 60.5 in the fiscal year ending last June 30.

The report blamed "an attitude of indifference" on the part of military procurement officials for the failure of small business to get a larger share of the defense dollar.

The judgment had been granted to Kate M. Bailey, Mary Eleanor and Leslie Zumwalt, and Alice A. and Bernard Mather.

On an appeal by the Highway Commission the high court said that while the defendants were entitled to receive the fair cash market value of the land actually taken for highway use, the Commission could reduce payment of damages by showing that special benefits would result to the defendants from highway improvement.

Escapes From Chehalis Training School Caught
Chehalis, Wash.—All eight youths who escaped from the state training school for boys, Greenhill Academy, Sunday night have been recaptured, officials said today.

RELIGIOUS EDITOR DIES
New York—Louis Minsky, 48, managing editor of the Religious News Service, died at his home Monday of a heart attack. Minsky organized the interfaith news agency in 1933 and won the sponsorship of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was a well-known radio speaker and writer for periodicals.

BOURBON MAYOR DIES
New Orleans—Gaspar Guioita, 67, unofficial mayor of Bourbon st., died in his sleep early Monday. Guioita, a native of Sicily, started as a Bourbon st. bartender and later managed several cabarets of his own. The rotund little man had been a tourist attraction in the French Quarter for 40 years.

Luxury Tax Hike
Paris—The French government will add another 2.5 per cent to the present 25 per cent tax on a long list of household appliances and luxury items Jan. 1 in a further effort to cut down consumer spending and imports. The government said it would at the same time reduce taxes on food items to slow down the price spiral on food and drink.

NORSTAD ARRIVES IN ITALY
Cannobbio, Italy—NATO Commander-in-Chief Gen. Lauris Norstad arrived here Monday night with his wife and daughter to spend New Year's at the villa of Belgium NATO representative J. De Staerke. This is the second straight year that Norstad has withdrawn into the exclusive seclusion of Villa Creda on Lake Maggiore to greet the New Year.

Thornton Rules on TB Admissions

Salem—Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton today told the State Board of Control it had no authority to certify that adopted Korean children suffering from tuberculosis would be treated in state institutions.

Requests for this certification had been received from Harry Holt, the Creswell farmer who has been airlifting Korean waifs, and from numerous parents who have adopted Korean children.

"It is a statutory requirement that a person is not eligible for admission to a state tuberculosis hospital unless he is an Oregon citizen and has been a resident of the state for one year immediately preceding his admission," Thornton told the board.

Thornton said he was rendering the opinion "reluctantly" but that the statutory requirement of residence in Oregon could not be waived.

Chicken Producers Commission Planned
Portland—Plans for official organization of an Oregon fryer and broiler chicken producers commission will be discussed at meetings in Oregon City and Albany soon.

Portland area producers will meet in Oregon City, junior high school Thursday night and mid-Willamette valley producers will meet next Monday night at the Linn county agent's office in Albany.

Principal item to be considered will be a list of growers for consideration as members of the new commission. Present plans call for two growers each from the Portland, Salem and Eugene areas to form the commission, which was recently approved by producers.

'FAMILY DOCTOR' DIES
Berkeley, Calif.—Dr. William Donald, 68, "family doctor" to thousands of University of California students for 25 years, died Monday at his home. A graduate of UC Medical school in 1911, he had been director of student health since 1923.

EVASION PLOT
Nagai, Japan—The last day of the year is the day all Japanese customarily pay their debts. Three movie theaters here have scheduled 10-hour, seven-feature programs to enable their patrons to give bill collectors the slip.

Tuesday, December 31, 1957

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

STAR GAZER			
By CLAY R. POLLAN			
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars To develop message for Wednesday, Read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.			
ARIES	22	61 Especially	62 Let
TAURUS	21	63 New	64 Let
GEMINI	20	65 Your	66 Obstacles
CANCER	19	67 Do	68 Them
LEO	18	69 Progress	70 Concerning
VIRGO	17	71 Chances	72 Some
LIVESTOCK	16	73 Financial	74 Aggressive
PRODUCE	15	75 Hat	76 Thon
PORTLAND HAY	14	77 Better	78 Progress
DAILY WEATHER	13	79 Defer	80 Defer
LOCAL DATA	12	81 Defer	82 Push
BROOKINGS	11	83 Money	84 Money
CRATER LAKE	10	85 Setup	86 You
GRANTS PASS	9	87 Aggressive	88 Today
Klamath Falls	8	89 Writing	90 Meters
MEDFORD	7	91 Neutral	
PORTLAND	6		
SEASIDE	5		
SPokane	4		
Yakima	3		
Eureka	2		
Red Bluff	1		
Sacramento	0		
San Francisco			
Los Angeles			
Phoenix			
Denver			
Chicago			
San Jose			
New York			
Washington, D.C.			

Cold Weather To Add To Driving Hazard in Oregon

Salem—Clear, cold weather is expected to add another hazard to New Year's eve traffic in many parts of Oregon, the Motor Vehicle Department warned today.

Weathermen say frost probably will start forming in some areas as early as 7 p.m. and that fog also will be present in some low spots.

The department said these conditions could result in a rash of crashes.

Road Blocks Planned

Enforcement is expected to be at a high level in cities throughout the state and road blocks will be operated in Portland to remove drivers who have been drinking. The Oregon State Police will continue to follow the practice of issuing no warnings for speed violations during the holiday, according to superintendent H. G. Maisson.

Maisson said the State Police will operate at full patrol strength during the holiday in an attempt to keep the accident and death toll at a minimum.

If drivers will "take it easy" tonight, safety officials said, Oregon can end the year with a traffic death toll below 470.

Russia Working On 'Graviplane'

London—The Soviet news agency Tass reported today that Russia is working on a plane "not subject to the laws of gravity" for trips "into the universe."

The existence of plans for what Tass called a "Graviplane" was disclosed in a published interview with a Soviet space expert Prof. Cyril Stanyukovich.

Stanyukovich told an interviewer that "the problem of gravitation will be clarified to some extent in the forthcoming year."

The Soviet government organ Izvestia reported at the same time that Russian astronauts are "calculating the best trajectories for flights to the moon and other planets."

The newspaper said also that Soviet scientists are developing a new design for a reflector telescope to probe the heavens. It said "this will be superior to the American reflector that is now considered the biggest in the world."

Argentine Plane Crashes in Harbor

Buenos Aires—An Argentine State Airways seaplane with 57 persons aboard crashed in Buenos Aires Harbor shortly after take-off today.

First reports said there were some injuries, although all aboard were rescued by Coast Guard launches and helicopters.

The accident occurred when the seaplane lost one of its pontoons shortly after taking off for Asuncion, Paraguay, and the pilot decided to turn back and risk a crash landing.

The airplane sank shortly after hitting the water.

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Task Force Speeds Relief To Ceylon

Aboard Carrier Princeton—A U.S. Navy task force raced through the Indian Ocean today with 50,000 pounds of food and medical supplies for the 30,000 Ceylonese made homeless by floods in Ceylon.

Japan and other Asian nations also were rushing supplies to the hard pressed island republic.

The American naval task force was dispatched by order of President Eisenhower in response to a plea for help from the government of Ceylon. The task force is expected to arrive off Colombo Wednesday evening and commence relief operations at dawn Jan. 1.

The destroyers Henderson and Southerland are part of the Navy and Marine air and surface units which Vice Adm. W. M. Beakley, commander of the U.S. 7th fleet, designated as the Ceylonese relief force.

Reports from Ceylon said the death toll in the floods has passed above the 300 mark, that 100,000 are homeless and that 500,000 other persons are affected to lesser degree. Damage was estimated at at least \$8 million dollars.

Multnomah Kennel Club Asks Stock Sale

Washington—The Multnomah Kennel club Monday applied to the Securities and Exchange commission for permission to sell common stock and unsecured debentures to raise funds to pay its short-term indebtedness.

The club, operators of the greyhound racing track at Fairview near Portland, seeks to sell 400,000 shares of \$1-par non-voting common stock and \$250,000 of 10 per cent unsecured debentures for a total price of \$910,000.

A loan of \$700,000 to MKC is guaranteed by the Mile High Kennel club of Denver which holds a mortgage on the Portland race track. The mortgage has been extended to July 27.

Weather Balloons Soar

London—Radio Moscow said Sunday a weather balloon launched in Kazakhstan soared to a height of 41 kilometers (25.4 miles) or 134,112 feet. The broadcast said the balloon was one of 300 the Russians are launching during the International Geophysical Year. Most of them reached heights of 10 to 12 miles it said.

Libyan Gusher Reported

Tripoli, Libya—The Libyan Petroleum Commission said today the Esso Co. of the United States had struck oil while drilling in the Sahara Desert near the Algerian border. The strike was in Fezzan Province, 500 miles south of Tripoli. It was made at a depth of 2,100 feet and the petroleum layer was 40 feet thick.

Slippery Prisoner

New York—John Ristau proved to be a slippery prisoner. He coated his body with machine grease Monday, squeezed through a tiny window of the Riker's island workhouse, and swam a mile in the frigid East river to reach shore. Police were waiting for Ristau and took him back to the workhouse immediately.

Woman Sentenced For Welfare Fraud

Portland—Mrs. Maude Brown, 36, who was found guilty of defrauding the State Welfare Commission, Monday was sentenced to seven months in the county jail. The indictment had accused her of getting more than \$2,000 in welfare payments from July 1, 1955 to Aug. 10, 1956, while being employed during the time.

Highway Commission To Continue Policy

Salem—The State Highway commission today decided to continue its policy of bid openings on highway projects as being in the best public interest.

State Highway Engineer W. C. Williams said the decision was made after studying the matter as requested by the Associated General Contractors.

The contractors' group had advised the Commission that its contract with the Allied Heavy Construction and Highway Craft union expires Dec. 31 and that any substantial increase in labor costs would reflect in increased cost of contract highway work.

The Commission will open up bids for \$4 million of highway construction Jan. 16 and anticipates more jobs in February.

Ice Main Hazard On Oregon Highways

Salem—Ice was the main hazard to highway travel today, the State Highway department reported, with slick spots reported in many parts of the state.

Ice was reported at Wilson river summit, Sunset summit, Cascade Locks, Astoria, Salem, Salmon river, DeFolt, Siskiyou, Green Springs, Prospect, The Dalles, Bend, Sisters, Meacham, La Grande, Ontario and Seneca. Motorists were advised to carry chains for travel to Government Camp.

No new snow was reported overnight.

Coldest spot in Oregon was Chemult where the temperature dropped to minus 6 degrees.

MOSCOW BUILDS SCHOOL

London—The Moscow City Soviet announced today that 39 schools and colleges and 60 kindergartens were built in the Soviet capital during 1957.

Moscow Radio reported. In addition, seven movie theaters, 125 new shops and 59 restaurants were constructed, it was reported.

STAGE FILM STAR DIES

Baltimore, Md.—Hilda Vaughn, stage and film star, died at a hospital here Saturday on her 60th birthday. Miss Vaughn began her Broadway career in "The Flood" in 1923 and last appeared in "The River Line" in New York last January. She also had made more than 50 motion pictures.

Central Point Daffy-Dills
The Daffy-Dills held their meeting at the home of the leader, Mrs. C. W. Anhorn on Freeman rd. Dec. 21. Members made corages out of holly. Elaine Young and Patty McCue served the refreshments.

The next meeting will be Jan. 18, 1958.

Judy Frink
Reporter

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