

Seaton Defends Administration Missile Record

Portland — Secretary of Interior Fred Seaton spoke to some 700 Oregon Republicans here Wednesday night in a double-feature observance of Lincoln's birthday. In speeches before two banquet groups the Secretary defended the record of the Eisenhower administration in missile development and challenged Democrats to make what they could of it.

He said he had noted a sudden silence in the opposition camp since the American missile had been shot into space as compared with the wails he heard about Eisenhower's ineptitude after the Russian Sputniks were fired.

Won't Join Democrats
Republicans, Seaton declared, will not join the Democrats as the party of frenzy and he pointed to what he said was a thousand-fold increase in budget requests for missiles in the first Eisenhower fiscal year over the last Truman fiscal year.

He was particularly critical of Democratic Chairman Paul Butler for his recent assertion that the Republicans had scrapped the missile program developed by the Democrats under former President Truman. He quoted space scientist Werner Von Braun as saying "we had no ballistics missile program worth mentioning between 1945 and 1951."

Budget Too High
Seaton conceded that the present Eisenhower budget, now before Congress, was "entirely too big for the long run economic good of the United States." And he added that President Eisenhower agrees with that view. But he said that it was impossible to avoid the high cost of defense in times of great international danger. He also emphasized the cost of domestic programs in a nation with a population now in excess of 178 million.

Superintendent at Little Rock Asks Ouster of Negro

Little Rock, Ark. — The superintendent of Little Rock schools today sought permanent expulsion of Negro student Minnie Jean Brown from integrated Central High. Supt. Virgil T. Blossom at the same time said he had suspended the 16-year-old girl for two weeks for her part in two separate racial incidents last week at the forcibly-integrated school.

Blossom appealed to the school board late Wednesday to expel the girl because of the incidents in which she has been involved.

Minnie Jean was suspended from school once before, just before the Christmas holidays, for pouring chili on two white students. Altogether, she has been involved in five racial incidents at Central High.

Blossom, in a letter to the girl's parents, said Minnie Jean had violated an agreement under which she was reinstated in school after the chili dumping incident.

She agreed not to "retaliate either verbally or physically to any harassment by other students, but to leave such things entirely up to the school authorities to handle," Blossom said.

Last week Minnie Jean was hit with a purse after calling a white girl "poor white trash," and a white boy poured a bowl of soup over her head in the school cafeteria.

The Negro girl's mother said she would protest Blossom's request for permanent suspension of her daughter.

Rochester Collapses During Rehearsals

Hollywood — Gravelled voiced Eddie (Rochester) Anderson, long-time radio and television sidekick of comedian Jack Benny, undergoes tests today to determine what caused him to collapse during a program rehearsal.

The Negro comedian was stricken late Wednesday during rehearsal for CBS' "Shower of Stars" show and rushed to Hollywood Presbyterian hospital.

His condition was diagnosed as a "stomach upset," and his physician reported Anderson was "doing nicely."

However, the doctor said whether Anderson appears on the program today depends on a late evaluation of his condition.

The network was standing by for word on whether to revamp the program on which Benny, perennial 39-year-old, is to celebrate his 40th birthday.

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