

Eight Tornadoes Batter Texas and Oklahoma

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At Least Six Persons Killed; 67 Others Hurt

Central Texas Area Worst Hit

Hillsboro, Tex.—(UPI)—At least eight tornadoes hit sleeping communities and homes over a front hundreds of miles long in Texas and Oklahoma Tuesday night.

They killed at least six persons and injured 67 others, four of them critically.

A tornado that hit two communities between Hillsboro and Waco, in central Texas, was worse than the other seven combined. It accounted for all of the six dead and 38 of the injured.

Auto Blown Off Road

That tornado blew an automobile from the road, killing Mrs. C. B. Bruner, 27, wife of a James Connally Air Force Base flight surgeon. It injured her husband and two children.

It drove so many splinters into the body of A. Lee Harris, 71, Byrum, Tex., that doctors at Hillsboro said he looks like a "pin cushion."

The twister destroyed or damaged an estimated 75 homes and other buildings between Hillsboro and Waco. A refuge for the homeless was set up in the First Baptist church in Hillsboro.

Other Tornadoes

The other tornadoes, and the damage and casualties they inflicted included: Walnut Bend and Calisburg, Tex.—Nineteen persons injured, including two seriously. Farm buildings and a natural gas plant destroyed. Walnut Bend and Calisburg are about 120 miles north of Hillsboro.

Henderson, Tex.—None injured. A garage and a home destroyed and trees plucked up by their roots.

Air Base Escapes

Perrin Air Force Base, Tex.—A tornado touched ground, but no injuries or damage reported. Perrin AFB is north of Dallas, near the Oklahoma line.

Silver City, Okla.—Six injured, including one seriously.

Terlton, Okla.—Damage but no casualties reported.

Morrison, Okla.—Damage but no casualties reported.

Rock Creek Lodge Resort—Four injured but none seriously.

Parks Commission To Hire Director

The Medford parks and recreation commission made a tentative selection for the post of city parks and recreation director at a meeting last night at city hall.

The individual's name was withheld pending his decision on whether to accept the position.

Commission Chairman Russ Jamison reported last night that three prospects interviewed recently for the job all proved to have excellent qualifications.

City Manager Robert A. Duff said today the commission's first choice is expected to reply with his decision by tomorrow noon.

Alcorn To Resign Position Next Week

Washington—(UPI)—Meade Alcorn advised President Eisenhower today that he will resign as Republican national chairman, effective next week.

Salem—(UPI)—No new snow was reported on Oregon mountain routes today.

Temblor Jolts Reno

Reno—(UPI)—A strong rolling earthquake which lasted for 15 minutes was felt here today at 10:19 a.m.

Prof. James I. Gimlett, head of the geophysical laboratory at the University of Nevada, said the quake probably was centered about 45 miles northwest of here. He said the main temblor registered a magnitude of 6 on the Richter scale

on the university seismograph.

Reno police and Washoe county sheriff's deputies said they received several calls from alarmed citizens but that no damage was reported.

The Reno fire department, however, was investigating a possible tie-in between the earthquake and a house fire reported minutes after the

first shock was felt.

The temblor started light fixtures swaying at nearby Stead Air Force Base and it was reported the shock had temporarily knocked out the central traffic control system at the Western Pacific Railroad center at Doyle, Calif., although no major damage was reported.

In Carson City, observers

said the quake caused the old Capitol Building to "shake and groan" but no damage was reported.

Members of the state Prison Board, meeting in the governor's office at the time, said the shaking lasted several seconds.

The quake was also recorded at the Berkeley, Calif., seismographic station.

United States Warned Against Flying Too High

'Complications' Threatened

Berlin—(UPI)—A Soviet spokesman warned the United States today against flying planes to West Berlin at heights not accepted by the Soviet Union.

He said if the U.S. defies a Soviet ban on flights in the air corridors above 10,000 feet it will lead to "complications."

The spokesman did not spell out what he meant by "complications" but the implication was that the Soviets might take action against the aircraft.

Unarmed Plane Buzzed

Three Soviet jet fighters buzzed an unarmed American Air Force transport plane Friday on flights both into and out of West Berlin while it was crossing the Soviet zone.

The Soviets rejected an American protest against the buzzing and countered with a protest of their own. They said western aircraft may not fly above 10,000 feet when crossing East Germany to and from West Berlin.

A spokesman at the Soviet Embassy in East Berlin backed this stand.

Answer Said Obvious

"The U.S. cannot unilaterally change flight rules and procedures," he said.

Asked what would happen if the U.S. continued to fly above 10,000 feet he said, "You are asking what will happen if established rules are broken. The answer is obvious. It will lead to complications."

The U.S. contends there is no 10,000-foot ceiling on flights across the Soviet zone and was expected to reject formally the Soviet claim.

Group Discusses Swimming Pool at Jackson Street

The Medford parks and recreation commission last night discussed plans for the proposed West Jackson st. swimming pool but took no action pending more complete information.

Commission Chairman Russ Jamison reported afterward that one swimming pool company has offered hope for construction of a pool within the proposed \$75,000 budget. He said this possibility might involve eliminating from the bath house such extra facilities as a lunch counter.

He said the commission may hold a special meeting early next week if further information becomes available. City Manager Robert A. Duff has stated on prior occasions that the pool should be completed by this summer.

On the subject of opening the Hawthorne park pool about mid-May, two weeks ahead of the normal schedule, Commission Member Glenn Lynn reported there is a "definite interest" among local schools. The early opening, it is understood, would primarily accommodate the school groups holding year-end picnics and swimming parties.

Enthusiastic reports on the community spirit behind development of Union st. park near Washington school were heard last night. Trees are being planted and picnic tables and playground equipment constructed. Jamison said afterward he understood the city water department was installing a water supply for the park.

The commission's special committee on Prescott park atop Roxy Ann submitted a detailed report on repairs and improvements that should be made. These ranged from spraying poison oak to covering an empty septic tank to rebuilding picnic facilities. Other possible improvements discussed include planting seedling trees and scattering flower seeds.

Russ DeForrest, president of the Oregon Sportsman club of Jackson county, discussed that group's interest in combatting pollution in Bear creek. He said a full-scale survey of pollution sources along the creek is under consideration.

It was generally agreed that the best way to improve the situation is for interested groups to take positive steps to set good examples for others.

Pick Coordinator For Phoenix Event

Phoenix—Allen Harris was appointed coordinator of the Phoenix Festival last night by the festival committee. The festival is scheduled for May 16, a one-day celebration, including a parade, a dance, contests, helicopter rides, carnival activity and commercial displays. This year's celebration will include a Centennial breakfast.

Harris said the first business for the committee will be to select queen candidates. Applications for queen candidates are being circulated at Phoenix High school this week, and potential candidates will meet with the committee next week. Final selections are to be made April 8.

The queen is selected on the basis of who sells the most tickets. Candidates are picked on the basis of citizenship, scholarship, and appearance. Last year's queen was Janice Groves.

Harris, a Phoenix resident since 1952, will make committee appointments this week. Festival proceeds go to the support of the Phoenix Community club.

Police reported Manrubia's wife, a native of Medford, lives with her parents in a house trailer here, and has one child.

PT&T Installs New Equipment

Pacific Telephone has completed installation of additional telephone switching equipment in the Phoenix-Talent central office, according to Manager J. H. Creager.

The installation makes it possible to meet continued growth in the Phoenix-Talent exchange. The central office served 1,292 phones when it went into service in April, 1957. There are now 1,515 telephones in Phoenix-Talent, Creager said.

New batteries also were installed in the office to keep pace with the demands of new switching equipment.

The central office is designed to continue its operation uninterrupted even during a power failure on commercial electric power lines, Creager explained.

Installing the new switching equipment and additional battery supply cost the telephone company over \$17,000.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Considerable cloudiness and mild temperatures tonight and Thursday. Airport low 42. High Thursday 60.

Temp. Highest Yesterday 52. Lowest this Morning 43. Prec. to 10 a.m. Today .03.

Our Skies Tonight

Sunset today 6:37 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow 5:54 a.m. Moonrise tomorrow 2:55 a.m. New Moon in the Phoenix-Talent central office, according to Manager J. H. Creager.

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All regulations pertaining to the fire season are now effective. District Warden Curt Nesheim has announced that permits must be obtained before burning is done on or within an eighth of a mile of forest land, including burning in incinerators. Permits may be obtained from the headquarters here on Table Rock rd., the Grants Pass office or from any state fire warden.

Loggin' and sawmill operators have been advised that all requirements concerning fire tools and equipment must now be met. Operators must have a permit before start of logging or sawmilling.

Salem—(UPI)—Rep. Grace Peck (D-Portland) said today she would introduce a bill to prohibit fluoridation of water.

She said the bill was requested by the Portland Organic club, the Health Education League of Portland and other groups in Ashland, Medford, Grants Pass, Eugene and Salem.



CACHE DISCOVERED—Medford and Oregon state police yesterday confiscated some \$3,000 worth of building supplies piled under a plastic tarpaulin on a lot off Gibbon rd. Jose Manrubia-Martinez, 26, is held in Jackson county jail in connection with thefts of the items from local construction sites. Here (from left to right) Medford De-

tective Lt. Lyle Perkins, State Policeman Don Cain, Jim McGowan, of the Medford Street Dept., and State Police Sgt. Fay Holley load sheets of plywood onto a city truck. Two trips of the 1½-ton dump truck were required to haul the materials, which included everything from nails to a pastel-green toilet, to storage at Medford airport.

Condemnation Suit May Go to Jury Thursday

A condemnation suit by the state highway commission for Highway 99 freeway right-of-way in the Rogue River area is expected to go to the jury tomorrow afternoon, attorneys involved in the suit indicated today.

The case is one of three to be tried in Jackson county circuit court. There are other cases pending, but it is not certain they will go to trial, it was explained today.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Allison, Rogue River, are seeking \$3,855 in damages for state acquisition of 1.4 acres of land on the north side of the Rogue river approximately a mile west of Rogue River between the Josephine county line and Evans creek. The state has offered \$1,250.

The condemnation action involves the smallest sum of any of the three, but is one in which the state highway commission and the land owner are the farthest apart on damages sought.

In the next case, the state is offering \$14,000 in damages and the owner wants \$17,000, and in the third and largest case the state has offered \$26,000 and the land owner wants \$32,000.

The Allison's attorney, Stanley L. Jones, today said that the \$3,855 is the lowest of the appraisals the property owners received from their own appraisers.

Taking the witness stand yesterday, Allison said he personally appraised the damage at \$4,808. He said the 1.4 acres he would lose through condemnation would provide two building sites. He added that he appraised all his property at \$9,808. This includes a land valuation at \$2,550, depreciated value of his house at \$5,312, \$800 valuation on orchard, lawn, shrubs, landscaping, \$200 of irrigation equipment, \$300 for a well.

Allison testified his biggest asset is quiet and seclusion of the property as it now stands. With construction of the freeway the state highway commission estimates that 3½ cars per minute would travel the new thoroughfare, he said.

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