

# Disabled Jet Hits Schoolhouse

54th Year

## MEDFORD



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### 16 Known Dead As Craft Falls In Housing Area

#### Okinawa Officials Assist Homeless

Naha, Okinawa—UPI—A flaming U.S. Air Force jet fighter abandoned by its pilot struck an Okinawa schoolhouse today and exploded in the midst of a crowded housing area, killing and wounding scores of persons.

The Air Force said 10 Okinawans were killed and 76 injured when the plane exploded on impact and spewed burning wreckage onto a row of houses, destroying 30 of them. Okinawa police said six children also were killed, raising the toll to 16 dead. They said 100 were injured.

Four children, two with skull fractures and two with serious burns, were reported among the injured. Officials of this former Japanese island set up tents and other shelters near the resort city of Ishikawa, about 25 miles from the capital of Naha, to shelter the homeless. Police said 150 persons were without homes.

#### Parachutes to Safety

The pilot of the disabled jet was Capt. John G. Schmitt, Chalmers, Ind., who parachuted to safety.

An Air Force announcement said Schmitt's aircraft developed engine trouble shortly after takeoff on a routine training mission. He first attempted to return to his base, Kadena airfield near Naha, for an emergency landing.

But Schmitt found the plan difficult to control and then realized it was on fire. He directed the plane toward an unpopulated area west of Ishikawa when an explosion occurred, filling his cockpit with smoke and flames. The Air Force said he then ejected himself from the damaged aircraft.

#### Political Repercussions

The plane struck the heavily populated area, exploding with such force many houses went up in flames immediately. Most of the victims were burned so badly authorities had difficulty identifying the bodies.

The crash was expected to have major political repercussions, and Lt. Gen. Robert W. Burns, commander of the 5th Air Force, flew here from Tokyo to make a personal investigation.

Socialist and other left-wing groups in the Ryukyu Islands and in Japan have campaigned to force withdrawal of the U.S. Air Force on grounds frequent accidents endangered the lives of Japanese and Okinawans.

### Brothers Drown South of Astoria

Astoria—UPI—Two teenage brothers drowned last night in Coffenburg lake south of here. It was the 3rd and 4th drownings in eight days for Clatsop county.

John Murray Burlingame, 19, and Donald Burlingame, 16, were the victims. Both are from Hobbs, N.M. The older brother was stationed at the U.S. naval base at Tongue Point, just east of Astoria. His brother had just arrived to spend a vacation visit with him.

Witnesses said John went to the rescue of Donald when the younger brother floundered in the popular Coffenburg swimming area.

Donald apparently grabbed his brother in panic and both drowned.

"We're Not Gonna Be Stamped"



## Temporary Increase In Gasoline Taxes Declared Possible

Washington—UPI—Some influential House Democrats talked cautiously today about the possibility that Congress might grant for one year part of the gasoline tax hike President Eisenhower says is needed to save the interstate superhighway system.

These Democrats said privately that Congress might be willing to go that far if the Eisenhower administration agreed to resolve the highway crisis permanently by tapping regular treasury revenues for road construction after July 1, 1960.

Republican sources indicated the administration was likely to favor the compromise. But there was no assurance that House Democratic leaders would go along with the plan being discussed by their lieutenants.

Under the compromise, gas taxes would go up by 1/2-cent or one cent a gallon some time this summer and would drop back to the current 3 cents a gallon on July 1, 1960.

Beginning July 1, 1960, the revenues from certain highway-user taxes, which now go into the general treasury fund, would be diverted into the highway trust fund from which construction of the superhighway system is financed.

Eisenhower has told Congress that the trust fund is dwindling. He has warned that work on the 41,000-mile road network would practically cease unless the fund was replenished by boosting the gas tax 1 1/2 cents, from 3 to 4 1/2 cents a gallon.

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## Dave Epps, Oregon Demo Leader, Dies

### Appling, Hatfield Praise Work of Party Chairman

#### Autopsy Planned To Determine Cause

Salem—UPI—Dave Epps, chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee and an active party worker for 30 years, died suddenly here last night. He was 52.

He had entered Salem Memorial hospital for treatment of a recurrence of ulcers. It was believed he died of a perforated ulcer, but an autopsy was scheduled for today.

Secretary of State Howell Appling, a Republican, commented: "While we differed sharply in political philosophy I respect the fact that he fought hard, openly and unceasingly for the things in which he believed."

#### Strong Leader Lost

"His aspirations for government have lost a strong leader. His friends in both political parties have lost a most personable companion. His family has lost a devoted father and husband. I extend sincerest condolences to his family and to his many friends everywhere."

Gov. Mark Hatfield said: "Dave Epps gave of himself unceasingly to the Democratic party and to good government as he saw it in the state of Oregon."

"He served ably as state chairman in time of victory and he tried valiantly to bind up his party's wounds in time of anguish. Always cheerful and enthusiastic he was an optimist at heart and spread good will for his party throughout the state."

"His passing is that of an adversary in the political arena but also a personal friend and in both capacities he had my respect. His death leaves the political scene with a vacancy that should be regretted by all Oregonians for he brought to his job basic interest and understanding."

Elected in 1958 The body of the political leader and merchant was taken temporarily to Barrick-Clough Funeral home here where the autopsy was scheduled.

Epps, who owned furniture stores in Sweet Home and Lebanon, had been one of Oregon's most active Democrats ever since he was 21. He was elected state central committee chairman in January, 1958, to fill an unexpired term, and was elected to a full term six months later.

He had said he would be a candidate for reelection when his current term ended in 1960.

Epps was born in Portland July 8, 1907. He was graduated from Franklin High School and the University of Oregon, where he starred in baseball and basketball. During the depression years of the 1930's, he was active in the Oregon Commonwealth Federation, a liberal political group.

He served in the Army from 1942 to 1945 and fought in Italy, winning the bronze star.

He is survived by his widow, the former Nancy F. Kaadt, and two daughters, Mardi, 6, and Susie, 2.

### Italy Prime Minister Plans To Visit U.S.

Washington—UPI—The White House announced today Italian Prime Minister Antonio Segni will make an official visit to the United States in September.

### Bloodhounds Used in Hunt for Florence Man

Florence, Ore.—UPI—Bloodhounds were brought into the search today for Elbert Straight, 76, Florence resident missing since Monday afternoon in a densely wooded area in the Canary road district near the Oregon coast.

## Coming Elections Bring Retaliation By East Germans

Berlin—UPI—The East German Communists resorted to a brief slowdown of truck traffic outbound from Berlin today in apparent retaliation for the West German government's decision to hold its presidential elections here Wednesday.

But the Reds made no major attempt to blockade the city, and even subdued their propaganda this morning.

After brief harassing moves against the outbound traffic in the middle of the night, the Reds eased off. Truck convoys and individual vehicles moved across East Germany in normal fashion as the day wore on.

West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer arrived here this morning on one of his rare visits and pledged continued support for West Berlin against its Red besiegers.

Adenauer said he would remain here only until Wednesday evening, by which time the Federal Assembly should have elected a new West German president. But he said he would visit the city again at the end of July to confer with members of the Senate which governs the city.

Ludwig Erhard, vice chancellor and economics minister, arrived at the same airfield about the same time as Adenauer.

Soviet newspapers and broadcasts have called the decisions to hold the presidential elections here a "hostile act" and "provocative." East Germans said the meeting would be convening on "foreign territory" and that West Berlin was part of East Germany.

### Girl Killed in Hornbrook Crash, Four Injured

Hornbrook, Calif.—UPI—A 10-year-old girl was fatally injured, and four other persons were critically hurt, in an automobile accident near here yesterday afternoon.

Linda Peters, 10, died about 7:30 p.m. yesterday in Siskiyou General hospital. Martha Farnsworth, 11, and Percella Peters, 16, are reported in critical condition.

Mrs. Lillian Peters, 30, mother of Linda and aunt of Percella, and Mrs. Nola Farnsworth, 31, Hornbrook, mother of Martha, are both on the "serious" list at the hospital.

Monday Night State highway patrol officers reported the accident occurred at 12:45 p.m. Monday, on Ditch Creek rd., some 200 yards south of the intersection with old Highway 99 where it enters Hornbrook from the north.

Mrs. Peters was driving a pickup truck, which was towing with a logging chain a passenger vehicle, steered by her brother-in-law, Andrew Peters, reports indicated. Control of the two vehicles was lost by the drivers on the down-grade on Ditch Creek rd. The passenger car "whiplashed," and passed the pickup. The three girls, riding in the bed of the pickup, were thrown out and down an embankment. The pickup was thrown on top of them, and the passenger car on top of that.

One investigating officer said the scene was "the worst I've ever seen," as the three injured girls and two women lay under and around the wreckage. Peters was reportedly unhurt.

The injured were taken to the hospital by the Hill ambulance and by passenger cars. Martha and Percella were said suffering from broken pelvises and legs, as well as cuts and bruises.

### Strauss Resigns Commerce Post

Washington—UPI—The White House today announced the formal resignation of Secretary of Commerce Lewis L. Strauss, effective at the end of business today.

President Eisenhower accepted the resignation "with personal sadness" and the resolute conviction that charges against Strauss during the Senate battle over his confirmation were "totally unjustified."

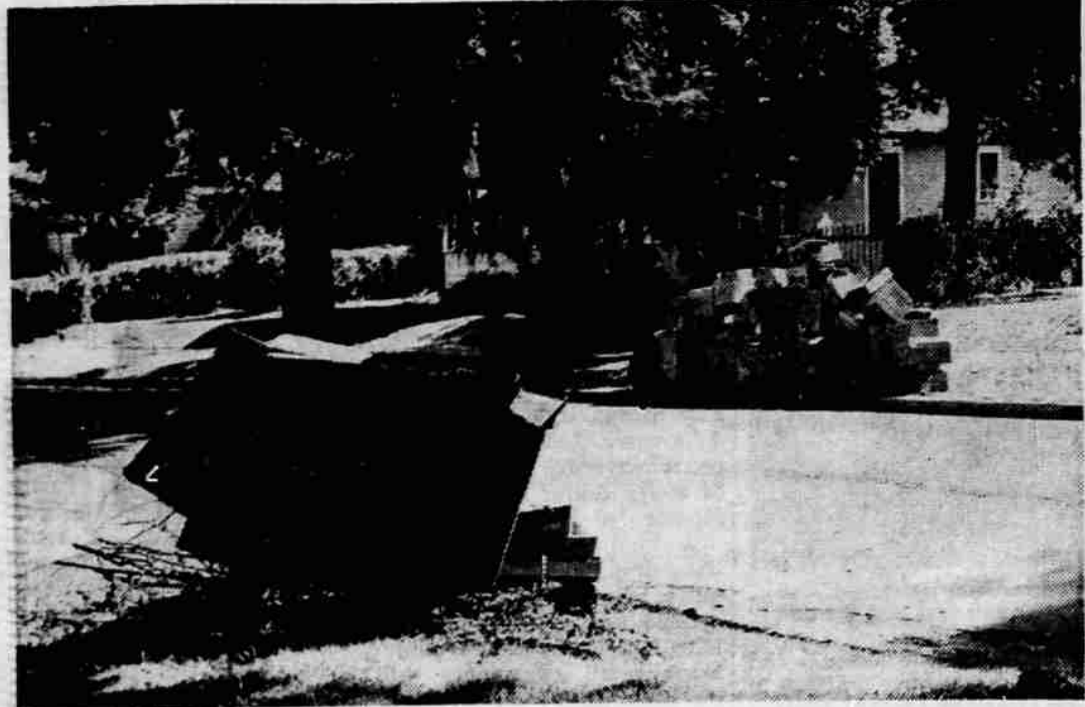
Strauss, who had been serving in the Cabinet under a recess appointment since last November, was rejected for the post when the Senate refused to confirm his nomination.

### WEATHER

FORECAST: Fair tonight and Wednesday. Low tonight 55. High Wednesday 95. Temp. Highest Yesterday 83. Lowest this Morning 50.

### Our Skies Tonight

Sunset today 7:53 p.m.  
Sunrise tomorrow 4:38 a.m.  
Moonrise tomorrow 1:47 a.m.  
New Moon July 5  
PROMINENT CONSTELLATIONS  
Scorpio in the south 10:28 p.m.  
VIBRANT PLANETS  
Saturn, low in south.  
Jupiter, due south 8:59 p.m.  
Venus, in the west at sunset, sets 9:59 p.m.



### REFUSE EFFUSION

Medford residents have pitched into the citywide "clean-up" today with a vengeance, and cleaner-uppers reportedly are swamped with tree-trimmings, grass clippings, cardboard boxes and at least one old refrigerator. Four city trucks and two from City Sanitary service manned by firemen were making their appointed rounds with all possible dispatch, but observers agreed that chances for completing the pickup routes today were slim indeed. The refuse is being taken to City Sanitary's dump near Jacksonville, where it will be burned. Pickups will continue until visits have been made to all residences, City Manager Robert A. Duff said at noon. (Knackstedt photo)

## DA Rules That All Bids on Sheriff's Cars Be Thrown Out

All bids on five cars for the Jackson county sheriff's department should be thrown out, according to recommendations from the district attorney's office.

Deputy District Attorney Gerald Scannell said he would make that recommendation to the county court when he presents his opinion this afternoon. According to state law, all bids must be advertised for at least one week, Scannell stated. The last publication must be made at least five days before the bids are opened. The county court did not do this, he pointed out. The court has yet to study the opinion and reach a decision.

### Variety of Cars

County Judge Miller said Thursday he had hoped that the county could purchase a variety of cars in the low-priced range which could be compared for costs and operation during the next several months. Judge Miller said yesterday that he had spoken for the county court and that County Commissioner Ralph James had agreed with his Thursday statement.

However, yesterday the car purchase issue reached an explosive point when Miller and County Commissioner Chester Wendt saw a statement James had issued to press and radio. In the statement James denied that he had agreed with the county judge's statement Thursday. He said the county court must accept the bid of DeLeigh Motors.

Meanwhile, Sheriff Walsh said the car question must be settled by tomorrow, July 1, and the start of the new fiscal year. Deputies who have been using personal cars for their work and are to use the five promised county-owned cars have either sold or made arrangements to sell their cars by the first of July, Walsh said. If a decision is not reached soon the deputies would be without any cars, he added.

## Boats to Patrol Recreation Spots

A boat patrol at water recreation spots in Jackson county will be operating over the Fourth of July week end, Sheriff Joe Walsh said today.

He said such a patrol was operating on Emigrant reservoir and at Savage Rapids dam on the Rogue river last week end and was well received by the public.

Two boats were on patrol, operated by special deputies of the Rogue Aqua Ski club, last week end. Probably the same number of boats will be patrolling this week end, the sheriff said. Each boat has a uniformed regular sheriff's deputy assigned to it, he added, and flies a special pennant.

No arrests will be made except for serious violations, Walsh said. Only verbal warnings were issued last week end and those persons who received them seemed to take them well, he said. Boaters and especially boat landing operators, appreciated having a patrol to watch over their safety, the sheriff added.

## Residents Complain Of Equipment Noise

Construction crews on the Rogue Valley Manor project atop Barneburg hill last night worked after hours without permission from city hall, according to a report received by Medford police.

John Jay Gomer, 2456 Nieto way, reportedly called the police department about 10 p.m. Monday to report the noise from excavation equipment at the manor site a block away.

A city patrolman reported getting in touch half an hour later with Heber Joel Memmott, 331 South Ivy st., identified as the foreman on the job. The patrolman quoted Memmott as saying his company had a permit from the city to work after 7 p.m. since it had to meet a deadline.

But City Manager Robert A. Duff today denied that the company had been granted such permission. According to city ordinance 3440, such construction work must halt at 6 p.m. except with special permission from the city council.

Washington—UPI—President Eisenhower will hold a news conference at 6 a.m. (pst) Wednesday.

## Hospital Rates To Increase Here Tomorrow

The minimum ward rate in the two Medford hospitals will increase \$1.25 per day tomorrow when wage increases go into effect for both professional and non-professional hospital employees, hospital officials reported today.

The minimum ward rate at both Sacred Heart and Rogue Valley hospitals will go to \$19.75.

Dr. Paul T. Rutter, owner of Medford Osteopathic hospital, reported that they "are endeavoring not to raise the present minimum ward rate of \$16."

Sister Luke of Sacred Heart and Charles Gustafson of Rogue Valley hospitals, administrators, explained that the raise is necessary due to salary increases. They added that approximately 75 per cent of the hospitals' budgets are for salaries. The increase in cost of essential surgical supplies and equipment was also given as a reason for the rate boost.

Dr. Rutter explained that the Osteopathic hospital would be able to maintain their present rates at least until they move into their new hospital in Central Point. He added that groundbreaking is expected on the building approximately Aug. 1.

Similar ward rate increases have been reported in other parts of the state and Washington.

### Assistant Secretary Of Navy Confirmed

Washington—UPI—The Senate today confirmed the nomination of James Henry Wakelin Jr., of New Jersey, as Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

NEW SWITCHBOARD—City Manager Robert Duff (right) and Gilbert Gutjahr, administrative assistant, watch as Miss Marie Johnson tries out the new PBX switchboard at the Medford city hall. Starting tomorrow morning all city hall offices may be reached by dialing SPRing 3-7355. Fire alarm and police numbers will not be affected by the switchboard, Duff explained. Miss Johnson is one of two employees who will operate the PBX system.

Medford's city hall business telephone numbers will be consolidated under one number, SPRing 3-7355, at 8 a.m. tomorrow, according to Pacific Telephone Manager J. H. Creager.

The new city number will enable the public to reach city departments by dialing a single number, Creager explained.

Night answering features are also provided by the new dial telephone system which the telephone company has installed. The after-hour calls will be automatically switched to an answering location.

When the new PBX goes into operation, city officials will be able to dial other city offices direct.

Fire alarm and police numbers will not change. After the changeover, the fire chief's office number will become SPRing 3-7355 during the hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and after 3 p.m. he can be reached by dialing SPRing 3-6653.

Operators serving the new PBX will be Mrs. Shirley Thompson and Miss Marie Johnson.

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