

Pentagon Fire Loss Over \$30 Million

Structure Damage Expected To Be Added To Figure

40 Firemen Felled By Acrid Smoke

Washington (UPI)—Electronics equipment valued at more than \$30 million was pronounced a total loss today as workmen slogged through the wreckage left by Thursday's spectacular Pentagon fire.

Structural damage costing additional millions and the possible loss of some irreplaceable secret documents were expected to be added to the fire's toll.

IBM Assumes Loss

The electronics equipment was owned by International Business Machines Corp which leased it to the Air Force at \$3,500,000 a year. The Air Force said IBM assumed the entire loss on the equipment.

The blaze swept a super-secret Pentagon basement hideaway Thursday afternoon. It buckled concrete floors, burst water pipes, and destroyed tightly guarded electronic equipment.

Three hundred firemen battled the fire, and 40 were felled by the dense acrid smoke given off by the burning of 7,000 rolls of taped Air Force data, some of it stamped "secret."

The breakdown of the water system caused Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy to dismiss the entire Pentagon working force of some 29,000 military and civilian employees, giving them an early start on a three-day Fourth of July week end.

Some Unaware of Fire

Many working in unaffected sections of the massive five-sided concrete building, had been unaware of the fire. The blaze was confined to a small section—20,000 square feet—of the Pentagon's total area, although smoke poured through an area equal to about four city blocks.

Structural damage was estimated at from \$200,000 to \$5,000,000, depending on who was guessing. This was on top of the \$30,000,000 loss of computers, tapes, and equipment in the Air Force's hush-hush statistical center.

Fire Ignited

The five-alarm fire burned out of control from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (e.d.t.). By 4:15 p.m., about five hours after the blaze started, the Pentagon announced the fire was "extinguished" for all practical purposes.

Pentagon authorities said the blaze apparently started from an electrical failure, possibly a shortcircuit. There was no evidence of sabotage.

The Defense Department told United Press International, in response to a question, that all of the records on which the joint chiefs of staff rely are duplicated elsewhere.

Manor Building Permit Issued, Fee \$7,561

A \$4,693,616 building permit was issued for Rogue Valley Manor Wednesday. The Medford building department reported. Excavation for the manor, a \$5 1/2 million retirement home being constructed atop Barneburg hill, is already in progress.

The building department received a fee of \$7,561 for the permit, according to department records.

"Those Guys Have Funny Ideas About Americanism — They Hit You From The Front"



Warren's Blackball Of Nixon Invitation To ABA Parley Told

Chicago (UPI)—The Chicago Tribune said today Chief Justice Earl Warren blackballed an invitation to Vice President Richard M. Nixon to join in the American Bar Association meeting in London in 1957.

According to the Washington dispatch by Walter Trohan, Warren told the president of the ABA, "if you let that fellow in, count me out."

The ABA finally bowed to Warren's threat, Trohan said, because the association had formally invited the Chief Justice and received his acceptance.

The story of Warren's political feuding with Nixon was detailed and confirmed by a former president of the ABA, who told the Tribune: "I do not want my name to be used, but if Warren sues I'll be a witness in court for you."

Trohan said Nixon had no comment on the disclosure of the blackballing.

The Tribune recalled "the latest evidence of the deep split between the Californians occurred at a Washington cocktail party when Warren upbraided the author of a Nixon biography."

Called Author Liar Trohan said Warren accused Earl Mazo, author of the biography of stepping "over my body" in an effort to "make Nixon president." He called Mazo a "damned liar" when the author denied intent to step on Warren, the dispatch said.

The Tribune said it learned Warren had been successful in a behind the scenes effort to keep Nixon out of the political limelight by barring him from the London legal meeting in 1957, attended by more than 5,000 American lawyers.

49-Star Flag To Fly Saturday

Washington (UPI)—Old Glory will go aloft Saturday bearing 49 stars.

Flags with a new star for the new state of Alaska will be hoisted in ceremonies at the Capitol and at Baltimore's Ft. McHenry National Monument, birthplace and shrine of the National Anthem. Both will be held a few seconds after midnight.

One of the two flags to be raised simultaneously at the Capitol will be given to Alaska as a symbol of its new status. The other will remain as a regular Capitol flag until it wears out.

Salem (UPI)—Representatives of more than 35,000 Oregon Legionnaires and Auxiliary members will hold their 41st annual convention here July 23-25.

The Trinity Noons, offering lunchtime coffee and dramatic readings, will also be continued as a weekly feature on Wednesdays.

The public is invited to attend both the Gresham Lectures and the Trinity Noons.

Oregon Police Planning All-Out Safety Campaign

Traffic Caution Urged on Holiday

Salem (UPI)—Gov. Mark Hatfield said today that "all available means" would be used by state police during this 4th of July week end in a continuation of a stepped up traffic safety program.

Neither the governor nor the state police would confirm whether planes would be used, but the governor had indicated earlier that they would be used on an "unannounced" basis.

Leaflets Distributed The governor and H. G. Maison, superintendent of state police, will confer here at 4:30 p.m. today.

Some 25,000 leaflets urging careful driving and containing antilitterbug reminders are being handed out by state police this week.

The leaflets open with a welcome to Oregon and its Centennial.

The Oregon Traffic Safety Commission said the safe-driving skills of motorists will have to be brought into play to keep the week end free of a tragic record of accidents.

399 Accidents Last year, Oregon recorded 399 traffic accidents during the 78-hour holiday period, resulting in 127 injuries and one death. This year, the holiday extends over 54 hours.

The commission had a special word of caution for motorists who may be pulling boats or house trailers this week end: Check occasionally to see if traffic may be stacking up behind you. If a long line of traffic is forming, the commission suggests the driver should pull off the road and let faster moving traffic pass.

Humphrey Unable To Appear Here

A tight schedule has made it impossible for Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) to appear in Medford as anticipated, it was announced today.

Humphrey was expected to make an appearance here on July 13.

He had been mentioned often as a likely presidential candidate in 1960.

The Minnesota senator will be attending a luncheon meeting in Los Angeles on July 13, according to Mrs. Edith Rode, vice chairman of the Jackson County Democratic central committee, and it will be "impossible" for him to arrive in Medford at a reasonable hour.

Mrs. Rode received a phone call this morning from one of Humphrey's assistants in Washington, D. C., and she was informed of the change in plans.

She was told that Humphrey hopes to make an appearance here "sometime within the next two or three months," although plans are at present indefinite.

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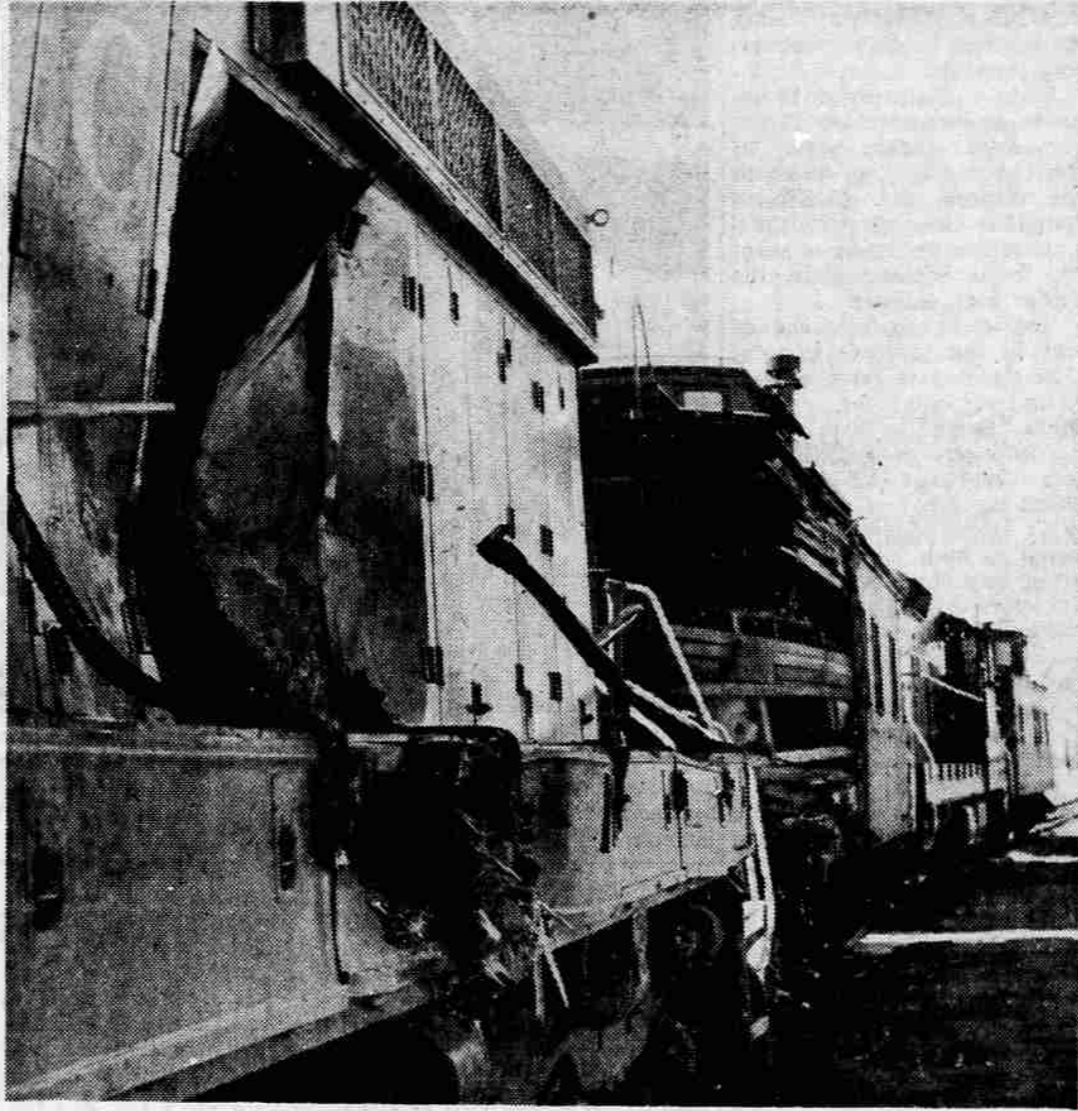
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CLOBBERED CABOOSE—Yesterday's truck-train collision near White City resulted in "total loss" of the caboose, Southern Pacific officials said, and the engine also was damaged.

Truck driver Robert N. Funk is in "good" condition at Sacred Heart hospital today, authorities there said. He suffered internal injuries. Referring to the accident as a "freak," C. B. Stevens, Southern Pacific freight agent, said that none of the four men riding in the caboose at the time of the accident was injured.

They were Walter Winkler, conductor, who lives on Jacksonville highway; and brakeman Don Way, Walter Ross, and Eldon Girard, all of Ashland. Not a car was derailed, Stevens said, and there were 27 of them hooked on behind "the mess."

Medford's 1959-60 municipal budget gained quick approval from the city council last night following a public hearing in the city hall council chamber.

Only two persons rose to speak during the hearing. Jerry Latham, representing the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, complimented city officials and the city budget committee on their work with the budget.

He took exception, however, to the city's continued operation of parking meters from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. when revenue from the extra hour at each end was not to be used for development of municipal off-street parking facilities.

Meter Hours Extended Parking meter hours were expanded from their former 9-5 schedule two years ago with the intention of using the extra revenue to help finance such development.

But the revenue in 1958-59, and in the fiscal year now beginning, is simply being channeled into the general fund.

The other speaker on the budget was a man identifying himself as Sherman Holt, who suggested paring the budget further as one step against the nationwide trend toward greater public spending.

The seven councilmen present approved the budget unanimously. Councilman Ed Hall, Ward I, did not attend the meeting.

The council also ordered that the \$871,394 total property tax levy specified in the new budget.

This levy includes \$352,766 for the general fund, \$105,348 for the fire maintenance fund, \$26,336 for the park and swimming pool fund, \$129,318 for the general bond sinking fund, \$47,526 for the water bond sinking fund, \$143,600 for the arterial street fund, \$19,000 for the sanitary sewer fund and \$47,500 for the storm sewer fund.

It represents an increase of \$41,112 over the 1958-59 levy. But city officials anticipate

that the increased valuation of property within the city will avert any rise in millage rates.

Later in the meeting Floyd Courtright, a spokesman for 18 hosemen in the city fire department, asked the council to grant a higher salary rating for hosemen to place them on a par with police department patrolmen.

The request was referred to a meeting of the city budget committee, since the budget had already passed with no leeway for such an increase.

Eagle Point irrigation district has filed an appeal from a district court decision awarding damages to a farmer for loss of hay due to an irrigation ditch leak.

Paul D. and Mary G. Conrad, Eagle Point, on April 29 were awarded \$204.75 in damages for a first cause and \$10 damages for a second cause.

In their complaint the Conrads alleged that the irrigation water was emptied into their hay crop causing a partial loss. They were seeking \$204.75 in general damages for a first cause, \$58.50 special damages in a second cause and \$140 general damages.

The Conrads had charged that the irrigation district was negligent and careless in not inspecting the ditch for leaks, in not stopping or correcting leaking and in diverting water and emptying it into the hay crop.

Medford's Budget Gains Approval at Hearing Thursday

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Wildcatters End Steel Walkouts

Negotiators Recess Until Monday Morning

New York (UPI)—Steel wage negotiators, after meeting for an hour today, recessed until Monday morning.

After the joint session of the two four-man bargaining teams of labor and management, neither side talked to newsmen. However, David J. McDonald, president of the United Steelworkers Union, and R. Conrad Cooper, industry chief negotiator, sent a formal statement to the press-room.

The statement said: "We are conscious that the extra time for bargaining resulting from the two-week extension is fast running out. Exceedingly Wearing

"We have been bargaining for two full months. The past week, with its problems attendant to implementing the extension, has been exceedingly wearing."

"We both believe that the parties may be better able to address themselves to our problems if we take time for rest and meditation over the Independence Day week end. Therefore, we have recessed until Monday morning at 10 o'clock."

Meanwhile, the last of several wildcat strikes which had threatened to disrupt contract negotiations ended today.

Medford (UPI)—Gov. Earl K. Long arose almost at dawn today so doctors and psychiatrists can check him over before he leaves for a triumphal entry into Baton Rouge, the state capital.

The last time he was in Baton Rouge, on June 18, an investigating board of doctors met him, certified that he needed mental treatment and ordered him rushed off to the Southeastern Louisiana mental hospital at Mandeville. He has no fear of that happening today, however. He got out of the hospital a week ago by sacking the superintendent and state director of hospitals.

To Start Campaign Long, put up in a temporary state capitol in a motel at Covington, La., which he abandoned Thursday night for the Roosevelt hotel in New Orleans. He promised to be in Baton Rouge at 8:30 p.m. today.

Long, 63, who suffered "a slight heart failure" Wednesday night, still plans, against the advice of his doctors, to start his campaign for an unprecedented fourth term as governor Saturday.

The governor plans four stump speeches in his Fourth of July debut for the Democratic primary election. He also plans to attend a beauty contest.

Medford Brownie Receives Reply to Letter to Princess

Susan Whinham, 9-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. Whinham, 1024 Winchester ave., has received a letter from a lady-in-waiting of Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain.

The note dated June 11 was sent in answer to a letter Susan wrote to Princess Ann welcoming her into membership in the Brownie Scouts.

The Medford girl, a member of Brownie troop 84, sponsored by St. Mary's school, read in the Mail Tribune of the princess' joining the Scouts.

Her letter from Buckingham palace reads: "Dear Susan: I write at the Queen's command to thank you for your letter to Princess Ann and for your very kind message of good wishes on the occasion of Her Royal Highness becoming a Brownie. 'I am so glad that her daughter will enjoy it all as much as you do.' The signature on the letter was illegible.

Talent Project Bids To Be Called July 9

Denver (UPI)—The Bureau of Reclamation here will issue an invitation for bids about July 9 for the construction of a 30-inch siphon in the Talent division of the Rogue River Basin Project near Ashland, Ore.

The project involves 10,000 cubic yards of excavation, 6,500 yards of backfill, and 6,700 feet of 30-inch precast concrete or steel cylinder pipe. Completion must be within 240 days.

Effectiveness of County School Office In Reorganized Districts Is Studied

A further study will be made on the effectiveness of the county school office in relation to reorganized school districts, Glenn D. Hale, Eagle Point, president of the Jackson County School Administrators, informed the county court this week.

Hale wrote the county court that his group has met a number of times and has decided a further study of the situation should be made. The last meeting was held in Medford on May 28, he reported.

Alf B. Mekvold, county school superintendent, and Bruce S. Hitt, assistant superintendent, spoke on the place of the school superintendent's office as an intermediate unit between them and the state, Mekvold said.

'Mind Your Knittin', Ma'am, Vale 'Suicide Race' Sponsors Tell Animal Defenders League President

Vale, Ore. (UPI)—The Vale Chamber of Commerce and Rodeo Board today advised the president of the Animal Defenders League, Inc., to "mind your knittin', ma'am."

They said the annual Vale "suicide race" for horses and riders would go off as scheduled Sunday evening. The battle between Vale

and Graziella Boucher, Portland, started when she saw television newscasts of last year's race down the boulder-strewn hillside to climax the annual Vale rodeo. The films showed spectacular tumbles for both animals and riders.

The president of the Animal Defenders League quickly telegraphed the Vale Cham-

ber that the "suicide horse race is against human conscience and human laws of the land."

She objected to the "stupidly cruel exploitation of horses" and warned that "Vale is being widely discussed as backward, un-American and objectionably cruel community . . ."

Kenny Johnson of the Vale Chamber of Commerce replied today that "regardless of the word suicide in the Vale suicide race, it is merely a competitive race between animals over no rougher terrain than the horses are accustomed to. Please mind your knittin', ma'am."

Oregon Wagons Due At Pocatello Tonight Pocatello, Idaho (UPI)—The seven wagons of the on-to-Oregon train were scheduled to reach here today after leaving their overnight campsite three miles south of Inkom, Idaho.

WEATHER FORECAST: Fair tonight and Saturday. Low tonight 59. High Saturday 85-88. Temp. Highest Yesterday 79. Lowest this Morning 49. Our Skies Tonight Sunset today 7:52 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow 4:39 a.m. Moonrise tomorrow 3:49 a.m. New Moon July 5. PROMINENT STAR Vega, high overhead 11:58 p.m. 26 light years from the Earth. Vega is the brightest star in the constellation, Lyra and also now the brightest star in the sky.