Ike Sees Russians Moving Toward Test Ban

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Thousands Flee Flood Waters in Nebraska, Iowa

Worst Floods In Half Century

By United Press International

Rivers driven wild by fast-melting snow and the first big onslaught of spring thunderstorms drove thousands of persons from their homes in floor-swept Nebraska and Iowa today.

The snow run-off, unprecedented in many areas, fed the worst floods in a half century in eastern Nebraska.

The Platte river, traditionally described as "a mile wide and an inch deep," ran eight miles wide and many feet deep, surging over hundreds of square miles and submerging whole communities.

The Big Blue and Elkhorn rivers and usually meandering little Rawhide creek built up new momentum today under heavy rains during Tuesday night. The second crest within a week was flowing down the Big Blue.

Beatrice, Neb., on the Big Blue, called for help from the National Guard as the swollen river pounded against a weakened dike on the edge of town.

Town Isolated

Sand-bagging crews worked feverishly at Fremont, Neb., to block off waters from Rawhide creek, a territory on the Platte.

Civil defense officials at Ashland, Neb., reported shortly before noon that "a wall of water" was rushing down on the small community of Wann. Residents were urged to flee the village north of Ashland and helicopters were sent to the scene.

Ashland, along the Platte and flooding Salt creek, was isolated.

Traffic Signals Off in Ashland

Ashland–Traffic signals at six intersections here are out of commission today as a result of an automobile accident yesterday at Siskiyou blvd. and Beach st.

The mishap occurred shortly before noon, Ashland police reported, when a car owned by Mrs. Jeanne L. Hood, 29, of 471 South Mountain ave., rolled out of a parking lot and knocked a signal control unit off a utility pole.

Mrs. Hood told police she left the car outside a grocery store while she went in to make a purchase. The car was in gear, the motor was running, and the emergency brake was not firmly set, she said.

Mrs. Hood also left her three small children in the car and the police said one of the youngsters apparently knocked the gears into neutral and it rolled backwards, striking the pole.

City Superintendent Elmer Biegel said the traffic signals would be out for at least a week.

Biegel estimated cost of repairs between $500 and $600.

Relief for Cranberry Growers Expected

Washington – (UPI) – Rep. Charles O. Porter, (D-Ore.) said today an announcement was expected from the Agriculture Department which would mean substantial relief for cranberry growers.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Few brief clearings tonight. Cloudy with rain again Thursday. Low tonight 35-38. High tomorrow 55.

	Temp.
Highest Yesterday	60
Lowest this Morning	37
Prec. to 10 a.m. Today	1.85

Our Skies Tonight

Sunset today	6:35 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow	5:56 a.m.
Moonset tonight	10:12 p.m.
First Quarter	April 3

VISIBLE PLANETS

Jupiter, rising at 1:4[illegible] a.m., is now a bit brighter than Sirius.

Saturn, low in southeast 3:39 a.m.

Mars rises 4:55 a.m.

Venus, rises 5:36 a.m.

School District Bond Election Set Thursday

Patrons of Medford school district 549C will vote tomorrow on a $750,000 bond issue to finance a two - year building program to provide additional classrooms for an increased enrollment and to relieve present crowded conditions in some schools.

Polls at seven locations will be open between 2 and 8 p.m.

Polling places are McLoughlin Junior High school, Hedrick Junior High school, Griffin Creek, Jacksonville, Ruch, Howard and Lone Pine schools.

Registered voters living within the city, Oak Grove, West Side, Dewey and Kenwood areas will vote at the Junior high schools. Those living in those areas west of Bear creek will vote at McLoughlin Junior High, and residents living within those areas east of Bear creek will vote at Hedrick Junior High.

Aspects of the $750,000 bond issue were reviewed last night by Dr. Leonard B. Mayfield at a second public meeting scheduled to discuss the proposal.

The meeting was held at Hedrick Junior High school's speech room, and at one time eight interested citizens were in the room. Most of the review was heard by six citizens, School Board Chairman William A. (Bill) Barker, Budget Committee Chairman P. G. Humphreys, and Assistant School Superintendent Elliott Becken.

Monday night, at the first such public meeting, seven interested citizens and four officials were present.

Two Election Boards

There will be two election boards at each of the junior high school polling places, school officials said. Previously, there has been one election board, causing some delay in the voting process.

Legal voters living in the attendance areas of Griffin Creek, Jacksonville, Ruch, Howard and Lone Pine will vote at those school buildings.

A legal voter is a person 21 years old or older who has lived in the district for six months or more and who is a registered voter. Money from the bonds, if approved, will finance construction of more than 30 classrooms. Not all classrooms, however, will be built next year, school officials have pointed out, and if surveys show new classrooms are not needed in the 1961-62 school year, bonds will not be sold for their construction.

Minimum Needs

Minimum needs for the 1960-61 school year include two classrooms at West Side, three at Oak Grove, four at Hoover, two at Hedrick Junior High, and completion of the boys physical education plant at Medford High school, which will provide seven teacher stations. An additional teacher station will be made available at Medford High through renovation in the present building.

At McLoughlin Junior High school, the old district shop will be renovated to provide a boys' manual arts department with a woodshop and drawing room downstairs and two classrooms upstairs.

Also in next school year's plans are the addition of a stage and boys dressing room at Ruch and renovation of a multi-purpose room at Jacksonville.

For the 1961-62 school year, three classrooms are planned at Hedrick, two at Jefferson, Wilson and Hoover schools, and one classroom at Griffin Creek and West Side.

Based on Study

The need for additional classrooms was based on a thorough study of school census figures which have indicated during the past few years an average growth of about 300 additional pupils per year. School board and budget committee members pointed out that whenever 30 additional children either move into the district or become school age, a classroom with its facilities and equipment is needed.

Buildings constructed in the two-year program, school officials said, will be constructed on the most economical basis possible consistent with low maintenance and upkeep costs, and the safety and welfare of the children.

The election on the bond issue was called earlier than the regular budget election, which will be held May 2, because many of the classrooms will be needed next school year, and construction will start as soon as possible. By holding the election early, bonds can be sold, bids called and buildings constructed in time for school opening next fall, school officials said.

(See story and general philosophy and educational ford school district on page responsibilities of the Med-6.)

Russia Offers To Yield Timetable On Disarmament

Geneva – (UPI) – The Soviet Union offered to unhook the four-year timetable from its general disarmament plan in an apparent concession to the West today but western spokesmen said it did nothing to crack the arms deadlock.

A Soviet delegation spokesman told newsmen the four-year time limit first proposed by Premier Nikita Khrushchev "is open to negotiations" but that there eventually must be some rigid timetable.

No Real Concession

A western spokesman said the statement was "interesting" but no real concession.

"Our view is that rigid time limits are impractical," the western spokesman said.

The statements came after the 10-nation East-West Disarmament Conference met for only 41 minutes, the shortest session so far, and adjourned until Thursday apparently in total deadlock.

Medford Boy Arrested At Scene of Fire

A 17-year-old Medford boy was arrested by city police Tuesday evening when he failed to move away from some high tension power lines in danger of falling at the fire at Faber's Farmer Supply, 11th and Fir sts.

The boy was taken into custody for failing to obey a police officer. The youth became belligerent when taken to the police station, police reported. Following the fire, the boy was released to his parents, pending action by the juvenile department.

Ike Won't Take Sides in Event Nixon Opposed

Endorsement Based On Only Candidacy

Washington –(UPI)– President Eisenhower said today he would not take sides publicly if another major Republican candidate came along to challenge Vice President Richard M. Nixon for the 1960 GOP presidential nomination.

Under questioning at a news conference, Eisenhower told reporters that his recent expression of preference for Nixon as his successor was based on the fact that Nixon was the only candidate.

Not Opposed To Others

The President said he was not favoring Nixon as opposed to other Republicans, and if there were two candidates he would have to observe his previously self-imposed limitation on expressing a choice.

Other news conference highlights:

–Commenting on recent racial tension in the South, the President said he was convinced that the conscience of America eventually would give all of her citizens economic and political equality without regard to race.

Defines Health Program

–He restated his opposition to compulsory health insurance in any form as an approach to socialized medicine. But said he had ordered the department of health, education and welfare to study extensively the proper federal responsibility in a voluntary system of insurance for the aged, in conjunction with state and local responsibility.

–The President said efforts to negotiate differences with the Castro government of Cuba have been disappointing. He said the United States still stood ready to discuss any complaints against this country from the Cuban government.

Public Hearing On Welfare Set

A public hearing on state public welfare legislation will be held in Medford April 5, it was announced today.

The hearing, to be conducted by the state legislative interim committee on public welfare, will be held in the county courthouse auditorium. The time will be announced later.

Anyone wishing to be heard by the committee is invited to make a statement, and those planning to do so are asked to give advance notice of their intent of their subject matter, if at all possible. Such notice may be given, either by letter or telephone, to James Pullman, administrator of the Jackson county public welfare department, 132 West Fourth st., telephone SP 3-6621.

The hearing will consider any phase of Oregon's public welfare program. It is one of a series being held throughout the state by the committee, which will consider data obtained at the hearings in preparing recommendations for welfare law changes to the 1961 legislature.

Salem – (UPI) – The present seven - day a week visiting schedule at the State Correctional Institution will be cut to five days a week in the near future.

"That Hound Is Howling Again"

Faber Building Destroyed

Medford Firemen Still on Scene Of General Alarm

Building Reported As Total Loss

Firemen continued mopping up operations today on the spectacular general alarm blaze which destroyed the Faber's Farmers Supply company building at South Fir and West 11th sts. here last night.

Charred remains of the one-story mostly frame but partly masonry structure, which covered a quarter of a block, were still standing. Firemen, however, termed the building and its contents a total loss. One of the owners estimated the loss at $450,000.

Origin of the blaze had not been determined this morning. Fire Chief Gordon Barker said that fire marshals were "working on an electrical failure theory."

Two Explosions

The fire department received the alarm about 7:50 p.m. after residents of the area reportedly heard two explosions and saw flames shooting from the west side of the building. Firemen said the entire structure was involved in flames when they arrived.

The structure housed the feed, fuel and warehouse business of Everett A. and Donald E. Faber, Central Point, and the Rogue Valley Beverage company, operated by Stanley Kalapus, 2156 Hillcrest rd., Medford. Everett Faber was said to be owner of the building.

The blaze threatened other structures in the warehouse and packinghouse area but more than 50 fire fighters succeeded in preventing the flames from spreading. There was no apparent damage to other buildings other than to exteriors from smoke, firemen said today.

Two pumper trucks and the aerial ladder from the central station and two trucks each from the east and west side fire stations were dispatched to the scene. Twelve on duty and 17 off duty firemen responded along with 10 volunteers, Fire Chief Gordon Barker, Assistant Chief Earl Harrison and Fire Marshal Truman Nelson.

In addition, 11 chiefs of other Jackson county rural and city fire departments, here for a meeting on mutual aid, pitched in and helped the Medford force. Volunteers from other departments also offered their aid.

Some 15 to 20 off duty police, some of them relieving regular duty officers, also reported to the scene.

Seek Cause

Chief Barker stated that Deputy State Fire Marshal William E. Mills and City Fire Marshal Truman Nelson were seeking to determine the cause of the blaze. He said they are quite sure that the area of origin was in the front part of the structure along Fir st. The material that exploded won't be determined until it is known what things were stored in that part of the building, he stated.

Firemen do know, Barker reported, that the floor was burned clear through in a small partitioned off room and that this point of the fire appeared hottest when they arrived.

In the room was an electric chicken brooder, according to the chief.

Donald Faber reported partial insurance on the building and store stock and said that the biggest loss is in equipment. One truck burned in the blaze. Faber stated that firms who rented space carried their own insurance on their stock.

Power Off

The blaze put a reported 900 telephones out of service south of West 11th st. Burned were 250 feet of a 600-pair cable and another 250 feet of a 400-pair cable. Pacific Telephone crews have been on the job since 2 a.m. restoring service and hoped to have all service back by 8 p.m. today.

An area bounded by Bartlett, Eighth, 11th sts. and Oakdale ave., was without power for about an hour.

GENERAL ALARM—Water from fire hoses seemed to have only mometary effect on the raging fire that destroyed Faber's Farmers Supply building in Medford last night, as repeated "explosions" of combustible material caused the fire to flare up time after time. Cause of the fire is so far undetermined. Damage is estimated to be about $450,000, according to Co-owner Donald E. Faber, Central Point.—(Anders Photo by Simonson)

Ashland School Board Approves District Budget

Ashland — The Ashland school board has approved the district's 1960-61 budget of $1,969,903, Superintendent Stanley Jobe said today. School patrons will vote on the budget May 12.

The total budget, Jobe said, includes interest and principal on $1,669,000 bonded indebtedness and a reserve construction fund of $613,211.

Jobe explained that the new budget actually is a lesser one than this year's since the millage, based on the same assessment valuation as this year's, will drop from 64.4 to 62.3.

Three Reasons

There are three primary reasons for the higher figure for the next school year, Jobe said. He listed the addition of 10 faculty members, increased salaries for all district personnel and the fact that this is the first year for the district to pay on the principal of the junior high school bond issue.

The latter, he said, offsets the approximately $170,000 in this year's budget for construction of various buildings which is not in the new budget. He added that the district expects to increase its enrollment by about 100 students during the 1960-61 school year.

Other figures included in the budget, Jobe continued, are $1,106,189, general fund; $161,245, amount inside the 6 per cent limit; $550,868, amount outside the 6 per cent limit, and $823,443, amount necessary to balance budget.

Not shown in the budget, he said, is $163,267 in state tax offset from the basic school support fund. This, he added, will come through the county to further reduce the budget.

Petitions Against Consolidating Filed

Petitions against the reorganization of Evans Valley with Rogue River school district were submitted today at the Jackson county school superintendent's office, according to an office spokesman. The petitions were circulated in the Evans Valley area.

The petitions contain 120 signatures which have yet to be checked for authenticity and for voter registration.

A number equal to 50 per cent of the 188 legally registered voters who voted in the reorganization election in Evans Valley March 16, or 94 signatures are needed on petitions to have the reorganization plan rejected.

Senate Considers Civil Rights Bill

Washington– (UPI) –The Senate, without a word of challenge from southern opponents, formally began consideration today of a committee-revised civil rights bill.

Storm Brings Rain, Snow; More Forecast

A storm front which moved across southern Oregon early last night brought varying amounts of precipitation to the Rogue valley area during the night.

Substantial amounts of snow fell in the higher elevations, with Crater Lake National park reporting a 17-inch fall during the past 24 hours.

The weather bureau at the Medford airport said continued showery weather and cooler temperatures can be expected for the next five days.

Between 10 a.m. yesterday and 10 o'clock this morning, a total of .85 of an inch of rain fell at the Medford airport, with .58 of an inch falling between midnight and 10 a.m. Heavier amounts were reported elsewhere in the area with Grants Pass having 1.98 inches since 5 p.m. yesterday, and Butte Falls reporting 1.16 inches.

2.82 Inches Reported

A total of 2.82 inches of rain was reported at the California-Oregon state line on Highway 199.

State police said highway passes over the Siskiyous and Green Springs at 8 o'clock this morning had packed snow, and that traffic was proceeding without chains.

The weather bureau said the snow level was about 5,300 feet early this morning, but lowered to about 3,500 feet before noon. Snow was visible on Roxy Anne butte during breaks in the low clouds this morning.

Senator Kennedy To Visit Medford

Sen. John Kennedy of Massachusetts will be the "grand marshal" of the Pear Blossom Festival parade here April 23, it was announced today.

Senator Kennedy is a major Democratic candidate for President this year, and will be in the state campaigning prior to the May 20 primary election.

Festival officials pointed out, however, that his appearance in the parade is entirely non-partisan and non-political, and is a courtesy which would be extended to any American of equal prominence who happened to have scheduled an appearance here at that time.

It is not yet known whether Senator Kennedy's wife will accompany him on his Medford visit.

Ashland Council Buys Liability Insurance

Ashland – The Ashland city council last night accepted a bid of $3,434.18 from Irwin Insurance agency, Ashland, for the city's liability insurance. The policy will become effective Friday.

Only one other bid was opened, that from Singmaster and Jones Insurance agency, Ashland, for $4,377.57.

The 17 inches of snow at Crater Lake National park brought the total on the ground to 109 inches, compared to 101 inches at this time last year. The park reported 1.14 inches of precipitation during the past 24 hours.

Park personnel said it was the worst storm of the season at the park with a 15-degree temperature and strong winds blowing a powdered snow.

Chains are required to park headquarters, and the road to the rim is expected to remain closed throughout the day.

Advisory Board Sets Meetings

Regular meetings of the armory advisory board are now being held once a month at the Medford armory, on orders of Col. Paul Kleiver, Salem, director of state armories, according to County Commissioner Ralph James.

James, who has been reappointed county representative of the board, said the group must also keep regular minutes and submit copies to all interested groups such as the city of Medford and county. The board is composed of a county representative, city representative and three members of the National Guard.

James noted that $8,000 has been allocated for 1,200 bleachers in the current budget, and $800 for erecting basketball backboards. The original estimate was for 4,000 seats, he added.

County Judge Earl Miller said the county court has been authorized to make further study of the accoustics problem in the armory and make recommendations.

Coach Resigns at Ashland High

Ashland–Varney A. Corey, head football coach at Ashland high school for the past two years, has submitted his resignation to accept a teacher-coach position in San Jose, Calif., Ashland School Superintendent Stanley Jobe announced today.

Varney's decision, Jobe said, "was due to purely economic reasons."

Jobe said the school will be looking for "a coach with five years or more of successful experience in coaching in A1 or A2 schools."

President Feels Successor Not Bound by Deals

Degree of General Disarmament Seen

Washington – (UPI) – President Eisenhower said today the Russians have come a long way toward meeting western conditions for a formal treaty to ban nuclear weapons tests. He also said there are signs they want some degree of general disarmament in the field of conventional weapons.

The President told a news conference he did not believe that any non-treaty moratorium of small underground tests he might make with Russia, along the lines of the U. S.-British proposal announced Tuesday, would be binding on his successor.

To Recommend Stop-Gap

But he implied he would recommend to the man who follows him in the White House that he continue the stop-gap arrangement long enough to see whether the Russians really want to come to terms on a formal ban on bigger blasts.

Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan announced Tuesday they were willing to agree with Russia on a short-term suspension of small underground nuclear tests, which defy detection at present, if the Russians would sign an air-tight treaty banning forever the large and medium scale blasts which can be monitored. The formal treaty would require Senate ratification but the voluntary suspension agreed to by the President, would not.

Research Required

They also stipulated that as a condition to the unpoliced moratorium on the underground tests the Russians would have to join in a coordinated research program to determine how such explosions could be detected effectively.

The President said Chairman J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) has been consulted by the administration and that leaders of both parties will be fully advised of what the administration is trying to do before any treaty is signed.

Eisenhower said every effort must be made to halt nuclear tests forever because, otherwise, more and more countries – he cited the example of France – will gain knowledge in this critical field and spread the danger to the world.

Helen Douglas to Speak at Banquet

Mrs. Helen Gahagan Douglas, former congresswoman from California's Hollywood district, will be guest speaker at the 10th annual Roosevelt Memorial dinner at Hedrick Junior High school Saturday, May 14, Democratic County Chairman Frank Christian has announced.

Mrs. Douglas' visit here was arranged through efforts of Democratic National Committeeman C. Girard Davidson, Portland,

Mrs. Douglas, wife of movie and television actor Melvin Douglas and a former star herself, is now living in New York with her husband. Much in demand as a speaker, her talks concern the United Nations and world peace, Davidson said.

She is scheduled to attend an all-day meeting of Democratic women in Portland May 13.

City Police, Firemen Check Bomb Threat

Albert Winfield McWhorter, 619 Pennsylvania ave., notified city police Tuesday afternoon that he received a telephone call stating that a bomb was to go off at his residence at 2:15 p.m.

City police and firemen checked the residence for a bomb and found nothing. McWhorter told police that the voice on the telephone was a man.

Journal Plans Return To Own Plant April 18

Portland –(UPI)– The afternoon Oregon Journal, which has been publishing combined editions with the rival morning Oregonian since a strike started last fall, will move back to its own plant April 18, it was announced today.

Strike Began Nov. 10

A joint announcement in today's combined edition said alternate publication of the two newspapers would resume on that date. Combined publication began 12 hours after a strike started last Nov. 10.

Managements of the papers announced the date after staff recruiting reached the point where independent publication was possible.

Northwest Edition

First edition of the Journal in its own plant will be a Sunday night northwest edition with a Monday April 18 date. The Oregonian's first edition will be distributed on the morning of the 18th.

Higher Social Security Payroll Taxes Considered

Washintgon —(UPI)— Chances were growing today that Congress might levy higher payroll taxes this year on persons covered by the Social Security program who earn more than $4800 a year.

This prospect stemmed from the fact that the House ways and means committee was likely to recommend soon an election-year liberalization of Social Security benefits.

There is strong sentiment for holding the cost of the liberalization to a level that could be financed without an across-the-board boost in the Social Security tax rate. To do so, the committee would have to forego a general hike in monthly benefits.