

Sun Bursts Point To Need for Method Of Communication

Washington—UPI—Space experts said today that the latest outbursts of violence by the crochety sun point up the need for a blackout-proof system of communication via satellites.

Last Thursday the sun triggered the first of a series of gigantic eruptions (solar flares) which may turn out to be the worst on record. One result was disruption of radio communications around the world.

If a satellite system of global communications had been in operation, scientists said, it would have weathered the solar tantrums with no trouble. Both the military and private industry are trying to perfect such a system.

Ordinary long-distance radio communication is possible because waves in a certain frequency range bounce back from electrified regions of the high atmosphere. Signals in this range can skip all the way around the world.

Step up the frequency, however, and the signals pierce the reflecting region, called the ionosphere, and escape into space. Communication at such ultra high frequencies is possible only between points in direct line of sight of each other. Points not on a direct line must resort to the lower skipping frequencies to maintain contact.

When a flare explodes on the sun, it hurls torrents of charged particles into space at speeds up to 1,000 miles a second. These particles set off "magnetic storms" which spool the ionosphere's radio-reflecting capacity.

This washes out ordinary long-distance radio communication on earth. Flares of rare violence, erupted on the sun Nov. 10, 12, and 15. Nothing approaching them had been reported since Feb. 23, 1956. The effects on communications are still being felt.

Satellites Are Needed

But if enough satellite radio stations had been aloft to maintain line-of-sight contact with all points on earth, no one would have noticed any disruptions of communications. Using frequencies in the 1,000 to 10,000 mega-cycle range—instead of the skip frequencies of 3 to 30 megacycles—they would have penetrated the magnetic storms without difficulty.

This has been proved often. For example, the American sun satellite Pioneer V passed through clouds of flare particles last spring without faltering in its line-of-sight radio reports to ground stations. Skip communication between the ground stations, however, were washed out for hours. The military has ways of

Eye Adjustment Controls Child's Reading Ability

San Francisco (Science Service)—If Johnny can't read, it may be because his "controlling" eye is on the opposite side of the hand he uses.

Symptoms of poor visual imagery and memory, reversals in reading and writing patterns and mirror writing are then apt to occur. Relief of these symptoms and of stuttering can be accomplished by corrective glasses or limiting hand actions to the corresponding hand.

These findings were cited as among the eye problems of children under 12 by Dr. Owen C. Dickson of the University of California Medical School, San Francisco, at the American Public Health association meeting here.

"Ideally," Dickson said, "all children should have the benefit of a complete eye examination before school age."

May Not Succeed

He noted that some eye defects will be so pronounced by the age of five that corrective measures may not succeed. Detection of a tumor, for example, although requiring immediate treatment, is rarely accomplished in school-age children.

Prevention of injuries to the eyes, he said, would include outlawing of BB guns in populated areas. Education of parents and the community about the dangers of slingshots, rubber bands, paper clips, scissors, pencils and other sharp objects in children's hands should be stressed.

"Careful handling and placement of liquids, such as cleaning fluids, paints, plant sprays, detergents, drugs and aerosol bombs can prevent many childhood eye injuries," Dickson stressed.

First aid treatment for any foreign liquid entering the eye should be prompt irrigation with water. The eye can be held open under a faucet, or water can be poured into the eye from a glass.

Dickson said the use of ointment or eye drops is to be discouraged because these applications may complicate later care.

Portlander Beaten In Stopping Fight

Portland—UPI—A Rose City bus driver, John A. Berglund, 34, was beaten about the head Wednesday night when he tried to apprehend a man he said was beating an unidentified sailor, police reported.

Police said Berglund observed a sailor being beaten and kicked by a man on the street. Left his bus and told bystanders to call police while he followed the assailant.

The man entered a comfort station a block away and Berglund followed. A fight ensued and the assailant took a blackjack away from Berglund and began to beat him with it. The station custodian called police.

Police charged Jack Crawford Joyner, 20, Oregon City, with assault with a deadly weapon. Berglund was treated for deep head cuts and shock.

Deadline Extended For Art Entries

The deadline for entering the first annual art exhibition and competition sponsored by the Rogue Valley Art association has been extended until 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, Ben J. Trowbridge Jr., chairman of the exhibition committee, said today.

Previously, the deadline had been set for today. Trowbridge said the deadline for entering was extended because of the number of entries which will not arrive from out-of-town locations until tomorrow.

About 75 entries for the competition have been received thus far from cities in southern Oregon and northern California.

The exhibition opens at the Rogue Art Gallery, 220 West Main st., Medford, after an artists reception and preview Dec. 4. It closes Dec. 23.

Congressman Ullman's Mother Dies in Salem

Salem—UPI—Mrs. Julia Ullman of Salem, mother of Congressman Al Ullman, (D-Ore.), died in a Salem hospital Wednesday at the age of 81. She had been on the critical list for two weeks.

Private funeral services are scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Friday at Virgil T. Golden chapel here. The family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the heart fund.

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