



AT LUNCHEON — Dr. Edwin R. Durno, fourth district congressman, shakes hands with Gene Rossman, Portland, executive director of the Portland Housing Authority, who, with Medford Mayor John W. Snider, center, attended yesterday's Medford Chamber of Commerce roundtable luncheon. Rossman spoke at a meeting of the Rogue Valley Council on Aging yesterday afternoon. (Knackstedt Photo)

Congressman Durno Airs Federal Building, Other Items

Congressman Edwin R. Durno said here Monday that the government has decided to erect the new Medford federal building on property south of 10th st., and he has been informed that if the government can't get the property by negotiations it will condemn it.

Durno's comments were directed toward a 40-unit motel that is apparently proposed for construction on some of the property wanted by the government. The site is located directly south of 10th st. between Riverside and Central avenues.

The federal building and other items of local and national interest were discussed by the congressman at yesterday's Medford Chamber of Commerce roundtable luncheon attended by about 100 persons. Durno will be in the fourth district this week and part of next while Congress is in Easter recess.

Noting that he personally

Merkel Reaffirms Court's Statement

Cats cannot be compared to dogs concerning a rabies problem, Dr. A. Erwin Merkel, Jackson county public health officer said today.

He reaffirmed statements made to County Judge Earl Miller at a public health department budget hearing last week.

Dr. Merkel said he is not against control of cats, and said it is desirable. But stray cats don't provide the same rabies problem that dogs do since they tend to retreat from association with humans.

"They are not a public health menace," the doctor emphasized.

"I realize there might be some problem in areas where people can drive out a country road and drop the cats off to fend for themselves. And I do feel there should be a place to take the cats, either for disposal or for return to their owners or placement in new homes."

Dr. Merkel said this morning that he would probably act as advisor to a board investigating the stray cat problem, if he is requested to do so by the county court. The county court has not yet decided appointment of the board.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Fair through Wednesday. Low tonight 36. High Wednesday 58. Temp. Lowest this morning 36. Prec. to 10 a.m. today .03.

Our Skies Tonight

Sunset today	6:32 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow	6:00 a.m.
Moonset tomorrow	5:54 a.m.
Full Moon	Friday night
Prominent Star	Regulus, near the Moon
Visible Planets	Venus, sets 8:07 p.m.
Mars, in the west	10:33 p.m.
Jupiter and Saturn, in the southeast	4:47 a.m.

Astoria Seeks \$25,000 For 150th Birthday Party

Salem — (UPI) — The West's oldest city asked for a present today, and legislators indicated Astoria may get \$25,000 to invite the rest of the world to its 150th birthday party.

Started in 1811

The community, first permanent American colony in the vast Oregon territory west of the Mississippi, started when John Jacob Astor floated the American flag over a tiny fort and fur trading settlement April 12, 1811.

Astoria evolved as a trading and shipping center, fishing area, and vacation spot. Today, although numbering only

'Red' Thomas To Resign from Post

Ashland — Harold (Red) Thomas has announced he will retire as U.S. Forest Service Ashland Ranger next month, Carrol Brown, supervisor of Rogue River National Forest, said yesterday.

Thomas has been chief Ashland ranger since 1946. He has had a series of illnesses in recent years and has undergone surgery. He has been transferred to the Rogue River National Forest office in Medford pending his retirement.

In making the announcement, Brown, said Robert Taylor has been named acting Ashland ranger. He has been an assistant to Thomas since 1958.

By retiring, Thomas concludes a 27-year career of forestry work, interrupted only by service in World War II. He graduated from Oregon State college in 1933, and worked for the forest service until 1935. He worked for the state forestry department until 1941.

Astoria Seeks \$25,000 For 150th Birthday Party

11,000, it is a major Oregon port.

Astoria Sen. Dan Thiel told a Ways and Means subcommittee the city should get \$25,000 to use in inviting tourists to join in the celebration of the first 150 years.

100-Day Celebration

The city plans "100 days of real celebrating," Thiel said, including a pageant that will reproduce scenes from Astoria history.

Lord Astor of England, a descendant of the founder, will launch the celebration when he arrives in Astoria with his family April 10,

Kennedy Requests \$2 Billion Increase in Defense Budget

Kennedy's Space Budget Calls for Spending Increase

Lyndon Johnson To Head Space Council

Washington — (UPI) — President Kennedy today proposed a space budget boost which could hasten manned flight around the moon by at least a year.

The President sent Congress a revised space budget recommending a \$125.67 million increase in appropriations for the fiscal year starting July 1 and a jump in actual spending of \$85 million.

The appropriation boost would increase the Eisenhower administration's request 11.3 per cent, from \$1.16 billion to a new figure of \$1.23 billion.

The spending jump would be 8.8 per cent, from \$985 million to \$1.05 billion.

Vigorous Space Effort

James E. Webb, director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, told reporters that "in the opinion of the President" the revised budget "represents a strong and vigorous space effort."

Webb said it will speed development of powerful rockets "for both named and unnamed exploration of space."

He said the new figures were arrived at after a careful appraisal of the U.S. space effort, in relation to Russia's, by President Kennedy, Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, and "all appropriate officials."

Johnson will head the National Space Council, and NASA spokesmen said even further charges in the program may be ordered after the council goes to work.

In Stern Chase

Webb conceded that as far as big rockets are concerned, "we certainly are in a stern chase" in the space competition with Russia.

Deputy NASA Administrator Hugh L. Dryden said the new budget represents "a major decision" to speed development of the so-called C2 version of the Saturn which will be capable of launching 45,000 pounds into an earth orbit, 15,000 pounds to the moon, and 10,000 pounds on probes of Mars and Venus.

happen. He said Laos is the first real testing ground of Kennedy and his administration. He called it a "symbolic" as well as a "physical" crisis.

Not Backing Everything

But, while Durno backs the administration's foreign policy in such places as Laos, he made clear that the same backing is not accorded all of the administration's domestic policy.

The congressman declared that, "you are going to be confronted—you are already confronted—with a lot of social welfare legislation." Through this legislation, he said, the federal government is attempting to "interfere" in the affairs of state government and "intra-state" commerce.

At the same time, Durno claimed that he has supported anti-recessionary measures to date.

Minimum Wages

Regarding Kennedy's \$1.25 minimum wage bill which he helped defeat last week, Durno said he received 222 telegrams and letters opposing the bill, while he received only two telegrams from the AFL-CIO and the Oregon state Democratic central committee favoring the bill.

Other issues discussed by Durno:

—Rogue Basin development. As far as Durno knows it is proceeding on schedule. Funds to complete the corps of engineers study are assured, and it is hoped a hearing can be held on their report by summer or late fall.

—Agate dam. He called it a small project to provide supplemental water and irrigation for new acreage, to cost about \$1,800,000. He hopes reports on the project will be submitted to the committee on interior and insular affairs, of which Durno is a member, within a month or two. The administration is anxious to get projects like this started.

Status of Wilderness Bill

Wilderness bill. Durno said \$2½ million has been appropriated by previous administrations to a special commission to study the overall long-range recreational and wilderness programs in the country. The study is scheduled to be presented to committee on Jan. 1, 1962, and he expects little action on it before then.

—Oregon Dunes. Durno suggested that his statements regarding the Oregon Dunes national seashore proposal have been distorted. He said all he ever said about it was: "I didn't feel that the Oregon Sand Dunes was in the same category or same level of plane as Crater Lake, Grand Canyon, Yosemite or Yellowstone national parks."

Durno said the omission of the Oregon dunes from the President's message on natural resources, while three other seashore proposals were mentioned, "was not inadvertent, nor was it a slip of the pen."

More Opposed to It

He said it was somebody other than himself that was responsible for keeping mention of the Oregon Dunes out of the President's message.

Also, Durno said he has received "five" letters favoring the Oregon Dunes seashore bill, and "hundreds and hundreds and hundreds" against it from both individuals and organizations.

In this same vein, he declared: "I have come to the conclusion that we should give serious consideration to the proper maintenance and rehabilitation of the existing 29 national parks before we acquire a lot of others."

—Peace Corps. A "noble idea" and a "wonderful thing" if the right kind of youth can be found. It should be approached carefully and it may be a little ahead of its time.

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No. 5

West Remains Hopeful of Solution To Laos Crisis

Allies Differ on How To Pressure Communists

Russia Expected To Accept Cease Fire

By PHIL NEWSOM, UPI Foreign News Analyst

The Western world remained hopeful for a peaceful solution to the crisis in Laos today although differences were reported on how to put allied pressure on the Communists.

U.S. officials in Washington expressed cautious optimism that the Soviet Union would accept a cease fire in Laos and settle the crisis there by negotiation.

And in Bangkok, Thailand, Secretary of State Dean Rusk predicted that the eight Southeast Asia Treaty Organization member states would reach an "acceptable agreement" on curbing Communist aggression in Laos despite reports of a split in SEATO ranks.

Such an agreement must be endorsed unanimously before the SEATO council meeting ends on Wednesday. But right now, its members are split.

The United States, backed by Thailand and the Philippines, wants a strongly worded statement warning the Communists to cooperate or face Free World military intervention if necessary. The French are reported opposed to such a stand. The British, backed by Australia, New Zealand and probably Pakistan, want a moderate middle ground approach to the problem.

Pote Sarasin of Thailand, secretary general of SEATO, said no one could expect eight countries to have identical views, but pointed out they all have the same objectives.

He added that the current Bangkok meeting is not dependent on either a reply or lack of one from Moscow.

Khrushchev Delays Reply

Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev has delayed in responding to a British note asking a cease fire, reactivation of the International Control Commission for Laos and a later multilateral conference to work out a neutral status for Laos.

He was reported conferring with his Red Chinese ally on the next moves to make in the Laotian crisis, and seemingly is keeping the Peiping leaders as much as possible in the background of the current Laos situation.

Diplomatic sources in Bangkok said the eight Southeast Asia Treaty Organization members would go ahead with plans for military intervention because of continued Soviet silence and in the belief the Communists might be stalling to consolidate their military position. Partition of Laos was believed to be their ultimate aim.



PINEAPPLE SHIPMENT—Seven tons of fresh pineapples, shipped from Hawaii in a special refrigerated container, arrived at Bear Creek Orchards packing plant yesterday morning. Inspecting the choice fruit as it was being unloaded above, are A. D. Roach, assistant plant manager of the firm (left) and Executive Vice President Glenn Harrison. The pineapple, weighing five to six pounds each, will be distributed by Bear Creek to members of the firm's Fruit of the Month club, Harrison said. It is the first of a series of shipments. The container was loaded with fruit fresh from the fields in Hawaii and it was not necessary to touch them again until the container was unloaded here, Harrison said. They crossed the ocean by Matson lines and arrived in San Francisco via Consolidated Freightways.

Mt. Ashland Area Recommended for Ski Development

J. Herbert Stone, regional forester, U.S. forest service, Portland, has recommended to the Washington, D.C., office that the proposed Mt. Ashland ski resort be developed.

Congressman Edwin R. Durno, Medford, said yesterday that he talked with Stone in Washington, D.C., recently at which time Stone said he would recommend the Mt. Ashland development.

The forest service's participation in the development would involve construction of access roads to the site, and issuing a permit to operators of a ski resort.

Forest Supervisor Carrol Brown said the forest service has under contract now an access road to within three miles of the proposed site, and a contract for the distance to the lodge site is included in the forest service's program this summer. The road now under contract may have to be improved some, he said.

The decision to recommend Mt. Ashland as a winter sports area came after the forest service evaluated four possible locations in southern Oregon. In addition to Mt. Ashland, forest service personnel considered Brown mountain, Pelican butte and Mt. McLoughlin.

The forest service studied snow conditions, the terrain, economic aspects, community interest and the benefits to the community in considering the sites.

Thomas Parker, Ashland contractor, and associates have proposed a \$165,000 ski resort at Mt. Ashland. The site is about 15 miles from Ashland.

Jackson county's portion of the road probably will be included in the county's road program this summer, according to Commissioner Chester Wendt.

Medford Man Found Guilty of Burglary At Happy Camp

Yreka — (UPI) — It took a superior court jury only an hour Monday to find a 26-year-old Medford man guilty of second-degree burglary, climaxing a trial that lasted for one week.

Judge J. E. Barr ordered a pre-sentence investigation before sentencing David Albert Hoffer on the charge which carries a penalty of 1 to 14 years in prison.

Hoffer, who formerly resided at a hotel in Medford, had been charged along with three other Medford men with the Dec. 30 safe burglary of a Happy Camp, Calif., clothing store in which approximately \$1,000 was taken.

During the trial, six persons from Medford, including three members of the city police force, testified.

Hoffer's three accomplices all admitted the crime. They were Veryl Leroy Biggins, 28, of 122 Kenwood ave.; Lester Hurst, 39, of 1125 West 10th st.; and Jerry Leander Stewart, 23, of 829 West 11th st.

Hurst had turned state evidence in the trial and received court immunity. Stewart was sentenced to six months in the Siskiyou county jail and received a seven-year probationary period.

Biggins, who did not face trial in Siskiyou county, was one of District Attorney A. H. Newton's key witnesses. However, because of some of his testimony during the trial he has since been charged with perjury.

Biggins pleaded guilty two

Sen. Pearson Critical of Out-of-State Man at UO

Salem — (UPI) — Sen. Walter J. Pearson complained today that the State Board of Higher Education did not choose an Oregon man to become new president of the University of Oregon and indignantly senators rose on the floor to defend appointment of Arthur Flemming as head of the school.

Flemming most recently was U.S. secretary of health, education and welfare. He assumes his new duties at Eugene July 1 and is visiting the campus this week.

Sen. Monroe Sweetland (D-Milwaukie) took Pearson to task and said it is a tribute to the state to have Flemming here. Senate Republican leader Anthony Yturri agreed.

This brought an attack from Sen. Lyndel Newberry (R-Talent), who said Flemming "did

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more to hurt the cranberry industry" in Oregon than any other person in the nation. Flemming was criticized by cranberry growers for a "scare" two Thanksgivings ago when his department announced that cranberry-eating rats had contracted cancer.

Not Being Critical

Pearson said he was not being critical of Flemming but questioned whether the board had to go out of the state to find a new university president.

Pearson made the same statement about the new superintendent of schools in Portland, also out of state. Sweetland said in both instances, the boards involved should be left to their own decisions and the Senate "tend to our business here."

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Biggest Share To Mass-Produce Polaris Subs

Missile Programs Would Be Boosted

Washington — (UPI) — President Kennedy asked Congress today to vote a \$2 billion increase in defense funds, most of it to mass-produce a "formidable deterrent force" of Polaris submarines in the next four years.

Declaring that "the sooner they are on station, the safer we will be," Kennedy called for assembly-line construction of the Polaris subs until they reach a one-month production rate by June 1963.

Missile Increases

He proposed increases in all missile programs which would arm the nation with more than 1,300 combat-ready ballistic missiles by 1965.

The big Polaris build-up was set forth in a revised defense budget in which Kennedy proposed actual spending of \$43.8 billion during fiscal 1962. The administration said this was a net increase of \$650 million over the spending figure proposed by former President Dwight D. Eisenhower for the year starting July 1. The Eisenhower spending figure was \$42.9 billion, but Kennedy's message said this did not include "underestimates" of some \$235 million, including \$48 million in fire damage to the carrier Constellation.

Funds for Future

Kennedy's budget called on Congress to vote nearly \$43.8 billion in "new obligatory authority" for fiscal 1962 — funds that would be voted in the next fiscal year but be spent in future years. This compared to the \$41.8 proposed by Eisenhower — thus accounting for the proposed \$2 billion boost in new defense funds sought by Kennedy.

Kennedy said his defense program would make the United States so strong that if it received a surprise nuclear attack it could retaliate "with devastating power."

More War Equipment

But at the same time he proposed more equipment, ranging from planes to rifles and bullets, for conventional and limited wars. He asked for only very little extra manpower, however.

He said "the strength and deployment of our forces in combination of those of our allies should be sufficiently powerful and mobile to prevent the steady erosion of the Free World through limited wars; and it is this role that should constitute the primary mission of our overseas forces."

(Continued on Page 2)

Bill Would Alter Primary Election

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House Speaker Robert Duncan of Medford said moving the primary to September, only two months before the November general election, would shorten political campaigns.

Duncan proposed the Oregon primary be held the third Tuesday in September.

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