

# Helicopters Could Remove Diseased Trees From Nation's Forests

## THE WEEK IN CALIFORNIA

### Nixon's Trip, Cooper's Cancer, Marriage Mixup Are Top News

By United Press International  
Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon scheduled an 11-day trip which will include several speeches, among them three Republican fundraising addresses.

Nixon's Los Angeles office said his trip would take him to his home in Washington and to Greenville, S.C., for a private dinner with James Byrnes, former Secretary of State.

He was to address a publisher's dinner in New York, then fly to Chicago to speak

to a Republican citizens rally. His itinerary also included Des Moines, Iowa; Detroit, and Columbus, Ohio.

Nixon was scheduled to return to the West Coast by way of San Francisco, where he will visit friends before returning to southern California.

In Hollywood, a veteran motion picture actor lay gravely ill with cancer... and another actor's ex-wife claimed he had married again.

Film Star Gary Cooper's condition in his fight against "advanced cancer" was reported to have taken a turn for the worse, giving his physician and family reasons for "grave concern."

Cooper's spirits were lifted when he received a personal message from Queen Elizabeth offering her best wishes. President Kennedy had talked to him on the telephone earlier.

In an announcement, Dr. Rex Kennamer reported that Cooper "has been greatly comforted by the interest, good wishes and blessings of his friends throughout the world."

In Santa Monica, Actress Anna Kashfi said that her ex-husband Marlon Brando told her he is married to Mexican star Movita and is the father of a nine-month-old son.

"Marlon told me weeks ago that he was secretly married to Movita and that they had a baby," Miss Kashfi said.

"He also asked for my help, saying he was going to get a divorce from her. Marlon wanted to know if I would allow his new baby to visit with our son, Devi. I told him I would have to think it over."

Elsewhere, there were these developments:

Robillard: Alexander Robillard, the first minor executed in California in 17 years, died in the San Quentin gas chamber for killing a policeman. Robillard, 20, was white-faced but calm as he was led into the green, eight-sided steel and glass chamber after telling warden Fred Dickson he would try to die like a man. Robillard was convicted for shooting patrolman Gene Doran of Hillsborough, Calif., on Aug. 5, 1959.

Bomber: A nimble five foot, six inch co-pilot was credited with saving an \$8 million B52 jet bomber. Officials at Beale

Air Force base near Marysville said that on a recent take-off the bomber's main landing gear failed to go into normal, retracted position. The pilot feared the plane's massive wheels would collapse if he attempted to land. Lt. George D. Helvie, 25, Turlock, Calif., crawled into the open wheel wells and inserted safety lock pins to insure that the gears stayed in position upon landing. Helvie worked his way across the bomb bay to reach the first wheel well at a time when the plane was traveling 200 mph at 8,000 feet.

Sinclair: Mrs. Mary Craig Sinclair, 78, author and wife of Pulitzer prize-winning novelist Upton Sinclair, died in Pasadena of a heart ailment. Mrs. Sinclair's book, "Southern Belle: The Personal Story of a Crusader's Wife," was published in 1957. Her husband ran unsuccessfully for governor of California in 1911.

Cooley: Spade Cooley, former "King of Western Swing," was arraigned in Bakersfield on a murder indictment in the death of his wife, Ella Mae, 35. The arraignment was continued until May 10, the time for Cooley to enter his plea. Cooley's daughter, Melody, 14, had testified at a coroner's inquest earlier that she saw her father beat her mother April 3. Mrs. Cooley died the same day.

Traffic: "I never want to drive a car in California again," pouted traffic-ticket king Herman Abrams when sentenced in Los Angeles to two years in jail. "I have news for you," replied Municipal Judge Byron J. Walters. "You're not going to get a chance to." Abrams, 69-year-old retired postal worker who said he had been given some 430 traffic citations in 42 years of driving, was convicted by a jury of 13 violations. He also was fined \$500.

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### Morse Outlines Forest Program Before Senate

Sen. Wayne Morse Thursday outlined in the Senate a program which would preserve natural growing conditions yet allow removal of diseased and selected trees from the nation's forests.

The proposal, supported and promoted by Glenn Jackson, Medford, would utilize powerful helicopters in removing ripe timber from inaccessible areas, or where the natural beauty is of prime importance, such as national parks, wilderness areas and camping sites.

Plans are under way, according to Jackson, for the nine-ton lifting capacity Sikorsky helicopter to be used in removing 167 overripe trees in a mapped area of Oregon Caves National monument.

Conventional logging in an area like Oregon Caves National monument, he said, would be disastrous, "but selective logging by helicopter reduces the damage to less than would be suffered from leaving the overripe timber to stand there and rot."

The Oregon Caves operation is an example of how helicopters could be utilized.

"Removing the tree on a selective basis by helicopter with no heavy equipment disturbing ground conditions, leaving a partial growing stock on the ground, will aid in the solution of the brush problem, will reduce the amount of land taken up by road systems, eliminate erosion, reduce silt of our streams, and eliminate some of our flood control problems," Jackson said.

"In addition to this," he added, "the multiple purpose use of public lands envisions a sizeable increase in recreational use. Certainly conventional logging methods do not add to the aesthetic beauty or use from a recreational standpoint. Lack of comparable damage from logging operations by helicopter will preserve much of this aesthetic value."

Jackson, after watching a helicopter demonstration more than a year ago, became convinced of the possibilities of using helicopters in logging, and started studying the idea to prove it was financially sound.

He conferred with Carroll Brown, supervisor of Rogue River National forest, about the soundness of such a plan financially. The forest service prepared two sets of figures comparing helicopter logging with conventional logging methods.

One set of figures was used with the defense department assuming the depreciation costs of the helicopters, and the other with the logging operations carrying depreciation costs. The figures showed that even with a \$369.48 an hour operation cost for the helicopter, airborne logging would cost \$35.57 a thousand board feet at the mill.

Conventional logging, including road building as well as slash disposal, figured out to \$35.47 a thousand board feet at the mill. The helicopter cost included bucking and falling needed to complete the airborne operation.

Jackson said the helicopter cost was computed on a basis of using the machines 1,000 hours a year. If this were increased to 1,500 hours, the cost of logging by helicopter would be reduced to \$32.81 a thousand board feet with the defense department assuming depreciation costs.

In return for the defense department's assumption of depreciation costs, the department would have priority on the helicopter's service for tactical purposes when needed.

Jackson said he has been concerned with the future of the state's forests, and the flood control and erosion problems resulting from clear-cut, side hill logging.

"The timber is there, much of it going rotten, harboring disease and creating fire or snag hazards," he said. "The only practical way of getting it out is to lift it out by air."

Jackson pointed out that the prime need is to preserve the natural growing conditions. "Cut or high-lead logging would be disastrous in many of these areas, either by destroying the aesthetic values, creating brush growth problems that stifle timber reproduction or by setting off flood control and erosion problems that are costly to check," he said.

Helicopters, he said, could be used in fire control. "The high lift helicopter is particularly important because of the large quantity of water or fire deterrent material which can be delivered to the specific spot where it is required," he said.

Jackson said he found that the type helicopter desirable for such work is already on order. Two of them are for the West German government and a third would be available for the experiment in Oregon Caves National monument.

Logging by helicopter may start in the spring of 1962. A preliminary agreement has been reached between the forest service, the defense department and Siskiyous Helicopter, and it is planned to have funds for the experiment in the 1962 federal budget.

### Two Are Injured In Valley Accident

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Raymond Withish, route 4, box 471, Medford, were taken to a local hospital Friday night after their car failed to make a curve near the intersection of Griffin Creek and South Stage rds., according to state police.

They were reported in good condition Saturday. Withish, 46, the driver, has possible neck injuries, and his wife and passenger, Minnie Withish, 55, is being treated for cuts and bruises.

Earlier Friday, minor damage occurred to two cars on Highway 99 near Rogue River, state police said.

A car driven by Elmer Rocky Robison, 38, Roseburg, attempted to pass a logging truck as the car ahead of it driven by Wayman Pilcher, 38, route 1, box 416, Gold Hill, started to make a left turn.

### White City Club Views Slide Show

White City - Rafe L. Anders of the Oregon state police presented a program of colored slides and commentary at a recent meeting of the White City Fisherman's club.

Anders displayed a sequence of slides from the natural bridge on the Rogue river to the Pacific ocean. Pictures included the Rogue river at flood waters, indicating the damage that flood water can do.

Also shown were scenes of Crater lake, Miller lake, Odell lake, Gold lake, Willow lake, Squaw lake, Fish lake, and other fishing spots in southern Oregon. Included were pictures of deer, elk, bear, sheep, and Kodiak bear in Alaska.

Members of the club expressed their appreciation for the officer's program, and noted that it was "an exceptionally fine gesture" for Anders to contribute to the entertainment of the domiciliary fishermen.

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