

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1962 MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE, MEDFORD, OREGON

New Year Holds Promise of Great Increase in U.S. Atomic Potential

Editor's note: Behind America's firm stance over Cuba was the firm knowledge that the "missile gap" was now Russia's liability, not ours. In the following dispatch, second of a series, a veteran space reporter describes the real strength of U.S. rocketry and its meaning in the cold war.

By ALVIN WEBB JR., Cape Canaveral—At the close of 1962, America's bargaining and battling position in world affairs was firmly anchored to some 400 war-ready missiles capable of hurling the nuclear equivalent of more than 1 billion tons of TNT into the heart of Russia. From land-based Atlas and underground Titan and Minuteman missiles to sea-going Polaris rockets and "cruise" Thor and Jupiters, it is by all means of reckoning the most devastating striking force ever built.

And when the more than 1,500 U.S. heavy and medium jet bombers—each carrying nuclear payloads—are thrown in, the sum potential destruction becomes awesome indeed.

These are the high-powered chips that enabled President John F. Kennedy to call Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's hand in the Cuban crisis.

This is the global striking force that physical Ralph E. Lapp, in a more critical vein, said could "overkill" the Soviet Union at least 25 times.

Lapp pleaded for an end to the nuclear stockpiling, but got few listeners. To the contrary, the U.S. atomic fire-power at the end of 1962 may well be twice as great as it is today.

While many missiles are ready to be "operational," however—some of them bigger than ever—are under development.

Pivotal Year

The year 1962 was a pivotal one for America's missile force. After long and sometimes agonizing years of development, the nuclear stockpile was declared operational and loaded for bear.

These are the so-called "city busters"—the giants that can fly 6,300 miles and even 8,000 miles with nuclear payloads to deliver devastation equal to 3 million tons of TNT or better per rocket.

Theoretically, the entire U.S. nuclear force could be unleashed on 15 minutes' notice. But as the year ended, about a dozen of the new Minuteman "instant ICF" rockets with nuclear warheads were lodged in "underground" silos in Montana—ready to be fired with just 32 seconds of warning.

On Short End

The extent of the Soviet missile force is still a matter of speculation at best, since the only reports considered reliable are compiled by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, and the CIA compilations have been notoriously unreliable in the past.

But if there is a "missile gap" now, it would appear that Russia is caught on the short end of it.

According to one report, the rockets that the Soviets have to rattle include no more than 75 or 80 ICBMs capable of reaching the U.S. mainland. Russia apparently has upwards of 400 rockets in the 1,000-1,500-mile range aimed at targets in Europe and Asia.

The Soviet Union, which a decade and a half ago binged its military force to the ballistic missile in lieu of the long-range bomber, apparently still lags badly in the latter department. The Russians are given credit for no more than a few rockets that might reach the United States.

But a series of heavy-weight nuclear tests and new rocket shots in 1962 indicated Soviet experts are shooting for the development of missiles capable of carrying huge warheads in the 30-megaton range or better, and others for Polaris-type submerged launchings.

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Grange News

Lake Creek Grange

Lake Creek Grange members at their last meeting voted to send a letter to Sen. Wayne Morse asking his assistance in preventing the recurrence of another flood along Little Butte creek.

The Grange voted for Walter Gilbert to become a member of the Grange.

Merton Bradshaw reported on the recent meeting of the Jackson County Stockmen. The range allotment program has been postponed for two or three years. Two representatives from Jackson county attended the meeting at Portland.

Cecil Kee, fire insurance agent, said the retiring agent, Murray Bartling, left the books in excellent condition. It was voted to present Mr. Bartling a gift from the Grange to express appreciation of his years as insurance agent.

Mr. and Mrs. Claus Charley showed films taken locally, at the World's Fair at Seattle, and at Victoria, B.C.

A gift exchange was held for those attending.

Members are reminded to send their dues to the secretary.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 11 at 8:30 p.m.

Farmers Association Plans Salem Meeting

A review of operations and future planning of Western Farmers Association will be presented at a meeting to nominate district directors Friday, Dec. 28, in Salem, according to Ramsey Knutson, WFA branch manager for this area.

Speakers will include Harry J. Beernik, general manager of the association; Dale Smith, director of operations; and Henry J. Hansen, president of the association.

At the meeting candidates will be nominated to serve on the board of directors. The meeting will begin at 11:15 a.m. and end at 3:15 p.m.

Capitol Memo

By ZAN STARK

Salem—An investigation of all domestic Oregon insurance companies is being launched by the State Department.

The 73-year-old Hillsboro firm which wrote fire insurance—was placed in receivership when heavy claim damage Zorn said.

Zorn said about half of the company's \$8,000 policy holders suffered storm damage. He said the commission now lists about \$150,000 in outstanding claims.

Some claims were paid before the firm went into receivership.

Zorn said, however, "We have no reason to believe any other firms are in difficulty."

"I'd guess at the moment that those claims are worth about 25 cents on the dollar," Zorn told United Press International.

Zorn blamed "lack of experienced management" for the downfall of Pioneer Mutual Insurance company.

He said the company's rate structure was very low, and the reserves were small as a result.

Zorn said the State Insurance Department had received much criticism since the Pioneer firm went into receivership.

"People must understand we have no right to interfere in management of these companies. Our job is to see that firms abide by regulations. We don't run the companies, and the people wouldn't want us to."

He explained how reserves are set up.

"Let's assume a premium is \$120 a year. As each month goes by, \$10 (one twelfth) of that money 'reemets' the firm's rest stays in a premium reserve account."

"The law requires insurance companies to maintain a premium reserve equal to the amount necessary if every policy holder wanted his money back on the unused premium."

"When a company no longer has that much money in reserve, we have to place it in receivership," Zorn explained.

Zorn said the insurance commission became aware of the Pioneer firm's trouble when the company's directors asked for help.

As a result of the request, examiners checked the books, and discovered the reserves were gone because of the storm damage claims.

The state then placed the company in receivership, and will divide remaining assets among the claimants.

Zorn explained that when the company went into receivership, all policies automatically were canceled.

He said losses are paid from a reserve fund set up over a period of years.

"As a company earns money, a surplus fund is created. This reserve builds up over a period of years. Simply stated, the bigger the reserve, the better shape the company is in."

He said policy holders who filed their claims early and got paid "were fortunate."



STARK
Insurance company

Oregon Insurance Companies Studied For Ability To Pay

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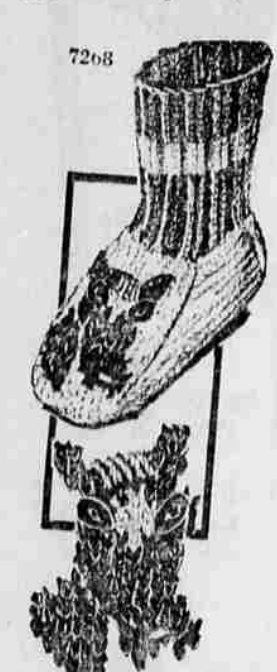
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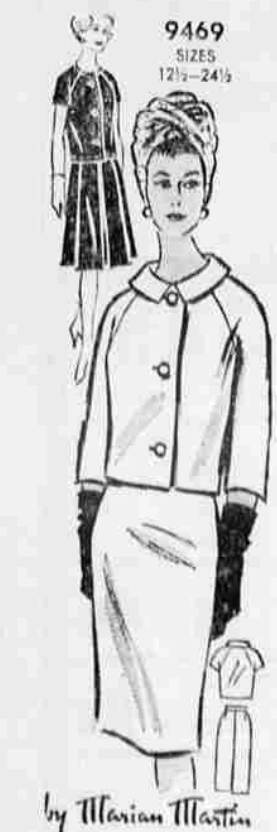
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by Alice Brooks

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Top Suit Shades



by Marion Martin

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Club Cheese	Safeway fine quality, Party perfect, lb.	79¢
Cheese	Kraft, Smokeloe, Roke, Old English, Bacon-Garlic, 5 oz.	35¢
Cheese	Kraft, Olive-Pimiento, Pimiento, American & Pineapple, 5 oz.	43¢
Tom & Jerry	Chevy Chase prepared batter, 12 oz.	69¢
Hot Buttered Rum	Chevy Chase 12 oz.	75¢
Party Dips	Lucerne, 4 vials, Pint cin.	49¢
Cinnamon Twist	Mrs. Wright's 10 oz. pkg.	35¢
Nu Vita	Puffed Wheat & Flax, 6 oz. pkg.	19¢
Soup Mix	Lipton's famous tomato soup, 2 pk.	35¢
Onion Soup Mix	Lipton's, Grand for party dips, 2 pkg.	39¢
Mustard	Morehouse Western style, 20½-oz. jar	25¢
Facial Tissue	Chiffon, pastel colors, Save 3c. Box of 400	26¢
Dinner Napkins	Box of 65 paper napkins	2 for 53¢
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Cottage Cheese	Lucerne, Dairy fresh, Qt. 38¢ 1½ Gal. 75¢	19¢

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Avocados	California. Smooth-skinned, firm.	2 for 29¢
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2 LBS 29¢

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1962 A 7

Court Records

MEHFOR MUNICIPAL COURT
Mervin Monroe Bennett, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Albert Ray Spitzer, improper 17 turn, \$15.
Robert Hays Peterson, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Edward Lee Campbell, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Charles Leonard Mitchell, disordered sign, \$10.
Clifford Henry Snyder, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Paul Hays Burger, failure to stop at crosswalk while occupied, \$15.
Clarence Dero Ross, going wrong way on one way street, \$15.
Thomas John Venezia, going wrong way on one way street, \$15.
Robert Warren Bacon, violation of basic rule, \$15.
William David Castel, violation of basic rule, \$15.
John G. Goto, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Edna M. Goto, driver's license expired, \$15.
Rodney Blake Vanderwood, violation of basic rule, \$15.
John Fredrick Dunsen Jr., violation of basic rule, \$15.
Erik Alfred Peterson, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Irene Leana Church, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Audrey Barbara Baydett, violation of basic rule, \$15.
John L. Martin, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Beverly Louise Weaver, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Bonnie Louise Towne, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Willie Wesley Towne, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Charles Bryan LaCasse, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Arthur Leo Macdon, improper turn, \$15.

MEHFOR MUNICIPAL COURT
George W. Hamilton, failure to dim lights, \$15.
Curtis Lee Clark, failure to stop, \$15.
Red August Lanning, overland, \$15.
Howard William Payne, overland, \$15.
James Mark Anders, violation of basic rule, \$15.
William Henry Rowe, on red light on extended, \$15.
Lon Gilbert Quisenberry, no flag on extended load, \$15.
Monte Ray Astell, overland, \$15.
James Albert Martin, no vehicle license, \$15.
Robert Murray Powell, no tail light, \$15.
Olin Olin, failure to yield, \$15.
Richard G. Cochran, on vehicle license, \$15.
Charles Edward Bryant, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Charles Clayton Carrin, no vehicle license, \$15.
John Wesley Kerns, overland, \$15.
Ralph Edward Black, overland, \$15.
Charles Edgar Pitts, overland, \$15.
Charles Freeman Bonds, violation of basic rule, \$15.
Ralph G. Wise, vehicle license expired, \$15.
George William Baker, overland, \$15.
George Dalton Harvey, no tail light, \$15.
Edward Bert Plater, on lights, \$15.
Lawrence Ross, overland, \$15.
John L. Zwicker, truck speed, \$15.
Alvin Leroy Hummel, no flag on extended load, \$15.

MARRIAGE LICENSE
Terrance Norman Talla, Mary Ann, Calif. and Janet Pizer, Medford. 856 West 14th St., Medford.