

# 3,000 Soviet Troops Withdrawn from Cuba

Regional Edition

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No. 1

## State Proposals Would Relieve Property Taxes

(Last in Series)  
State Representative Richard Eymann, Marcola, chairman of the House Taxation committee, in a recent letter to the School District 549C board, said increased taxes will be required "to even maintain support at its present level, let alone raise it."

He was referring to, and acknowledging, a resolution forwarded to state legislators by the budget committee of District 549C concerning additional state financial aid for schools.

Eymann said he was "particularly grateful for that part of the resolution which states that the ten budget committee members will actively support a legislative program to accomplish" additional state aid, "since it will require increased taxes to even maintain support at its present level, let alone raise it."

**Tax Relief Measures**  
"Your committee may be interested in the local property tax relief measures which are current in this session, including my House Bill 1245 which would increase income taxes about 20 per cent (over and above the increases which are necessary to balance the next session's budget) and return the money to the local level as a direct offset of county, city and school property taxes. It would have the effect of reducing property taxes 10 per cent on the average."

Area educators, however, have indicated that this form of raising additional money for basic school support is not as desirable perhaps as a sales tax, pointing out that federal and state income taxes amount to considerable sums now.

State Representative Shirley A. Field, Portland, said "you could pursue your financial problems. I would think, on a local level to see that some of the O and C timber receipts are used for school purposes to that you could help relieve your local property taxpayers."

She said: "A fair appraisal of all of the assets within the state that could be devoted to educational needs should be taken into account as we try to increase the support for education from the state level."

support and modify the method of allocating the money.

When the measures have all been considered, they will go to the Ways and Means committee, which will determine which of the bills will be submitted to the legislature for approval.

Frank Bass, Medford, president of the Oregon School Boards association and a member of the board of District 549C, has encouraged area residents to write to the Ways and Means committee expressing opinions.

One of the bills considered by the House Education committee is a measure sponsored by Representative John Mosser, Beaverton, which would increase the present basic school support amount of \$120 per census child by almost \$20. The House Education committee recommended the bill last Friday, but it has not been moved to the Ways and Means committee.

According to Salem reports, the Ways and Means committee is expected to act on the basic school issue later in the session after most other money bills have been recommended, and the committee knows how much money will be available for basic school support.

Area educators have expressed concern over the fact that funds to help support public schools usually are considered toward the latter part of the session after funds have been recommended for the largest share of state services. Some educators believe the state has more of an obligation to the education of its youth than it appears to have, an obligation which should have a higher priority than is apparent.

House Speaker Clarence Barton told United Press International earlier this week he did not expect the Ways and Means committee to complete work on its bills until about May 1, thus indicating it may be late in April before the basic school support issue reaches the floor of the House.

Legislators and educators agree there will be no easy solution to the problem of finding more money with which to operate schools without raising local property taxes. It is one of the most pressing problems facing the legislature this session.



TALKS WITH NEWSMEN—Deputy Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara talks with newsmen following his appearance before the Senate investigating subcommittee in Washington, D.C., yesterday.

He acknowledged that he was one of the anonymous Pentagon spokesman who had criticized the subcommittee's TFX inquiry. He told reporters he felt the group would treat matters in complete fairness. (UPI)

Washington—UPI—The Senate committee investigating the controversial award of the \$8.5 billion TFX fighter plane contract has promised new disclosures of "enormous errors" in cost estimates of the plane.

Jerome Alderman, chief counsel for the Senate investigations subcommittee, told newsmen that errors uncovered by his staff could be "very, very damaging" to the Defense Department's decision to award the contract to General Dynamics.

The panel is investigating whether political favoritism Kennedy receives special report on foreign aid.

Washington—UPI—President Kennedy today received a report by a special White House task force which is expected to touch off a major battle in Congress over the U. S. foreign aid program.

The report prepared by a 10-man group headed by Gen. Lucius Clay is said to be critical of many aspects of the aid program although not calling for major reductions in the total cost. Several leading congressional opponents of the program have been holding their fire until they saw the report. It will be made public Saturday night.

Rep. Otto Passman (D-La.), chairman of the key House Foreign Aid Appropriation subcommittee, said he hoped the report would recommend deep cuts in the dollar outlay of help to foreign countries. He said, in effect, it would be "meaningless" unless it recommended cuts of more than \$1 billion from the \$4.9 billion asked for fiscal 1964 by Kennedy.

## Duncan Supports Civil Defense; Hopeful on Dunes

Congressman Visits State Legislature

Salem—UPI—Congressman Robert Duncan said today Oregon needs a civil defense program, even though the legislature has a right to demand changes in the present one.

Duncan also said he wants hearings in Oregon before Congress passes any legislation to create an Oregon Dunes National Seashore.

The fourth district Democrat made a brief visit to the legislature during a four-day trip home from Congress.

He said civil defense is as important as arms.

A legislative committee wants to virtually abolish Oregon's CD agency on grounds it has failed to perform when needed or to set up an energetic program.

"It is important for the legislature to see that the job is done, to get value from the money spent," Duncan agreed.

But, he said, civil defense performs necessary services, and "if even one life is saved, it's money well spent."

Duncan said civil defense is particularly important since the first strike never will come from the United States.

## 'New Disclosures' Promised by Group On Plane Contracts

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DURING NEWS CONFERENCE—President Kennedy, shown during his news conference in Washington, D.C., yesterday, said that an estimated 3,000 Russian troops have been withdrawn from Cuba in the past few weeks.

He indicated that the U.S. would wait till the end of March to see if Soviet Premier Khrushchev needs more prodding to get Russian personnel out of the island. (UPI)

## Council Approves Parking Meter Time; Annexation

In a meeting Thursday evening, which lasted slightly less than an hour, Medford city council approved changing part of the parking meters in the downtown area from one to two hours, approved annexing approximately 28 acres north of Capital ave. and east of the city's reservoir site, and asked the city manager to have the state speed control board review the 70 mile an hour speed limit on the freeway viaduct to see if it should be reduced.

Only five councilmen were present for the session. Absent were Dick Travis, Robert L. Baccus and William Singler.

The council approved changing all of the 395 one-hour parking meters in the central business district to two hours, with the number to be changed to be left to the discretion of the city manager.

City Manager Robert A. Duff said that the rate for parking will remain the same except that the vehicles may remain in one parking space for two hours instead of the present one hour limit. Shoppers may still park for any period from 12 minutes to two hours.

Cost to the city for changing the dials is 70 cents per meter, Duff said.

## Russian Ships May Be Preparing to Remove Others

Departure Revealed At JFK News Meet

Washington—UPI—President Kennedy took a wait-and-see attitude today on Soviet troop withdrawals from Cuba even though there were indications Russia might be preparing to pull out more forces.

The President told his news conference Thursday night that the Russians were estimated to have withdrawn "approximately 3,000 troops in these past weeks."

"We are waiting to see whether more will be withdrawn, as we would hope they would be," he added.

Other sources in Washington cited reports that one or more Soviet ships might be getting ready to remove additional Russians from the island.

There remained a big question in U.S. intelligence circles whether the Soviet personnel who have left Cuba were combat forces or merely military technicians.

It was learned that so far the Kennedy administration has not seen equipment leaving the island which would indicate that the recent departures included combat forces—at least not many.

Aerial photographs of persons leaving on ships does not indicate the nature of the personnel. This must be learned from intelligence inside Cuba and from watching the kinds of equipment moved out.

The absence of shipments of combat-unit equipment was not regarded as conclusive, however.

The Kremlin promised on Feb. 19 to remove "several thousand" of its military forces from Cuba by mid-March.

## Civil Defense Budget Tentatively Approved by Group

Jackson County Civil Defense received a budget allocation of \$14,906 yesterday afternoon for the new fiscal year.

This is an increase of \$1,980 over the current year allocation of \$13,126.

The allocation was made by the Jackson county budget committee in spite of recommendations from Mrs. H. P. Bosworth Jr., Applegate, that some budget items should be eliminated.

Both she and her husband, a Pacific Power and Light company official, argued for almost an hour against the Civil Defense fall-out shelter program while Maj. Gen. J. H. Hicks, county civil defense coordinator, steadfastly defended his program and position.

In her printed statement Mrs. Bosworth asked, "Can we reduce the budget by one-half and still get the services we need?"

## Sewer Bond Bids To Be Studied

Jacksonville—The Jacksonville city council will meet at 5 o'clock this afternoon to decide which of three bids it will accept on the purchase of \$250,000 in bonds to finance construction of a sewer system here.

Bids were opened by the council last night, but a final decision was not reached.

The bids submitted were from U. S. National Bank, 3.911 per cent interest; First National Bank of Oregon, 3.988 per cent interest; and Dominick and Dominick of Portland, 3.9808 per cent interest.

In other action the council signed an agreement with the Jackson county court to provide that the county board provide for the sentence by prisoners under municipal court at a rate of \$2 per day. The council pointed out that the city has no facilities in which to keep prisoners for any length of time.

A proposed ordinance to prohibit bicycle riding on city sidewalks was read, discussed and then tabled indefinitely.

## Railroad Crossing Approved

The public utilities commissioner today approved an order for the extension of Barnett rd. to cross the Southern Pacific railroad tracks.

The order allowed for the continuing usage of the 11th at crossing, which had been ordered closed in a previous PUC order if the Barnett rd. was opened, and set the speed limit for trains at the new crossing at 15 miles per hour.

## Newspapers, Radio Station Get Awards

Portland—UPI—Two Oregon newspapers and a Portland radio station were honored by the Oregon Education association today.

The Medford Mail Tribune, a daily, and the Hood River News, a weekly, were cited for their outstanding interpretation of Oregon education at the state OEA convention.

Radio Station KGW, Portland, was cited for its weekly program "Classroom Chalk-talk."

## Boxcar Shortage Reported Easing

Albany—UPI—A shortage of wide and double door railroad boxcars which has threatened closure of Northwest plywood mills was reported easing today.

Noble Chowning Sr., president of Coquille Valley Lumber company here, said the plywood mill would remain open today after some of the boxcars arrived. Earlier, it was planned to close the mill today.

Chowning added, however, that the mill would be closed Saturday and there probably will be a curtailed program next week.

In Salem, Oregon Public Utility Commissioner Jonel Hill said the shortage should improve soon. The PUC has wired the Interstate Commerce commission asking for immediate return of such cars as soon as they are unloaded.

James R. Turnbull, executive vice president of the Douglas Fir Plywood association, said in Portland the shortage was "spotty" but "serious." If things don't get better soon, he said, it will become "critical."

## Mrs. Day Lives in Medford District

Mrs. Agnes Day, whose dog, Chubby, apparently saved her from the fire which was started by an electric blanket in her home early Thursday morning, does not live within the Phoenix fire district, Dave Haggard, Phoenix fire chief, reported last night.

Haggard said that although his department did not get Mrs. Day's call, he could not have answered it if he had. Only people living within the Phoenix city limits are given protection by the Phoenix fire department. The only exception to this ruling is in case of a mutual aid call.

Mrs. Day, like many other people living in rural areas, although she has a Phoenix telephone number, is within the Medford rural fire district and not the Phoenix. The Medford department did answer her call and put out the fire.

## KILLED BY SNAG

Milton-Freewater—UPI—State Police said John McEwen, 38, Milton-Freewater was killed Thursday when a cottonwood snag fell as he burned slash on his property southwest of here on the Walla Walla river.

## Sports Bulletins

Eugene—UPI—Underdog Molalla gave Portland champion Marshall a scare today before bowing 44-43 in a consolation round game of the Oregon class A-1 high school basketball tournament here.

Marshall's win advanced it to the consolation finals at 1:30 p.m. Saturday against the South Salem-South Eugene winner. Molalla was eliminated.

## WEATHER

FORECAST: Generally fair through Saturday except for some morning cloudiness. Low tonight near 51. High Saturday 62.

Highest Yesterday Temp. 62  
Lowest This Morning 51

## On Skies Tonight

Pres. in 10 a.m. Today, None sunset today 6:25 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow 6:11 a.m. Moonrise tomorrow 5:38 a.m. New Moon March 25

## Prominent Stars

Rigel in southeast 7:58 p.m. Betelgeuse, high above Rigel. Arcturus, rises 7:31 p.m. Regulus, high in south 10:15 p.m.

## NEWS BRIEFS

OVER 1,100 KILLED IN ERUPTION  
Jakarta, Indonesia—UPI—More than 1,100 persons were officially estimated to have been killed in Sunday's eruption of Bali's sacred Gunung Agung volcano but the actual toll is believed much higher, it was reported today.

PRESIDENT SLATES TRIP TO EUROPE  
Washington—UPI—President Kennedy's next venture in personal diplomacy, a late spring trip to Europe, is being expanded to include West Berlin. London, too, seems to be a likely addition to itinerary.

AGREEMENT TO BREAK DEADLOCK REACHED  
Geneva—UPI—The United States and Russia today were reported in agreement on how to break the procedural deadlock at the 17-nation disarmament conference.

JFK SENDS WIRES TO GOVERNORS  
Washington—UPI—President Kennedy sent telegrams to 23 governors today urging them to seek ratification by their state legislatures this year of the anti-poll tax amendment to the Constitution.