

Eisenhower Wants Draft Extended; Limit Service Liability To 18 Months

WASHINGTON, March 21 (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower asked congress today to extend the draft law indefinitely and to limit service liability of inductees to 18 months.

If that is done, the chief of staff told the house military committee, the army can release all fathers by the end of August or early in September regardless of how long they have been in service.

If it is not done, he warned, the army may fall short by 165,000 men of its estimated needed strength of 1,070,000 on July 1, 1947.

Both Eisenhower and Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson argued against proposals for a shorter extension of the selective service act, which expires on May 15 of this year.

Precarious

"Should the selective service act not be continued and should our recruiting program fail to establish and sustain a volunteer army of the requisite size," Patterson said, "the military position of this country, and therefore our ability to preserve the peace we have won, would become precarious."

"This country cannot afford to take chances on manpower for the army," he added.

Patterson told the committee that extension of the draft should be coupled with a 20 per cent overall increase in pay and allowances for all military personnel.

Eisenhower suggested that legislation extending the draft contain these restrictions: A prohibition against service for more than 18 months; a requirement that no more men be inducted than are necessary to meet estimates of strength required by July 1, 1947; and a stipulation that the army discharge all fathers now in service and decline to induct any in the future.

Strength Necessary

He told the committee that strength is necessary to support the position of the allies in the United Nations organization and said the smaller nations are looking to the larger ones to supply that strength.

While Eisenhower said the shortage in manpower requirements of the army would be 165,000 by July 1, 1947, Patterson estimated the shortage at 170,000 men if the draft law is not extended.

The secretary said present army strength is about 2,500,000, with a net reduction of one million expected between now and next June. He said the war department intends to continue a vigorous recruitment program, and already there have been 617,000 enlistments, more than half of them for a three-year period.

The top army men were also to appear before a closed session of the senate military committee to testify on the draft extension. Secretary of State Byrnes and Navy Secretary Forrestal also may be heard.

Air Group Refuses To Pay \$10 Fee

PORTLAND, March 21 (AP)—Ninety commercial flight operators, banded into a new state association, said here they do not intend to pay the \$10 registration fee for airplane owners required by state law.

But Leo G. Devaney, state director of aeronautics, warned them, "The attorney general says it (the fee) is legal. If you don't think so you'll have to take it to court." The fee was due January 1.

Named President

Jack Miffling, Troutdale, was named president pro tem of the group and Oregon's only woman airport owner, Bessie Halladay of Joseph, was elected secretary. A committee was named to draw up a constitution and report back at an April meeting in Bend. It includes Arlo Livingston, Corvallis; Bessie Halladay; A. L. Tilse, Bend; Howard Burleson, Albany; Carl Klippel, Oregon City; Casey Jones, Ontario; Larry Moore, The Dalles; Floyd Johnson, Troutdale, and Ernest Percy, Medford.

Roy Owen of the Portland chamber of commerce told operators this city is "a shining example of what can happen when aviation has no voice strong enough to be heard in the right places." He said owners should work for construction of more small air strips, beginning at the city limits here.

Pappy's Ex Says 'I Do'

YAKIMA, Wash., March 21 (AP)—Mrs. Helene Boyington and George L. Gilbert, Seattle newspaper vendor, were married at the First Presbyterian church here yesterday after an elopement from Seattle.

The former wife of Lt. Col. Gregory "Pappy" Boyington, the marine air hero, and Gilbert, applied for a marriage license in Seattle Saturday, then announced that they had decided against the marriage. Yesterday, however, they picked up the license and left town without announcing their destination.

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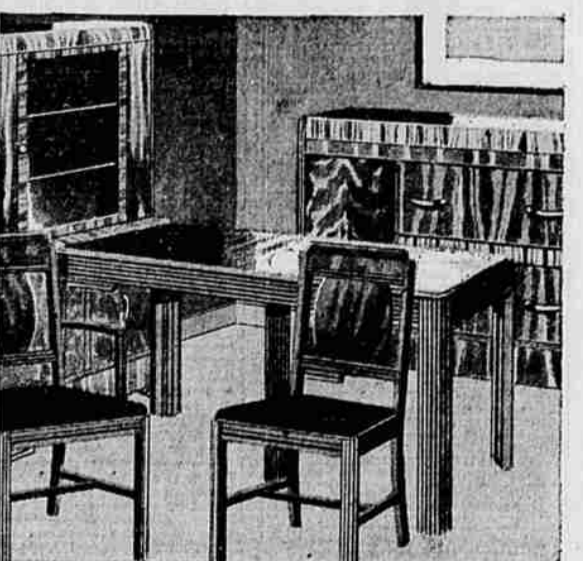
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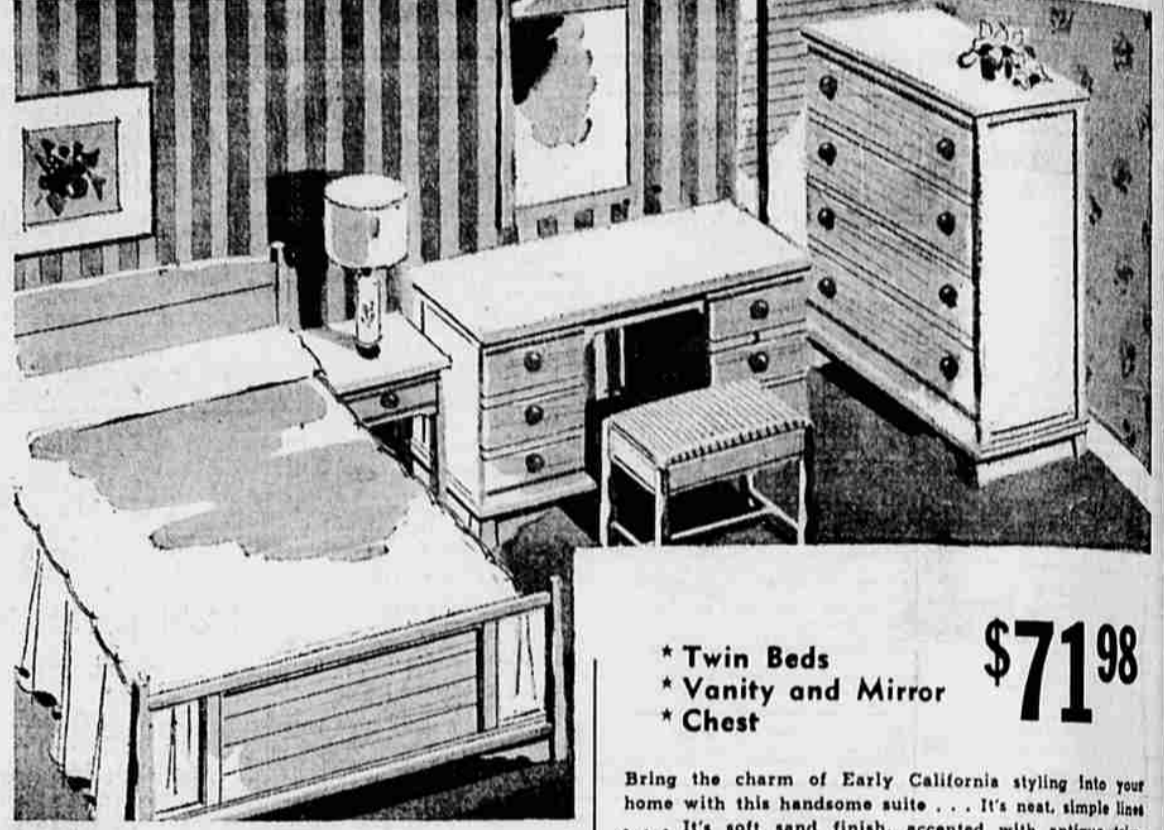
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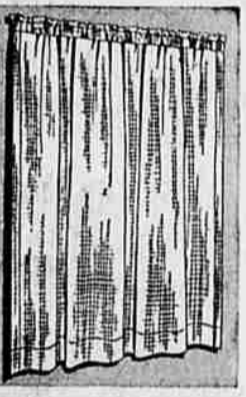
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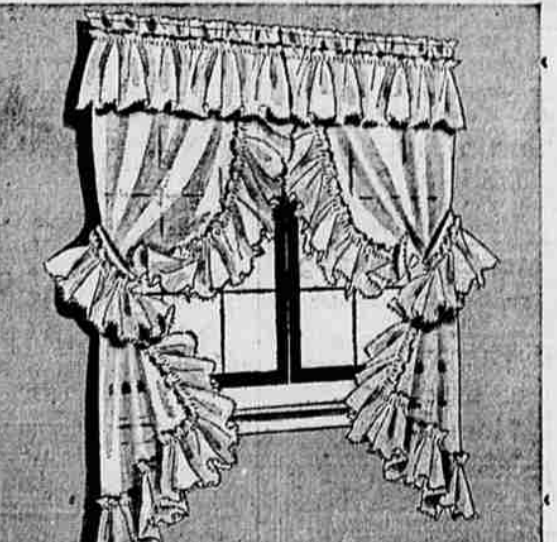
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