

# Eisenhower Statement Of JS Lack Of Power Called Propaganda For Training

WASHINGTON, July 1 (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's statement that the United States army is a "poor second" to Russia's was labeled "propaganda for universal military training" today by Rep. Short (R-Mo.).

Short suggested a congressional investigation of the army's status among world powers.

Eisenhower made the statement last week to a senate appropriations committee in support of a plea that the war department's military budget be restored.

Short, second-ranking member of

the house armed service committee and an announced foe of universal training, was joined in his suggestion for an investigation by Chairman Leo E. Allen (R-Ill.) of the house rules committee.

Discussing Eisenhower's testimony with a reporter, Short declared: "That is propaganda for universal military training intended to frighten and scare the American people."

"It is up to congress to make an investigation to find out what has caused our army to become a 'poor second' to Russia's in the face of huge appropriations and unheeded surpluses of materials. Our army leaders should be called upon to explain what they have done with the unprecedented peacetime military appropriations. There has been too much double talk."

Short said that if the war department's budget estimates do not "exclude" the possibility of war in 1948, as Eisenhower testified, "then they aren't doing anything to get ready for it."

Despite the fact that we passed a stockpiling bill last year," he said, "the army hasn't done a thing to obtain a stockpile of strategic materials that would be needed in a war. We have appropriated the necessary money, but apparently all we have got for it is a lot of dreaming. What are they waiting for? Another Pearl Harbor?"

Allen called Eisenhower's statement "surprising."

The house trimmed war department requests by \$435,000,000 in voting the army \$5,280,000,000 in cash and \$280,000,000 in contractual authority for the year beginning today. Eisenhower told the senate committee Saturday the reductions would "take us well into the danger zone."

The senate has yet to act on the measure.

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Mrs. Uvon Putnam (above), a juror in the Overell yacht deaths case, was reported by an authoritative police source at Santa Ana, Calif., to have been beaten by an unidentified intruder who broke into her house. —AP wirephoto.

# Ancients Used Imagination In Seeing Animals In Sky

By J. HUGH PRUETT  
Astronomer, Extension Division, Oregon Higher Education System

How often we wonder if the ancient peoples did not have most vivid imaginations when they saw in the heavens the menagerie of animals which the names of the constellations imply. Constantly slipping westward along the blue sky there are—so we are told—two bears, two lions, two dogs, a ram, a giraffe, a rabbit, a wolf, a flying horse, heroes, birds, snakes and fish of various kinds, a crab, a scorpion, and one lone fly.

The ancient sky cartographers depicted 48 of these wild creatures. In more recent times, when travel south of the equator became fairly common and the southern stars were studied, other constellations were added until the total at present is 88.

Latin Word

The term "constellation" comes from a Latin word which might freely be translated "studded with stars." It refers to a conspicuous group of stars. "Asterism" is sometimes used in the same sense or it may indicate a small group within a constellation, such as the Big Dipper's being part of the Big Bear.

The names of the constellations as we know them today are of very ancient origin, a few dating back nearly to 3000 B. C. The Greek Hesiod around 800 B. C. mentioned several. Aratus, the poet of the Macedonian royalty in the third century B. C., used the names of 44, all of which are on our present lists.

It is thought that most of the groupings originated among the Babylonians and other peoples of the great Euphrates valley, and that the system was later carried by the Phoenicians to Greece. But it was from the Greeks that we obtained our knowledge of the ancient constellations and the myths connected with them.

No Specification

There is speculation as to whether the interesting mythological stories were formulated to fit the star groupings or vice versa. The latter seems the more probable. Whatever their origins, they are "stories that endure," and after thousands of years still have great literary value and are read with interest.

There was often great confusion as to the exact outlines of each constellation. One chart might put a certain star in Ursa major and another place it in the adjoining Draco. The boundaries were irregu-

lar curved lines. In 1930 the International Astronomical Union set definite boundaries of regular spherical lines to be used on sky maps everywhere.

A few years ago A. P. Herbert, a member of the British parliament, proposed renaming all the constellations for modern heroes, authors, musicians, and even for airplanes. But the proposal utterly lacked literary appeal. The stars are very old in terms of human history, so why are not the ancient names and stories the most fitting for them?

Learning the principal constellations by one's self is easy and most interesting for the one possessing simple star maps and a slight amount of perseverance.

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# Killer Gets Reprieve

KETCHIKAN, Alaska, July 1 (AP)—Less than 24 hours before he was to have been hanged for the slaying of Jim Ellen, Juneau grocery store and liquor store proprietor, Austin Nelson has been granted a 30-day stay-of-execution.

The reprieve was ordered yesterday by Federal Judge George Foltz at the request of the prosecuting attorney, who said a week-end confession by Nelson had implicated Eugene La Moore, now being held on perjury charges in connection with testimony given at Nelson's trial.

The prosecutor said Nelson is an indispensable witness in the case against La Moore.

Nelson's confession led authorities to \$1,100 which had been taken from him.

# Wheat Support Set At \$1.83

WASHINGTON, July 1 (AP)—Price supporting loans averaging \$1.83 a bushel nationally, will be offered growers on 1947 crop wheat, the agriculture department said today.

The price represents an increase of 34 cents a bushel on the average price loaned last year. The department is required by law to support lower prices at not less than 90 percent of parity. The parity price is \$2.03 compared with \$1.66 a year ago.

The rates and purchase prices by markets included \$1.98 a bushel at Portland, Ore., for No. 1 soft white western white wheat.

The retail cost of building materials in the United States is about double their production cost.

# Police Probe Fire At Rogue Plant

MEDFORD, July 1 (AP)—State police were investigating Monday the cause of a fire which caused an estimated \$25,000 loss in the Rogue river lime plant at Rogue River Saturday night.

The blaze began in a shed housing paper bags used to ship lime, and spread to destroy two large hoppers, two large electric motors and other machinery. The plant is owned by T. T. Leonard of Eugene.

The Rogue River fire department was hampered in fighting the blaze because the nearest fire hydrant had been smashed in an auto accident that same day.

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