

Eniwetok To Be Atom Proving Base

Tiny Atoll Wrapped In Curtain Of Secrecy As US Scientists Plan Action

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP)—Projected atomic tests behind a curtain of absolute secrecy in the remote Pacific suggested today that American scientists may be preparing new weapons based on the same terrible power as the atom bomb.

A terse announcement from the atomic energy commission disclosed that the armed forces are making tiny Eniwetok atoll—1500 miles from the nearest large land mass—into a closed-off proving grounds for research on "new fundamental data."

What goes on there, the commission said, is expected to result in advances in "peaceful as well as in

military applications of atomic energy."

Asked whether a reference to a "atomic weapons" means that this country's arsenal now includes a nuclear fission running mate for the atom bomb, one official replied: "You can draw your own conclusion."

Under Restrictions

Unlike the surface and underwater atom bomb tests at Bikini atoll in the summer of 1946, which were covered by several hundred reporters and foreign observers, the new experiments will be under "full security restrictions," last night's announcement said.

The area will be shut off from the world and the security council of the United Nations will be notified to this effect, as provided in the UN trusteeship agreement for the former Japanese-managed islands.

The 145 native inhabitants of the atoll islands of Aomoni and Biijiri will leave for a permanent new home which they will select.

Bikini was unsuitable for the new experiments, the commission said, because it lacked land surface enough to contain "the instrumentation necessary to the scientific observations which must be made."

Isolated Spot

Eniwetok itself has only about 25 square miles of land. One big reason for choosing it, the announcement explained, is its isolation. There are hundreds of miles of open sea "in the direction in which winds might carry radioactive particles." It lies about halfway between Hawaii and the Philippines, and the closest big land area is New Guinea, 1500 miles to the southwest.

The army, navy and air force are installing the necessary housing, protective buildings for the scientists

and control posts. Some military installations put up after the marines killed the Japanese garrison in a six-day fight in February, 1944, will be renovated for use.

Lt. Gen. John E. Hull, Pacific commander of the army, has overall command of that job.

Senator Brian McMahon (D-Conn.), a member of the senate-house atomic committee and author of the atomic energy act, told reporters:

"The start on construction is the natural, reasonable development of atomic energy in view of world conditions today and the refusal of the Russians to accept a good plan for control."

Oil Search To Continue

SPOKANE, Dec. 2 (AP)—Although Standard Oil of California has spent "perhaps a million dollars" in its efforts to locate oil near Bellingham and at Lake Stikine near Everett, the company plans to keep its geologists searching in Western Washington for possible oil sites, according to H. D. Collier, chairman of the company's board of directors.

Collier disclosed the continuing search of the Western Washington area yesterday in a talk before the Pacific Northwest Trade association convention.

He estimated that by 1951 the United States, because of increased demand, would be importing 500,000 barrels of oil daily despite the fact it now produces roughly two-thirds of the country's supply.

Result of this increased demand, he said, would be to force countries in the Eastern Hemisphere to develop new sources of supply to develop sufficient into themselves.

Collier also disclosed that Standard plans to build a pipe line from a new refinery in Salt Lake City through Utah, Eastern Oregon and Eastern Washington to Spokane to meet demands of that area.

Mercury Up In North U.S.

By The Associated Press

The tail end of the Midwest's week-end cold wave lingered in parts of the South Atlantic states today as temperatures in the North-central region generally were above the freezing mark.

The mercury dipped to a low of 14 above in Gordonville, Va., the coldest spot on the early morning weather map. At Westfield, Mass., the reading was 15. Pulaski, Va., reported 19; Columbia, S. C., 21; Greensboro, N. C., 22; Norfolk, Va., 24, and Richmond, Va., 25.

Temperatures were up 10 to 20 degrees from yesterday morning from the Southern plains northeastward to the Ohio valley and Great Lakes region.

Snow fell in North Dakota and the Northern Rockies while rain was reported in the Southern Rockies. Near normal temperatures were forecast for the Pacific coast area. Yesterday's warmest weather was in the Gulf states, with the country's high of 79 reported in Brownsville, Tex.

Hills Hunted For Slayer

BURNS, Ore., Dec. 2 (AP)—A war veteran wanted for questioning in the death of his French war bride was sought today in the snow-covered Ochoco mountains north of here.

Sheriff Eldon Sizt today directed posse officers toward a hunting cabin owned by Claude Harry Melvin, 28, whose young wife, Marie, blamed her husband in a deathbed statement before she died Sunday night of a rifle bullet wound in the stomach.

The sheriff said Melvin had called police and an ambulance to his home late Sunday, told a city officer the woman had "shot herself," helped load her into the ambulance and then disappeared.

The young woman, mother of a nine-month-old child, was of French ancestry and a native of Algeria, North Africa.

A coroner's jury held yesterday that the bullet wound "was not self-inflicted."

Price Freeze Held Coming

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP)—Secretary of Commerce Harriman told congress Monday that a general freeze of prices and wages might be necessary in the future unless authority is granted now for selective price and wage controls and rationing.

Renewing the administration's plea for "stand by" power to put on economic controls, Harriman told the house banking committee:

"Adequate advance preparation makes for fairness. I believe that it is advisable to start developing a program now rather than to risk the need of hasty action later when the only feasible course might be to put on the brakes by some type of general freeze on prices and wages and then to proceed to correct the individual inequities as rapidly as possible."

Freight Boost Supported

PORTLAND, Dec. 2 (AP)—Pacific coastwise steamship operators urged increases in railroad rates at the close of the interstate commerce commission hearing on proposed rail rate boosts.

Endorsement of the 28 to 38 per cent rail rate increase came from C. R. Nickerson, San Francisco, secretary-manager of the Pacific coastwise conference, after regional shippers had protested the proposals as detrimental to Pacific Northwest economy.

Nickerson said depressed steamship rates have forced coastwise shippers out of business and only an upward revision of rail rates will permit readjustment of water rates and put ships back into service.

The hearing closed late yesterday after many Northwest witnesses told Commissioner C. B. Aitken that rail rate boosts would be harmful to Pacific Northwest economy.

Crosley Car On Display

Latest models of the Crosley, new light car developed by Powell Crosley Jr., are now on display at Selby Willys Motor company, which has the dealership for this area. Weighing only 1150 pounds, 20 inches narrower than conventional cars, the Crosley seats four persons comfortably, and comes in a variety of body styles: a sedan, a convertible, a pick-up with closed cab, a panel delivery, and an all-metal station wagon. Local motorists are invited to see these new cars, according to John Selby, head of the local firm.

UO Students Take Extempore Honors

PORTLAND, Dec. 2 (AP)—Two University of Oregon students carried off top honors in the 72nd annual state extempore speaking contests sponsored by the Inter-collegiate Forensic Association here last night at the University of Portland.

Elizabeth Mianer won first in the women's division and William Webster won the men's competition.

Other winners: Men—Herman Robison, Linfield, second; Jack Gunn, Willamette, third. Women—Ardis Newholm, Lewis and Clark, second; Betty Ferguson, Willamette, third.

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Buling

SALEM, Dec. 2 (AP)—The state blind trade school cannot admit a person who is to receive only board and room, Attorney General George Neuner ruled today.

He said anyone admitted to the school must receive training.

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Boundaries Of National Parks Hit

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP)—Secretary of the Interior Krug told wildlife and wilderness conservation groups today that national park boundaries, in "almost every case" are under fire and the interior department is fighting to save them.

Krug and most of his department executives listened as delegates charged that special interest groups are "nibbling at park boundaries" in an attempt at a national land grab in the western states.

"As long as I am secretary of the interior," Krug said "there will be no boundary changes or area reductions in national parks or monuments except where the evidence is so powerful that even a blind man could see the desirability—and that's putting it pretty strong."

Proposed reductions of Olympic national park in the Northwest and Jackson Hole national monument, Wyoming, would contribute little to the nation's resources and might lead to destruction of the park system, Krug said.

"You can't change any boundary now without leading to complete confusion and misunderstanding among the thousands of people we need to support our national parks," Krug said.

"These people would lose confidence in park administration, because they would think we were

Boundaries Of National Parks Hit

selling to private interests. Furthermore, the efforts of people who want the boundaries changed for selfish reasons would be tremendously increased if we permitted changes."

Newton B. Drury, director of the national park service presided at the opening meeting of the two-day conference, highlighted by discussions of:

1. The Jackson Hole controversy and the Olympic peninsula fight.
2. Private oil claims in Everglades national park, Fla., and the private holdings in other national parks.
3. Game management within the parks, particularly regarding the sheep and caribou of Mt. McKinley park in Alaska and the elk herds of the Yellowstone area.
4. Administration of recreational areas such as Lake Meade, Nev.

Drury said the park service is opposed to any measure to revise boundaries. He said that at last summer's hearings by the house public lands committee on a bill to remove acreage from the Olympic park "conservation groups showed their strength and lumbermen showed their hand."

"It would be dangerous to the integrity of Olympic park to show any evidence of weakness in the revision of boundaries," he said.

PILOT KILLED

FAIRBANKS, Alaska, Dec. 2 (AP)—The pilot of a P-80 jet fighter, attached to the 94th fighter squadron, was killed yesterday when his plane crashed and burned one mile east of Ladd field while making a landing approach. The pilot's name was withheld.

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- Botany Marchan, 56" 6.50 yd.
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- Botany Reedston, 56" 5.50 yd.
- Solids and checks in oxford grey, light grey and brown. 100% virgin wool.
- Botany Checker, 54" 4.95 yd.
- Tiny checks in navy, white and black. 100% virgin wool.
- Botany Luxuria Broadcloths 5.50 yd.
- A luxurious 100% wool fabric in black only. 56 inches.
- Botany Baronette Crepe 3.75 yd.
- White and red only. 54 inches.
- Botany Flannel 4.50 yd.
- Ivory white only. 54 inches.
- Pacific Mills Flannel, 54" 3.50 yd.
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