

# 800 Fire Fighters Move Into Oregon's Forests As 'Powder Keg' Time Opens

**By The Associated Press**

Eight hundred red-hatted fire fighters moved into Oregon's state forests Tuesday as summer arrived with relative humidity only a little above the danger point.

Another 800 will be on duty in Oregon's 13 national forests by July 1.

The heaviest concentration of trained fire-fighters rings the Tillamook burn. That 900-square-mile area which has been burned and returned until its small new growth and brush is a dry-weather powder keg.

The plan for the Tillamook burn has been dubbed "operation powder keg" by District Warden Ed Schroeder of Forest Grove. A 13-man fire-alarm crew can hit any fire in the burn within 30 minutes after the first report, Schroeder says. The fire fighting can be at most places, by racing over fire and logging roads, within 10 minutes.

The 16 lookout stations in the northwest district have all been manned. Headquarters at Forest Grove is in radio contact with the Salem forest headquarters and throughout the district mobile and tower radios are in touch with Forest Grove, where tools for an additional 700 fire fighters are in readiness.

Schroeder said everything was set to meet fire in the state's worst danger point—and he expressed concern that the crew might be called out in full strength.

The forests are dry. Today's fire weather forecast had this report: Northwest Oregon, warmer, humidity about 40 per cent on the coast, 35 to 40 per cent in the interior valleys and foothills and near 30 per cent on the east slope of Mount Hood; Wednesday, cloudy and cooler with scattered light showers and humidity about 50 per cent; Southwestern Oregon, warmer today with widely scattered thunderstorms in the Cascades this afternoon and tonight, humidity 40 per cent on the coast and 30 to 40 per cent inland; Wednesday partly cloudy and cooler with humidity about 40 per cent; South Central Oregon, warmer today with scattered mild thunderstorms in the afternoon and evening in the Cascades, humidity near 20 per cent this afternoon; Wednesday slightly cooler, humidity 25 to 30 per cent.

## Ruin From Bruin Has WTC Stewin'

**TACOMA, June 22 (AP)—**The ruin from Bruin has Weyerhaeuser Timber company officials stewin'.

Mortality in the company's St. Helena tree farm near Longview has been especially high this year in 10 to 15-year-old stands, Ed Heacock, the managing forester, reported Tuesday.

"Eighty per cent of this is traceable to damage by bears," Heacock said. "The other 20 per cent is attributed to deer, aphids, bark beetles, branch dieback, conk, carpenter ants, a variety of fungus diseases and winterkill."

But those pesky bears pick on the largest and most vigorous trees, usually where the stocking is fairly light.

"They chew the bark off," Heacock says, "generally girdling the tree. They seem to relish the tender cambium layer between the wood and the bark in the early spring. Then it's especially sweet and moist and apparently more effective as a tonic and laxative."

The exact damage has not yet been ascertained but appears to be scattered over several thousand acres.

We won't say the company officials can't bear it. They have to until a solution is found.

## 75 Cent Minimum Wage Wins Okay

**WASHINGTON, June 22 (AP)—**A senate labor subcommittee voted unanimously Tuesday for a minimum wage of 75 cents an hour. It decided against trying to extend coverage of the wage-hour law to 5,000,000 additional workers.

The seven-man subcommittee, headed by Senator Pepper (D-Fla.), constitutes a majority of the 13-man senate labor committee. So presumably Tuesday's agreement means the full committee is certain to recommend wage-boosting legislation to the senate.

**COMMUTED**

**ATHENS, June 22 (AP)—**The death sentences of 35 persons, including four women, were commuted to life imprisonment Tuesday by decree of King Paul. All had been sentenced under the emergency measures act which covers offenses related to the communist guerrilla rebellion.

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By Dick Turner



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## Food May Be Key To Peace

**ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., June 22 (AP)—**Kiwanians were told Tuesday "the key to world peace may be food."

J. W. G. MacEwan, dean of agriculture at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, told the 34th annual convention of Kiwanis International.

"By well directed food policies, we stand to improve soils, increase security, feed hungry people and create good will among men," MacEwan said. It takes two and a half acres each to give everyone in the world an adequate diet, but there are only two acres per person available.

The upper half of the nose of the African Leaf-nose bat has the shape of a leaf. The lower half is shaped like a horseshoe.

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