

# Rumors Say Navy Plans Ship Lay Up

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Times said Monday the battleship Missouri will be ordered this summer to join the mothball fleet.

A Times story from Norfolk, Va., said the 45,000-ton "Mighty Mo," one of the world's deadliest ships, is scheduled to go to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard at Bremerton, Wash., for a four-month process of mothballing, beginning in September.

The story said "The Navy is convinced that the aircraft carrier has become the backbone of the fighting fleet."

The Times story continued: Officially the Navy is saying nothing about its plans to shelve the Missouri. But the Navy is known to look upon the 4-month overhaul that was recently completed on the battleship at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard at Portsmouth, Va., as phase No. 1 of the dead-storage process.

The final phase No. 2 starts in September when the big guns and vital installations of the ship are to be encased in "coccons."

It is speculated in Norfolk that the Missouri—a favorite of Missouri-born ex-president Harry S. Truman—will be followed to the mothball fleet by the three other battleships that are still in active commission—the Wisconsin, the Iowa and the New Jersey.

While the Navy is remaining tight-lipped about the Missouri's cruise to Bremerton, the officers aboard have been filling out questionnaires on their choices of new assignments.

The Missouri is scheduled to leave Norfolk shortly for a 6-week training cruise to Cuba. She will return to Norfolk and take on U.S. Naval Academy midshipmen for the academy's annual cruise, this year to Southern European ports.

After the training trips, the ship will go through the Panama Canal to Bremerton.

The 388-foot warship was commissioned in New York in 1914, and saw action in the Pacific in World War II and the Korean War. Japan's formal surrender, ending World War II, was signed aboard the Missouri in Tokyo Bay Sept. 2, 1945.

## Convicts Face Detector Tests

CANON CITY, Colo. (AP)—Four state prison inmates, their plot for an armed escape smashed, faced truth serum or lie detector tests today to learn if others were involved in the plan.

He said the men, whose names he withheld, apparently fashioned the gun from materials they were allowed to keep in their cells for making curios.

Acting Warden Harry Tinsley said a tip led to discovery of a crude, homemade gun and 18 shells.

## RECOVERY

WASHINGTON (AP)—Rep. Alvin M. Bentley (R-Mich.), the most seriously hurt of the five congressmen shot March 1 by Puerto Rican Nationalists, left the hospital yesterday and was told he might be able to resume his congressional duties within a month.



ALL THE SCOOP along the beat went to Herald and News reporter Pati O'Connor last week when she dropped in at Verne Owens' place of business and was handed a real scoop (sugar) by the genial boss of the Cascade Home Furnishings. Verne's only comment was "no comment."

## Barkley to Run For Senate

PADUCAH, Ky. (AP)—Former Vice President Alben W. Barkley has returned to the political wars at age 76, seeking his old seat in the United States Senate where for years he was the Democratic leader.

Often called "Mr. Democrat," Barkley announced from his home here Saturday his candidacy for the post held by Sen. John Sherman Cooper, the biggest vote getter among Kentucky Republicans of modern times in this normally Democratic state. He's the first GOP senator elected from Kentucky since the mid-20's.

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## Logging Boss Says Safety Very Poor

SPOKANE (AP)—Robert J. Neils, logging superintendent for the J. Neils Lumber Co., told the closing session of the Intermountain Logging Conference here Saturday the industry's attitude toward safety "stinks."

"We don't support our safety men at safety conferences," Neils charged. "They return home from

safety conferences and bat their heads against a stone wall for another year."

Neils warned that unless the logging industry changes its attitude toward safety, legislation will be passed forcing it to. He added that the best place to demonstrate safety is on the highway, stating that one poorly-loaded logging truck can undo a lot of good work.

# Releasing Of Atomic News Big Problem To Officials

By ELTON C. FAY  
WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States is tangled in the problem of keeping its military secrets while at the same time letting Russia learn enough about American armament to deter her from trying war.

This perplexity is involved in part in the current discussion over how much should be revealed officially about the thermonuclear bomb tests.

How do you convince the Soviet government and its military high command that war wouldn't pay off, without also telling too much detail about the nature and size of the force ready to hit them if they make the gamble?

Moscow officials are realists, never ready to accept unofficial accounts, demanding solid technical facts before they can be convinced. They want to know, and unfortunately have been able in the past to get, the range and rate of climb of new planes; the secrets of the implosion process for triggering nuclear bombs; precise information on the type and intensity of light and the size and duration of the fireball in various atomic explosions to provide identification of explosive materials used.

Knowing that helps the Russians make their own weapons. It also could help convince them that they are, at a given time, too far behind in the technological race to try war.

But if at any time or for any reason Soviet technicians decide they are even or ahead the deterrent value may be weakened, although it is possible they still might be reluctant to undertake a punishing war.

In 1946, when there still lingered some touches of the old wartime spirit of alliance and the deterrent policy was unplanned, the United States invited Russian observers to

its Bikini atomic bomb tests. They have seen no American tests since, except possibly through a periscope.

But in recent months, as American atomic power has expanded by leaps and bounds, there have been suggestions that it might be well for foreign observers to have a refresher course, to convince everyone, friends and potential enemies, that here indeed is a deterrent.

One of the advocates of this idea has been an atomic energy commissioner, Thomas E. Murray. But his idea apparently is not shared by all others of the commission. Normally, only a bare announcement is made upon completion of a nuclear test series.

Russia may learn some details because the U. S. government

now feels compelled to tell its own citizens, for civil defense purposes, what to expect in an H-bomb explosion. The decision has been made to show an edited version of a motion picture of the 1952 H-bomb shot at Eniwetok. Sequences that might contain valuable technical data will be cut out.

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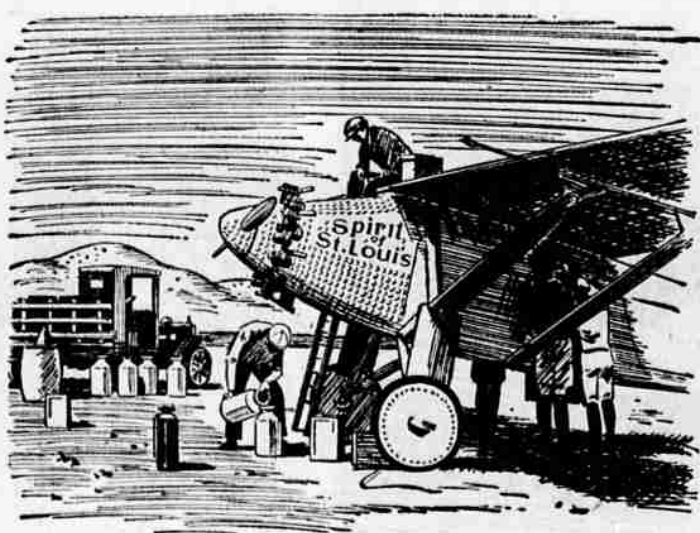
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