

FRENCH REPULSE REBEL ATTACKS

In The Day's News

BY FRANK JENKINS

The atomic energy commission is getting ready to release motion pictures of the hydrogen bomb test back in 1952 (that is the explosion that is supposed to have destroyed an island a mile wide). The title of the picture will be "Operation Ivy."

Do you reckon somebody's typewriter stuttered and left out the word "poison?"

Incidental information: The name of the Dutch ambassador to London is DIRK STIKKER.

What a perfect name for a diplomat!

Speaking of the striped pants profession, Sir Gladwyn Jebb, who is retiring as Britain's delegate to the UN, offered this challenging bit of personal opinion the other day:

"Television at United Nations is turning diplomats into actors. Delicate negotiations are impossible when millions of people are watching you scratch your head."

Let's be serious for a moment. We of the Fourth Estate (which now includes radio and television) are responsible for about 90 percent of the grandstanding and the demagogism and the playing to the galleries that are helping to make a mockery of the serious business of government in our legislatures, our congresses, our parliaments and our assemblies of diplomats.

We newspapers pounce eagerly upon whatever bits of news make headlines that sell newspapers and our radio and TV cousins grab with equal avidity the utterances of public characters that make spy news programs that can be sold to sponsors.

The politicians, knowing this, make sensational and screwball utterances in the hope of gaining notoriety and thus garnering votes. It's a vicious circle and I think Sir Gladwyn is doing us all a service in pointing it out. If our legislative and diplomatic deliberations could be carried on in a sane and quieter and more rational atmosphere, we'd have BETTER GOVERNMENT.

Speaking of public characters and what they have to endure, Queen Elizabeth was riding the other day in a procession through the streets of one of Australia's principal cities when a speck of sharp dirt blew into her eye. Despite apparent great pain, she went through a lengthy welcoming ceremony before pausing to have the speck removed.

Did you ever need terribly to SCRATCH AN ITCH when you were sitting — all puffed up with pride and importance — on a public platform with everybody looking at you?

If so, you'll understand what the queen went through down in Australia that day.

By the way — Have you noticed that Elizabeth and Philip seem NEVER to play to the galleries or indulge in any of the multitudinous tricks of the demagogues?

They're BORN to their jobs. They don't have to wangle votes in any way that votes can be wangled. In their lives there are NO ELECTION YEARS — in which everybody is supposed to have to act silly in order to get his job back.

Industrial note — culled from the teletype this morning:

The Great Lakes Carbon company and the Johns-Manville Corporation may build plants in Southeast Oregon. Ranchers there say these firms have taken options on hundreds of acres and apparently plan to explore for diatomite deposits. They say the companies have indicated they will exercise the options and build the plants if enough diatomite is found for a 20-year supply.

Diatomite is used in industrial filtering.

Move over this way with your explorations, boys. We have millions of tons of the stuff — lying practically within arm's reach of two main line railroads.

Portland Group Urges Park Plan

PORTLAND — The Park Blocks in downtown Portland would become the site of partially underground parking garages under a plan being considered by a group of private investors.

The plan is to be submitted to the City Council soon. It was learned Tuesday. It calls for part of the garages to be below the street level. Part would be at street level, however, because the blocks are on sloping ground. The area opposite the Arlington Club would be above ground.

Park bureau officials are expected to disapprove.



NEW PERMANENT VETERAN'S MEMORIAL column rises on the corner of the county courthouse grounds at Fourth and Main Streets.

AEC Head Reports on New Power of Hydrogen Bomb

By ED CREAGH

WASHINGTON — Chairman Lewis L. Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission said Wednesday a hydrogen bomb big enough to destroy any city in the world can now be made.

Strauss made the statement at President Eisenhower's weekly news conference. He attended the conference to give the public a partial report on the recent H-bomb tests in the far Pacific.

The AEC chairman said the March 1 and March 26 tests "were successful" and declared that "enormous potential has been added to our military posture."

Death Thought To Be Suicide

An apparent suicide victim whose body was dragged from the Lost River diversion canal made doubly sure of death, an autopsy revealed Wednesday.

According to Sheriff Murray Britton the victim, James Richard Wood, 48-year-old fuel pusher, sat on a foot bridge which spans the canal, shot himself in the head and then plunged into the icy waters.

The autopsy performed by Dr. George H. Adler, disclosed a bullet lodged in the back of the man's skull. Dr. Adler said Wood evidently placed the muzzle of a .22 caliber pistol against his right temple and pulled the trigger.

Sheriff Britton said mud tracks and other marks on the bridge indicated Wood was sitting in the center of the span when he shot himself. The body then fell into the water which was approximately 10 feet deep.

Wood disappeared from his home at 4841 Frieda Ave. Saturday night. Tuesday his car was reported abandoned on the bank of the canal. Sheriff's deputies and state police found the body a short time later. His widow, Pearl Wood, reported he had been dependent over ill health. The body is at Ward's Funeral Home.



PRE-GRADUATION ACTIVITIES for Merrill High School begin with the annual Junior-Senior Banquet held Tuesday evening at the Yacht Club. Here John O'Neil, center, senior class president, gets a preview of laughs to come when he checks the class prophecy; special guest for the evening, Lewis Kandra, left, and high school principal, Harold Hendrickson, right, look on. The prophecy was read by Mary Jo Hendrickson; the class will by Martha Beasley.

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Ike Urges Action In Asia Threat

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower said Wednesday this government's call for united action against possible Communist conquest of Indochina and all of Southeast Asia means there must be readiness to meet any kind of attack.

The President made this statement at his news conference in comment on Secretary of State Dulles' speech Monday night. In that address Dulles said Communist control of Southeast Asia would be a grave threat to the free world and "that possibility should be met by united action."

Dulles provided no detail on just what he meant by such action. Eisenhower said he went over every word of Dulles' speech in advance, and that as usual he and the secretary of state found themselves in full accord.

The President said Dulles was talking about united action by all the countries in the Southeast Asia area.

Then, without being any more specific than Dulles was, he said we must be prepared to meet any kind of attack.

That is the kind of united action we are seeking, he said. A reporter told Eisenhower some people had interpreted Dulles' speech to mean direct intervention by American troops, if necessary.

Eisenhower replied that he could conceive of no greater disadvantage to America than to employ U. S. ground forces all around the world.

The objective is, he said, is to try to make our friends strong enough to take care of local situations themselves.

Youth Given 15 Years

Raymond Eugene Lovelace, 21-year-old ex-convict, was sentenced to 15 years in Oregon State Prison late Tuesday by Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg after he pleaded guilty to a holdup at the Loggers Club in Bly.

The youth admitted to the court that he placed a long knife against the back of Martin Cavin, proprietor of the club, and ordered him to "stick 'em up!"

The robber then took the contents of the cash register and fled. He was found hiding an hour later in the boiler room of a lumber mill.

Defense Attorney J. C. O'Neill made a plea for probation for his client. He said Lovelace was intoxicated at the time of the holdup and was not responsible for his actions. He told the court that after he fled the Loggers Club, Lovelace ran blindly through a snow-covered field and plunged into an icy pond.

"That shows the defendant didn't know what he was doing," O'Neill declared. "He almost drowned."

In passing sentence, Judge Vandenberg called attention to the fact that he could impose a life term in the case.

CYCLONE

DACCIA, East Pakistan — A cyclone howled over the Collier District of East Pakistan Tuesday night, killing more than a dozen people.

Ike to Sign Tax Cut Bill; May Act In N.Y. Dock War

WASHINGTON — The White House news conference Wednesday brought official disclosures of the awesome power of the H-bomb and an announcement that President Eisenhower will sign the bill cutting excise taxes, and a declaration that the federal government will act in the New York waterfront strike if necessary.

It provided, too, an Eisenhower statement that this government's call for "united action" against possible Communist conquest of Southeast Asia means there must be a readiness to meet any kind of attack.

Eisenhower presented a "guest star"—Chairman Lewis L. Strauss of the Atomic Energy Commission—to tell of the hydrogen bomb. Strauss said it is now possible to produce H-bombs powerful enough to destroy any city in the world.

On taxes, Eisenhower noted that the bill whipped through Congress Tuesday with overwhelming support would reduce government revenue much more than he had recommended. However, he said he believes the excise cuts—effective Thursday—will help stimulate business and accept the reduction wholeheartedly.

The President announced he would sign the measure into law later in the day. Eisenhower had this to say on various matters:

Indochina and Southeast Asia—The President and Secretary of State Dulles were in full accord on the Monday night speech in which Dulles called for united action. He was no more specific than Dulles in spelling out just what such action would amount to.

New York dock strike — The federal government will act if necessary to try to end the strike, but local authorities also have a responsibility in attempting to settle the dispute.

Housing—Eisenhower expressed delight that House Republican leaders were able to get through an appropriation which, the President said, would assure construction of 33,000 public housing units during the fiscal year starting July 1. In the House, however, there is uncertainty as to whether any public housing units can be started as a result of a parliamentary tangle.

Israel-Arabs—Both sides in the dispute in that part of the world, Eisenhower said, ought to restrain their passions and extremists, and use a little bit of reason. He added that the United States has thoroughly approved an idea implicit in a United Nations plan for achieving harmony so far as Israel and the Arabs are concerned.

Foreign Trade—Discussing the special message he sent to Congress Tuesday, the President said his foreign trade program is keyed to the idea that healthy, two-way trade is the best insurance against the doctrine of statism. Under such a program, the President added, statism would not be able to overcome free governments.

European Army — Eisenhower said he still is all out for creation of the European Defense Community, calling for a six nation army. He said he is not going to think about a possible alternative plan so long as hope remains for EDC.

Austrian Treaty—For the last six or seven years the United States has stood firmly for early completion of an Austrian peace treaty, the President said, adding he sees no reason why it should not continue to stand firm.

11 Killed In School Explosion

CHEEKTOWAGA, N. Y. — At least 11 persons, most of them school children, were killed Wednesday in an explosion and fire that ripped through the frame annex of an elementary school in this Buffalo suburb community.

At least 19 others were burned or injured. The bodies of the 11 known dead were found in the ruins of the one-story building.

Firemen probed for others. It was believed some teachers might have been among the casualties.

There were no immediate identifications. Nearby residents said that flames from the building, located in back of the Cleveland Hill Elementary School, leaped at least 50 feet at the height of the fire.

Firemen said the explosion might have originated in a furnace or boiler. The building was believed to be a total loss.

It could not be learned immediately how many children were in the building at the time of the explosion, which occurred shortly before noon.

The injured children were taken to two Buffalo hospitals. The building was used for music and shop classes for children from the first grade through the sixth.

Buffalo fire and rescue units rushed to the scene to assist local authorities.

The explosion occurred shortly before classes were due to be dismissed for the lunch hour. Nearby residents said it made a soft, booming sound and that flames roiled out of the building to a height of at least 50 feet.

A rescue worker told a newsman that the bodies were all found in one room of the building. "It appeared that after the fire broke out, the children attempted to get out of the windows, since most of the bodies were near the window wall of the room," he said.

Blood Drive Big Success

Klamath County blood donors romped over the wire in the last two days with a new record for one operation here of 742 pints and broke Klamath Falls' previous one day record of 431 with 459 pints of blood given Tuesday.

Yesterday's big day was sponsored by the VFW Club, with John Zuma, campaign chairman, shaking the bushes for donors. Equal energy on the part of Mrs. Lloyd Hankins, chairman of the Bonanza-Largell Valley drive and Ray S. Van Meter, for the southern part of the county rounded up 125 for Bonanza, and 158 at Merrill on Monday.

The Moose Lodge sponsored the Merrill stop. The Bonanza visit was sponsored by the women of the Farm Bureau.

The huge turnout represented a county-wide effort was most gratifying to Red Cross headquarters, and to Mrs. Hugh Swamy, blood program chairman, to the sponsors of the three drives and the Red Cross medical group that accompanied the blood truck here from Portland.

Eleven nurses were rushed during most of yesterday, particularly between the hours of 7 and 9 p.m. to cope with the willing populace, many of whom were on the spur-of-the-moment donors.

Very few who signed pledge cards failed to show up, according to Virginia Dixon, Red Cross executive secretary.

A nursery was maintained in the VFW Hall for mothers with young children, cookies were made by members of the VFW Auxiliary, the Farm Bureau women and the women of the Moose.

Ira Zirkle, of the Zero Distributing Company, was man-of-the-hour, donating all the fruit juices used. Zirkle climbed out of bed last night and replenished the supply when it ran low during the last hours.

Eleven Red Cross nurses accompanied the truck. Members of the VFW Club and the Moose Lodge stood by all day to assist and the usual number of Red Cross staff aids were on hand, to keep the donors moving from checking stand to rest cots.

Garrison Holds Embattled Fort

HANOI, Indochina — The defenders of Dien Bien Phu hurled back attack after attack from screaming Vietnamese shock troops early Wednesday, interspersing savage counterattacks of their own.

The French High Command announced at noon that the garrison was holding all its positions. Rested and regrouped after the beating they took in their initial assaults on the fortress in mid-March, the Communist-led rebels opened their second offensive on the heels of a violent artillery barrage.

Thousands of wildly yelling rebel troops sprang from foxholes and trenches ringing the dusty, hill-topped valley of Dien Bien Phu and charged toward the mass of barbed wire barricades guarding the French trenches, dugouts and air strip.

Hurling grenades, firing machine guns, rifles and pistols, the Vietnamese raced into sheets of fire from the American-supplied guns manned by a garrison including Frenchmen, North Africans, Foreign Legionnaires, Vietnamese and pro-French Thai tribesmen.

Tanks, artillery, mortars and heavy machineguns cut the rebel ranks.

Overhead, every fighter and bomber plane the French could muster laid down blazing barrages of napalm and strafed the Vietnamese concentrations in the great aerial assault of the 7-year-old Indochina War. The Vietnamese made six successive attacks on the fortress defenses but were thrown back each time and each time the French troops moved out in counterattacks.

The rebels, who have been rounding up thousands of guerrilla fighters to bolster their elite troops around Dien Bien Phu, hit first at the eastern defenses and then at points along the southern edge of the perimeter.

There was no immediate announcement of casualties on either side, but it was obvious the Vietnamese again had suffered heavy losses from the defenders' massed fire.

Resumption of the all-out drive to overwhelm the French fortress, in northwestern Indochina 150 miles west of Hanoi, came two weeks after the Vietnamese were estimated to have lost 12,000 casualties in their first massive assault.

The savage battle raged throughout the night and continued Wednesday. The Vietnamese also succeeded in infiltrating some troops onto the fortress' main air strip during the night, but these were wiped out by French tank and machinegun fire.

Officers serving last year, were reelected Tuesday at the annual Klamath County Cattlemen's Association meeting at the Willard Hotel. Reelected for another term were: W. M. (Bill) Williams, president; Dave Campbell, vice president; and Ray Peterson, secretary.

Present from the Oregon State Cattlemen's Association were: President J. E. Cecil Burns; Vice President Garland Meador, Fairlie City and Frank Beeson, executive secretary.

Following brief discussions on a promotional program launched last year, recommendations were made for changes in the present state branding laws and efforts made to cut livestock freight rates. It was decided to present these at the Oregon State Cattlemen's Association convention to be held in Baker, May 19 to 21.

Principal speaker at the meeting was J. E. Oldfield, department of animal husbandry from Oregon State College, who discussed various feed rations recommended for feeding to growing calves, fattening animals and cows with calves.

One of the problems discussed of particular interest to Klamath County ranchers pertains to a new regulation on the interstate control of brucellosis. The United States Department of Agriculture is now considering compulsory testing of all animals moving over state lines.

At the American National Cattlemen's convention last January, the Oregon delegation spearheaded a resolution asking for certain exemptions to the proposed new regulations. The resolution asked that Klamath and Lake counties be exempt from the interstate compulsory testing law when moving cattle across the state line during normal ranch operations.

"It would be costly and totally impractical to test cattle in situations like Klamath-California interstate movements," Frank Beeson, secretary of the state association said. "The state association has been in contact with the federal veterinarians offices in Washington, D.C., and while a decision has not been reached, we feel that the department will grant our request."

Representing the women's organization was Ilda May Hawley, president of the Oregon Cowbelles.

NEW FUNDS
AMMAN, Jordan — An approved parliament Wednesday approved a budget of 18 million pounds (\$44,800,000) for the coming year.

Weather
FORECAST—Klamath Falls and vicinity. High cloudiness through Thursday. High Thursday 50, low Wednesday 28.
High yesterday 39
Low yesterday 22
Precip last 24 hours 0
Since Oct. 1 11.88
Same period last year 11.45
Normal for period 9.38

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