

REBELS HAMMER FRENCH FORT

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Problem note in the news: The Moscow radio declares today the H-bomb increases the need for an international ban on atomic weapons. The Russians for some time have been proposing outlawing atomic weapons, but have refused to agree to Western demands for an effective INSPECTION system.

That's what happens when you're dealing with someone you can't trust.

Incidental information: Approximately 10 per cent of all the farmers producing potatoes in the United States produce 85 PER CENT of the total commercial potato crop.

More incidental information: Nine per cent of the farms in the United States produce 50.8 PER CENT of the total VALUE of American farm production.

While we're at it, here's another for the census:

What the census bureau calls part-time farmers constitute 21 per cent of all the farms in the United States, but the total value of their crops represents only 2.1 per cent of the total value of American farm production.

Summing up: In 1949 (the last year covered by the census bureau) there were 8,379,250 farms in the United States and the total value of their products was \$22,279,562,599. In that year there were 103,231 farms that produced more than \$25,000 worth of products per farm. The total value of the production from these 103,231 farms was \$5,786,964,295.

That is, to say, these \$5,000 and over farms represented 1.9 per cent of the total number of farms but accounted for 26 per cent of our total farm production.

Getting back to the big issues, I suppose you'd better get a copy of this week's U.S. News and World Report and read Admiral Theobald's story of Pearl Harbor and what led up to it. There's nothing more startlingly new in it, but it adds confirmation to something that had been generally understood.

The gist of it is that President Roosevelt felt strongly that destiny called us to get into World War II. He was aware that the people of our country quite generally wanted to STAY OUT. He knew that the only way we could be brought into the war was by some direct aggression against us.

So he deliberately set our Pacific fleet out to bait to invite a Jap attack.

Admiral Theobald relates that, having broken the Jap secret code, Washington was aware that Tokyo was plotting an attack on the fleet at Pearl Harbor. This was the KEPT FROM Admiral Kimmel and General Short, our navy and army commanders at Pearl Harbor. So, when the attack came, we were unprepared to meet it and suffered not only the crippling of our fleet but some 4,000 casualties.

At any rate, Admiral Theobald says, we went to war.

WE WON the war.

Destiny is a big word. Perhaps destiny did call us to do what was done. The tragedy of it is that in the way we thus got into we sowed the dragon's teeth—as those who go to war so often do. One of history's tragic lessons is that wars tend to breed other wars.

President Roosevelt was one of history's great and forceful leaders. There can be no doubt that he thought he was answering destiny's call. There can be no doubt, I'm sure, that in answering destiny's call he thought he was doing his duty as the leader of the American people. It was a case where he thought the end justified the means.

But I hope that in the future we follow our constitutional processes more closely. That much power in one set of hands can be VERY dangerous.

The Herald News

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9 O'clock Special



CARMEN EMBREE, a teller at the United States National Bank of Portland, Klamath Falls Branch, on her way to work from her home at Route 2, Box 814 when the roving photographer passed.

International Ban on Use Of Hydrogen Bomb Urged

LONDON (AP)—Moscow radio said Friday the hydrogen bomb has increased the need for an international ban on atomic warfare.

The broadcast, quoting the Communist Party organ Pravda, linked Russia's surprise March 31 bid to join NATO to "the fact that the destructive power of the atomic weapon is incessantly increasing and in addition to this the hydrogen weapon has appeared whose power surpasses many times the power of the atomic weapon."

Final Word On Klamath TV Awaited

The Federal Communications Commission has now closed the Klamath Falls television contest in Klamath Falls on the basis of comparative merit between the proposals of KFJL Broadcasters and Klamath Falls Television, Inc.

Until March 11 of last year, when the FCC first reached Klamath Falls under its priority system of handling TV applications according to city size, the commission has publicly encouraged applications from all individuals and firms interested in making a proposal of television service for the Basin Area. Klamath Falls Television, Inc. made the first public announcement of intent to file for TV here and KFJL Broadcasters actually filed the first application.

Had either application been unopposed as of March 11, 1953, it might have been granted if the Commission found it in compliance with the law and in the public interest.

With two applications on file at the time of initial examination however, the FCC ordered the case held open for any additional applications and to await an eventual hearing in Washington, D.C. to determine which proposal would best serve the Klamath Falls region.

Last Wednesday, with no additional proposals having been received for Klamath Falls, the case was officially closed between existing applicants and the hearing date set for April 30. The commission is now expected to instruct the principals, W. D. Miller, President of KFJL Broadcasters, and Bud Chandler, President of Klamath Falls Television, Inc., to appear in person in Washington to testify concerning the representation of proposed service made in the respective petitions.

With only two applicants involved and the proposals very different in nature, the hearing may not become as lengthy as those in progress concerning larger cities and many applicants for each available channel.

As soon as competitive details are released from Washington, D.C., the Herald and News will print a full and complete comparison of the two proposals.

Earliest date on which the Klamath country may watch its own television station now appears to be November or December of this year and it will probably be later if the hearing is prolonged.

Committee Okays New TH Changes

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Labor Committee Friday okayed the idea of having a revised Taft-Hartley act provide for pre-strike balloting.

Chairman McConnell (R-Pa.) said the group fashioned the policy through a series of votes on proposals dealing with the issue.

The exact language reflecting the policy, he said, will be acted on when the committee meets on Monday.

McConnell reported the group, in closed session, approved 23-6 a proposal by Rep. Kearns (R-Pa.) for strikes to be lawful only if union members approve the action before it is taken.

It also approved 18-9 another proposal by Kearns which would require a majority of the eligible union members to determine the organization's course in a pre-strike vote.

McConnell said the group rejected 17-1 a motion by Rep. Wier (D-Minn.) that no vote be required in the law. And it turned back 22-5 a Kearns suggestion that the law call for strikers to be required to vote on employers' final offers which precede walk-outs.

The chairman indicated the language of the bill will provide for the pre-strike balloting to be arranged by the U.S. Mediation and Conciliation Service but handled and supervised by state, local or private agencies.

McConnell added that it is likely the final draft will call for the pre-strike vote to be taken within a 10-day period before strikes can become effective.

Once the strike vote provision is completed, the committee will turn to the issues regarding adjustment of the law and federal state relations.

President Eisenhower included the strike vote issue among the 14 recommendations for changes in the labor law which he sent to Congress in January. The Senate Labor Committee which completed a draft of its version Thursday left out this issue.

Klamath Falls shoppers, like Mrs. America all over the nation, reacted quickly to the cut in the excise tax Thursday, according to Keith Moon of the Town Shop, president of the Klamath Merchants Association.

"Shoppers were elated at this real evidence that the Republican administration is keeping its promise to cut taxes," he added.

"Ten cents on a dollar reduction on such items as a new purse for Easter was just like finding extra money."

Shopping in downtown stores was brisker than any other day, except the Saturday Spring Opening, for the last 30 days, he stated.

Although the original draft of the act was amended and final word has not been received here on the cut in all categories which will reach the pocketbook of the ultimate purchaser, it is known that on many items there is more than the actual amount of the cut being passed on to the consumer.

Admission to movie houses is one example. Bert Henson returned Thursday afternoon from a meeting with other managers and George M. Mann, president of a chain of theaters, in San Francisco, with word that his group is not only passing along the 10 per cent saving to theatergoers, but the admission price is being dropped to where the remaining 10 per cent tax is not effective in most cases. The excise tax was cut from 20 to 10 per cent on all admission prices over 50 cents.

By reducing the price in all except the CinemaScope theater to 50 cents, all tax is eliminated. Mann was among Western movie executives who took the initiative in giving the public full advantage of the possible reduction, Henson stated.

Lights can be just as bright, but at about \$5,000 a year less cost to Klamath Falls users as a result of the cut in tax from 20 to 10 per cent in light globes and fluorescent tubes.

Living is going to be easier in a lot of other ways as the result of the federal action.

All electrical household appliances which previously carried a 10 per cent tax.

"It amounts to a very real saving, particularly to the woman who is in the market for jewelry, furs and electrical household appliances," Moon stated. "First day's reaction shows plainly that the public is jubilant over the administrative action."

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Despite the violent attacks, the garrison commander, Col. Christian de Castries, radioed army headquarters in Hanoi last night that his troops' morale was high and he believed they could hold on although outnumbered 4-1.

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CAMP FIRE GIRLS will start selling their toothsome candy mints Saturday in the annual sale that helps raise money for camping fun during the summer. The girls hope to sell 7000 two boxes of light and dark candy. The candy is stored each year upon arrival until the sale, through the courtesy of the Klamath Creamery. Here, wheeling out the first load for delivery to leaders, is Don Piper, sale chairman and first vice president of the Camp Fire council, Randy Lee Horn, aged 9, a Blue Bird, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Horn, 1436 Canby Street. Barbara Ann Robichaud, (center) sixth grader at Roosevelt, is the daughter of Mrs. Helen Robichaud, 628 Oak Street.

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Hard Fight Rages Over Dusty Plain

By LARRY ALLEN

HANOI, Indochina (AP)—Thousands of fresh Vietnamese troops smashed into a French outpost about a mile northwest of the center of besieged Dien Bien Phu today and the French launched a heavy counterattack, supported by tanks, in an attempt to regain the position.

Other rebel forces crashed at the French Union fortress from the southeast in a gigantic pincer movement aimed at the heart of the bastion.

A brief French communique said the defense on the Communist-led rebels each time they rushed at the two corners of the hill-enclosed plain 175 miles west of Hanoi.

There was savage hand-to-hand fighting as the French forces repeatedly beat back the rebels trying to break through into the plain's headquarters center.

As the second major Vietnamese attempt to overwhelm Dien Bien Phu raged on into its third day, the fighting was so furious the French had no chance to estimate the losses on either side. They had said earlier that the rebels lost some 2,000 of their estimated 40,000 attackers in the first 48 hours.

The attack on the northwest was the first in that sector of the current drive on the French fortress, though the rebels in their first mass frontal attack on the plain three weeks ago had taken two posts in the center of the northern defense perimeter.

REBEL THREAT

In the current attack, until today, they had kept a division of some 10,000 men poised on the plain's western fringes while two other divisions attacked repeatedly on the east and southeast.

The French admitted last night they had lost three eastern outposts but said the heart and main arteries of the bastion were still intact. Fighting raged in that sector off and on throughout yesterday as the black-clad rebels, armed with containers of high-explosive, fought through wire and machine-gun fire to the barbed wire barricades.

The desperate French Union forces—French, North African, Vietnamese, Thai tribesmen and Foreign Legionnaires—fought hard to hand with those who broke through the fire. The French hit back also with air backed counter-attacks into enemy hill positions around Dien Bien Phu.

Despite the violent attacks, the garrison commander, Col. Christian de Castries, radioed army headquarters in Hanoi last night that his troops' morale was high and he believed they could hold on although outnumbered 4-1.

(In Paris, the French press agency reported that De Castries had appealed for more reinforcements.)

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