

Know Your Air Force



FIRST SERGEANT ALBERT H. WEAVER

(Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of articles about airmen and officers at the Klamath Falls Air Force Base designed to acquaint the readers of the Herald and News with the men manning the base.)

By MAX WAUCHOPE

A battle scarred former U.S. Marine Corps veteran is now pursuing a quieter peacetime military career as the first sergeant of the 408th Materiel Squadron of the 408th Fighter - Interceptor Group at the Klamath Falls Air Force Base.

The former Marine, First Sergeant Albert H. Weaver (same rank as master sergeant), who is now "first soldier" (or maybe we should call him "first airman") of his squadron, began his military career by enlisting in the Marines on January 28, 1940 in his home town, Sterling, Illinois.

Sgt. Weaver was graduated from high school in Sterling in 1938 and with the war clouds gathering followed the advice of his ex-Marine father by joining the service in which his parent had fought in World War I.

After his Marine recruit training he joined the 2nd Battalion of the 8th Marine Regiment in San Diego. He was transferred from this unit to the 2nd Engineer Battalion of the Division of Special Troops in Hawaii in September, 1941.

On the black Sunday of December 7, 1941 members of Sgt. Weaver's unit were strafed by Japanese aircraft as they slept in their tents. About 34 men of the battalion were killed in these attacks or were lost while attempting to rescue sailors from the sinking ships in nearby Pearl Harbor.

Sgt. Weaver came through this terrible ordeal unscathed. With the reorganization after Pearl Harbor the sergeant's (then a corporal) unit was attached to the 1st Marine Division and participated in the desperate fighting at Guadalcanal from August, 1942 to February, 1943. Sgt. Weaver, a demolition expert, fought in many engagements on the Canal including the bitter fighting around "Bloody Ridge."

When Sgt. Weaver's unit was pulled out of Guadalcanal it was sent to Christchurch, New Zealand for rest and retraining. Later in the summer of 1943 it joined in the first landings on Bougainville where the unit specialized in diversionary sorties and demolition of Japanese bunkers and underwater obstructions.

The next phase of the Pacific War in which the sergeant fought was the historic invasion of the Marianas. His unit was among the first to land on Saipan, which later became a base for the U.S. Air Force's B-29 raids on the Japanese homeland.

On Saipan Weaver was promoted to sergeant and assumed the post of first sergeant of his company when his predecessor was killed. He was progressively promoted through the ranks until he held the rank of first sergeant in about nine months.

After Saipan was pacified Sgt. Weaver and his company were part of the huge forces invading Okinawa on Easter Sunday, 1945. It was during the fighting for this island near the Japanese homeland that he received his first serious wound of the war. While fighting on Sugar Loaf Hill he was hit by fragments of shrapnel from a Japanese mortar. He still carries several pieces of the metal in the upper part of his right leg.

After his recovery from the leg wound he served for a few months in Tientsin, China and was returned to the U.S. and discharged from the Marines in February, 1946. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in September, 1948 as a staff sergeant at Travis Air Force Base, California.

In May of 1951 he was sent to Korea and won the Commendation Medal for his work with the 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing at Kimp'o Air Base, Seoul. He returned to the U.S. in May, 1952 and served at Hamilton and Travis Air Force bases until his assignment here in December, 1955.

In summing up his 14 years of active military service Sgt. Weaver said: "I'm a career member of the U.S. Air Force. I believe it offers the greatest opportunities to the individual of any of the services today."

The first sergeant's decorations include the Commendation Medal, Asiatic - Pacific Theater ribbon with four battle stars, American Theater ribbon with one battle star, the Victory Medal, Korean Service Medal, UN Medal and the ribbon for occupation service in Japan.

Sgt. Weaver resides at 2524 Wantland Avenue with his wife, Anna May.

Alturas Plans Youth Center

ALTURAS - Citizens of this Northern California community are going to do something to counteract conditions which promote juvenile delinquency.

Spearheaded by two Southern Pacific railroad workers, a Youth Center is being set up in the old Crow building in the business district of Alturas. The civic-minded railroaders are N. Y. Swift and Earl Nino.

Swift explained that the new center, which will provide recreational facilities for teenagers, will be operated by Modoc Union High School students. It is scheduled to open on February 15.

One high school student from each class will be elected to serve with an adult advisory board. The advisory board members will be picked by the student council of the high school.

"There has been a sharp rise in juvenile delinquency in Alturas in recent months," Swift said. "We believe this is due to lack of proper youth supervision and recreational facilities. The new Youth Center will give these young folks a proper place for social and recreational activities."

CITY BRIEFS

Sewing Classes - General sewing classes will meet at 7 o'clock Monday evenings at room 100, KUHS. For further information call 2-0111.

Surgery - E. C. Flackus, 2210 Ogden Street, underwent surgery in the St. Vincent's Hospital Portland, January 27. Mrs. Flackus returned home this week and reports her husband is recovering nicely and will be confined to the hospital another 10 days or two weeks. Friends may write to Flackus at the hospital.

Recovering - Mrs. Wallace Uerlings is recuperating at her home at 4540 Sassa Way after being released from Klamath Valley Hospital Saturday morning. She was confined to the hospital since January 23 with a fractured leg. Friends are welcome to call or visit.

Away - Otto Ellis, Herald and News photographer, left this morning with the Kiwanis, 4-H Club delegation to spend two days on tour of the San Francisco Bay Area. He will return Wednesday.

Wives Meet - Public school faculty wives will meet Monday at 8 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Roland Krieb, 2340 Eberlein.

Church Film - The "Martin Luther" film will be shown at the Methodist Church sanctuary, 220 North 10th Street Sunday, February 5, at 7:30 p.m. A potluck Fellowship dinner will precede the film at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. There will be a free will offering.

City Tax Hike To Be Studied

DUNSMUIR - The City Council will meet Wednesday evening, February 8, to consider raising the city's maximum property tax to \$1.25 per \$100 assessed valuation, a 25 cent raise over the present \$1 tax rate.

The decision as to whether or not to put this up to the voters at the April 10 election must be made before February 16, a deadline set by law.

The city is faced with a desperate need for major equipment and repairs to the city hall. At the council meeting this week it was estimated that \$50,000 could be spent at once for road equipment, fire equipment and repairs to the city hall's sagging roof. Purchase of a four-wheel-drive snow plow and a garbage truck during the past two years has practically depleted the city treasury, Mayor Fred Lloyd pointed out.

The basic \$1 per \$100 city tax was established in 1926, councilmen noted. If the 25 cent increase is put into effect, Dunsmuir could expect an additional income of \$13,283, or about \$66,000 in five years.

The councilmen noted that the taxpayers would not be too hard hit by a raise in the tax ceiling as a 13 cent special levy for purchase of fire equipment expires this year and all outstanding street bonds will be retired this year.

Alternatives to the tax increase discussed at this week's meeting included a one per cent sales tax, a sewer use tax or drastic curtailment of the city services. Councilmen hoped they could offer voters a proposition providing for a tax increase for a limited time, but City Attorney Gerald Shannon explained this is possible only for specified purchases, such as a fire truck.

NEW LIGHTS ORDERED - SPRING VALLEY, Ill. (UP) - The State of Illinois finally has ordered new light bulbs on the Illinois River bridge near Spring Valley.

The last bulb on the bridge burned out in 1931.

RETURNED - PANAMA - Dr. Victor Florencio Goytia returned last night from Miami, Fla., to take over the active leadership of the opposition Liberal party. A lawyer, he had lived in Miami the past year.

W. D. Purvine Addresses OTI Engineering Associates

Members of the new Department Advisory Committee for Engineering Associates held their first meeting Friday, February 3 at the OTI campus with Director W. D. Purvine, Supervisor of Instruction H. A. Pedersen, Albert McVey, Brooks Custer, C. Fred Poulton, Jesse A. Crabtree Jr. and Edmund Watson of the faculty.

The eight members of the committee, comprising professional engineers and associated technicians are: H. Loren Thompson of Stevens and Thompson; Bertram G. Dick, chief of inspection, Bonneville Power Administration; Edward J. Jaras of John W. Cunningham and Associates; Glenn V. Lavery, chief draftsman in the structural design section of the U.S. Corps of Engineers' office; James J. Bonner, surveyor with the Pettibohn Engineering Company, and Kenneth H. Spies, assistant chief engineer with the State Highway Department, all of Portland.

From Salem: Assistant state highway engineer, G. S. Paxson

and Frank Hall, state highway design engineer. Purvine addressed the committee: "We at the school develop the basics for our curricula and consult with advisory groups. We may overlook something important or include something they feel not important. OTI is the producer; you (the committee) represent the consumer. You help us turn out a better product to help your profession."

Suggestions stressed by the committee included broadening the base of education for technical associates. Members felt there is a great need for training technicians in writing concise, intelligible reports whether they be to cover inspection, testing or whatever.

It was also recommended that technicians should be trained to do a variety of things, and that they should understand the theory behind what they are trained to do, according to Purvine. It was pointed out that the average engineering employer may not be aware of how much the technical institute graduate is prepared to do.



THESE JUNIOR BOWLING WINNERS were honored by BPOE Elks No. 1247 Thursday night for their performances in the junior bowling program at the Lucky Lanes Bowling Alley. Exalted Ruler Eston E. Balsiger, rear, presented the winners and runners-up with the awards. The bowlers are, left to right, Pat Healy, Sandra Dexter, Toby Schuh, Dwight Schuh, Ronald Pinner and Terry Heaton.

BASIN BRIEFS

Alluras - Pledges and requests for the Lake County March of Dimes request program over KCNO may be phoned in toll-free this afternoon from 12:30 to 5 p.m.

Home Extension - The Klamath County Home Extension Committee will meet Monday, February 6, at the home of Mrs. Frank Peyton, 1865 Melrose, at 1:30 p.m.

Keo Home Extension will meet Wednesday, February 8, at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Elmer Erie for the "Care of the Hair" project. Bring a comb, towel, brush, bobby pins and table service for the potluck lunch. Also bring magazines and coupons.

Dunsmuir - A color film of Hawaii was shown at the Rotary luncheon at the Hotel Dunsmuir, February 1. J. Morgan Jones took the pictures on a recent trip to the islands. J. Smith, president, conducted the business meeting.

Annual Meeting - The annual meeting of the Klamath County Farm Bureau will be held at 10 a.m. Monday at the Klamath County Fairgrounds. Chief speaker will be Louie Lyon of Malin, Klamath County delegate to the National Potato Council.

Grange Meeting - A home economic meeting of the Shasta Vlog Grange will be at 10 a.m. at the home of Mrs. Gladys Samples, 2949 Blisbee Street, Tuesday, February 7, at 8 p.m. All members are urged to attend.

Malin - The Malin Home Extension Club will meet Tuesday, February 7, at 10 a.m. at the home of Mrs. William Rajnus for the program, "Rolls and Bread from Sweet Dough." Each member is asked to bring fruit for a salad to be served for lunch.

Potluck Dinner - The Malin Cub Scout Pack No. 33 will join Troop No. 33 and Post No. 133 in a potluck dinner at the Malin Community Hall, Monday, February 13, for members and their families at which time a court of honor will be held.

Midland - Grange Home Economics group will meet Tuesday, February 7, at 1:30 p.m. with Mrs. Angeline Milani on Old Homedale Road. All members are urged to attend.

Bly - Nancy Marie, weighing 10 pounds, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stanley, Weaverville, California, January 31. The Stanley's are former residents of Bly and have three sons. The baby girl is the first granddaughter of maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Monte Gline, and the first great-granddaughter for Mr. and Mrs.

James Dixon, all of Bly. Stanley's mother lives at Medford.

Second Son - A son, who has been named Dennis Emmett, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Don McGee, Bly, February 1, at Klamath Valley Hospital. He weighed seven pounds seven ounces and is the McGee's second son. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. F. E. McGee, Fort Rock, and maternal grandmother is Mrs. Jennie Schneider, Los Angeles. Mrs. McGee and new son will be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Lilly in Klamath Falls a few days before returning to Bly.

Operation - Mrs. F. E. McGee of Fort Rock underwent surgery at the Klamath Valley Hospital February 1, the same day that grandson Dennis Emmett was born.

To Kansas - Mrs. Roy Davis of Langell Valley left February 1 for Kansas to see her 83-year-old mother who is ill in the hospital.

Home - In Langell Valley is Howrey Roberts who recently had surgery in Klamath Valley Hospital.

To Wedding - F. W. Brown, Langell Valley, is in Los Altos, California, to be best man at the wedding of his son, Martin, today.

Recovering - Mrs. Sadie Hammond, mother of Mrs. Frank H. Brown of Bonanza, is recovering from major surgery at Klamath Valley Hospital on January 31.

Bonanza - Mrs. Carl Prough and two children spent a week in Bonanza with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elva Maxwell, and have returned home to Klamath Falls.

Harrison Payne Dies In Home

Harrison Hendrick Payne, resident of Klamath Falls since 1944, died at his home, 2347 Union Avenue, at 11:45 p.m. Friday. Mr. Payne was born March 13, 1885 in Rolla, Missouri.

Mr. Payne is survived by his widow Dora, a daughter, Mrs. Jessie Stone, both of this city; a son Albert Payne, Sacramento, California; two sisters, Mrs. Shola Adkinson, Sollo, Missouri and Mrs. Bessie Postem, Placerville, California, and eight grandchildren. O'Hair's Memorial Chapel is in charge of arrangements. Time of funeral will be announced.

SITE PURCHASED - SAN FRANCISCO (UP) - First Western Bank and Trust Company has purchased a site on the northeast corner of 4th and O Streets in Eureka for construction of its first office there.



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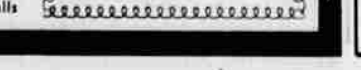
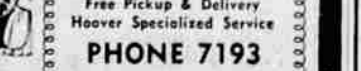
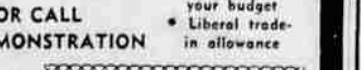
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Reception To Open Annual Meeting Of OTI Committee

Annual meeting of the State Advisory Committee for Oregon Technical Institute will begin with a reception Sunday at 8 p.m. in the campus cafeteria, according to Director W. D. Purvine.

Mrs. Victor O'Neill, Klamath Falls member of the State Board of Education and O. E. Paulson of Salem, state director of Vocational Education, will attend.

Members of the State Advisory Committee expected here are Chairman Edward Branchfield and Mrs. Leigh E. Gustison of Medford, Harley Libby of Jefferson, William G. Ross of Vale, Jess A. Bell and A. S. Teller of Portland, Mrs. Albert Powers of Coos Bay and Dan Kroetz of Eagle Point.

OTI instructors and supervisors and their wives, as well as guests from downtown Klamath Falls will attend the reception. Faculty in charge of arrangements include Chairman W. M. Douglas, H. A. Pedersen, John M. Vail, Mrs. Gerald Cole and Mrs. Raymond Clark. Background music will be furnished by a group of Klamath Union High School musicians directed by Andrew Loney, Jr.

All-day sessions on the mile-high campus tomorrow will discuss progress during the past year, a plan of operation for electives, the report of the Department Advisory Committee for Engineering Associates which met last Friday, and other immediate and long-range plans and needs, according to Purvine.

Members of the committee will be entertained at a campus luncheon, and tours of OTI will take place during the afternoon.

During the evening members Libby and Ross, representing agricultural interests, will meet with Purvine, Pedersen and members of the local agricultural advisory committee chairmanned by Scott Warren; J. A. Faircl, Lloyd Hankins, L. J. Horton and James Flowers.

Carmen Miranda Home Sale Ok'd

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (UP) - Sale of the late Carmen Miranda's home for \$61,500 has been approved in Superior Court to facilitate distribution of her estate, estimated at more than \$100,000.

Judge Harold W. Schweitzer approved the purchase by film musical director Bronislaw Kaper on a petition presented by the actress' husband, producer David A. Sebastian.

Miss Miranda died last Aug. 5, leaving no will. Sebastian said the present estate estimate does not include oil leases and possible other property in Brazil.

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