



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

FINAL

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Old Plants Reported

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet scientists in the Antarctic reported today they had found fossilized plants and what appeared to be animal bones possibly 250 million years old.

Churchill Visit

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House said today confirmed that Sir Winston Churchill, former British prime minister, has accepted President Eisenhower's invitation to be a White House guest for several days late in April.

Village Bombed

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — The Tunisian government said French planes today bombed the Tunisian village of Sakiet Sidi Youssef for an hour, killing 5 persons and wounding 40.

Present Credentials

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House said today Mikhail A. Monchikov, the new Soviet Ambassador who arrived Thursday, will present his credentials to President Eisenhower Tuesday.

Bulgarian Rebuffed

THE HAGUE (AP) — The Netherlands has rebuffed Soviet Premier Bulganin's invitation for a summit conference and suggested the resumption of disarmament talks as a better way to restore East-West confidence.

Claims Denied

TAIPEI, Formosa (AP) — Nationalist Chinese Air Force headquarters today denied a claim by Peiping radio that Chinese Communist anti-aircraft guns shot down a Nationalist plane and damaged three others off Fukien Province Monday.

Bad Weather

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) — Bad weather today prevented Sir Edmund Hillary from leaving Scott Base for Depot 70 to join Dr. Vivian Fuchs and his British party on the last leg of their trans-Antarctic trek.

Soldiers Killed

SEOUL (AP) — Eleven South Korean Army soldiers were killed and 13 injured, two seriously, when an Army truck fell from a cliff in the 6th Corps area 30 miles north of Seoul.

Less Spending

HONG KONG (AP) — Gen. Kan Sze-Chi, deputy chief of the Red Chinese Army political section, said today Red China will spend 23 million yuan (about 10 million dollars) less on military expenditures this year than last.

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Crucifix ...



... Saved His Life

A crucifix, doctors said, saved the life last night of Elias Alvarado, 17, who was shot in the lobby of a Los Angeles theater by an usher. He and two companions were booked for robbery after they tried to snatch a woman's purse. The slug lodged at the top center of the crucifix, and only broke Alvarado's skin.

UDC ATTACKS Tug Of War Starts Over Old Cannon

By ANN SAWYER
A tug of war is developing over Charlotte's 200-year-old Spanish cannon.
The U. S. Government would like to get its mitts on "El Dominante."
But the Stonehill Jackson Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, is determined to keep the landmark here.

The new "war" began shaping up this week after Ben F. Mooney, superintendent of the Kings Mountain National Park, said a request for its return to the government will be filed with the city soon.

Local UDC members are just about ready to use the cannon against the government to keep it. They say it was given to them by the nation.

And what's more, it can still have a home on the old Alexander Graham Scott property where a new YMCA will be built for the cannon.

One of the best known landmarks in Charlotte, the old cannon, probably was made in Barcelona May 21, 1769. The date is on the barrel along with the designation, "El Dominante."
It was at several locations in Charlotte before being moved to the A. G. Scott property. It was transferred to James J. Harris, Annointed pastor of the First Baptist Church, by Mr. Harris to build a site for a new \$2 million Y.M.C.A.
There are varying stories about how the cannon got to Charlotte.
Victor C. King, Mecklenburg

Arctic Cold Plunges South In Deep Freeze

Bitter Weather Sweeps Across Eastern States

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
Bitter Arctic cold gripped most of the nation's eastern half today and once more sent temperatures below freezing across the Deep South.

The icy blast which swept across the Plains States and the Mississippi Valley Friday and reached the Atlantic seaboard by early today.

Sub-zero temperatures were common again over the north central tier of states, and below freezing readings were recorded as far south as Texas and Louisiana.

There was little immediate prospect of a break in the widespread chill.

In contrast to the cold weather over most of the eastern half of the country, a storm center off the Jersey coast brought a flow of warm air over New England.

Largest overnight temperature drops occurred east of the Mississippi River and south of the Ohio nearly 30 degrees lower than a day ago.

MERCURY DROP

The mercury was more than 20 degrees lower at such widely separated spots as Indianapolis, Meridian, Miss.; Mobile, Birmingham and Montgomery, Ala.; Atlanta and Cross City, Fla.

Although thermometers in northern and central Florida had readings 10 to 20 degrees lower than Friday, temperatures were somewhat higher than earlier in the week when the season's first severe cold snap hit the resort and farming industries.

Low temperatures and rain already have killed cattle, blighted citrus groves and sent tourists packing.

The storm off the Atlantic Coast produced an early morning temperature of 23 degrees at Lebanon, N.Y., compared with two above zero at Rockville, Md.

Considerable rain and snow was associated with the Atlantic storm. One to two inches of new snow fell along the southern shores of Lake Ontario overnight. Seven inches of snow was collected at Towanda, Pa., Friday.

Other snow activity was scattered across the Middle Atlantic States and into New England. Rainfall ranging up to three quarters of an inch damped an area from New Jersey into New England.

Except for considerable cloudiness along both coasts, near the Great Lakes and scattered clouds over the Rockies, skies were mostly clear over the country.

BUTTON UP YOUR COAT

A bitter cold wave will hit Charlotte today and will continue through tomorrow.

The Weather Bureau said yesterday's comfortable high of 63 degrees will sink to a low of 40 today and a high of 36 tomorrow.

Low this morning was a freezing 22, but that will drop to 18 degrees by tomorrow.

Rainfall yesterday was .21 of an inch, bringing the 48 hour total to .81 of an inch. Total for the month is 1.22 inches.

Forecast is for fair, windy and cold today, clear with a hard freeze tonight and Sunday fair and continued cold.

The Weatherman sees a warming trend by Tuesday.

Our Weather

Fair, windy and cold today. Clear with a hard freeze tonight. Sunday fair and continued cold.

Low this morning 22
Low tomorrow morning 18
High today 40
High yesterday 63
High tomorrow 36
Sunrise today 7:17 a.m.; sunset today 5:39 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 10-A

Evening Prayer

Heavenly Father, because we are unworthy in Thy sight, we seek Thy mercy, for we would be freed of our sins. Through the merit of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, give us power to overcome them. In His Blessed name we pray. Amen.

Going Up!



ATLAS MISSILE

Air Force Hunting For Clues After Atlas Missile Blows Up

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The Air Force and the manufacturer studied thousands of feet of taped data today for clues to the cause of an explosion that destroyed an Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) after less than four minutes of flight yesterday.

A spokesman for Convair division of General Dynamics Corp., San Diego, Calif., said the cause of the self destruction was still a mystery. He said the cause might not be known until completion of a thorough job of reading the information, if at all.

This information was recorded on tape sent back by radio from the instruments aboard the quest missile.

"HAM" SPECULATION
Some persons here speculated that interference by a radio signal, possibly from a "ham" amateur set, had caused the Atlas to destroy itself.

A spokesman, Mr. Conner, said, "We could not be 100 per cent sure, but it would have to be an actual strange coincidence," Cady said.

The signal would have to come on the right wave length and it would have to be the exact signal.

If this happened, there would be some way of knowing it from reading the tape."

Cady said he could not estimate how long it would take to determine the point at which the missile had failed.

The two million dollar missile shattered into bits about 30 miles above the ocean. Before it exploded, the missile had yielded virtually all the essential data that

—JOHNSON PICKED— Outer Space Head Named

By ELTON C. FAY

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of Defense McElroy has picked a boss for outer space projects and handed the new Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) its assignment of developing weapons of tomorrow.

He also has decided tentatively that the Air Force should provide crews for any space ships of the future.

Named to head the ARPA was Roy W. Johnson, 52, vice president of the General Electric Co. where he formerly was in charge of electronics business.

These developments yesterday indicated that the long-delayed Pentagon space agency finally was getting ready for business — the development of such weapons as military satellites, antimissile missiles and space platforms.

WEEK-LONG QUEST

Johnson's appointment came after a week-long quest for some executive who would take on the job. He will take over the ARPA post on April 1, when he will resign from General Electric. Johnson lives in Stamford, Conn., and works in New York.

McElroy said Johnson's salary has not yet been decided, that Johnson hadn't discussed the matter and that it didn't seem "particularly important to Mr. Johnson."

McElroy described Johnson as having "impressive experience and ability as an administrator." Johnson said he still is looking for a "most highly qualified scientist" to head a group to provide technical direction within ARPA.

At a news conference in New York, Johnson said he was not a scientist or a technical man, but an administrator. Johnson estimated it might take

18 months to two years to get the ARPA running effectively.

The ARPA is intended to coordinate space research in the Defense Department and eliminate interservice rivalry in this field.

McElroy's directive setting up ARPA provides that the agency may turn out particular space projects to individual services or help the services for scientists and technicians. It also is authorized to get help from business firms, educational, research or scientific institutions.

ARPA is given authority to act

See HEAD on page 10-A



MRS. MACDONALD

Author Dies Of Cancer At Age 49

SEATTLE (AP) — Mrs. Betty MacDonald, 49, whose first writing effort, "The Egg and I," became an overnight best seller 13 years ago, died last night after being ill many months. She had cancer.

"The Egg and I," a story of life on a chicken ranch in the rugged backwoods country of the Olympic Peninsula, quickly became a best seller, was turned into a motion picture and was the basis for the "Ma and Pa Kettle" movie series.

Mrs. MacDonald later added to her list of fictional successes with such books as "The Plague and I," "Anybody Can Do Anything," "Onions in the Stew," "Nancy and Plum," and the children's "Mrs. Pigglewiggles" series.

TWO SUE

In 1951, she and her publishers were sued for \$975,000 by the Albert Bishop family and Raymond H. Johnson, who contended they were libeled by being portrayed as the somewhat shiftless Kettle family. A Superior Court jury, unanimously rejected the claim and the presiding judge denied a motion for a new trial.

She married Donald C. MacDonald, a real estate operator, here in 1942 after divorcing her first husband, Robert E. Heskett. Her two daughters, Joan and Ann, who figured prominently in her "Onions in the Stew," were by her first marriage.

2 Face Action After Death At Roadblock

PAIDUACH, Ky. — Missouri state trooper Vernon Hopkins and Kentucky civilian Forrest McAlister face voluntary manslaughter charges following the shooting of a young woman at a police roadblock.

Charged after a coroner's inquest yesterday into the death of Miss English, 24, Paiduach, Hopkins, Hopkins, Hayti, Mo., and McAlister, 26, Fulton, Ky., were freed on bond pending examining trial here Feb. 17.

The jury ruled Miss English died as a result of "one or more large caliber bullets fired by someone unknown to this jury."

SHOT AT ROADBLOCK

She was shot early Monday morning at a roadblock set up to nab Carl E. Burton, 24, Burton and Miss English, 23, both of Paiduach, Ky., are in custody on kidnapping and interstate transportation of a stolen vehicle charge. Burton was charged with kidnapping and interstate transportation of a stolen vehicle charge. Burton was charged with kidnapping and interstate transportation of a stolen vehicle charge.

Shortly before the inquest, Hopkins, McAlister and Char. A. King, Fulton, a companion of McAlister, were named defendants in a \$100,000-damage suit.

The suit charged Miss English died as a result of careless, illegal, unlawful and negligent action by "all and each of the defendants."

The suit was filed by an uncle of Miss English, C. A. English. Claude English, brother of the dead woman and driver of the car which went through the roadblock, told the inquest he stopped three times and waited for a signal from the roadblock. He said he drove on when none came and was then fired upon.

King testified, however, that trooper Hopkins ordered the approaching car to stop and when it speeded up, Hopkins fired a shotgun and McAlister fired the trooper's carbine at the car.

Shotgun Slaying

Killer Has Confessed, Says Hickory Detective

(Special to The News)
HICKORY, N.C. — After a night's sleep and almost three hours of questioning by police, a Hickory man has confessed to the fatal shooting that ended a week-end drinking spree.

At 10:10 a.m. today, 52-year-old Clyde Franklyn Sigmon, Sr., gave up his story that he did not know Marshal Moore, whose body was found in his (Sigmon's) home last night.

Hickory City Police have charged him with first degree murder.

VERSION GIVEN

Det. Sgt. E. E. Horne, who had been on duty since yesterday morning, said Sigmon gave this version of the shooting:

The two men had been drinking wine and beer together. They got into a fight at Sigmon's house on Fourth Street Drive Extension in southwest Hickory.

Moore hit him with a chair, knocking him down in the din-

ing room, and he crawled to the living room and called police, at 8:45 p.m.

Sgt. Horne said Sigmon was questioned for an hour or two last night, failed to get a night's sleep, and then brought out more questioning again at 7:30 a.m.

His confession came less than three hours later.

Both the victim and defendant have police records.