

Eisenhower Dies in Long Battle With Congestive Heart Failure

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander in World War II of the mightiest armed forces ever assembled and former president of the United States, died today.

The announcement of the general's death was made in a somber voice by Brig. Gen. Frederic Hughes Jr., commanding general of Walter Reed Army Hospital who said that Eisenhower had "died quietly at 12:25 p.m. EST after a long and heroic struggle," and that he had died peacefully.

"Mrs. Eisenhower and members of the immediate family" were nearby at the time of death, Hughes continued.

He added President Nixon, former President Lyndon B. Johnson and Eisenhower's two brothers had been notified. Nixon meanwhile drove from the White House to the hospital. The White House said he would have a statement, a message to Congress and a proclamation later.

The 78-year-old five-star general, known as "Ike" throughout the world, was hit by congestive heart failure March 15 and again last Monday while recuperating from an intestinal operation and pneumonia complications.

With the rugged constitution of a

Kansas farm boy, he already had battled back from seven heart attacks before undergoing surgery for an intestinal obstruction Feb. 23.

CONTRACTED PNEUMONIA

Four days after undergoing the high-risk surgery, he contracted pneumonia. Doctors successfully combatted the pneumonia with antibiotics.

But throughout the February trouble, it was Eisenhower's heart which caused doctors their prime concern.

Doctors made no mention of the congestive heart failure March 15 until after Eisenhower's wife, Mamie, said at a party the general had endured a "particularly bad" day.

Reporters questioned the hospital and were told of the latest onset of heart trouble.

HOSPITALIZED APRIL 23

Eisenhower had been hospitalized since last April 23, when a heart attack felled him in California after a round of golf. He was transferred to Walter Reed and there suffered three more, his seventh coming on Aug. 16.

Since then he had gained vigor, walked short distances, received President Nixon and former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, and grinned his famed and folksy grin from a hospital window when an Army band, observing "Salute to Eisenhower Week," serenaded him on his birthday Oct. 14.

The grin was undimmed from 1944, when it heartened allied troops rholized for the awesome thrust through Normandy to the heart of Nazi Germany; from 1949, when he became president of Columbia University; from 1950, when he assumed supreme command of NATO forces; and from 1952, when both Democrats and Republicans sought him as their nominee for president.

As a Republican, he swept into office and four years later won reelection in what was then the greatest landslide in history. That made him the only GOP president of this century to win successive White House terms.

DISLIKED POLITICIANS
Despite this stunning political victory, Eisenhower disdained always partisan politics and privately made no secret of a dislike for politicians.

"I think in the general derogatory sense you can say, of course, that I do not like politicians," he told a 1955 news conference.

And despite his rise to supreme allied commander in Europe during World War II, he was no fonder of what he called "this damnable thing of war."

While in the Army, Eisenhower said he wanted only to see "people in my profession permanently out of a job."

ISSUED WARNING

He left office after his second term proudest that he kept the peace, but warning against the growing influence of a "military-industrial complex."

Ike's reassuring image eased troubled years. Fidel Castro seized Cuba, led it into communism. The Soviet Union launched Sputnik 1. The U2 spy plane was shot down over Russia in flaming controversy.

Eisenhower made good his promise to end the war in Korea, ordered federal troops into Little Rock, Ark., to enforce school desegregation, and backed up his secretary of state, John Foster Dulles, in the Cold War policy called "brinkmanship."

But in 1955 the nation was plunged into apprehension when a severe heart attack hospitalized him in Denver for seven weeks.

Then — Vice President Richard M. Nixon, just one faltering heartbeat from the presidency, got a foretaste of the dire responsibility he would not win in his own right until 13 years later.

In the final weeks of the 1960 campaign, Eisenhower made speeches in several big cities for Nixon. The crowds were big and enthusiastic—but often the hand-lettered signs said, "We still like Ike" instead of "We want Dick."

The general stayed neutral in the bitter Republican battle of 1964 which resulted in the nomination of Sen. Barry Goldwater, but in last year's campaign he came out strongly for Nixon.

And Nixon, launched on his comeback, invoked the magic name again: "Let's win this one for Ike."

TO LIE IN STATE

The body will lie in state, first, at the Washington Cathedral for one day.

Then it will be borne by caisson—at slow march and to the roll of drums—down historic Constitution Avenue to the Capitol, where the public will be permitted to file by the bier in the Rotunda for 24 hours.

On the third day after death, under a

plan drawn in 1966, the remains will be taken back to Washington Cathedral for funeral service. The President, vice president, heads of state and other dignitaries will be invited.

Finally, the body will be taken to Abilene, Kan., his boyhood home, for burial at the Eisenhower Library.

Born in Denison, Tex., he grew up in near-poverty in Abilene in a fundamentalist religious household. His mother, a member of a pacifist sect, wept when her boy received his appointment to West Point.

Like most Army officers in the post-World War I period, Eisenhower lived a rather obscure and comparatively uneventful life.

CHOSEN BY FDR

But he had been marked for promotion and, when World War II came, he was chosen by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Army chief of staff, Gen. George C. Marshall, to command the invasion of North Africa.

From there he rose to the military summit. As supreme commander in Europe, he commanded the greatest military machine ever assembled.

On the News Fronts

Blasts, Fire Rip Refinery Near LA

From Our News Wires

WILMINGTON, Cal. — Explosions ripped through huge storage tanks of aviation fuel, diesel oil and naphtha at a refinery last night, sending fireballs towering 1,000 feet into the night sky.

A tank truck driver was killed and at least 71 persons injured, 21 of them children, authorities said today. Fifteen of the injured were among 200 firemen who struggled four hours to smother the flames at the Fletcher Oil and Refining Co.

The fireballs erupting through the tops of tanks looked like nuclear explosions, witnesses said. The glow was seen in the Hollywood Hills, 25 miles away.

A county fire department spokesman

said the fire was completely controlled today after firemen spraying mountains of foam snuffed out flames licking around a storage tank filled with one million gallons of gasoline.

Many of the injured children were from a nearby high school. They were gawking at the flames through a fence when the explosions caught them. At least four children were hospitalized with burns.

The chain of explosions began at 5:30 p.m. when a tank truck blew up at a loading dock while it was pumping a low-grade gasoline into a tank.

The man killed was the driver of the truck which blew up. He was identified as Myron Chase, 47, of Long Beach.

Satellite Flop Is Eyed as Detector

WASHINGTON (AP) — A satellite that flopped seven years ago is getting a push from the Nixon administration because it shows promise as an early warning device against a submarine-launched missile attack.

The satellite uses infrared devices to detect missiles by sensing the heat they emit as they leave the launch pad.

In the case of intercontinental range missiles, this satellite could provide as much as 30 minutes warning, about double that which can now be provided by radar capable of seeing the missiles only when they clear the horizon.

The satellite used to be called Midas.

begun in 1959, it ran into trouble because infrared technology was not yet equal to the task.

The Air Force in late 1962 was ordered to reorient the program and return it to the research and development phase.

Now the Midas has made a full reappearance under a new name, Satellite Early Warning System.

The Pentagon has asked Congress to appropriate an additional \$93 million for this project in the bookkeeping year starting July 1, largely to expand coverage but also to accelerate work on improved reliability, communications and sensitivity.

OEO Admits Waste, Defends Program

WASHINGTON (AP) — A secret report compiled by the Office of Economic Opportunity admits the antipoverty agency is wasting money, but claims the amount is small and can't be avoided and program results make the losses worthwhile.

The report this week denied allegations of widespread fraud, corruption and theft and points with apparent pride to the

fact "only \$6 million" has been disallowed.

Extensive audits of OEO programs, the report says, "show a very high degree of accountability." The fact the \$6 million has been questioned doesn't mean the money was stolen, it adds.

The report comes at a time when OEO, flagship of former President Johnson's war on poverty, is battling for survival against a doubting Republican administration.

Winter Is Lingering On

It may be spring, but winter weather will continue in the Pontiac area at least for another five days.

The U.S. Weather Bureau predicts temperatures will average five to 10 degrees below the normal highs of 32 to 42 and normal lows of 14 to 28 through Wednesday.

Here is the day-by-day official weekend forecast:
TODAY—Cloudy and a little warmer with a chance of intermittent snow and brief showers. High 45 to 50. Windy and much colder with snow flurries tonight, with a low of 15 to 22.

TOMORROW—Snow flurries, windy and quite cold. The high 23 to 28.

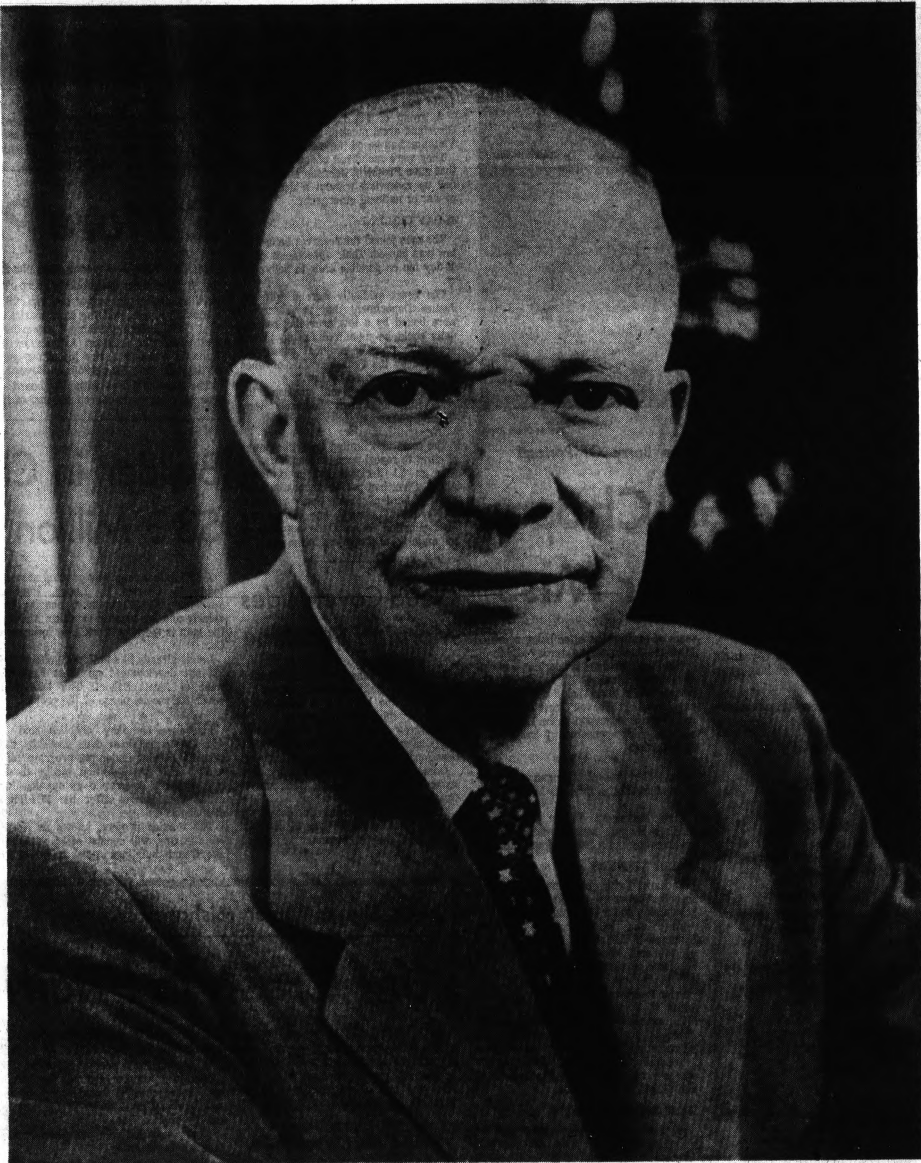
SUNDAY—Flurries and cold with diminishing winds.

Probabilities of precipitation in per cent are 40 today, 80 tonight and 90 tomorrow.

A freezing 32 was the low recorded before 8 a.m. today in downtown Pontiac. The

2 p.m. reading was 45.

Home and Sport Show, Now to Sunday, Cal Bldg., Waterford, 1 acre of exhibits. —Adv.



Dwight David Eisenhower—1890 to 1969

AP Wirephoto