

Dramatic Final Words Did Not Come From Pilot Of Stricken Boeing Jet

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The dramatic "Clipper 214 out of control...going down in flames" message, supposedly flashed by the pilot of a doomed Pan American World Airways jet, may have come from another plane, it was learned today.

The Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB), UPI was informed by a reliable source, has evidence that the chilling words came instead from the co-pilot of a National Air Lines DC8 flying only 1,000 feet above the Pan American 707 just before it fell in flames at Elkton, Md., Sunday night, killing all 81 aboard.

The Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), which released the tape recording containing what presumably was the Pan Am pilot's

last communication to the Philadelphia approach control center, apparently assumed it must have come from Flight 214—the plane that crashed.

Answered Calmly

After the control center first heard "Clipper 214...out of control...down (or here) we go," it immediately asked: "Clipper 214, were you calling Philadelphia?"

A voice calmly answered: "Clipper 214...going down in flames."

Both the "out of control" message and the "down in flames" cry, the source told UPI, actually were flashed instead by one of the pilots on National Flight 16 which was in a holding pattern over New Castle, Del., at 6,000 feet—1,000 feet above the Pan American jet.

Before what had been presumed to be the "final message," the Pan Am pilot had

informed the control center he was "ready to go"—meaning he was ready to land any time he received permission.

"Clipper 214, stay in pattern," the center replied.

Last Communication

"Roger, no hurry," was the answer—and the last positive communication received from Flight 214.

Presumably, the CAB first learned that the final message probably came from another plane when investigators questioned the National pilots. Their testimony may be the most vital of all in the solution of the tragedy, for they apparently were the most reliable and closest eyewitnesses to the 707's death throes. There was no indication what they told the CAB.

Nor was there any immediate explanation how the National crew knew that the flaming jet below them was Pan American Flight 214. It was assumed that the National pilots were aware that 214 was the aircraft below them in the holding pattern through previous communications on a radio frequency available to both planes.

Council Approves Airport Leases

The Roseburg City Council has agreed to execute new leases with two commercial operators at the Municipal Airport.

Associated Capital Corp. (doing business as Roseburg Airways) requested that the firm's present lease be extended for an additional three years to offset the cost of raising the present hangar two feet and constructing an addition to the hangar. The council approved the city manager's recommendation to cancel the old lease and give the operator a new 10-year lease and granting the operator right to renew for an additional five-year period.

Lease Requested

The other lease request was from Donald D. Hunt who plans to operate an aircraft maintenance and repair service in a new building. Hunt requested a 15-year lease with a five-year renewal option. However, since lease terms with the city are limited to 10 years, the renewal request was not in accordance with city ordinance.

The council instructed the city attorney to prepare an amendment to the ordinance which would allow the lease arrangement with Hunt. Hunt said the extended lease was necessitated by his financing arrangements for the improvements.

Support Given

A recommendation by the city Airport Commission opposing advanced threshold lighting at the Municipal Airport was supported by the council. A Seattle aviation consultant, R. T. Lamson, had recommended the strip's advanced threshold be lighted to accommodate air service by West Coast Airlines.

In other action, the council approved plans and specifications for paving West Kenwood Street from Harvard Boulevard 434 feet south. A resolution regarding intent to improve the street was adopted and public hearing was set for Jan. 13.

Roseburg Church Books Speaker

The Rev. Ralph W. Wilde, an evangelistic missionary under assignment by the Division of World Mission of the Evangelical United Brethren Church to



REV. RALPH WILDE
missionary speaker

Brazil, will speak in the Roseburg Evangelical Church on Thursday, at 7 p.m.

During his most recent term of service in Brazil, Wilde taught in the Goiaz Bible Institute at Anapolis and developed some curricular materials for the Christian education of the Brazilian church schools.

Wilde is a graduate of Cascade College in Oregon. He took additional work in the Western Baptist Seminary and the Western Evangelical Seminary, also in Oregon.

The Wildes were appointed and commissioned for overseas service in 1953. They have three children.

Anyone may attend this service. The Rev. Walter R. Rowley is the pastor of the church.

Chamber Payroll Group Sets Meet

The monthly meeting of the Payroll Development Committee of the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Hotel Umpqua.

David H. Pratt, as vice president, industrial division, of the chamber, is now chairman of the Payroll Development Committee. He replaces Phil Quisenberry, who is now serving as chamber president.

Pratt, active in the committee since its inception, will have an outline of work for the committee Thursday. An important matter for discussion will be establishment of an industrial park as a boon to attracting industry.

A payroll builder for January also will be selected at this meeting. No selection was made for December.

Principals Will Hear Riddle School Head

Kenneth Stuart, Riddle School District superintendent, will be the featured speaker Thursday at a meeting of the Douglas County Secondary Principals Association.

He will report on a trip made on a grant with a group of other U. S. school administrators to Sweden.

The meeting is scheduled at the Bamboo House at noon Thursday.

Meanwhile, the Elementary Principals Association held its meeting at the same place earlier this week.

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