

Affects Of High Flying On Heart Under Study

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Service Editor

NEW YORK (UPI)—A top authority acknowledges that medical science doesn't know enough to say positively that apparently healthy persons can fly in jet airliners at 40,000 feet without the slightest risk of heart attacks.

President Eisenhower has approved the purchase of three of the high-flying jet transports, which are to make their appearance on the airlines next year, for the use of himself and other high government officials.

Dr. Philip Lisan, when asked if he thought persons without symptoms of heart disease, can fly at the high jet plane altitudes without worrying about attacks, replied: "Yes, I believe so—on the basis of what we know at present. Of course, one must consider predisposing factors."

He turned to the results of an anatomical study made in 1953 of 300 young mericans killed in action in Korea. All had been apparently healthy, yet 65 per cent showed a "significant" amount of narrowing of one of the major heart arteries.

"Now this is a disturbing thing," he continued. Any individual may have a significant narrowing of heart arteries, as the study showed. "Does that make us good risks at high altitudes?" asked Dr. Lisan. "I don't know and I don't know anybody who does. The whole subject needs a great deal more study. The Air Force is interested and medical schools are interested. The Army is interested because of its concern with money, and it's very important to all of us that this lack be overcome."

Lisan is former chief of medicine and cardiology at the Stra-

tegic Air Command at Fort Worth, Tex., and now is a member of the faculty at Hahnemann Hospital Medical School, Philadelphia. He is an accepted authority on aviation physiology. He was giving his opinions in an interview with the technical publication, "Pulse and Pressure."

He was positive in his opinion that flying does not cause any "wear and tear" on the heart and its arteries and veins. But there definitely is such a thing as an "altitude reaction." High flying airplanes have "pressurized" cabins, of course, but the air pressure maintained in them is not the same as that of ground level but rather the lesser pressure of 4,000 to 5,000 feet of altitude, he said. The "altitude reaction" is not precisely definable but it involves some alteration in cardiac output, he said. Most people never have it, but some do.

He approved of the special precautions that will be taken on high-flying jet liners in case of a sudden failure of air pressure—one member of the flying crew will wear an oxygen mask at all times and oxygen masks with the oxygen "running" will drop in front of all passengers automatically.

"This is important, you see, because at the altitude these jets fly, you can't live more than three minutes at the low pressure," he said. "If one man is conscious and able to act, however, there shouldn't be any difficulty because the plane can be brought down to a tolerable altitude in a matter of seconds."

"I should say, though that these precautions aren't going to be much help for the patient with coronary artery disease, because he can't tolerate even a few seconds of decompression."

De Gaulle Promises Vote For Freedom To Colonies

EDITOR'S NOTE: Kingsbury Smith, vice president and associate general manager of United Press International, is on a fact-finding tour of Europe.

By KINGSBURY SMITH
United Press International

PARIS (UPI)—French Premier Charles de Gaulle has promised that France's overseas territories, excluding Algeria, will have the right to vote for "total independence" in the forthcoming referendum on a new constitution.

Paul Reynaud, chairman of the Constitutional Consultative Committee, told United Press International in an exclusive interview today that De Gaulle has made this promise to him personally.

"It was my idea," Reynaud said. "I felt it was of capital importance to France's international position that the people of the overseas territories should be allowed to ask for total independence when they vote on the new constitution. I urged Gen. De Gaulle to agree. He will do so. He told me so."

If the inhabitants of French overseas territories are given the opportunity to vote in a national referendum on whether they want complete independence, it will mark an historical milestone in France's relations with her former colonies.

Should they vote affirmatively,

it is generally agreed in Paris that De Gaulle is the only French political leader who could get away with granting them independence.

If De Gaulle carries out his promise to Reynaud and the people of the overseas territories should vote for complete independence, those who know the general are convinced he would grant it. There is no doubt, however, he would do so with bitter disappointment.

He told the consultative committee last week he conceived of no other solution for France and what is still left of its empire than "a form of association—integration or federation." He said anything else would mean "secession, with all the consequences that it would bring and with the risks and perils for those who would choose it."

His promise to Reynaud would indicate he is prepared to allow the natives to risk those perils if they wish.

Reynaud also told this correspondent he is confident the modifications which De Gaulle is accepting in the proposed constitution will safeguard democracy in France.

The 79-year-old former premier, still remarkably energetic, is acting as the defender of French parliamentary democracy in his role as chairman of the Constitutional Consultative Committee.

U.N. Committee Warns Of Radioactive Fallout

By JOHN McNUTT
United Press International

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (UPI)—A 15-nation U. N. committee has agreed unanimously that mankind faces "new and largely unknown hazards" as a result of radioactive fallout from nuclear weapons tests.

The committee, which has been studying the problem for more than two and one-half years, found that "even the smallest amounts of radiation are liable to cause deleterious genetic and perhaps also somatic effects."

U.S. Timber Sales To Draw Protest From Industry

PORTLAND (UPI)—Members and friends of the Western Forester Industries Association—recently joined by representatives of the Independent Plywood Manufacturers Association and other groups left today for Washington to protest the management of timber sales by the U. S. forest service.

The main complaint to be presented by the group is that the forest service, despite professions of heavy timber sales, is not living up to its own timber sale program and that the regional economy, largely dependent on timber for raw material, continues to suffer.

BING'S SON "FINE" HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—Crooner Bing Crosby's 23-year-old wife, Kathy, and their son, Harry Lillis (Tex) Crosby III, were reported "doing fine" today at Queen of Angels Hospital. The baby, Bing's fifth son, was born Friday.

Somatic effects include cancer and leukemia. The report added, "The irradiation of any groups of people, before and during the reproductive age, will contribute genetic effects to whole populations in so far as the gonads (reproduction glands) are exposed."

In Washington, the Atomic Energy Commission launched the "thorough-going study" made by the U. N. Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation but said "man must learn to live" with radiation.

The AEC added, "It is important to note that in so far as leukemia and bone cancer are concerned, the committee has pointed out there is no certainty that fallout will produce any additional cases of either disease." Moreover, said the AEC, the committee "has taken pains to estimate the greatest number of cases which might result from fallout under the most pessimistic conditions."

The committee's report, which will be submitted to the next regular session of the U. N. General Assembly, stopped short of calling for cessation of nuclear tests. It said that problem was one for the political men, not the scientists, to solve, and called merely for "cessation of contamination" caused by nuclear testing.

The 15-nation group said, "Radioactive contamination of the environment resulting from explosions of nuclear weapons constitutes a growing increment to world-wide radiation levels."

"This involves new and largely unknown hazards to present and future populations; these hazards, by their very nature, are beyond the control of the exposed person."



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No. 2 Globe-Trotter

The strong right bower of Secretary Dulles in mapping strategy for any summit conference—as in working out an over-all Middle East policy—will be a 63-year-old Irish-American who has traveled about the globe on diplomatic missions almost as frequently as his boss has. Once described by President Eisenhower as "affable, friendly, exceedingly shrewd," Robert D. Murphy is a "five-star" diplomat; he was one of four State Department officials sworn in, April 9, 1956, as the nation's first Career Ambassadors, the highest rank in the Foreign Service.

Yet Murphy is a shirt-sleeves rather than a striped-pants operator. He is described by Gen. Eisenhower's World War II naval aide, Capt. Harry C. Butcher, as a "tall, slightly-stooped-shouldered" individual who "talked more like an American businessman canvassing the ins and outs of a prospective merger than either a diplomat or a soldier."

The picture is perhaps deceptive. A graduate of Marquette University of the Society of Jesus, Murphy has a Jesuit's respect for an adversary and a scholarly approach that is evidenced in his speeches, many of which are made to Roman Catholic groups.

"I am always an optimist," Bob Murphy said recently in Amman, Jordan, in the midst of a Middle East "area assignment" as President Eisenhower's personal representative that took him into Lebanon, Israel, Iran, and Egypt. His job, he said, was to confer with authorities in these countries about "everything."

It is no mere play on words to say that Murphy's diplomatic interests are catholic. He has been Ambassador to Belgium and Japan and political adviser to the United Nations Command in the Korean armistice talks. His negotiations with President Tito patched up a tiff with Yugoslavia in 1955, and he had played a major role in solving the Yugoslav-Italian dispute over Trieste a year earlier. He represented the United States in Suez Canal talks in 1956; more recently he aided in settling differences between France and Tunisia.

Murphy in World War II was President Roosevelt's personal representative in North Africa. He was the central U.S. diplomat in negotiations with Admiral Jean Francois Darlan that cleared the way for the entry of U.S. troops into the area.

Murphy received the Distinguished Service Medal and a boost in rank for his services in North Africa, but his alleged pro-Vichy sympathies brought him considerable criticism. "The New Republic angrily demanded, 'Recall Robert Murphy' in a cover headline.

Both Eisenhower and Butcher absolve Murphy of any blame in the negotiations with Darlan. "While we were reaching a final decision he stepped entirely aside except to act upon occasion as interpreter," Eisenhower has recounted. "It was squarely up to me."

In any event, the criticism did no permanent harm to Murphy's career. He was Gen. Eisenhower's political adviser in North Africa and Italy—his opposite British number being Harold Macmillan. He became U. S. adviser on German affairs, with rank of Ambassador, in 1944, and ever since he's handled a host of complicated diplomatic puzzles as the State Department's No. 1 career officer.

Side Glances



"The quick lunch around the corner is selling coffee for a nickel, so now we can take twice as many coffee breaks!"