

# 22 Aboard Missing Airliner Over Montana

## Search Parties Seek to Trace Big Explosion

BUTTE, Mont., Nov. 7 (AP)—An airliner carrying 22 persons disappeared in swirling snow over the Continental divide southeast of Butte this morning.

Several hours later ground parties headed for the rugged country to check reports that several persons heard a terrific explosion.

The westbound Northwest airliner, with 17 passengers and four crew members aboard, left Helena at 9:53 a.m. (EST), headed for Butte. The pilot of the Martin 202 radioed at 10:11 a.m. he was over Whitehall about 50 miles south of Helena, starting his descent at 10,500 feet.

State aeronautics director sent searching parties to an area about 15 miles east of Butte after Mrs. Carl Halvorson, wife of a Northern Pacific railroad section foreman, reported hearing a low-flying plane and explosion.

Explosion pinpointed

Reports from Lake Delmo and Camp Caroline pinpointed the explosion just north of Home-stake pass, where the Northern Pacific railroad crosses the Continental divide.

A highway patrol car took Mrs. Halvorson within a few miles of the area, then got stuck in deep snow and mud.

The plane disappeared over Pipestone pass about 10 minutes out of Butte.

The Northwest Air Lines office at Seattle identified the crew as Pilot Lloyd Lampan, 37, Copilot James Huff, 29, and Stewardesses Laurine Nohr, 23, and Marnie White, 22, all of Seattle.

Only one of the passengers aboard was from northwest coastal states. She was Mrs. S. R. Fairweather of Seattle. She was returning home from a trip to Helena, Mont., to visit her sick mother.

Despite clouds and snow which cloaked the divide and surrounding mountains near here, a B-17 and a C-47 took off from McCord air force base in Washington to join in the search. These planes make up Flight C of the Fourth rescue squadron and carried a parachute rescue team.

Gov. John W. Bonner offered the services of all state agencies to Montana Aeronautics Director Frank Wiley, who alerted Butte physicians and ambulance drivers. Pilots of a helicopter at Missoula and planes in Butte, Helena and other cities were ready to take off.

Air force bases were asked to make search planes and radio equipment available so soon as the weather improves.

Northwest Airlines had another plane over the area this morning. Visibility was practically zero, so the plane flew to Great Falls after circling for a time above an emergency field northwest of Butte.

The missing plane, a two-engine Martin 202, was Northwest's flight 115, bound from Chicago to Seattle. It stopped at Minneapolis, Aberdeen, Bismarck, Great Falls and Billings before arriving in Helena this morning. It left Helena at 9:53 a.m. (EST).

Mountains in the primitive area tower 6,500 feet above sea level. They are covered with huge boulders and dense timber.

## Air Duel Highlights Fighting



SEOUL, Korea, Nov. 7—Sixteen U.S. F-51 Mustang fighters today engaged Russian-built jet fighters in the longest air battle of the Korean war over the Sinuju area (plane symbol). In the Yonghung area (A), Puerto Rican and other U.N. forces beat back a strong Red attack. Rest of the battle line (broken line) remained quiet except for a series of skirmishes in Changjin Reservoir area. (AP Wirephoto Map.)

## Farm Produce Prices High, Costs Higher

By Lillie L. Madsen  
Farm Editor, The Statesman

Prices are up but costs are up higher on farm produce, according to a report Tuesday from the United States department of agriculture. Prices received by Oregon farmers have not kept pace with farm costs during the past 10 years, this report elaborates.

During October for the first time this year, Oregon's general farm price level has shown a downward trend. In late October, the index stood at 130 per cent of the 1940-1949 average. That was the same as mid-July, but three points below mid-September. It is still about a tenth above October 1949, however.

The lower Oregon index was due mainly to the drop from mid-September to mid-October in prices of such items as barley, potatoes, apples, beef cattle, hogs, chickens and turkeys.

With the exceptions of turkeys and potatoes, most of Oregon's farm commodities are now bringing higher prices than a year ago, and higher than the average of the past 10 years. Turkeys are down about a tenth compared to the 1940 to 1949 average, while the potato price has been cut in half.

The increase in farm prices, according to the Tuesday release, during the past 10 years has not kept pace with the increase in retail costs of commodities that farmers must buy, including what they pay in wages of hired laborers and in taxes. With farm prices up 30 per cent, costs have gone

up 37 per cent above the level of the past 10 years.

Reports also showed that world production of bread grains is higher than a year ago. In spite of storms of late October, ranges of Northern California and western Oregon are reported in better condition this season than in any recent season at this time of year. The southwest, however, could have used some of the northwest's big supply of rain during the past 15 days. Wheat and range lands in Texas and Oklahoma are not making satisfactory root growth because of lack of moisture, and the livestock is pulling out some of the wheat where it is being pastured, USDA reports show early this week.

## Willamette U. Speech, Debate Squads Ready.

Members of the Willamette university speech and debate squads are prepared to present debates or addresses before group meetings in this area upon request of program chairmen, Prof. Howard W. Runkel, speech department chairman, announced Tuesday.

Topics at the disposal of the squad include "Resolved: That the non-communist nations should form a new international organization," and "What should be the responsibility of the federal government for the welfare of the people of the United States?"

These may be presented as half-hour debate or discussion features, said Runkel. No charge is made for the group's presentation and any organization may use the squad. Information is available from Prof. Runkel at the university.

## Welfare Aid For September Shows Rise

Public assistance expenditures in Oregon totaled \$2,113,452 in September, a slight increase over the \$1,867,444 paid out in September, 1949.

This was the report made here Tuesday by Miss Loa Howard, state public welfare administrator, to Gov. Douglas McKay. The September payments were for 34,925 needy cases. The number of cases a year ago was 33,894.

Payments to 24,068 old-age recipients during September this year amounted to \$1,296,306 or an average of \$53.86 per case. Expenditures for medical care paid from general assistance funds brought the average to \$56.32 per case.

Excluding those recipients changing residence, public welfare departments in the state reported 310 signed applications for old age assistance during September. This was a decrease of 52 from last year.

In the 3,800 families receiving aid to dependent children there were 9,417 children for whom federal funds were available to meet the needs. Payments for this program totaled \$394,531, an average of \$103.82 per family.

General assistance cases during the month aggregated 6,672, a three

## 9 Traffic Lights Designated for Salem Arteries

Location of nine traffic signal lights for Salem thoroughfares was disclosed Tuesday by the state highway commission which will open bids on the lights at a meeting Friday in Portland.

The new signals are part of a one-way traffic plan being developed here.

The lights will be on South Commercial at Mission, Myers, Oxford, Hoyt and Boise streets; on South Liberty at Mission, Owens and Myers streets; at the intersection of Portland road and Pine street.

## Oregon's Main Arteries Open Despite Storms

Despite weather conditions and road construction projects nearly all main arteries in Oregon are open to traffic, the state highway department announced Tuesday. The report includes:

Dodson-Bonneville section of the Columbia highway is under construction but the road is open. No delay or only slight delays to traffic on The Dalles-California, Pacific, Pendleton-John Day and Unity-Baker highways.

On the Oregon coast highway there is grading and paving near Coos Bay, Brookings and at Port Orford with detours, but no delay reported. On the Willamette highway gravel detours with possible delays is reported from Lowell to Meridian dam where grading is under way.

The north and east roads leading into Crater lake park are closed by snow. A five-ton load limit has been imposed on the bridge over the Little Nestucca river at Dolph and an 11-ton limit on the Weiser and Payette bridges on the old Oregon trail highway.

## WCS SESSION WEDNESDAY

SILVERTON—The members of the Women's Society for Christian Service are invited to attend the Wednesday meeting of the Jason Lee society at Salem. Mrs. T. R. Hobart, local president, reports those desiring transportation should meet at the Silvertown Methodist church Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

per cent decrease from the previous month. Payments totaled \$398,070. In September, 1949, general assistance cases totaled 7,111 with payments of \$426,696.

Miss Howard reported a total of 385 blind children receiving aid from the commission. Payments in September were \$24,545.

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## OSC Gridman Claims Attack By Hitchhiker

Statesman News Service

ALBANY, Nov. 7—James Doerfler, 18, Oregon State rookie football lineman, told police today he suffered head wounds when he was slugged by a hitchhiker Monday near Brownsville.

Doerfler, an Albany high school grid star last season, was beaten by three youths in Albany about four years ago. The attack was never explained or solved.

Doerfler told state police he picked up the hitchhiker Monday while driving home from Corvallis. He said the man, about 30, pressed a knife to his back and forced him to drive up a logging road near Brownsville. A tire blew, but the man forced him to continue on for about four miles.

When he stopped the car, Doerfler stated, the man slugged him unconscious. When he revived about four hours later he discovered his hair had been burned in addition to his head injuries. He walked to Brownsville where he was treated by a physician and taken home. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Lee Doerfler. Doerfler said he was not robbed.

State police are continuing to investigate the case.

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