

Airliner Explodes; 10 Believed Dead

32 on Board; Higher Death Toll Feared

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (AP) — An American Airlines plane with at least 32 persons aboard exploded and crashed late Sunday night and the Highway Patrol said it appeared there were "eight to 10 dead."

That report came by radio from a patrol car at the scene. "We've got the injured pretty well cleared out of here," the patrolman said.

Three Springfield hospitals reported they had a total of 24 injured from the crash. Burge Hospital said Stanley Grzankowski, Detroit, Mich., was dead on arrival.

Sixteen of the passengers on the plane boarded at St. Louis, the airlines reported. The plane left St. Louis at 9:30 p. m. (CST), about one hour and 13 minutes late.

An airlines spokesman said the plane had no trouble in St. Louis. It was scheduled to arrive in Springfield at about 10:40 p. m. (CST).

The plane, a two engine Convair, was en route from Newark to Tulsa, Okla. It was American Airlines flight No. 711. The airline reported it carried 29 passengers and three crewmen.

"I might have been scared if I had had time," said J. W. Stewart, Uvalde grocer who brought his two sons, Ronnie, 4, and Jimmie, 12, to the circus along with two girls, Deborah, 5, and Gail, 4, daughters of a friend, Robert Hicks.

"I told Jimmie to get Ronnie," Stewart related. "Then I picked up Deborah and Gail, one under each arm. Just after we got down from the bleachers, they collapsed. Something hit me. Jimmie told me afterward it was a tent pole. I'm sore all over."

Some Trapped Some of the passengers were still trapped in the plane at 1 a. m., about two hours after the crash, according to J. E. Winkle of the Lohmeyer-Windle Funeral Home. It was not known whether they survived the crash.

Winkle said the plane came down on the Blankenship farm on its final approach to the airport, and the man in the control tower saw a flash like lightning before it disappeared. He gave the alarm. Mrs. O.W. Pebbles who lives nearby said she heard an explosion.

Winkle described the scene of the accident as being 4 1/2 miles north and a little east of the airport, which is seven miles west of Springfield.

He said the area was a sea of mud and that some of the rescue cars were mired down. Nearly two inches of rain had fallen during the day and a light rain was falling at the time of the crash.

The plane had stopped at Syracuse, Rochester, Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis prior to making its fatal approach at Springfield.

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — An American Airlines plane carrying Australian Prime Minister Robert G. Menzies and his nine-member party was forced to return to the municipal airport here late Sunday afternoon after it developed engine trouble 30 minutes out.

Menzies and his party were en route to San Francisco from Washington. Tulsa is the only stop on the flight.

Sec. McKay Plans Salem Visit Tuesday

Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay, accompanied by Mrs. McKay, is scheduled to arrive here in Salem Tuesday noon for a brief visit between press of official business.

The McKays will visit at the homes of their two daughters, Mrs. Wayne Hadley and Mrs. Lester Green, and the secretary is scheduled for a conference with Gov. Paul L. Patterson Tuesday afternoon.

Sec. McKay will leave for Portland Wednesday night where he will take an early morning plane back to his duties in Washington. C. H. speaks Monday night at San Francisco and will fly here Tuesday, arriving at 12:40 p. m.

Mrs. McKay is expected to spend a week in Salem visiting her daughters and their families.

Texas Windstorm Falls Circus Tent on Heads of 400 People

UVALDE, Tex. (AP) — A sudden windstorm Sunday brought a rain-soaked circus tent down on the heads of about 400 spectators, most of them children.

No one was seriously hurt but many suffered scratches and bruises. The gusty wind, spawned by one of innumerable thunderstorms in the Southwest Sunday, struck shortly after the spectators settled into their seats.

It had hit moments earlier when the circus animals paraded around the ring, or moments later when the lion and tiger act was scheduled, dangerous animals might have been freed among the fleeing spectators.

Police officer George O'Neill said there was little panic as the big tent began flapping loose, jerking its inside supporting poles up and down among the spectators and performers.

"When the people got outside and started wondering where their children were," said O'Neill, "that's when the panic hit." Some mothers screamed, and children separated from their parents ran about crying.

But O'Neill, Sheriff Fred Yeary and a deputy managed an orderly evacuation, the people creeping along under that part of the tent held off the ground by bleachers, acrobats' ladders, etc.

The Hagen Bros. Circus was brought to this town near the Texas-Mexico border by the Uvalde Junior Chamber of Commerce. The tent was set up on a vacant lot just outside the city's northern limits.

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Policy of FDR, Knox 'Hurt Naval Security'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate investigators said Sunday President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Frank Knox, his Secretary of the Navy, impaired the Navy's wartime security by permitting Communist radio operators on American merchant ships.

In setting out this conclusion, committee published for the first on the subject by Roosevelt and Knox, both now dead.

Knox was a Republican newspaper publisher from Chicago whom Roosevelt brought into his World War II Cabinet.

Also printed in the subcommittee report was a memorandum of Adlai E. Stevenson, an assistant to Knox during the war who later became the Democratic presidential nominee in 1952.

The memo raised the question of whether radio operators on merchant ships should be discharged solely because of their "political opinions." In it, Stevenson said there was a shortage of qualified radio operators at the time.

In a confidential letter to Roosevelt on May 1, 1942, Knox advised against the discharge of suspected Communists. Three days later, Roosevelt agreed in a memo to Knox that radio operators "whose only offense is being a Communist" should not be barred from merchant ships.

At that time this country was allied with Russia in fighting the Berlin-Tokyo axis powers, but the subcommittee received public testimony in 1953 that the policy approved by Roosevelt and Knox drew strong protests from top naval officers.

"This policy of protecting American Communists, which was established as a matter of wartime expediency by the President and the secretary of the Navy, weakened the security program in the United States Navy," the subcommittee report said.

This was among findings in a unanimous 74-page report covering the subcommittee's investigations during the last two years under the chairmanship of Sen. Jenner (R-Ind). Sen. Eastland (D-Miss) is chairman now.

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Demos Wary Of Dulles After Yalta Release

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State Dulles apparently has lost face among Democratic leaders of Congress by suddenly releasing the Yalta documents after a luncheon conference with Republicans who had demanded their publication.

A canvass by influential Democrats of how the release of the documents came about may result in increased wariness on the part of the opposition in accepting Dulles' proposals in the field of international relations.

Sen. Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, the Democratic Senate leader, has said his party will not alter its approach to bipartisan cooperation on foreign affairs.

But a high ranking Democrat who asked not to be quoted by name said party leaders had concluded as a result of their survey that Dulles yielded to political considerations in this case and might be expected to do so again.

This feeling was said to have been concurred in by Johnson, House Speaker Rayburn of Texas, Chairman George (D-Ga) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Chairman Russell (D-Ga) of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Dulles had no comment on the report. An official close to the State Department said the secretary had tried to avoid politics in releasing the papers.

The official, who asked not to be named, said the papers had been ready for several months and Dulles did not make them public before last fall's elections, partly because he did not want to disrupt bipartisan cooperation in international affairs.

Graham Talks At 'Half-Filled' Scots Church

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — American evangelist Billy Graham took a back seat at his first religious service in Scotland Sunday and then preached to a half-empty church.

While thousands were clamoring for tickets to Graham's six-week "Tell Scotland" crusade which opens Monday, the evangelist made a surprise visit to the Downhill (Presbyterian) Parish Church.

A few minutes before the morning service started, Graham, wearing a dark suit, took a seat in a back row. He was recognized by the minister, the Rev. William J. Baxter, who described Graham as "this messenger with a new voice, which speaks in a soft, North Carolinian accent."

"Billy Graham is not here to preach a new gospel, but the old Gospel in fresh terms," said the Rev. Mr. Baxter, in asking the American to speak.

Mamie Named Best Dressed

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Fashion Academy Sunday selected Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower, wife of the President, as the best dressed woman in public life.

The academy, in its annual list for 15 different fields, named Grace Kelly as the best dressed actress and Margaret Truman as the best dressed woman in the concert world.

Others selected and their fields were: Mrs. Robert F. Wagner, wife of the New York mayor, hostess; Jacqueline Cochrane, business; Joe Stafford, television; Faye Emerson, columnist; Mrs. Lauritz Melchior, opera set; Beatrice Lodge, all-American (teen-agers); Gussie Moran, radio; Eloise English, promotion; Denise Lor, entertainment; Mrs. Margaret Paley, society; Jacqueline Susann, TV actress, and Kathryn Cravens, author.

Thousands Seeks Smelt, Catch Light

KELSO, Wash. (AP) — Thousands of smelt fishermen congregated on the banks of the Cowlitz River Sunday but only light catches were reported.

Largest of the year's run was reported in the Cowlitz Friday, midway through the weekly closed period. Since then the run has tapered off.

Today's Statesman

Table with 2 columns: Classifieds, Sec. Page. Includes Comics, Crossword, Editorials, Home Panorama, Sports, Star Gazer, TV, Radio, Valley, Wooden Actors.



There were plenty of signs of spring to direct the wobbly new season when it arrived early this morning in the Willamette Valley. These woolly, wobbly-legged youngsters bleated out their spring greetings in a setting of pussywillows just to make the scene complete. Weathermen expected the initial day of spring to bring some clouds and showers. (Statesman Farm Photo.)

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

The recent curtailment of delivery of power by Bonneville Power Administration to industrial consumers holding interruptible contracts underscores the need for positive assurance that the needs of this portion of the country for electric energy will be met. Here we are in the midst of the great reservoir of undeveloped hydroelectric power in the nation, yet we alone suffer from serious cutbacks of energy. Instead of an improving situation ahead of us the present prospect is for it to grow worse.

I say worse because the immediate outlook is for stalemate. The administration favors a partnership policy which relies in large degree on local and private power development. But only one project on this policy has met with congressional approval: Priest Rapids, where the Grant County PUD has authority to proceed. Ellsworth's proposals for municipal power development at Cougar dam and private development at Green Peter dam, both part of the government's Willamette valley flood control project, are opposed by the Oregon senators who are quite powerfully situated, with Neuberger on the public works and interior committees.

On the other hand Morse and Neuberger are plugging for more federal power and centering their efforts on Hells Canyon dam. Their chances of getting this approved in Congress are not too bright, and of passing the bill over a possible presidential veto very dim.

So what may happen at least in this session of Congress is that nothing will be approved under either the federal or the (Continued on editorial page, 4, sec. 1).

Schools Open Again Today

Spring vacation for several thousand public school pupils will end this morning after a week-long interlude.

Public schools throughout the valley were closed all last week with youngsters scattering to spring vacation activities including the State Basketball Tournament.

Many area teachers took advantage of the rest from the classrooms to attend the annual conference of the Oregon Education Association in Portland.

MAIL ORDER OFFICIAL DIES LA JOLLA, Calif. (AP) — A former president of Montgomery Ward & Co., Robert J. Thorne, 80, son of a co-founder, died here Sunday.

Crash Fatal to Medford Pilot

MEDFORD (AP) — Harold Skinner, 45, a member of a prominent Medford family, was killed outright in an airplane crash Sunday.

Authorities who investigated said Skinner's light plane apparently hit a power line and then crashed and exploded. The mishap occurred a few miles east of Ashland at about 5:30 p. m.

Skinner was believed en route from Medford to Ashland on a pleasure flight at the time of the crash. He was alone. The widow and two small children survive.

ANIMAL CRACKERS BY WARREN GOODRICH



'Clouds, Showers' to Mark Spring's Debut

Spring sneaked into the mid-Willamette Valley at 1:36 this morning amid near-freezing temperatures and the new season's advent will be greeted by scattered showers today, according to the weatherman.

Sunday brought a fitting backdrop for approaching Spring as a bright sun basked on gamboling lambs, dewy daffodils, soaring swallows, flowering plums, kites and other spring accessories already at hand.

Ex-Hungarian President Dies

VENICE, France (AP) — Count Michael Karolyi who was once President of Hungary and twice chose exile in preference to communism, died Saturday at his small Riviera home here. He was 80 years old.

A wealthy aristocrat, Karolyi was president of the Hungarian Republic formed immediately after World War I. But within a year he went into exile in a dispute with Communist leader Bela Kun who instituted a reign of terror.

He participated in the Hungarian exile movement in London during World War II as head of the Free Hungary Council. He returned to his country in 1946 after 27 years of exile. He was named ambassador to France in 1947 and held the post until 1949.

In 1949 he chose exile for the second time after being disillusioned with the Communist government. He had been living unobtrusively here on the French Riviera.

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Proposed Bill Would Prevent Balloting in Wrong Precinct

Voting law changes and a division of Multnomah County into five districts for electing state representatives will be given public hearing today as the Oregon Legislature resumes its sessions after a Sunday recess.

Today's hearing will be at 2:30 p. m. in the State Highway Building, Room 418, conducted by the House elections committee under chairmanship of Rep. E. H. Mann (R), Medford.

One of the bills up for hearing is aimed at preventing voters from casting their ballots at a precinct in which they formerly lived and registered. This proposed law would require voters to verify their residence, as shown on pollbooks, by signing their name to the address. Penalties could be applied if the wrong address were verified. This measure, HB 454, is sponsored by Rep. Fred Meek (R), Portland.

Chairman Mann said that these two bills have the support of a state Republican committee which is coming to Salem for the hearing. The Republican organization, as well as Democrats and other groups, are supporting the Multnomah County subdistricting. General sessions of the Legislature will resume at 10 a. m. today.

THE WEATHER

Table with 3 columns: Location, Max., Min., Precip. Lists cities like Salem, Portland, Medford, etc.

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Partly cloudy with a few scattered showers today, tonight and Tuesday; high today near 54, low tonight near 32.

Temperature at 12:01 a. m. today was 37.

SINCE START OF WEATHER YEAR SEPT. 1 THIS YEAR

Table with 3 columns: This Year, Last Year, Normal. Shows precipitation data.