

Death Total in Plunge of Dutch Airliner Set at 57

19 Children Among Lost; Hope Abandoned for All

THE HAGUE, July 16.—The death toll of 57 KLM Royal Dutch airliner that plunged flaming into equatorial seas off northwest New Guinea was set tonight at 57. Among those given up for lost were 19 children.

One of the 12 survivors, a Dutch child, died of burns. All hope was abandoned for the other 56 persons—passengers and crew members—who went down with the plane a few moments after taking off from Amsterdam.

It was the biggest disaster in Dutch aviation history. The liner, a Lockheed Super Constellation named the Neutree, was reported to have broken loose as it took off from the water five miles off Bako Island. All the survivors had been seated at the rear. Three aboard were Britons, all among the dead. The rest were Dutch. Most of the passengers were government and navy personnel and their families.

Dr. Dirk Leiker, 37, a missionary physician, lost his wife and four children in the crash off shores where he had been working among lepers for seven years.

Papuan divers and canoeists helped Dutch navy men in the rescue work and probed the deep water between coral islets for the wreckage and the dead. KLM announced the recovery of 11 bodies.

Advices from Hollandia, capital of Dutch West New Guinea, said one of the engines had appeared to explode, touching off a fire in the fuel tanks. The pilot evidently tried to make a belly landing. The

line's president, Dr. I. A. Aler, said the fuel tanks apparently exploded when the plane hit the sea.

The pilot of the Neutree, Capt. Roo de Roos, 36, went down with the plane. A Dutch stewardess was the only crew member who survived.

Theater Time Table

ELSNORE
SOMETHING OF VALUE
7:17 10:02
Selected Public School
CAPITOL
PUBLIC DICTION NO 1 1:00
4:07 7:14 10:21
CRUEL TOWER 1:45 1:52
1:58
GRAND
DISTANT DR MS 7:00 7:42
HOUND 1:57
NO KALEM DRIVE-IN
(Games open 11:00 Show starts
at 12:00)
STAND AT APACHE RIVER
Stephen McNally Julie Adams
TAKE ME TO TOWN Ann
Sheridan Sterling Hayden