

Sailors' Parents Demand Inquiry On Ship Sinking

Disaster Blamed On Human Error

WASHINGTON (AP) — High Navy sources said Tuesday preliminary evidence indicated that human error—rather than mechanical failure—caused the mid-Atlantic collision of the destroyer Hobson and the aircraft carrier Wasp.

There were demands, meanwhile, for a congressional investigation of the accident. One came from a father of one of the missing men. He said his son once had told him that the Hobson was "unsafe."

The Navy sources emphasized that it is up to a Naval Officer of Inquiry to determine officially who, or what, was to blame for the disaster in which the Hobson sank with the apparent loss of 176 crewmen.

ADM. LYNDE B. McCormick, commander of the Atlantic Fleet, announced Monday night that he will convene such a court soon after the Wasp arrives at New York on Friday or Saturday.

On the basis of the partial reports already received by radio, Navy men predicted that the court will look particularly for a mix-up in transmitting or receiving turn signals as the warships executed a high-speed night maneuver.

They saw only a "remote possibility" that mechanical trouble, such as fouled steering gear, might have caused the Hobson to pass directly under the Wasp's bow. The 32,000-ton carrier knifed through the 7,600 ton destroyer, and the smaller ship sank within four minutes, trapping many crewmen below decks.

"THERE'S AN old Navy expression: 'Somebody didn't get the word,'" one highly-placed informant said. "That seems to be the most plausible explanation for what happened to the Hobson Saturday night."

Ervin S. White Sr., Lynn, Mass., father of one of the 176 missing men, said his son had told him before the fatal voyage that the Hobson was an "unsafe, battle-scarred rust tub" which was frequently in drydock for repairs.

"I intend to have my congressman ask the Navy some questions to find out why it continues to operate ships in such poor shape," White said. "A thing like this might happen again."

WHITE SAID his missing son applied for transfer from the Hobson but was informed he would have to serve two years on the ship. The two years would have been up next week.

Herman J. Duke Sr., Richmond, Va., father of another of the missing crewmen, said his son also had told him that the Hobson was recently found to be "not safe" by a Navy inspection board.

Rear Adm. William V. O'Regan, commander of the Atlantic Mine Fleet Force to which the Hobson was assigned, promptly declared that the Hobson was seaworthy "in every respect" when it put out from Charleston, S. C., for the ill-fated voyage toward Europe.

Federal Panel For Bus Talks

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The federal government Monday assigned a three-man conciliation panel to speed up negotiations in the eight-week-old Pacific Greyhound bus strike in seven Western states.

Management and leaders of the some 2,900 striking drivers and clerical workers are still deadlocked over the union demand for a five day work week.

This five day work week issue—in which Pacific Greyhound apparently is a sort of "guinea pig" so far as the bus transportation industry is concerned nationally—is the controversial point which has stymied negotiations since the seven-state tie-up began eight weeks ago.

The bus line contends that it would be uneconomical to grant the five day work week.

Reds Criticise 'Germ General'

PARIS (AP) — Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway's appointment as supreme commander of Allied forces in Europe won plaudits Monday from friends of the West and angry protests from the Communists.

French Reds assailed the appointment as a "brutal deft to European public opinion." Terming Ridgway "the man of germ warfare," the Communist Newspaper Ce Soir declared "he is the one who gave the American pilots their targets for the insects carrying the plague and cholera."

Ce Soir did not mention that the Communists declined to permit a Red Cross investigation of the germ warfare charges.

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GARDNER, MASS.—(AP)—A local factory has shipped a time clock inside the Iron Curtain but Soviet workers won't have to punch it. The order received was from the U. S. embassy in Moscow.

Massachusetts Town Favors Eisenhower

MT. WASHINGTON, Mass. (AP) — This Berkshire County town, first to report in Tuesday's Massachusetts presidential preference primary gave Gen. Eisenhower 11 "write-in" votes to four for Sen. Taft of Ohio.

Gov. Warren of California received one of the 15 republican votes cast. On the Democratic side, Sen. Kefauver of Tennessee received the only vote cast.

Senators Slash Foreign Aid Bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted Monday to cut President Truman's foreign aid program by a billion dollars—from \$7,900,000,000—and Chairman Connally (D-Tex.) said he thought the bill would pass the Senate after a few days debate.

The House is considering a foreign aid bill also. Neither actually provides the money; that must be voted later in an appropriations measure.

Connally said the recommended cut is about 12.56 per cent, to be applied to all items in the administration's program.

As the Foreign Relations Committee voted 9-3 for the slash, Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther was appealing to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to back foreign aid.

In a speech before the chamber's annual meeting, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization chief of staff said the aid request had been stripped to a minimum before it even went to the Congress, and a cut would "interfere . . . drastically" with Western rearming.

But Gruenther got quick rebuttal to his speech from D. A. Hulcy, the chamber president. Hulcy said the chamber, which wants a five billion ceiling on foreign aid "believes the foreign aid program should be spread out over a longer period" so the U.S. can bear the "strain" better.

Female 'Fickleness' Blamed for Trouble

PORTLAND (AP) — Blaine Paul Carroll, 28, Army veteran and former University of Portland student, Tuesday blamed the "fickleness of woman" for getting him into trouble—a charge of embezzling \$17,000 from the Ontario, Ore., Wood Products Co.

"I guess she was one of those girls that picks 'em up and drops 'em like flies," he glumly admitted to arresting officers.

Carroll declined to name the woman but said she was a young divorcee and that he spent the money on her in six weeks.

"I squandered it foolishly on a woman I thought I was in love with," he said.

Carroll, a graduate of Portland University last June, was hired as office manager for the Ontario firm. He allegedly set up an account for a non-existent lumber firm in Boise, Ida., and used bogus lumber invoices to steal money from the wood products company.

Police said the embezzlement occurred between June and October last year. Carroll was discharged Oct. 15, 1951, because of unsatisfactory work, but the embezzlement wasn't discovered until several weeks ago when the firm discovered a \$2000 forged check drawn against its account.

Carroll was arrested here and held on \$7000 bail as a fugitive to be returned to Malheur county.

In a signed statement he admitted spending all the stolen funds, plus his own savings, proceeds from insurance dividends and additional money he borrowed from banks, all on the young divorcee within a period of six weeks. Items included a \$4000 automobile, furniture and appliances worth \$3500, two diamond ring sets worth \$1300, a \$1750 checking account, \$1500 in house payments and \$1500 in jewelry and "trinkets."

And after that, he said, he "lost the girl."

Troops Clash In 19 Battles

SEOUL, Korea (AP) — United Nations and Communist troops clashed in 19 separate but brief engagements along the Korean front Tuesday, most of them pre-dawn fights on the Eastern sector.

The Allies repulsed all Communist probes after short fights. Allied fighter-bombers, grounded during the morning by bad weather flew a few missions late Tuesday when rain clouds turned into a heavy haze. Thunderjet pilots out ralls in North Korea in 12 places and destroyed and damaged box cars.

Two of the biggest ground engagements took place before dawn when U.N. troops crouching in water-logged foxholes threw grenades to turn back charges by groups of Chinese from 50 to 100 strong.

The 8th Army reported enemy "nuisance" attacks east of the Pukhan River and north and west of The Punchbowl. All were repulsed.

DPA Chief Surveys Future

Power Shortage Seen in NW This Winter

SEATTLE (AP) — The head of the Defense Power Administration (DPA) said Tuesday the possibility of power shortages this winter is greater than it has been for three years.

Administrator James F. Fairman surveyed the future outlook in an address prepared for the American Public Power Assn.

HE CONCEDED, however, that accurate predictions are difficult this early in the year, and said power supply is essentially "a regional or local matter."

Estimates by power suppliers just compiled by the DPA, Fairman said, indicate a record load increase of about nine million kilowatts is expected for next December, as compared with December, 1951.

"If the loads forecast are reached and if all the capacity now scheduled comes in," he continued, "the indicated gross margin or reserve capacity between the peak load and the generating capability will be a little over eight per cent."

"May I remind you that the

margin was 12 per cent in 1950, 9 per cent in 1951, and we now expect over 8 per cent at the end of the year.

"In this respect, the outlook for 1952 is worse than it has been for three years. It continues to be difficult to forecast national capacity within narrow margins."

"In the past four months, power suppliers of this country have reduced their estimates of new generating capacity which will be available this year by 800,000 kilowatts."

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- WOMEN'S TAILORED SHIRTS, one group formerly priced to 3.95, now -----1.99
- WOMEN'S TEE SHIRTS, cotton -----2.95
- WOMEN'S BROOMSTICK SKIRTS, cotton -----5.95
- PLAYTEX SUPERFOAM PILLOWS -----7.95
- LINEN, by the yard, 54 inches wide. Regularly 5.50, now -----1/2 Price
- LINEN TOWELING, Regularly to 1.40, now -----1/2 Price
- KENWOOD BLANKETS, 100% pure wool. 72x90. Regular 19.95, now -----14.95
- MARTEX TOWELS, Bath size, 98c -----1.95
- Hand size, 98c -----1.95
- Wash cloth, 39c
- CONTOUR SHEETS, by Lady Pepperell. Colored muslin. Twin bed size, Reg. 4.45, now -----3.29
- Double bed size, Reg. 4.85, now -----3.79
- LADY PEPPERELL GIFT SETS, superfine muslin. 2 sheets, 72x108, and 2 cases. Regular 11.85, now -----8.95
- LUNCHEON SETS, Leacock hand printed. Size 52x52 -----2.59
- COLORED PILLOW CASES, Lady Pepperell, Reg. 98c, now -----69c
- LUNCHEON SETS, Crispun, 52x52, with 4 napkins -----2.98
- PEGGY SAGE LIPSTICK, Reg. 1.00, now -----2 for 1.50
- CIRRO PERFUME, 5 fragrances for -----2.00
- COLOGNE, by Prince Matchabelli, Crown Jewel . . . atomizer free -----2.50 and 3.50
- LANVIN COLOGNE Spec. -----2.50
- BARGAIN TABLE, colognes, lipsticks, toiletries, etc. -----1/2 Price
- WOMEN'S DRESSES, formerly to 29.95, now -----5 and \$10
- WOMEN'S WEATHERVANE SUITS, by Handmacher -----\$25
- WOMEN'S WOOL SUITS, formerly to 89.95, now -----38 and up
- WOMEN'S COATS, all wool-in long and short styles, formerly \$45 to \$99, now -----1/2 Price
- WASTE BASKETS, metal -----2.50
- ADDRESS BOOK, MEMO PAD, combination -----2.50
- SCRAPBOOKS, PHOTO ALBUMS -----2.50
- BOOKS, library discards, late titles -----39c to 1.98
- CHILDREN'S BOOKS, includes slightly damaged Golden Books -----29c to 98c
- BOOKS, reprints of old favorites. Includes Zane Grey, Tarzan and Grace Hill titles -----1.25
- STATIONERY, values to 1.00, now -----59c
- GIRLS' RAYON DRESSES, 2 piece washables, sizes 3 to 12. Regular 6.90 to 8.50, now -----2.99
- GIRLS' COTTON DRESSES, wash type, sizes 3 to 14, Chubette and Pre-teens, Reg. to 5.95, now -----1.99 and 2.99
- CHILDREN'S BEACH AND PLAY SHOES, blue, navy and red denim. Foam rubber soles. -----2.95
- GIRLS' BROOMSTICK SKIRTS, sizes 3 to 14 -----2.95 & 3.99
- WOMEN'S HATS, one group formerly to 35.00, now -----1/2 Price
- WOMEN'S HATS, one group formerly to 12.95, now -----3.95
- SLIPS, regular 3.50 to 3.95, now -----1.99
- WOMEN'S GOWNS, odds and ends. Some nylons included, Regular 8.95 to 12.50, now -----6.95
- DRAPERY & UPHOLSTERY REMNANTS, now -----1/2 Price & Less