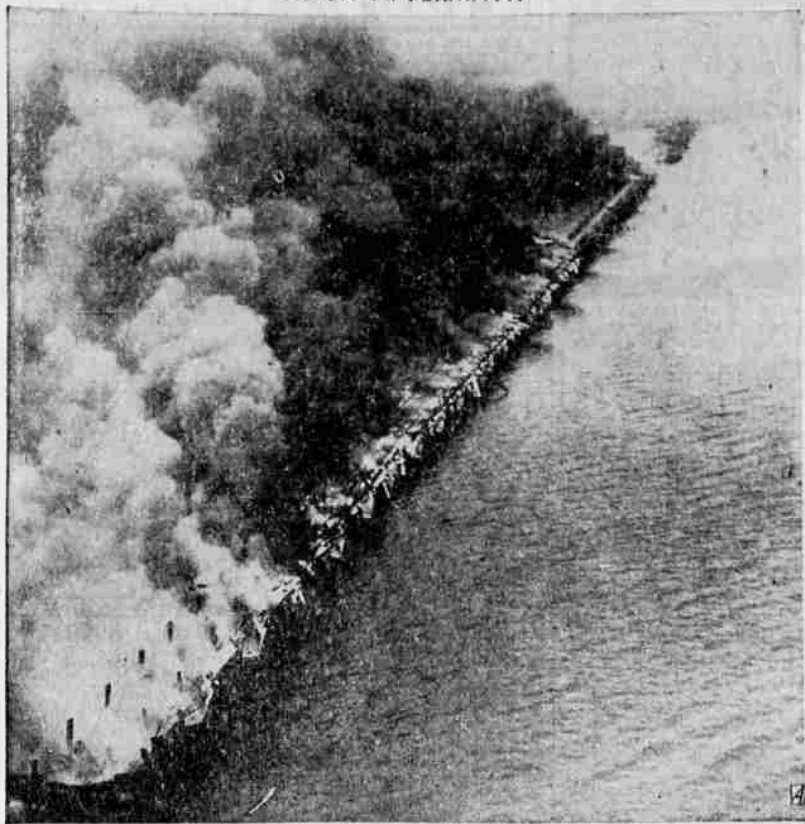


CRASH AFTERMATH



NEW YORK—Smoke pours from burning approach pier at New York's Idlewild Airport Dec. 18 after an Italian Airlines plane crashed attempting a landing following trans-Atlantic crossing from Europe. Six persons survived the crash from the 31 reported aboard the DC-6. Note runaway at upper right. (AP Wirephoto)

West Europe and U.S. Face Six Critical Months

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON (UP)—This week begins a supremely critical six-month period for Western Europe and for the United States.

Unless the London-Paris agreements to stiffen Western defenses are ratified within that six-month period, it is believed likely that they will fail altogether. Mid-June might be called a dead-line for hope of ratification.

Under these anxious circumstances, but confident that the first big hurdle toward acceptance of the agreements will be cleared this week, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles returned today from Paris.

Dulles left Paris Sunday night well pleased with the series of Western Alliance conferences which he attended. His bet is down that Premier Pierre Mendes-France will jam through the French Assembly this week a ratification of the fateful agreements.

Soviets Oppose Agreements

That would be a major reverse for Soviet Union foreign policy. The Kremlin is out to kill the latest agreement among the Western Allies just as Communist policy helped knock out the European Defense Community plan for a European army. Both would put arms again in German hands.

The agreements which Moscow opposes and which are basic in United States policy would provide:

1. Sovereignty for West Germany; an end to the Big Three occupation.
2. Rearmament of West Germany as a member of and under control of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
3. Temporary settlement of the Franco-German dispute over control of the coal-rich Saar Basin, looking toward ultimate permanent settlement.

The Soviet Union is all out to prevent rearmament of West Germany. France was warned last week that ratification of the rearmament agreement would annul the 1944 Franco-Russian treaty in

Men Living In Tubes

WASHINGTON (UP)—Somewhere in Greenland several score men are living in a series of connected tubes, 18 feet in diameter and of varying length, which are sinking slowly into the arctic ice cap.

The Air Force said the quarters include sleeping space, mess hall, recreation room and a kitchen. It said they are in an area where standard buildings could not be erected on the packed snow.

Since the tubes are heated to about 72 degrees and the outside temperature goes as low as 75 degrees below zero, the Air Force said, the tubes can be expected to sink into the snow at a rate of about three feet a year.

In Miami, Fla., retired Brig. Gen. Robert G. Lovett, who supervised the construction, said the quarters were built 18 months ago. He estimated they could be used for 15 to 18 years before they will have to be abandoned.

The Air Force said the men living in them make weather observations and collect other information. The exact location was not given.

Only \$6.70 Will Get You Flag Flown Over Capitol

By FRANK ELEAZER
United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON (UP)—Congress is going to hate me for telling you, but for \$6.70 a 3-cent stamp and a letter to your congressman you, too, can have a flag that has flown over the Capitol.

You can, that is, if your congressman cooperates and this dispatch doesn't lose up the deal. Your 3-cent stamp, as good as new, will arrive along with a letter to certify that it has indeed fluttered over the heads of the lawmakers.

Capitol officials mean that too many requests could wreck the machinery. Already, on some days, it creaks. Sometimes it takes Capitol Police Pvt. Dix C. Boone an hour or more to hoist and, immediately, haul down a single day's flag supply.

Started Long Ago

The thing got started so long ago nobody can remember when. Originally it was a matter of passing along to some worthy group the tattered and presumably historic remains of the big fly-12 ensigns that fly night and day from east and west fronts of the Capitol.

These were out at a rate of about 18 a year. But that wasn't enough to meet the demand. So some bright member, who probably lived to wish he hadn't, came up with a gimmick. He went around to the House stationery store, bought himself a flag, and took it to the people in charge of raising and lowering.

"Fly it for me a minute or so," he said approximately, "and give me a letter to prove that you did."

Then Word Got Around

Then he boxed up the flag and shipped it off, with the letter, to an important constituent (or registered voter). This lucky fellow must have been duly impressed. Anyway, the word started getting around, and the flag-flying business has been picking up steadily since.

Total flyings this year probably will run about 1000. Some times, on special occasions like Veterans Day and July 4, there are many

Grange Meets At Union Hill

UNION HILL.—Master Henry Peters and the newly-elected officers presided during the business meeting of the Union Hill Grange Friday evening. Escorted to the master's stand were Henry Hendricks, state youth chairman from Wauna Grange; Bob Barnes, Pomona master, and Ben Eckley, Waldo Mills master.

Robert Humphreys, acting as installing officer, installed Keith Scott as steward, Verna Scott as

assistant steward and Donald Jaquet as a member of the executive committee from the Union Hill Grange. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Riches of the Waldo Hills Grange were installed as assistant and lady assistant steward.

The new committees for the coming year were appointed by the Master. A brief report on the seed league meeting was given by its new president, Verna Scott, and Henry Hansen, state youth chairman, Henry Hendricks, spoke on Our Youth in the Grange.

Lecturer Mrs. Robert Darah presented Carleton Brown, state Grange insurance agent, who spoke on Social Security. A skit

by the Waldo Hills Grange and group singing composed the program for the evening.

Pomona Master Bob Barnes announced that Pomona Grange would meet in Stayton, Jan. 15, 1955. The January supper committee will be Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jaquet, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Krenz, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Jones.

PAPERS MARK STALIN'S BIRTH

MOSCOW (UP)—All Moscow newspapers marked the 75th anniversary of Joseph Stalin's birth Tuesday by publishing huge quarter-page portraits of the late Soviet leader on their front pages. Stalin died in March, 1953.

Know Your Neighbor..

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This agency was founded in June of 1952 by Guy Jonas. It represents six Stock Companies, one Mutual and writes all forms of insurance. There are two persons associated with the firm in addition to Jonas. They are: Don Miller and Dave Nelson.

Jonas has been in the insurance business 6 years in addition to having spent some time as a casualty underwriter. He has lived in Salem 28 years, is a graduate of Salem schools and Willamette University. He is also a member of the Elks, Izaak Walton League, Junior Chamber of Commerce and is an active community worker.

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Sweet Home Firemen Have Yule Party

SWEET HOME.—The Fireman's Christmas party which was preceded by a no-host dinner hour was held recently in the Fire Hall recreation rooms.

Gifts were exchanged following an evening of games by the group with Mrs. Bill Reed chairman of the entertainment.

Other chairmen were Ernie Toland and Loring Johnson, punch bowl: Mrs. Don Surry and Mrs. Cliff Cannon, decorations, and Mrs. Wayne Smith and Mrs. Ernie Toland, food.

There are about 66,825,000 auto drivers in the United States.

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The Holiday Spirit travels all over town by telephone... when you invite friends to a Christmas party, or arrange a family gathering, or exchange personal greetings.



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