

Mechanic Gets Hero Credit in Crash Landing

46 Escape With Slight Injuries as Naval Plane Flips

SEATTLE (AP) — A crew member who prepared his passengers for a crash landing and then aided in their rescue was credited Monday with helping to avert what could have been a major air tragedy here Saturday.

Forty six persons escaped serious injury when a four-engine Navy transport flipped over, lost a wing and skidded upside down during a landing at the Sand Point Naval Air Station. Fire broke out but was quickly extinguished.

When the plane came to a stop most of the passengers were hanging upside down from safety belts, their heads and bodies padded against the crashup they had been warned might occur.

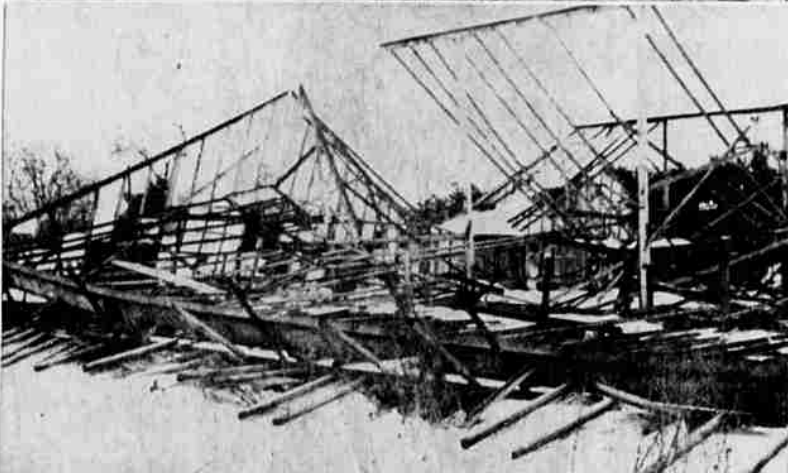
No one received more than scratches and bruises and only minor treatment was necessary.

Hero of the operation was James V. Trooper, 36, an aviation mechanic from Torrance, Calif., whose duty it was to relay orders from the pilot to the passengers. He had seen to it that they were safely strapped in and more or less protected.

Then, as the plane cartwheeled over and skidded upside down, Trooper, who himself was not strapped in, made his way to the exit door, opened it and saw that the passengers got out safely.

The RSD carried 42 men of reserve unit VS891 home to Seattle from Los Alamitos, Calif., where they had been on a two-week training trip, and a crew of eight.

January Record Snowfall Was a 1937 Sneaker



Downtown marquees were not designed to carry 27 inches of heavy, wet snow and many collapsed as did this one on the Court street side of Millers store. Center: Snow on the night of January 31, 1937, crashed this large range of greenhouses on Market St. Lower: Churches also suffered in heaviest snowfall ever recorded in Salem. Shown is wreckage of the Christian Missionary Alliance tabernacle on Ferry St.

GREENHOUSE, CHURCH COLLAPSE

Heaviest Snowfall in Salem Came Almost 20 Years Ago

27 Inches Fell During Storm In January

By BEN MAXWELL, Capital Journal Writer

Heaviest snowfall ever recorded in Salem came in as a January sneaker 20 years ago.

Folks who were up early on Sunday morning, Jan. 31, 1937, knew it was cold without looking and when they did look they noticed it had started to snow. It didn't stop at nine o'clock as early morning snows usually do. It kept right on snowing and heavier. By dusk people knew they were in for something exceptional. And it was still snowing, snowing heavily.

By then city police were getting worried. Marquees on Salem building fronts were designed for no such weight of snow. They were groaning under the load and the few pedestrians on downtown sidewalks were in jeopardy. So the police called for volunteers among the jail population, paid them a price, and set them to shoveling snow off marquees.

Marquees Crash Their efforts saved some marquees, not others. Those around the Miller store crashed before dawn. All over downtown Salem the snap of chains and the crash of marquees disturbed the sleeping population. Fortunately all too feeble to withstand the load crashed before pedestrians were about on the streets.

Soon it became apparent that other sections of the city had extensive damage from this record snowfall of 27 inches. A big range of greenhouses on Market street collapsed. A tabernacle on Ferry street was not built to withstand a load of heavy, wet snow and crashed. Dreamland rink became a snambles of broken twisted lumber. Mellow Moon dancehall suffered heavy damage. A milk shortage appeared imminent since snow blocked streets would not permit delivery.

On that day 20 years ago every shovel in Salem was sold and stores ordered an additional supply from Portland. Schools were closed and when the fire department endeavored to respond to a call at the courthouse the big hook and ladder wagon stalled in deep snow at the city hall station entrance. It took the five boys more than an hour to get the rig back inside. Chief Harry "Buck" Hutton was not slow about issuing a warning that day to householders about being careful with fire.

Fumes Cling To Portland

PORTLAND (AP) — Fumes with an odor "like chemicals" were noted strongly in parts of downtown Portland Sunday night and the Weather Bureau said a temperature inversion likely was at fault.

A layer of warm air at 1,000 to 1,500 feet acted as a blanket, weathermen said, in keeping fumes from industrial plants from escaping upward.

At one theater the fumes were so thick the projectionists had to wipe off lenses between reels.

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PW EXCHANGE BEGINS

CAIRO (AP) — The exchange of war prisoners between Egypt and Israel began Monday with the help of the U. N. Emergency Force. Israel took an estimated 5,000 Egyptian prisoners in its October invasion, and Egypt captured four Israelis.

Valley Dates

AMITY (Special) — The Amity PTA will meet Thursday, Jan. 24, at 8 p.m. in the Amity high school. Future Farmers of America will present demonstration of parliamentary procedure, with 13 FFA members participating in the debate. Lou Henrich is vocational agriculture instructor. Child care will be provided.

MOLALLA (Special) — Grange officers' meeting and practice will be held Tuesday. Grangers are urged to attend and plan activities for the year. Social meeting Monday, January 21.

February 1, Molalla Grange will visit Harding Grange.

WOODBURN (Special) — Annual meeting of Butteville Insurance Co. will be at the Woodburn home office at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 23.

Election of one director for a five-year term, is scheduled, to replace William Schwartz of Silverton whose term expires. Annual reports will also be read.

WOODBURN (Special) — Columbian Squares have changed meeting time to Tuesday and will meet Tuesday, January 22.

WOODBURN (Special) — Family night at the Woodburn Presbyterian church will be Wednesday, Jan. 23. No-host dinner at 6:30 p.m., Maria Sandilands Circle in charge. Speakers will be Dr. and Mrs. Shanks, who have served many years in the Cameroons in Africa.

FAIRFIELD (Special) — Yeast rolls will be the project Tuesday for Fairfield Extension unit at Wacanda school at 7:30 p.m. All women of the community are invited to attend.

LYONS (Special) — Extension unit will meet Jan. 24. Members will be notified at a later date concerning the Pattern Fitting workshop.

GERVAIS (Special) — Social night for Fairfield Grange members, at home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Allenbach in Woodburn, Jan. 25, starting at 8:30 p.m.

Oregon's Population Gain Slowing Down

PORTLAND (AP) — Oregon's population is gaining, but not at the rate of the previous decade, the State Board of Health reports.

The population as of July 1, 1956, was estimated at 1,734,650—a 14 per cent increase over the 1950 census figure. The estimate was made by applying a formula which takes into consideration birth and death registrations and county elementary school enrollments.

Eight counties were reported to have lost residents in the past six years. They are Wheeler, down 15.5 per cent; Polk, 9.3 per cent; Yamhill, 8.1 per cent; Deschutes, 3.3 per cent; Morrow, 9 per cent; Klamath and Columbia, each 7 per cent; and Crook, 1 per cent.

Curry County showed the greatest gain—102 per cent. The 1950 population was 6,610 and the 1956 estimate is 12,720.

Other counties and their percentage gains: Baker 9.1, Benton 15.2, Clackamas 19, Clatsop 8, Coos 33.6, Douglas 37.7, Gilliam 14.2, Grant 8, Harney 9, Hood River 3, Jackson 21.1, Jefferson

Plan New Plant

MOLALLA (Special) — O. C. Redwine, Molalla, and Glen Onion of Canby, formerly of Molalla, owners, are opening a third plant for Hi-Way Ready-Mix, Inc., to be ready for operation in The Dalles within the next few days. The first plant originated in Molalla and was later moved to Canby, and in 1936 a Portland plant also was put into operation.

The first commercial radio broadcast was made in 1922.

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