

PLANE, 44 PERSONS MISSING



ENGAGED—Princess Kanako Take (above), 20-year-old daughter of Japan's Emperor Hirohito, is engaged to marry Toshimichi Takasaka, 26, a 20-a-month clerk at the National Railway Museum in Tokyo. No date has been set for the wedding.

Traffic Bottleneck In Berlin Reported Back Near Normal

Russ Ease Blockades After Week And Half

Berlin, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—Traffic through the Helmsdorf bottleneck was close to normal today as the Russians eased their never-explained "little blockade" of Berlin after a week and a half.

Accustomed to rapid switches in Russian policy, Americans in Berlin adopted a patient "wait and see" attitude but they pointed hopefully to these other good omens:

Two Good Omens
1. The communist east German government has been authorized to issue travel permits in and out of Berlin. Until now the Soviets reserved this power for themselves. The Germans promised the permits will be issued without delay.

2. The east German government withdrew, without explanation, its announcement of Friday night that permits will be issued to go from Berlin's western sector to the eastern zone and back. This restriction was in effect during the big blockade that led to the air lift.

West-bound German track traffic at Helmsdorf on the southern highway, where the Russians clamped down, was back to normal this afternoon. For the first time there was no blacking, no waiting line of trucks.

10 Trucks An Hour
East bound trucks were passing the barriers on the Soviet-British zone border at the rate of 10 an hour. Although the normal rate is about 20 an hour, for the last week and a half the Russians have held it to between two and four.

The line of trucks on the west side of the barrier was down to about 100. Trucks carrying milk and perishable food were moved to the head of the line.

The east German ministry of interior, disclosing it had taken over the job of issuing travel permits, said they will be given out "without special formalities."

Plane, Army Weasel, Seek Snowbound Pair
Port Angeles, Wash., Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—A coast guard helicopter pilot and an army weasel were trying to reach a seriously ill couple marooned at a snow-bound resort high in the Olympic National park mountains today.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Naude, 53 and 51, have been stranded since Thursday with a virus infection. A physician said the couple, caretakers of Staircase resort, need immediate medical treatment for what he diagnosed as a virus infection.

The resort is isolated to all land transportation by deep snowdrifts and slides and is surrounded by high peaks, sheer cliffs and thick forest, making it inaccessible from the air except perhaps by helicopter.

Seattle, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—Henry Ellsworth Vines, 60, father of the famous golfer, died here yesterday of a heart ailment.

Portland Man's Death Cause Said Unknown
Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—A coroner's jury was unable to decide today whether Civil Engineer Robert Turner, 53, was a murder victim or a suicide.

Jurors, asked that Turner, of Anchorage, Alaska, and Portland, Ore., died of gunshot wounds inflicted by person or persons unknown.

The body of the well-dressed man was found Thursday in his parked car 15 miles northwest of here.

Sheriff's Deputy Emmett Newland told the coroner's jury that he found Turner dead, his hand "in a natural position" resting on the steering wheel, and a .38 caliber pistol in his lap.

Depth Charge Planned To Move 'Battlewagon'
Norfolk, Va., Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—The navy will resort to a depth charge of TNT tomorrow in a preliminary effort to get its only active battleship out of the mud.

The operation, latest in a series of discouraging attempts to get the battleship Missouri out of her muck anchorage, may not actually get her afloat. The navy's main objective is to soften up her sticky berth so that a scheduled big heave-ho on February 2 absolutely will not miss.

Ski Conditions
Fifteen inches of new snow on a packed run at Sky Trail in the Siskiyou and excellent skiing conditions were reported yesterday. The coffee cabin and rope tow are operating.

The lunch counter and ski tow at Crater lake were scheduled to operate today. The park ranger's office said skiing would be good if weather cleared and the new powdery snow became packed. Yesterday's light overcast appeared to be clearing last night.

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NO. 261

Auto Workers Union Moves To Build War Chest, Press Strike

Detroit, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—The CIO United Auto Workers union moved today to build a \$10,000,000 war chest with which to press its paralyzing strike against Chrysler corporation.

The union's international executive board, acting under new powers granted at its last convention, voted an emergency assessment of \$1 a week on each working member, payable for maximum of 12 weeks.

The levy becomes effective on February 9 unless the pension insurance dispute which sent 80,000 Chrysler workers on strike Wednesday morning is settled by that time.

Offer Called Insult
In a blistering statement, the board described Chrysler's offer of \$100 monthly benefits at 65 years of age with 25 years service as "insulting."

"This cheap and chiseling corporation offer," the resolution said, "met with unanimous rejection." The union wants a 10-cent "package."

The strike assessment, levied as the "fireside strike" moved through its fourth day, does not immediately apply to Canadian UAW members because of financial restrictions on sending funds outside Canada.

Negotiations Stalled
There was little to indicate an early resumption of negotiations. State and federal mediators worked quietly behind the scenes attempting through exploratory talks with each side to find a basis for possible agreement.

The strike levy was authorized last July at Milwaukee. It provides that each working member can be assessed \$1 a week when a strike affecting more than 50,000 auto workers moves into its third continuous week, with the approval of the executive board.

Bert Simmons Demo Sheriff Candidate Party Meet Hears
Bert Simmons, Medford, former Talent policeman, announced at the Jackson county democratic central committee meeting here yesterday that he will be a candidate in the May primary election for the democratic nomination for sheriff.

He is the first person to file on the democratic ticket this year for the sheriff post.

Pearson Speaker
Speaking on "What a Democratic Victory Means to the People," State Treasurer Walter J. Pearson was principal guest at the meeting held at the YMCA.

His talk was open to the public and approximately 100 persons attended the session.

Pearson declared that a democratic triumph in the Oregon elections would return the government to the people and that the people's interests rather than special interests would be served. He pointed to one-party rule for many years.

The treasurer was introduced by Robert Maclean, state tax commissioner. Other guests included Elwood Hussey, Cave Junction, and Mrs. Isabel Small, president and vice-president respectively, of the Josephine county democratic central committee.

Urges Full Ticket
Mrs. Moore Hamilton, committee chairman, urged a full democratic ticket in the primary and said several persons were considering seeking office.

Pearson is scheduled to attend a breakfast at the Cave shop in Grants Pass this morning and may appear at two meetings at Roseburg later in the day. His visit here was his first since he was elected.

Two Children Dead Back Nebraska Car
La Grande, Ore., Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—Two children were found dead of carbon monoxide poisoning in the back seat of their parents' car. Coroner William Arrivey said today.

Robert, 3, and James 1½, the sons of Mr. and Mrs. R. Edmiston, Lincoln, Neb., apparently died from fumes concentrated in the back seat from a defective muffler.

The Edmiston was driving to Biloxi, Miss., from Spokane, Wash., when the tragedy occurred. A third child was unhurt. He was riding in the front seat with his parents.

The death of the two children was discovered when the Edmiston stopped here for groceries.

Whittaker Chambers Offers Undergo Test
Washington, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—Ex-communist Whittaker Chambers offered tonight to take an FBI lie detector test to refute "subtle but real" rumors that there was something "peculiar" in his relations with Alger Hiss.

Chambers made the offer during a radio interview.

Chambers said he wants particularly to "spike the rumor that Alger Hiss is shielding someone."

"He is shielding nobody but himself," Chambers asserted.

Sharp New Cold Wave Drops 36° Dakota Mercury

Motorists Warned Off Highways In Dakotas

Chicago, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—The sharp edge of a new cold wave cut South Dakota temperatures as much as 42 degrees in 10 minutes today in sweeping out of the Pacific northwest and into the northern plains states.

Light snows swirled in the frigid air in Montana, Idaho, eastern Oregon and northern Nevada, but in the Dakotas, blizzards erupted with winds up to 55 miles an hour and heavy snow.

At Rapid City, S. D., the cold blast hit 46 degrees weather at 6:30 a. m. and dropped the reading to 4 above in 10 minutes.

From 21 To 1 Below
Within five minutes at Huron, S. D., the temperature plummeted from 21 above to 1 below.

Motorists were warned to stay off highways in the Dakotas. Drifts built up on highway just being opened after a blizzard earlier in the week.

The cold wave knocked temperatures down to 10 and 20 below in the northern Rockies and great plain states.

"Spring" Vanishes
A normal January chill snuffed out the last traces of a premature springtime in the east. Overcasts were again in style in New York City where flowers had bloomed during the week.

Florida was the exception to the colder weather gripping the nation. Miami had a nighttime low of 61 degrees. Chilly rains swept California and it was 35 during the night at Los Angeles. The weather bureau at Chicago expected the new cold wave to hit the Great Lakes area by tomorrow night.

Downtown Building Gutted In Big Fire

San Francisco, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—A six-story downtown office building was gutted today by a spectacular four-alarm blaze—the worst of the year for San Francisco.

Fifteen firemen suffered minor injuries or smoke inhalation. Damage was set at "in excess of \$200,000" by City Fire Chief Edward P. Walsh.

Smoke pouring out of the Merritt building on lower Howard street attracted an estimated 1,000 spectators, some of them "winos" from along that "skid row" street, who watched as flames ate all around the main floor warehouse of the Franzia Bros. winery but never reached the stored stocks.

Warehouse Damaged
The winery warehouse was damaged only by water and smoke. No one was in the structure at the time of the fire.

Flames broke out in the second floor rear and within 15 minutes mushroomed through the five floors above street level, ultimately breaking through the roof. Twenty-eight fire rigs were called out and 125 firemen worked an hour and a half before the blaze was brought under control.

Missionary Watches Wolves Devour Dogs

Anchorage, Alaska, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—A missionary of the far north thanked God to be alive today after watching wolves devour his sled dogs and trail him through the snow.

The Rev. Everett Bechelder of the Wasilla, Alaska, children's home kept fires burning around his bogged dog team for five days before he was forced to abandon all but two of the huskies to the encircling wolves.

13 Tokyo Persons Die In Explosions Of Gas
Tokyo, (Sunday) Jan. 29.—(U.P.)—Thirteen persons were dead, 10 injured and 1 missing today following a gas explosion in a coal mine in Hokkaido province, national police announced.

An investigating party from the mine safety control office at Sapporo, near the scene, was sent to establish the cause of the accident. The mine where the explosion occurred is at Akahira, in Hokkaido.

Clear Skies, Cold Predicted For Oregon
Portland, Ore., Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—Clear, cold skies but with some intermittent snow, were forecast tonight for the Pacific northwest after 15 days of snow, sleet, rain and silver thaw.

The Oregon air national guard dropped 11 bales of hay and 900 pounds of grain and groceries to a stranded cattle herder eight miles west of Goble. He and the stock were snowbound in eight-foot drifts for two weeks.

A C-47 flew the mercy mission, piloted by Brig. Gen. Robert Dodson, commander of the 123rd fighter squadron.

The forecast said the dominant force in the weather was a stream of cold air from western Canada which would keep temperatures below freezing through tonight.

Snow still blocked the Evergreen and Columbia gorge highways, and the Pacific highway was reported reopened near Weed, Cal.

The weather bureau said the storm-stricken Willamette valley will keep its blanket of snow for a while.

A snowy cover from Eugene to Portland will be added to by new but light flurries through Sunday, the bureau said, and cold temperatures will prevent any appreciable melting.

Between a half and two inches of new snow fell over the Portland area early today on top of four inches which fell the previous night.

Albany and Eugene felt the sting of winter in one of their heaviest snowfalls of the season.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Generally fair skies but cooler temperatures today and Monday.

Temperature	
Highest yesterday	39
Lowest yesterday	26

Searching Aircraft From Two Countries Prowl In Far North

Light But Persistent Snowfall Hurts Hunt

Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—Search planes of two nations maintained a night-long vigil over the vast, barren stretches of the far north Saturday night for flares or fires that may be set from a transport plane missing with 44 passengers aboard.

Most of the 40 Canadian and United States army air force planes that searched the area today returned with the same report: "Nothing sighted."

Better Weather Seen
But more than a dozen others kept up the search in darkness from the Alaska border to northern British Columbia.

A light but persistent snowfall hampered the search in the Whitehorse area today but the weather was expected to improve tomorrow, enabling a more thorough search of the region where a forest ranger's report gave searchers the best clue to the whereabouts of the missing transport.

Ranger L. Requa, posted at the small town of Minto on the route over which the C-54 would pass, said today that he had heard a crash which shook his house shortly after he saw a large plane pass overhead Thursday afternoon, the day the plane disappeared.

'Operation Mike'
The gigantic two-nation search already had been dubbed "operation Mike." Officers of both the U. S. air force and the RCAF described the search as "an all-out effort."

The missing plane had aboard a woman and her small son, a crew of eight and 34 U. S. soldiers coming home from Alaska on furlough or being moved to another assignment. The C-54 was heading for Great Falls, Mont.

Its last message was radioed at 3:09 p. m. PST Thursday as it was passing over Snag. Requa's post is about 125 miles southeast of Snag.

Bad Weather Delayed
The heavy report came as rescue craft defied bad weather to fly over the 10,000-foot, saw-toothed ranges of the Rockies but found no track of the missing plane.

Time, distance and the weather made the search a desperate one. The temperatures in Whitehorse dropped to 30 below zero last night and, even though the C-54 carried Arctic clothing, the survivors of a crash probably could not endure for long.

Among the passengers on the missing plane the air force listed S-Sgt. Jack E. Dickerson, Dunsmuir, Cal.

Alaskan Bases Easy For Russ To Capture

Washington, Jan. 28.—(U.P.)—Russia easily could capture America's Alaskan bases and strike "a death blow" at the United States, Alaskan Delegate E. L. Bartlett said today.

Bartlett addressed the 24th women's patriotic conference which is meeting here.

"Our main military installations today are at Anchorage and Fairbanks," Bartlett said. "It is no secret that today they could be captured without the expenditure of any considerable effort."

"In all candor, I must say to you that there confronts us the dreadful possibility that a death blow could be aimed at the United States were our airfields in Alaska captured and turned against us."

He said Fairbanks and Anchorage could fall "before one parachute division or at most two."

Education Discussion Postponed To February
A discussion of modern trends in education, which was scheduled for Tuesday evening, January 31, has been postponed until February 9, officials of the Medford city council of the Parent-Teachers association said yesterday.

They said that Don A. Emerson who was to have represented the Oregon state board of education at the meeting will be unable to be in Medford for the session on the advice of his physician.

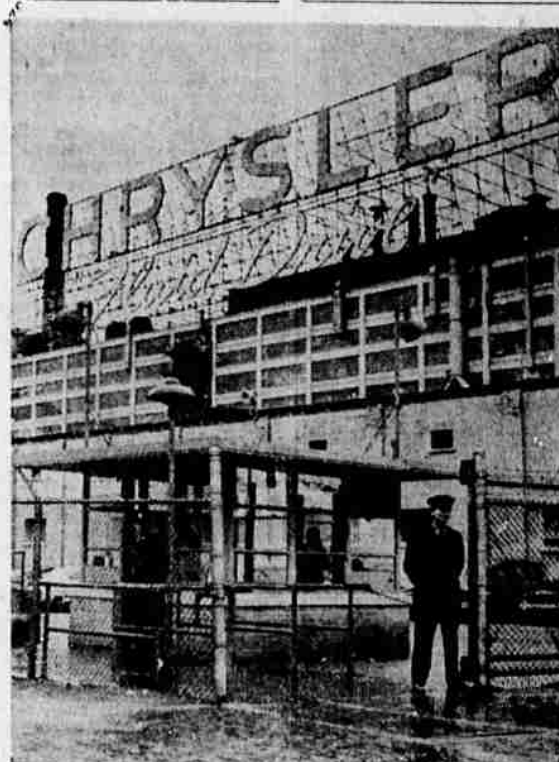
Time and place for the February 9 study group will be announced later.

Road Conditions

Packed snow on Greensprings and Siskiyou mountain passes was reported last night by state police along with the advice that motorists should carry chains.

Police said California officials reported that chains were no longer mandatory on highway 99 in the Yreka area but were still needed in the Weed-Redding section.

Police had no report on Sexton mountain pass on highway 99 north but it was thought conditions were improving.



NEW STRIKE SCENE—Guard stands alone at gate of Chrysler Corp. plant in Detroit, Mich., after 80,000 auto workers struck the firm without setting up picket lines as a reminder of their walkout. Communist "boycott," C. I. O. United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther said, "We're growing up." The strike was called when negotiations over pensions and welfare benefits broke off.