

10 Returning Veterans Die in Plane Crash

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MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1955

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Weather

FORECAST: Variable cloudiness with a few light showers tonight. Partly cloudy with scattered showers mostly in the mountains Friday. Snow above 3,000 feet. Valley fog patches Friday morning. Low tonight 35-34. High Friday 45. Temp. Highest Yesterday 48. Lowest this Morning 30.



Gas Supply Runs Out As Craft Approaches Pittsburgh Airport

Oregon Servicemen Listed Among Missing, Survivors

Dravosburg, Pa. — (U.P.) — Federal investigators tried to determine today why a chartered airliner, carrying 23 servicemen home for Christmas, apparently ran out of gas after flying only 300 miles and crashed into the Monongahela river here with a loss of 10 lives.

The twin-engine DC3 took on a quantity of fuel last night before taking off from Newark Airport at 8:40 p.m. for the West Coast with a load of happy GIs, just back from Europe and due for holiday furloughs and discharges.

The plane, operated by a five-man civilian crew, flew only about 300 miles on its cross-country trip and was approaching Pittsburgh when the pilot radioed the Allegheny County Airport Control tower "I'm out of gas."

All but 10 of the 28 men aboard either swam through the icy-cold water to the river bank or were pulled out by their buddies and civilian rescuers.

The 18 survivors were taken to the McKeesport, Pa., hospital where they were reported suffering mainly from cuts and bruises and exposure to the water and near-zero temperatures. Police and firemen began dragging operations for the bodies of the 10 missing men, nine servicemen and a pilot Harold Poe. Divers and river barge and tug men worked all night to raise the fuselage, which was virtually intact despite its crushing pancake smash into the water in mid-stream, 200 feet off shore.

A barge derrick hoisted out the wreckage at about 8 a.m. No bodies were found in the plane. The Civil Aeronautics Board opened an immediate investigation along with local, county, and state officials.

William Burton, CAA safety agent at Greater Pittsburgh Airport, said the plane was a C-47 converted into a DC3 and accommodates 26 passengers. The plane came down at about 11 p.m., about 12 miles upstream from Pittsburgh. The craft began to settle in the water almost immediately but all the men apparently got out before it submerged less than 30 minutes later.

The plane, chartered by the Army from the Johnson Flying service of Missoula, Mont., took off from Newark, N. J., and was carrying the servicemen to Ft. Carson, Colo., Ft. Lewis, Wash., and Ft. Ord, Calif. The servicemen had returned from Europe late Wednesday, reported to Camp Kilmer, N. J., and then boarded the plane at Newark for the trip west. They were to have received furloughs at their destinations so they could spend Christmas with their families.

All the missing soldiers were believed to live on the West Coast. The crewman and nine soldiers missing in the crash are: Pilot Harold A. Poe, Seattle; PFC Harry D. Moss, Fallsdale, Colo.; PFC Robert S. Wilder, Denver; PFC Lester W. Donahue, Sterling, Colo.; Col. Elmer A. Diercks, Jefferson, Ore.; Col. Carl O. Thim, Hermosa Beach, Calif.; PFC Joseph R. Barkins, Myrtle Creek, Ore.; Cpl. Joseph Salvaggio, Los Angeles; Cpl. Donald T. Seitzinger, Belflower, Calif.; Cpl. Bob D. Whipple, Redondo Beach, Calif.

Survivors confined to McKeesport hospital are: Cpl. Robert Norgren, 24, Pueblo, Colo.; Cpl. Frank Kusumi, 23, Los Angeles; Cpl. Robert P. Walker, Seattle, Wash.; Cpl. Philip F. Wheeler, 22, Ririe, Ida.; Pfc. Duwain D. Crow, Kellogg, Ida.; Pfc. Robert Giff, 23, Grangeville, Ida.; Cpl. Charles L. Lude, 22, Eugene, Ore.; Cpl. John J. Freshling, 23, Denver; Cpl. Roy G. Shuler, 24, Mae, Wash.; Cpl. Olev Adamson, 22, Portland, Ore.; Sgt. Paul D. Middleton, 21, Granger, Wash.; Cpl. Ronald E. Joseph, 22, Hawthorn, Calif.; Cpl. Robert D. Schaefer, 22, Salem, Ore.; Cpl. Tony L. Toftemark, 22, Eugene, Ore.; Cpl. James F. Every, 24, Rockwood, Calif.; Cpl. William Clarence Chapman, 25, Tacoma, Wash.; Cpl. Charles Carter, 25, Tacoma, Wash.; and Cpl. Joseph Grekowicz, 26, Seattle, Wash.

TO CALL GRAND JURY
The Jackson county grand jury will be called into session early in January, District Attorney Walter Nunley said today. He indicated that several criminal matters will be presented to the jury for consideration.

Heard Plane's Engines
Stephen Barna, a fireman at nearby McKeesport, said he was getting ready to go to work and was in the kitchen of his home, about a mile and a half from the river, when he heard a plane's engines "cough and splutter."

He said then "there was dead silence that gave me a shiver up my spine." Barna said he knew there was a hill in the plane's path and that the pilot could never make it.

"He went out of my view and I knew he was done," Barna said.

Mill-Accident Injuries Prove Fatal to Man
Norman A. Dunford, Eagle Point, died at a local hospital yesterday after suffering injuries in an accident at the Medford corporation mill where he was employed.

He was hospitalized shortly after noon.

Mr. Dunford, an edgerman, was working at an edger when a piece of wood struck him in the chest, according to Medco officials. First aid was administered by the company nurse before arrival of an ambulance.

Mr. Dunford had been a resident of Jackson county for the past 14 years. Funeral services, with Per funeral home in charge, are pending.

Fact Finding Panel Recommends Lumber Industry Wage Increase

7½ Cents Hourly Boost To Settle Strike Suggested

Peace for 15 Months Seen by Acceptance

Portland — (U.P.) — Wage increase for Pacific Northwest lumber workers of 7½ cents an hour, effective Jan. 1, 1956, was recommended today by a governor's fact finding panel following a three-month study of issues involved in last summer's 84-day lumber strike.

Justice Frederick G. Hamley of the Washington Supreme Court, chairman of the seven-man panel, said "if the recommendation is accepted it will mean peace in the industry for the next 15 months." The proposed pay increase would extend until April, 1956.

Over 100,000 Affected
Upwards of 100,000 CIO and AFL workers in the northwest and northern California were affected by the strike which started over demands for a 12½ cent hourly wage increase. Settled settlements, some which involved wage increases and some pinned on agreements to accept any industry-wide settlement, cut this number to approximately 45,000 who returned to their jobs under the governor's plan.

Today's action, only a recommendation, would affect those employers and union locals who agreed to the governor's plan or who agreed to accept an industry-wide settlement.

To Resume Talks
Management and labor were expected to meet in the near future to consider the panel's report and resume negotiations.

A F. Hartung, president of the CIO International Woodworkers of America, said he was both "surprised and disturbed" that the panel had not made pay increases retroactive to the date the lumber workers returned to work in mid-September.

Walter A. Durham, representing a large group of employers as secretary manager of the Lumber Industrial Relations Committee, said the report "is going to be quite a shock to a great number of employers."

Unanimous Report
Judge Hamley said the decision on the strike settlement formula was unanimous, with one member reserving the right to comment on it. The report is not binding on either labor or management with the exception of the Coos Bay Lumber Company which agreed to accept the board's findings when its 1600 men went back to work.

The seven-man panel was formed by Gov. Paul Patterson of Oregon and Gov. Arthur B. Langlie of Washington. Two members represent management, two represent the two big unions and the public was represented by three members.

Judge Hamley also said the panel recommended improvements in future negotiation procedure.

Youngsters in Search for Presents Perish in Flames

Austin, Minn. — (U.P.) — Three curious children who couldn't wait until Christmas were burned to death last night when a flash fire swept through the closet where they tried to get a peek at the gifts.

Matches or a candle held by one of the children apparently started the blaze.

Bodies Found in Closet
Firemen found the bodies of five-year-old twins, Donald and Darrell Bottleson, and their sister, Janice, 9, in a corner of the attic closet.

"There was no light in the closet. They had to use matches or a candle to find what they



Former Code Clerk Faces Jail Term, Fine on Spy Count

Washington — (U.P.) — Joseph S. Petersen Jr., the former government code clerk who pleaded guilty to spying for a foreign power, today faced a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison plus a \$10,000 fine.

Petersen, 40, was employed by the State Department as a code clerk in the top-secret National Security Agency until his arrest by the FBI last October. He had been in government service for 13 years.

Entered Guilty Plea
The \$7,700-a-year code clerk pleaded guilty Wednesday in Federal Court in Alexandria, Va., to a charge that he used government secrets "in a manner prejudicial to the safety and interests of the United States."

The State Department disclosed that Petersen passed the information along to a man identified as J. A. Verkuy, a Netherlands civil servant and former officer in the Dutch army.

The Dutch government admitted it had exchanged "secret intelligence" with Petersen during and after World War II but was under the assumption that Petersen's superiors had authorized it.

Dutch Faith Unquestioned
The United States said it had "no reason to question the good faith" of the Dutch but added that Petersen's actions were "completely unauthorized and carried out under his own personal responsibility" in violation of U. S. law.

City's First 1955 Baby To Be Honored

The Mail Tribune radio station, KYJC, in cooperation with a number of local merchants, is planning to welcome Medford's first baby of 1955 with gifts and a recorded interview with the parents.

Some of the presents which Miss or Mr. Medford of 1955 will receive include an electric bottle-warmer, 50 quarts of milk, a new bank account, a supply of baby oils and powders, gift certificates for clothing, an engraved silver drinking cup, baby food — and even cigars for papa to pass around.

Death of European Union Sought by Rearmament Foes

Mendes-France Calls For All-Night Session

Paris — (U.P.) — Opponents of German rearmament moved today to kill the Western European Union in the same way they killed the European Defense Community.

They introduced a motion demanding that the National Assembly postpone ratifications of the Paris treaties until France and Germany reach absolute agreement on how the pacts should be interpreted.

Mendes Backs Down
Premier Pierre Mendes-France immediately announced he would call for three confidence votes. But he backed down under Assembly pressure, and called an all-night sitting to reach

Rome — (U.P.) — The Chamber of Deputies today ratified the Paris agreements to rearm Germany. The vote was one of the biggest majorities in the history of the Italian Republic.
The vote was 335 to 215, a margin of 120.

The final decision on German rearmament. The motion was introduced by a member of the Premier's own Radical Socialist party while Mendes-France was holding an extraordinary series of meetings with leaders of non-Communist parties.

Mendes-France appealed to the party chiefs to try to keep back deputies from "going fishing" when the vote on the WEU comes up in the Assembly.

Vote Refusal Expected
The scrappy French Premier was convinced about increasing evidence that many of the doubtful assemblymen will refuse to cast their votes on the controversial issue.

Mendes-France hoped to convince party leaders, and through them the rank and file of reluctant deputies, that France must show a united front to the world on the rearmament agreements made at Paris and London conferences.

He took the unusual step as the ratification debates went into the fourth day and it was becoming apparent that many French lawmakers would abstain from voting in an effort to sidestep responsibility.

84 Chest X-Rays Made At Outpatient Clinic

Eighty-four persons had chest x-rays taken yesterday afternoon at Community hospital, through the out patient program of the Jackson County Public Health association.

All expenses other than for operation are paid out of funds raised through the annual sale of Christmas seals.

A number of those having x-rays were school children whose tuberculin sensitivity tests have reacted positively.

X-rays are read the day after they are taken, and reports are prepared and results made known to those having the x-rays by the Monday following in most cases.

Hours for the x-ray outpatient program are 2 to 6 p. m. each Wednesday at Community hospital. A similar program will be instituted at Sacred Heart hospital early next year.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York — (U.P.) — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 397.15 up 0.08; 20 railroads 144.76 up 0.65; 15 utilities 61.51 up 0.56; and 65 stocks 148.06 up 0.36. Sales today were about 3,310,000 shares, compared with 3,460,000 shares traded yesterday.

Court of Appeals Upholds Ruling on Communist Party

Washington — (U.P.) — The U. S. Court of Appeals by a 2 to 1 vote today upheld the constitutionality of the 1950 internal security law clamping tight controls on the Communist party, its members, and its front organizations.

Ruling that the party is dominated and controlled by the Soviet Union, the court majority approved an order issued by the government's Subversive Activities Control Board last year. The order requires the Communist party to register with the Justice Department, listing all of its officers, members and financial transactions.

The Communist party is expected to appeal the case to the Supreme Court. If it does, the registration order will not become effective until the high tribunal acts.

Judges E. Barrett Prettyman and John A. Danaher signed the majority opinion. Judge David L. Bazelon, in a dissenting opinion, argued that the entire registration machinery of the internal security act is unconstitutional. He said forcing Communist organizations to disclose their members and finances cannot be "reconciled" with "the Fifth Amendment's command that 'No person . . . shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself.'"

Quoting Dean Griswold of Harvard Law School, Bazelon said the Fifth Amendment "is a clear and eloquent expression of our basic opposition to collectivism, to the unlimited power of the state. It would never be allowed by the Communists and thus it may be regarded as one of the signs which sets off from Communism."

However, Prettyman and Danaher said "the right to free expression ceases at the point where it leads to harm to the government."

"When danger to government is clear and present, the right of unrestricted speech gives way as do the other basic rights of liberty and life," they said.

The Justice Department has been trying to force the Communist party to register since Nov. 22, 1950, two months after the internal security act was passed.

On that date, it filed a petition with the control board asking that the party be ordered to register. After 15 months of intermittent hearings, the board on April 20, 1953, issued the order.

Census Tabulation Of Students 18,422

Final unofficial tabulation of the Jackson county school census shows a total of 18,422 youngsters in the 4 through 19 age bracket, according to officials in the county schools office.

This total compares with 17,639 last year.

Of this year's total, 9,522 are boys and 8,900 are girls. Last year, the figures were 9,131 boys, and 8,508 girls.

This year, there are more seven-year-olds than any other age group, with 802 boys and 730 girls. Last year, the largest group was the six-year-olds, with 810 boys and 762 girls.

The smallest group both years is the 19-year-old division. Last year, there were 360 boys and 285 girls in the 19-year-old classification, compared with 430 boys and 328 girls this year.

Jolly Saint Nick's Christmas Spirit Dampened by Police

New York — (U.P.) — A street corner Santa Claus burst into bald song in Times Square today and lost his Santa Claus suit in a police station.

Police placed no charge against him.

Police were notified by telephone that the Santa, somewhat the worse for Christmas cheer, was using bad language and singing dirty songs at the corner of Seventh Ave. and 50th St. When a patrolman arrived, a large crowd had gathered. To the clanging of his bell he was singing loudly a bawdy variant of "Santa Baby."

Thefts From Autos Take Christmas Gifts, Clothing

Christmas will be a little less merry than expected for two Medford area families.

City police reported this morning that gifts valued at nearly \$200 were stolen last night from two cars parked on Riverside ave.

Lester M. Hanson, Box 641, Central Point, told officers that gifts, including toys and clothing valued at \$145, were stolen from his car last night while it was parked on Riverside ave. between Eighth and Main sts.

Toys Taken
Alvis Morris Bell, 819 Pine st., Medford, reported that toys and other gifts valued at more than \$40 were taken from his car last night while it was parked in the same area.

In another theft from a parked car, David M. Hoffman, Springfield, told officers that women's clothing, valued at about \$7, was taken from his car while it was parked on Bartlett st. between Sixth and Main sts.

Another theft of lights from an outdoor Christmas tree was reported to city police by Gerald A. Cottingham, 1329 Queen Anne ave. About 10 lights were taken from his tree, Cunningham said.

Complaint Seeks Assault Damages

Virgil H. Conner, route 1, box 70, Gold Hill, has brought suit against David Joseph Morris, 39, of route 1, box 78, Gold Hill, seeking \$10,250 damages for injuries allegedly received July 20, according to records in the county clerk's office.

Conner seeks \$10,000 general damages and \$250 special damages for doctor and dentist bills.

The complaint charges that "the defendant assaulted and beat the plaintiff," and adds that Conner "was wounded and suffered great bodily pain and lost several teeth."

Morris was arrested and jailed briefly July 22 on an assault and battery charge after Conner had signed a complaint. Morris pleaded guilty to the charge July 24 in district court and was fined \$35 and \$5 court costs.

European Storm Passes 72-Hour Mark; Toll of Dead, Injured Mount Steadily

Amsterdam — (U.P.) — Europe's worst storm in recent years raged past the 72-hour mark today, with a steadily mounting toll of dead and injured.

Evacuation Planned
More than 40 deaths were attributed directly to high winds and savage seas and to ice and snow which clogged highways and cut communications. The storm raged from the tip of Scotland in the north, through the Lowlands and into Austria and Italy.

Dutch authorities made plans to evacuate residents from parts of two islands where dikes just repaired after the disastrous storm of two years ago threatened to give way again.

The eastern part of the island of Terschelling in the north and possibly part of the island of Goeree in the southwest were among the worst hit in the catastrophic floods two years ago.

Dike Guards Ordered Out
Special dike guards were ordered out today and thousands of soldiers and civilians were prepared for duty if the storm smashes defenses against the sea.

Elsewhere in Europe, people were buried in the debris of houses and burned to death in

fires out of control because of wind. Some were lost with ships or swept overboard, killed on icy roads or hit by falling objects.

Highways were clogged in Austria and Scotland and winds drove river and harbor waters above normal, flooding harbor areas in Hamburg, Germany, and Ostend, Belgium.

Hope for Ship Abandoned
Hope was virtually abandoned for the Belgian freighter Henri 19, which reported it was sinking yesterday off the coast of Holland.

Medford Stores To Remain Open for Shopping Until 9 Tonight