

Crisis in Formosa in Dangerous New Phase

Clue to Fate of Airliner Found at Sea

Rome — (U.P.) — An oil slick spotted on the Tyrrhenian sea today provided the first apparent clue to the fate of a missing Belgian airliner and its 29 passengers and crewmen.

The oil slick was discovered by an Italian Air Force search plane, off the port town of Santa Severa, 30 miles north of Rome. The Italian plane was one of the large American-Italian search team.

Slick Investigated

Italian sea planes immediately went to the scene from their base at the nearby Air-Sea Rescue Center at Vigna di Valle.

The Italian corvette Cedro arrived off Santa Serva to investigate and another corvette was ordered to the scene and due to arrive about nightfall.

Among the passengers were four Americans and Italian movie starlet, Marcella Marianni, 20, who was "Miss Italy" of 1953.

Search Near Rome

A search throughout the night and this morning failed to confirm earlier reports that the wreckage of the plane had been sighted in the barren mountains north of Rome.

Italian newspapers had reported that an Italian Air Force helicopter had sighted the wreckage near Madonna del Piano, near Sutri and about 30 miles north of Rome. The plane was a mere 15 minutes from its stop-over destination at Rome, en route to Leopoldville in the Belgian Congo from Brussels.

The search concentrated north of Rome, however, for shepherds reported they had seen a great fire raging in the woods some 10 miles south of Viterbo. At

Independent Stores Cut Coffee Prices

All independently owned grocery stores in the Medford area have cut the price on nationally advertised brands of coffee six cents a pound, from \$1.09 to \$1.03. It was announced today by C. R. Baucum, of the Independent Grocers association.

"Independent stores are leading the way in the price drop on nationally advertised brands," Baucum declared. He noted that there will be no immediate cut in nationally advertised brand prices in the Ashland and Grants Pass areas.

Safeway stores last week announced price cuts on its three brands with some of the decreases amounting to as much as 18 cents. Other brands were unchanged at that time.

Burial Plans Made For Gen. Somervell

Ocala, Fla. — (U.P.) — Plans for burial in Arlington National cemetery were being made today for Gen. Brehon H. Somervell, industrialist and former Army service and supply chief who died here yesterday.

Somervell, 62, died apparently of a heart attack at his home here during a leave of absence as board chairman and president of the Koppers Co., Inc., of Pittsburgh.

He retired from the Army in 1946.

DOW-JONES AVERAGES

New York — (U.P.) — Dow-Jones final stock averages: 30 industrials 411.39 off 2.60, 20 railroads 145.69 up 0.17, 15 utilities 62.32 off 0.04, 65 stocks 152.07 off 0.48. Sales today were about 2,950,000 shares.

Final Preparations Made for Atomic Explosion Scheduled in Nevada Tuesday

Las Vegas — (U.P.) — Officials today made final secret preparations for the first atomic explosion tomorrow of "Operation Teapot," a 1955 series of nuclear blasts designed to "keep our strength at peak level."

No Alternative Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Lewis L. Strauss, here to witness the test, told newsmen yesterday that recent Soviet boasts of vast atomic stockpiles leave the U.S. with "no alternative but to keep our strength at peak level." The consequences of any other course would imperil our liberty, even our existence.

Strauss said the current series of tests also will "prove highly important data which can be obtained in no other manner on

though the area is only about 30 miles north of Rome, it is one of the most desolate in Italy with rocky, barren hills and valleys of underbrush which have been the traditional hide-out of bandits.

Americans Identified

The Americans were: Paul Leroy, 28, Lake Hiawatha, N.J.; Robert Singer, 30, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; E. J. Suter, 48, of Brussels, and Mrs. Gloria Guerrieri, secretary of Miss Mariani who lives in Rome.

Crewmen were all Belgians with exception of the English co-pilot, Patrick MacNamara.

Code Correction Package Approved By Vote in House

Salem — (U.P.) — The Oregon House today opened its sixth week of business with a full calendar of 23 bills up for final passage, including a code correction package of 15 measures.

The corrective bills were all given quick approval with the exception of one referred to the Tax committee where a similar bill is being considered. Purpose of the judiciary package was to correct errors discovered in the total code revision and rewriting job accomplished by the 1953 legislature. The measures were previously passed by the Senate.

Tax Law Loophole

The House also gave unanimous approval to a bill that would plug a loophole that no one had noticed before in the corporation excise tax law. The bill now goes to the Senate and if it is approved and signed by the governor, corporations will be required to report accounts receivable as taxable income when they dissolve. Corporations are now free of that requirement.

A bill introduced by Rep. Edwin Johnson (R-Eugene) to include park and recreation districts and drainage districts among those whose assets and liabilities are accepted by cities annexing the districts was given unanimous approval.

Also passed at today's long session was a bill permitting married persons under 21 to make wills.

(See story on Page 5)

Factory Searched For Victims of Fire

Minneapolis — (U.P.) — An explosion wrapped a Cargill, Inc., plant in flames today, critically burning at least 13 persons and possibly trapping more victims inside.

Firemen said they had spotted no bodies shortly after the explosion blasted through a three-story metal linseed oil extraction plant.

However, firemen were sent into the ruins to search for possible victims trapped inside.

The cause of the blast was not known immediately.

Oregon Observes 96th Statehood Anniversary

Salem — (U.P.) — Happy birthday, dear Oregon. Happy birthday to you!

Oregon, the Valentine state, came into being just 96 years ago today, Feb. 14, 1859. Senators and representatives paused briefly to observe the state's 96th birthday.

Pflimlin Gives Up Attempt To Form French Cabinet

President Calls on Socialist Group Leader

Paris — (U.P.) — Pierre Pflimlin gave up attempts to form a government today and President Rene Coty issued an urgent call to Socialist Christian Pineau to attempt to gather support necessary to become the next premier of France.

The deepening 10-day-old crisis which began with the ouster of Pierre Mendes-France threw the future of German rearmament and the Western European Union in doubt.

Ratification Delayed

Ratification of the Paris Agreements has been delayed in the upper chamber of parliament pending the confirmation of a new premier and cabinet.

Pineau, 50-year-old leader of the powerful Socialist parliamentary group and a friend of the United States, agreed to start preliminary talks toward drawing up a program. He said he will seek permission of his party, which has 104 deputies, to become premier-designate.

Head Franco-American Group Pineau is head of a Franco-American friendship society in the National Assembly.

The Socialists have remained outside the government for the last three years although they compromise the largest single party in the assembly. They supported the fallen government of Mendes-France on West German rearmament and other major issues.

By calling Pineau, Coty turned to a left-of-center majority in an attempt to end the government crisis that resulted from the fall of the Mendes-France government.

Hall Thinks Ike Will Run Again

Washington — (U.P.) — Republican National Chairman Leonard W. Hall discussed 1956 GOP convention plans with President Eisenhower today and said afterwards he still thinks the President will be available for a second term.

Hall also said that Chicago, Philadelphia and San Francisco are the leading cities under consideration for the 1956 GOP presidential nominating convention. He said Mr. Eisenhower favors a late date and a "shorter campaign," goals also desired by the Democratic party.

Hall said the subject of Mr. Eisenhower's own 1956 intentions did not enter into today's discussion. But he added that nothing happened to change his assumption that Mr. Eisenhower will be available for renomination.

(See story on Page 3)

Jessel's Girl Friend Apparent Suicide

Beverly Hills, Calif. — (U.P.) — Abigail Adams, the part time actress who waited in vain 11 years for Actor George Jessel to marry her, apparently took an overdose of sleeping pills to end her own life, police reported today.

The 31-year-old beauty was discovered yesterday by Max Marks, who said he had escorted her to several night clubs Saturday. Marks told police he arrived at her apartment to find a "do not disturb" sign on the door. The coroner scheduled an autopsy for later today.

A friend of Miss Adams telephoned Jessel, who fainted when he heard Miss Adams had died.

An heiress, Miss Adams stopped extensive dating with Jessel in December, saying she no longer wished to be a playgirl.

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Girl Critically Injured in Crash; Two Others Hurt

Accident Victim Still Unconscious

A young Medford woman is in critical condition today at Sacred Heart hospital and two others are hospitalized as the result of a one-car accident early Sunday northeast of the Medford city limits.

Donna Nelson, 20, of 408 Beaty st., has not regained consciousness since the accident which occurred at about 1:30 a.m. Sunday at Spring st., and Pierce rd. The girl received a head injury and a minor leg injury in the mishap.

Miss Nelson underwent surgery last night at the hospital. Two girls hospitalized

Also hospitalized are Donita Wright, 19, of 1461 East Andrews rd., who received hip and ankle injuries, and Jean Ragsdale, 20, of 513 Palm st., who received cuts and bruises and hip and leg injuries. Hospital attendants said both were in good condition.

Also taken to the hospital were Robert Yarnell, 22, Phoenix, driver of the car, and Ted Dean Yarnell, 20, of 2348 Camp Baker rd. Both were examined and released. All five of the young people were taken to the hospital by Medford Ambulance service.

Car Overturned

Police said the car was turning from Pierce rd. to Spring st. when the accident occurred. The car went out of control, going over a four foot embankment and rolled over several times according to investigating officers.

Two Woman Tumble From Auto; One Dead

Eugene — (U.P.) — Mrs. Marjorie Stewart, 51, of Seattle, died here today, of injuries suffered in an automobile accident yesterday in which another Seattle woman was injured.

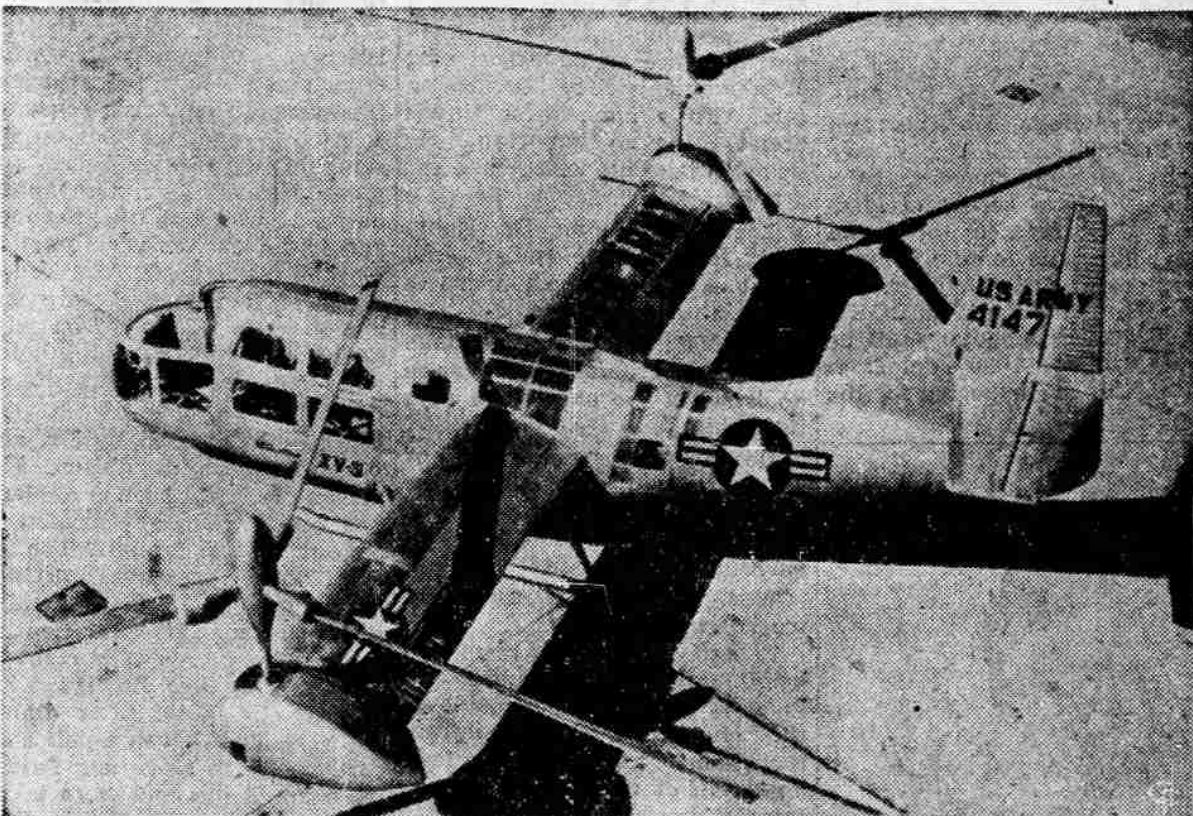
Mrs. Stewart had suffered a skull fracture and other injuries when she was thrown from a car and run over by a truck four miles east of Willamette Pass.

Mrs. Ruby Featherstone suffered internal injuries and a possible fractured arm. State police said the two women were riding in a car driven by Cullen Avery Witener, 61, also of Seattle. When the vehicle went out of control on an icy spot, one of the women grabbed the door handle and, as the car door opened, reached for her companion.

Both women fell to the pavement. An oncoming delivery truck, driven by Furman Skillern Milburn, Creswell, Ore., was unable to stop and passed over them.



GUERRILLA LADY—Famed Chinese lady pirate and guerrilla leader, "Two Gun Wang Pa-Mei" (above), told newsmen on her arrival at Taipei, Formosa that the Communist Chinese have been crucifying women guerrilla fighters they capture on offshore islands. "I've seen five of their victims. They were crucified on poles and then floated down so we could see them." The 46-year-old anti-Communist leader is also known as Miss Huang Pai Chi.



UNUSUAL NEW AIRPLANE, capable of rising vertically and then tilting helicopter rotors to conventional propeller position for horizontal flight is rolled out at Bell Aircraft Corp. plant at Fort Worth, Tex., for inspection. It is reported designed for high speed. (International)

Criminal Matters Keep Law Officers Busy Over Weekend

Local law enforcement officers were busy with several criminal matters over the weekend.

The sheriff's office and city police interrogated a youth who admitted, in a signed statement, 13 crimes in the Rogue valley, most of them last summer.

The district attorney's office reported this morning that the youth, Milton Edward Wallace, 18, Box 55, Phoenix, would be charged with larceny from a building. It involves a theft of four bows and 25 arrows last August from Southern Oregon college, they added.

Admits Other Thefts

Other admissions, included gas, tire and wheel thefts in the Medford and Ashland areas, and 14 watermelons from around Talent. Two other SOC thefts included a bed and mattress and clothing items.

Three Grants Pass youths were arrested early yesterday morning in a raid by sheriff's deputies, state police and Liquor commission representatives at Rogue River. Charged with illegal possession of liquor were Paul Leslie Seagoe, 18, and two 17-year-old boys. The arrests were made on the grounds of the VFW hall in that city.

Frank Sylvester Jantzer, 39, Prospect, was arrested Friday by the sheriff's office on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of two minor girls. Bail was set at \$2,000 on the warrant, officers said.

Pleaded Guilty

In district court action on Friday, Robert Lawrence Ray, 22, of 11 B st., Ashland, charged with furnishing liquor to minors pleaded guilty and was fined \$50 and \$5 costs on the charge. Three others charged with illegal possession of intoxicating liquor, were fined \$20 and \$5 costs, after pleading guilty to the charges. Included were Evelyn Jean Todd, 18, of 171 B st., Ashland, Paul Leon Jacks, 19, of 54 Mountain ave., and a 17-year-old girl from Ashland.

Sheriff Howard Gault took two men, sentenced to three years in the state penitentiary, to Salem today. They were John Arthur Showalter, 29, Portersville, Calif., charged with grand larceny, and Donald William Coggins, 19, of 1700 Prune st., charged with parole violation.

Work Now Underway on Third Floor at Annex

Pouring of the second floor concrete slab in the new courthouse annex was completed last week and work is now being done on the third floor.

Earlier, freezing weather delayed concrete work. Workmen did wall work until the floor work could be resumed.

Salem — (U.P.) — John Moore of Salem has been reelected president of the AFL Oregon State Council of Retail Clerks.

Weather

FORECAST — Variable high cloudiness tonight and Tuesday. Continued mild in afternoons. Low tonight about 36. High Tuesday 56. Temp. Highest yesterday 59. Lowest this morning 30.

Communists Said Still Determined To Seize Island

Soviet Support Pledged To China

United Nations, N. Y. — (U.P.) The U. N. Security Council today surveyed the failure of its efforts to arrange a Formosa cease-fire and then stepped aside to let diplomats make a new attempt, outside the United Nations.

The brief council session was adjourned, without setting a date for its next meeting, after defeating a Russian move to force debate of a Soviet resolution branding the United States an aggressor in Formosa.

United Nations, N. Y. — (U.P.) The Formosan crisis entered a dangerous new phase today.

Both Nationalist China and the Communist regime in Peiping served blunt notice that the evacuation of Nationalist forces from the Tachen Islands has not eased Communist determination to seize Formosa. Alarmed for New Efforts

Diplomats in the United Nations and across the Atlantic were alerted for new efforts to prevent the Formosan dispute from flaring into war.

The U. N. Security Council, meeting today to resume its discussion of the situation, was confronted with these facts:

1. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, in Taipei, predicted the Chinese Reds will be encouraged now to attack Formosa itself and he declared the United States will assist him in defending Quemoy and Matsu Islands, just off the mainland coast. Washington Disagrees

Washington sources insisted the United States had taken no hard and fast position on the defense of Quemoy and Matsu and the ultimate decision would depend upon the circumstances existing at the time the issue became urgent.

2. Moscow Radio pledged Soviet support to Communist China in its efforts to "liberate" Formosa and the offshore islands.

3. Nationalist China began evacuating civilians from the tiny northern island of Nanchi, in anticipation of an early Communist attack.

4. Quemoy was subjected to a heavy Communist artillery pounding from Red guns on the mainland, only 2,000 yards away, yesterday. Nationalist batteries on the islands claimed to have silenced the Communist guns after a three hour duel.

5. Military observers in Taipei predicted the Reds will strike next at Quemoy, just opposite Formosa or at Matsu, halfway between Quemoy and the abandoned Tachens.

Diplomats here doubted any new U. N. action would be taken or recommended pending efforts of "secret diplomacy" to solve the crisis.

The key man in the diplomatic maneuvering, India's Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, said in London today that he still is confident diplomacy can win a truce.

Oral Arguments Set In State High Court

District Attorney Walter Nunley reported today that he has received notice that oral arguments will be made March 2 before the state supreme court on the constitutionality of the law on not sufficient funds checks.

The matter is up for review by the state's highest court, after a local circuit court ruling termed the law questionable.

The local case concerned a charge against Walter Pirkey, 42, Central Point, and involved a \$120 check payable to Cooksey Motors on April 3, 1953.

Attorney Edward Kelly is representing the defense.

Corvallis — (U.P.) — Albert Bauer, Portland businessman, has been elected president of the Oregon State College Dads club.

Nationalists To Move Civilians Off Nanchi As Attack Expected

Taipei, Formosa — (U.P.) — Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek said today it had "been made perfectly clear" that the United States would defend Matsu and Quemoy islands.

He said the two Nationalist outposts just off the Communist-held mainland were vital to the defense of Formosa itself and that in no case will they be abandoned.

Quemoy, only a few miles from the Communist-held port of Amoy, was the scene Sunday of a 3 1/2-hour duel between Nationalist and Communist artillery. Matsu is about midway between Quemoy and Tachen.

Taipei, Formosa — (U.P.) — The Nationalists prepared today to evacuate civilians from the tiny northern outpost island of Nanchi in expectation of an early Communist attack.

Nanchi lies 120 miles north of Formosa and became Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's northern block to Red Chinese island-hopping forces with the loss of the Tachens. Some of the Tachen garrison was reported transferred there.

Military sources said 2,000 civilians on the island would be brought out starting Tuesday in order to avoid casualties, but Gen. Peng Meng-chi, the Nationalist commander, said the island was not being evacuated but would be defended at all costs.

Island Front Quiet

The island front was reported quiet today although heavy concentrations of American warships were still reported north of Formosa. There was no new report of Communist shelling of Quemoy Island just off the Red Chinese port of Amoy.

Chinese Communist artillery and Nationalist artillery on Quemoy fought a three-hour battle Sunday afternoon until the Nationalists silenced the Red guns, the military information service reported.

The announcement said Red units firing from tiny Tatung Island, one of the islands forming a half moon around Quemoy, lobbed about 250 shells onto Quemoy's main defense installations.

Military observers in Taipei were convinced the Communists would strike soon against either Quemoy, which is just opposite Formosa, or against Matsu which is halfway between Quemoy and the abandoned Tachens.

Sgt. Stanley J. Orzechowski said police found two babies in the apartment, a two-year-old and a 19-month-old. Occupants of the apartment, Bertha Marie Sumpter, 19, and Glenn Levern Arnett, 19, of Portland, were charged with lewd cohabitation.

Orzechowski said Miss Sumpter admitted maternity of the younger child. Three other teen-agers seen leaving the apartment were charged with illegal possession of liquor.

Chou Says US Attack Would Bring Defeat

London — (U.P.) — Red China's Premier Chou En-lai said today "if the United States aggressive circles dare to launch an aggressive attack against us, the Chinese peoples are determined to defeat them."

"We warn the United States aggressive circles" that the Red Chinese "are determined and have the strength to defend their own territory," Chou said.

The Chinese Premier-Foreign Minister spoke at a reception in Peiping given by the Soviet charge d'affaires in honor of today's fifth anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Soviet mutual assistance treaty.

Warden, Sheriff To Appear On Charges of Contempt

Eugene — (U.P.) — Clarence T. Gladden, warden of the state penitentiary, and C. H. Baird, Sr., Douglas county sheriff, were to appear today in Lane County Circuit Court here for a hearing on charges of contempt of court filed against them.

Transfer of Prisoner The charges grew out of the secret transfer of Donald E. Bailey, convicted robber, from the Salem prison to the Douglas county jail at Roseburg in November, 1953.

Bailey, who has been called the "boss con" of the state prison, was returned to Salem at-

er his attorney, Charles O. Porter of Eugene, petitioned for a writ of habeas corpus, charging that Bailey was held illegally and incommunicado.

Warden Gladden said he made the transfer to restore order and discipline to the prison following an inmate riot. Bailey was alleged to have played a major part in the riot.

Porter filed an earlier writ in the Douglas County Circuit Court, but Judge John M. Foots declared the petition moot since Bailey had been removed from the county jail by that time.