

# NORTHEAST STORM DAMAGE COUNTED IN MILLIONS; MORE THAN SCORE DEAD

**MEDFORD**



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## Weather

FORECAST: Continued fair and slightly cooler. Low tonight 52. High Saturday 92.  
Temp. Highest Yesterday 86  
Lowest this Morning 56

## Two States Called Disaster Areas as Heavy Rains Fall

Many Towns Awash; Trains Stranded

New York —(U.P.)— A dying hurricane poured flood waters across the northeastern United States today, inundating hundreds of communities, taking more than a score of lives and causing damage estimated in the hundreds of millions.

Western Connecticut and Massachusetts were declared official disaster areas. Sections of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia were awash with the waters from spilling rivers and bursting dams.

Connecticut's Gov. Abraham A. Ribicoff asked President Eisenhower by telegram to declare the state a major disaster area and allocate federal funds for its assistance.

Gov. Ribicoff said damage in the Torrington - Farmington-Colebrook area had been estimated at one billion dollars before noon, with flood waters sending buildings, oil tanks and debris floating through the streets.

### Traffic at Standstill

Ten thousand blasting caps, capable of blowing up any bridge they touch, were washed into Pennsylvania's Schuylkill river from a flooded power plant and coursed down the swollen stream toward Philadelphia.

Rail service was suspended on main lines throughout New England and in other affected states.

Roads into affected areas were washed out, blocked by landslides or buckling bridges.

Army, Coast Guard and National Guard forces using boats, amphibious vehicles and helicopters, rescued stranded residents and campers from rooftops and trees.

### Towns Cut Off

Twenty-nine persons were reported killed in five of the affected states, by drowning, electrocution and flood-caused highway disasters. Death tolls were largely uncounted, however, as rescuers sought out the living.

Many towns were cut off from all outside communication. The disastrous downpour was attributed by the Weather Bureau to a dying spurt from hurricane Diane in combination with high humidity in the area across which the storm center passed. The storm was expected to pass off the coast of Massachusetts by late afternoon.

Boston as completely without rail service as all three roads serving the city canceled operation because of track washouts.

A swollen reservoir threatened to burst its dam over a score of Western Massachusetts and Connecticut towns, many of them already inundated by overflowing streams.

The Coast Guard reported it was "picking people out of trees" by helicopter in the Torrington, Conn., area.

### Trains Marooned

A second major flood disaster swirled through the adjacent corners of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania where at least 10 deaths were reported. Two passenger trains were marooned. Thirty-three children were being plucked by helicopter from an island overnight. Other summer camps were cut off from the world.

Cumberland, Md., and Ridgeley, Va., were flooded by the spilling waters of the Cumberland.

More than 12 inches of rain had fallen in the Massachusetts and Connecticut areas in the last 48 hours and it was still coming down at midmorning.



STANDING ON STEPS of U. S. Supreme Court building in Washington, Vivienne Potter, Reno, "Miss Nevada, 1955," is first law student ever to enter Miss America contest. She is an accomplished golfer, skier and swimmer. (International)

## Air Force Plane Rams Mountain

At Least Seven Killed in Nevada Transport Crash

Rescue Teams Search Surrounding Vicinity

Hawthorne, Nev. —(U.P.)— A twin-engine Air Force transport plane slammed into a 6000-foot mountain peak today and burst into flames killing at least seven airmen.

Lt. Col. George Stallings, commander of the Marine detachment at the nearby Hawthorne Naval Ammunition Depot, reported that rescue workers had recovered the bodies of seven airmen from the charred wreckage.

"We're pretty sure that's all that are in the wreckage," Stallings reported.

### Area Searched

However, teams were searching the surrounding area to find out if others had tried to jump to safety before the craft plowed into the mountain top in clear weather.

A radio-equipped Civil Air Patrol plane was also scouring the rugged mountain area for survivors but had reported no success.

Navy medical personnel, ambulances, Marines and three fire trucks from the huge ammunition depot rushed to the scene shortly after the plane smashed into the mountain about 7:30 a.m.

They found no sign of life. Crash in Gillis Range

The crash occurred in the rugged Gillis Mountain range about 13 miles northeast of here and a few miles east of nearby Walker Lake. The scene was about 120 miles southeast of Reno.

Names of the victims were being withheld pending complete identification and notification of next of kin.

It was not known immediately where the plane was based or where it had been flying at the time of the crash. Stead Air Force Base, near Reno, said it could not confirm immediately reports that the craft took off earlier in the day from that base.

## Klamath County Okays Road Plan

The Klamath county court yesterday approved construction of a secondary federal highway between Lake of the Woods and McAllister Springs, according to United Press and the Klamath Falls Herald and News.

The proposal was approved by the Jackson county court earlier this week.

According to United Press, the state highway commission solicited approval by both county courts on the proposed highway which would form a connecting link between Medford and Klamath Falls. The 14-mile road would be constructed with federal government paying 60 per cent and the state 40 per cent of the cost.

According to the Herald and News, the Klamath county court approved the proposal, "particularly if the final three or four miles at the Klamath end can be relocated to by-pass the Lakeshore drive."

## Jury Verdict Favors Defendants in Trial

A federal district court jury found the defendants not liable in a verdict rendered about 4:45 p.m. yesterday, 20 minutes after it took the case.

John C. and Ruth V. Rogers of Del Norte Laundry were the defendants in the fire damage suit brought by Pacific Engine and Machine Works.

The defendants were represented by George W. Mead and Charles S. Crookham, Portland attorneys. Everett Barr, Yreka, and H.B. Collins represented the plaintiff.

Today Judge James Alger Fee is hearing a no-jury court case, John B. Hamacher vs. Hillcrest Orchards. The suit concerns condemnation of land for a right of way.

## Thornton Hits Back At Gov. Patterson

Salem —(U.P.)— Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton struck back today at Gov. Paul L. Patterson for, as he put it, "calling me a liar" in a controversy over recent investigation of Oregon Liquor Control Commission personnel.

Thornton called on the governor yesterday to make available to him all the testimony amassed by Robert Maguire and Howard Bobbitt, Portland attorneys who questioned OLCC personnel at request of the commission and Gov. Patterson.

### Said Evasion of Truth

The governor replied that "the statement of Attorney General Thornton that there is information or reports in the hands of the liquor commission or myself that has not been disclosed is not true."

"Gov. Patterson's statement that he has turned over to me the full contents of the \$4000 Maguire investigation into bribery and payoffs inside the Oregon Liquor Control Commission and publicly calling me a liar for saying otherwise is a bare-faced evasion of the true facts and an insult to the intelligence of the people of Oregon."

Thornton said that contrary to the governor's "official statement, he has not given me the full contents of this eight-months long investigation, and what's more, he knows it."

"What Gov. Patterson gave me (and to the newspapers) was simply a three or four page letter from Mr. Maguire containing Maguire's generalizations and opinions about the organization and operation of the liquor commission," plus a summary of charges against one of the OLCC employees Thornton said.

"I received this dummy report on Feb. 23, 1955, and immediately wrote Gov. Patterson asking for the full contents of the investigation including the sworn testimony and deposition for which the state has already paid.

Thornton said he was "not interested in eye-wash letters" and charged that the "secret report" showed evidence of bribes ranging from \$40 to \$10,000 being solicited by commission employees.

Wants To Examine Testimony

"As the people's attorney," Thornton said, "I wish to examine the sworn testimony of the witnesses interrogated under oath by Maguire before an official court reporter. Mr. Maguire was appointed by the liquor commission as their official agent for this express purpose. According to the records of the audit division of the secretary of state's office, the court reporter has paid the sum of \$857.85 for these stenographic services."

The attorney general concluded "this is the public's business and the public is entitled to a full and complete disclosure of this secret data without further dodging or stalling by any one, including both the governor and the Oregon Liquor Control Commission."

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## Stock Auction Set At 4-H, FFA Fair; Winners Announced

The county 4-H and FFA fair went into its fourth day today with dairy judging, home economics, and a fat stock auction.

Home economics contests and demonstrations continue until 8 p.m. and the fat stock auction is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

Fair schedule for tomorrow is: 9 a.m.—Dairy showmanship; 2:30 p.m.—Sheep shearing contest; 2:30 p.m.—Agricultural demonstrations; 2:30 p.m.—Tractor driving contest; 7:30 p.m.—Style review and special awards program.

The style review and presentation of trophies will end the fair tomorrow evening.

Winners in previous contests include:

Market Hogs, grand champion, David Carter, Gold Hill; reserve champion, Betty Ann Higday, Antelope. Breeding Hogs, senior grand champion, Russell Elmore, Applegate, Junior grand champion, Charles Elmore, Applegate.

Swine, champion showman, Lois Biles, Gold Hill. Sheep, champion showman, Mildred Gail, Gold Hill. Market Lambs, grand champion, Jerry Joy, Bellview; reserve champion, Mildred Gail, Gold Hill. Market Pigs of Three, champion, Grace Gail; reserve champion, Mildred Gail, both of Gold Hill.

Breeding Stock, champions, Carl Skyrman, Central Point; Ursula Bates, Oak Grove; Robert Rosenberg, Valley View; Terry Gail, Gold Hill; Gwen Krouse, Applegate; Annette Drager, Bellview; Lois Biles, Gold Hill; Mike Higday, Antelope; and Frances Krouse, Applegate.

Market Steers, grand champion hereford, David Wolfolk, Antelope; reserve champion Angus, Linda Mallory, Antelope. Breeding Stock, (herefords) grand and junior champion, Patsy Charley, Central Point; senior champion, Ron Anderson, Antelope; (Grade Hereford), junior, senior, and grand champion, Martin Heitkamp, Antelope; (Registered Angus), senior and grand champion, Robert Hayes, Antelope, junior champion, Linda Mallory, Antelope; (Grade Angus), champion Diana Gardner, Antelope; (Registered shorthorns), champion, David Christensen, Applegate; (Registered galloways), junior, senior, and grand champion, Dale Smith, Central Point.

Carole Jo Kabler Wins Golf Championship

Florence, S.C.—(U.P.)—Carole Jo Kabler, Sutherlin, Ore., defeated Joanne Gunderson of Kirkland, Wash., 4 and 3 in the U. S. Golf Association's junior girl's championship finals.

George Putnam Retires

Salem—(U.P.)—George Putnam retired today as wire editor of the Capital Journal, Salem daily newspaper, and will write a column. Before coming to Salem Putnam had published the Medford Mail Tribune.

## Six Passengers Reported Killed As Train Derailed

Coach Ripped Apart, Witnesses Report

Marked Tree, Ark.—(U.P.)—At least five and possibly six persons were killed in the wreck of Frisco's Kansas City-Florida passenger train in the city limits here today.

One of the victims was a four-year-old child. The only victim identified immediately was William Richard, about 56, Bonner Springs, Kan., a dining car steward.

Witnesses at the scene said the bodies of two women were taken from the wreckage. One of the injured died later in a Memphis hospital.

Railroad officials reported that six were killed.

Cars Jump Track

Four cars of the eight-coach passenger train jumped the track when the first of them hit a switch pin which apparently had been jarred loose.

The first of the derailed coaches hit one of two boxcars on a siding, knocking them off the track and demolishing them.

The coach in which the casualties occurred was the first to leave the track and bore the brunt of the impact. The side of the coach was "completely ripped out," one witness said.

However, none of the passenger coaches overturned, and casualties were believed confined to the one coach.

There were three other coaches behind the heavily damaged one which were derailed.

Mitch Odom, newscaster for station KNEA at Jonesboro, said the first coach to jump the track was "torn completely apart."

"It's really a mess here," he said. "They're still digging around for the dead and injured."

Marked Tree Postmaster E. P. Blanton said he helped recover the bodies of one man, two women and a child. He said workers could see the body of another woman in the wreckage, and torches were put into use to cut into the car.

Railroad Complaint Answered in Court

Salem—(U.P.)—Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Heltzel filed an answer in Marion County Circuit Court today to a complaint of the Southern Pacific railroad concerning passenger service to Ashland.

Southern Pacific brought the complaint with respect to the commissioner's authority to suspend abandonment of the company's trains 329 and 330 pending an investigation, hearing and determination by the commissioner.

Heltzel in his answer asks for a decree declaring the relative rights, status and legal relations between the commissioner's office and the railroad in connection with service matters, and declaring that the commissioner's suspension order is valid and enforceable.

Washington—(U.P.)—Assistant Surgeon General David E. Price predicts that in the not too distant future polio will be no more dangerous than the once dreaded diseases of smallpox and diphtheria.

Mercy Flights Acquires Two Large Twin-Engine Planes

planes ready for service. One was flown here last night from Ogden, Utah, by George Milligan, chairman of Mercy Flights and chief pilot for the unique service. The other plane arrived this morning after stopping overnight at Reno, Nev. It was piloted by Bill Brooks, one of a half-dozen volunteer pilots who fly Mercy planes for no reimbursement other than expenses. Brooks was accompanied by Jerome Senter, a former Air Force crew chief, who assisted in readying the planes for flight.

## Communists Agree To Discuss Return Of Downed Airmen

Munsan, Korea —(U.P.)—The Communists today agreed to a request of the U.N. Military Command for an "urgent" face to face meeting to discuss the return of two American Air Force officers, shot down by the Reds last Wednesday.

The meeting will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday (PST).

U. S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Harlan C. Parks, senior U.N. member of the commission, had called an earlier meeting.

He said the Reds had replied that Saturday was the "earliest time" they could arrange to meet him.

Survival Not Indicated

Up to now the Communists who shot down the plane over the neutral, demilitarized zone of Korea, have given no indication whether or not the two Air Force officers survived the crash of their small training plane.

Parks said he "will demand that the Communists return the pilot and the passenger" of the small propeller-driven T6 training plane shot down Wednesday by "trigger happy" Communist gunners in a new example of Communist "wanton barbarism."

Incident Not Mentioned

The U. S. Air Force said it still did not know whether the two men aboard, a captain and a lieutenant were alive. The plane crashed in North Korea when shot down over the demilitarized zone which separates North and South Korea.

The Communist radio has not mentioned the incident or given any indication whether the two Americans survived.

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The new planes, it is hoped by officers of the organization, will mean fewer delays due to weather when a patient must be transported to a medical center, and when every minute could be the difference between

life or death. They are large aircraft, with places for pilot and co-pilot, and for five passengers. Before being put in service, probably in about a week, they will be equipped for stretcher operation. The planes are powered by two 450-horsepower engines, and the speed and other performance characteristics of the planes is considerably more than either of the other aircraft now operated by the non-profit organization.

Mercy Flights, Inc., was formed in the fall and winter of 1949 when Milligan, impressed by the death of a prominent Medford man while en route to Portland by ground ambulance, conceived the idea of a non-profit air ambulance service. A fund-raising drive was started

in September of that year, and by December, some \$3,000 had been raised for the purchase of the first aircraft, a twin-engine Cessna. It was placed in service in January of 1950.

The corporation, chartered as a non-profit organization under the laws of Oregon, has always insisted on the most stringent safety precautions. All pilots are thoroughly trained and "checked out" in the aircraft before they are permitted to fly. Strict flight rules are observed, and the planes are serviced and maintained in top condition at all times.

It is planned to sell the present twin-engine Cessna, and to keep both the Beechcraft and Stinson airplanes in constant readiness for service to the peo-

ple of Jackson county first, and then to the rest of the area. It is also hoped that through the acquisition of the two larger planes, more one-time military pilots of the area will be attracted to the possibilities of flying for Mercy Flights.

For the time being, the planes are technically the property of the Rogue Valley Memorial (Community) hospital, which was of assistance in procuring them from the government. Mercy Flights will lease them from the hospital for \$1 per year, and will be fully responsible for them.

Milligan said today that "Congressman Harris Ellsworth was of great help in seeing that the paperwork necessary with four different governmental agencies was processed promptly.

## Gunman, Outwitted By Hostage, Seized By Chicago Police

Chicago —(U.P.)— Captured gunman Richard Carpenter, outwitted by the desperate father of a family he held hostage for 24 hours, today confessed killing one policeman and wounding another in one of Chicago's greatest one-man crime waves.

Carpenter, a burly 26-year-old, broke down a few hours after a police barrage of machine gun bullets and tear gas flushed him from a bullet-riddled West Side apartment.

He had been tricked by Leonard Powell, whose home he had turned into a hideout to escape a city-wide manhunt. Powell slipped out of his apartment on a pretext and rushed to a telephone to alert police that the

killer was holding him hostage with his wife and two children. Carpenter Breaks Down

Carpenter fell on his knees "and begged like a baby not to be shot" when he was captured. At first he denied the shooting, but broke down under hours of police grilling.

Assistant State's Attorney Frank Wehlan said early today that Carpenter confessed killing Detective William Murphy, 34, on a subway station platform Monday night. He also admitted critically wounding rookie policeman Clarence Kerr, 26, in a gun duel at a movie theater Wednesday night.

Powell, a 35-year-old truck driver, persuaded Carpenter to let his wife take their children, Bobby, 7, and Dians, 3, for a walk. Otherwise, he said, neighbors might get suspicious.

Then, talking fast and convincingly, Powell said he always visited his grandfather down the street. Carpenter trusted Powell and let him go. Minutes later, Powell was at a telephone with the words "A woman and two children are being held at bay at 2040 Potomac."

Protected from Mob

Policemen, who would have welcomed a chance to shoot it out with Carpenter, found themselves forced to protect him from a mob of about 1,000 persons outside the Potomac ave. apartment houses.

As Carpenter was led from the building there were shouts of "Kill him! Kill him!" A man tried to grab a policeman's gun and was rebuffed with a blow from a gun butt.

Repair of EPID Flume Completed by Crews

Eagle Point — Irrigation of some 5,500 acres of land in the Eagle Point Irrigation district was scheduled to resume tomorrow following repairs made in a 60-foot break near a flume intake near Butte Falls.

Repairs in the break of the 600-foot flume were completed by district employees late yesterday, and ditches were being filled today. The flume broke about noon Monday from pressure of water it carried.

The entire area served by the district was affected because the break was in a main line. Several farmers and ranchers depend on the irrigation water.

Upchurch Bound Over To County Grand Jury

Glenn Hedges Upchurch, 31, Los Angeles, Calif., waived counsel and preliminary hearing in district court yesterday and was bound over to grand jury on \$1,500 bail. He is charged with obtaining money by false pretenses.

Upchurch was extradited from San Jose, Calif., where he was arrested recently.