

# Body Fragments of Atlantic Plane Crash Victims Brought Into New York

## 100 Pounds of Remains Taken To Bellevue Hospital

New York—(U.P.)—A seagoing Coast Guard tug steamed in from the Atlantic ocean today with its grim cargo—the body fragments of some of the 74 victims of Wednesday's crash of a Venezuelan airliner.

The tug Tamora's grisly haul included about 100 pounds of body fragments and 100 pounds of debris.

The remains were transferred by a hearse to New York's Bellevue hospital where identification was declared to be virtually impossible.

Cause of the crash, the worst in the history of regularly scheduled airline service, was undetermined.

Full Report Promised

Venezuelan aviation authorities said they will investigate the crash "to the last detail."

The Linea Aeropostal Venezolana (LAV) Super Constellation, attempting to return to New York's Idlewild airport with a runaway engine, caught fire, burst into flames and plummeted 9,000 feet into the ocean.

None of the 64 passengers nor 10 crew members survived. Twenty Americans were numbered among the dead, which included a large number of Venezuelan school children.

The airliner crashed into calm seas at 1:32 a.m. EDT Wednesday about 35 miles east of the New Jersey coast, well out of American territorial waters and jurisdiction.

CAB Compiling Evidence

The Civil Aeronautics Board began, however, to collect evidence for an investigation, provisionally pending a request from the Venezuelan government.

The Venezuelan government, which operated the airline, indicated it would welcome any help from U.S. authorities.

Capt. Jose Mendoza, LAV's chief of international operations, left for New York Wednesday night aboard a Venezuelan airliner to take part in his government's investigation. Two Venezuelan communications ministry inspectors were also en route to New York to assist in the investigation into the causes of the crash.

Possible Cause Suggested

Investigation by U.S. experts indicated that the firing of the gasoline by one of the plane's still functioning engines may have caused the crash.

The experts said that fuel dumping does not ordinarily entail danger. The hazard could be great, however, that highly inflammable gasoline could be ignited if an engine or some other part of the plane was on fire.

Parts of eight bodies and about 100 pounds of body fragments have so far been recovered by Coast Guard boats assisted by planes. Searchers said they saw evidence of sharks.

## Republicans Split Over Quick Announcement of Ike's Political Plans

Washington—(U.P.)—Republicans today were split over whether President Eisenhower should give a quick public reaffirmation of his earlier announcement that he will run for a second term.

GOP leaders believe almost unanimously that Mr. Eisenhower will seek reelection despite his illness. But they are divided on how soon he should restate his intention.

Some Republicans, including members of Congress, were said to be in "no hurry" for the President to make an early statement. They see no reason for him to issue a statement while he is in the hospital—where he will be at least another week, and probably longer.

Other Republicans, however, were reported uneasy over mounting talk questioning the availability of the President for the GOP nomination.

The "say it soon" group would

like a presidential declaration during a meeting here Friday of Republicans slated to plan arrangements for the party's Aug. 20 convention in San Francisco. But the White House said no such declaration would be sent to the Friday meeting.

White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty Wednesday

put a "crystal ball" label on a report that a White House official expects Mr. Eisenhower to make a public statement on his second term intentions soon after he leaves Walter Reed hospital. This official reported some uneasiness in Republican ranks and predicted that the President's statement would be issued

sometime between July 4-15.

Hagerty insisted that "nobody" had discussed politics with the President since he became ill early on the morning

of June 8. But newsmen noted that Hagerty had not ruled out a presidential statement before the middle of July.



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