

Water Used To Fight Big New York Blaze Cripples Subways

New York—(U.P.)—Thousands of subway commuters took alternate routes to reach their jobs in Lower Manhattan today where a 23-hour fire destroyed the old John Wanamaker department store and crippled underground transportation.

Tons of water poured into the empty store on Lower Broadway flooded two East Side arteries of the city's subway system. The 94-year-old building was gutted by the blaze.

Twenty of the 525 firemen who fought the blaze were hospitalized. Another 196 were treated at the scene for smoke poisoning, cuts and abrasions.

Express Service Cut

Torrents of water poured by firemen onto the blazing north end of the empty store building on lower Broadway cascaded into two arteries of the city's

subway system. The flooded sections of the Interboro Rapid Transit System and the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit System cut off express service south of Grand Central Terminal and all service northward from Brooklyn Bridge on Manhattan's East Side.

The cast iron walls of the 94-year-old building threatened to collapse on some 525 firemen who fought flames, smoke and exhaustion before the fire was brought under control.

Surface traffic in the area was rerouted because of the danger of street collapse and the jam caused by some 55 pieces of fire-fighting equipment and a tangle of hoses.

Other Transportation Used

Thousands of subway riders using the lines to reach jobs between the two points were forced to use buses, taxis or West Side subways.

Authorities feared some subway lines might be out of service for as much as 30 days.

The fire had become an inferno by the time it was discovered at 5:45 p.m. (EDT) Saturday. Officials believed it was started by acetylene torch sparks some time Friday in basement debris left by wreckers who had started to demolish the five-story landmark.

The mercantile palace was built in 1862 on Broadway's then fashionable "Ladies Mile." The Wanamakers took it over in 1896 and abandoned it in 1954 to move to the suburbs.

Manpower Talks 'Ahead of Facts'

Washington—(U.P.)—Air Force Secretary Donald A. Quarles said Sunday that reports of major military manpower cuts being planned by the administration are "way ahead of the facts."

Quarles conceded that a study of U. S. military manpower is in progress. He said it could involve "far-reaching changes" in the level of American armed forces. But he said this does not mean necessarily that the proposed changes will be accepted and put into effect by the Defense Department.

Quarles was asked if a reported dispute among top military leaders on manpower size would be referred to President Eisenhower. He did not answer directly, but said that there was no doubt that the final manpower plans would be presented to the President when they are "worked up."

The air secretary said military leaders "always" are studying the question of force levels. He said the "fact that they are considering different possibilities has been put completely out of focus."

Quarles made the statements to the United Press Sunday as he left for London. He will confer with British officials today and Tuesday and then go to Paris to confer with Gen. Lauris E. Norstad, new commander of the North Atlantic Treaty forces, July 19-22.

Two Escape Unhurt In Crash of Plane

Oregon City—(U.P.)—Two Los Angeles men escaped unhurt Saturday night when their small private plane crash landed in a field bordering the Clackamas rifle range near Clackamas. Both men were executives of the Messerschmidt motor agency in Los Angeles.

Pilot of the craft, Richard Ennes, brought the plane down in an open field after being unable to locate a landing field his maps indicated should be in the area.

His passenger, Roy Bailey, said, "We couldn't find an airfield. They showed on our map, but we couldn't find any light. We saw this open field and landed but there was a hole in the ground. We tore off a wheel, busted the prop and went sailing down the field about 90 miles an hour."

Quotes From the News

By UNITED PRESS

London—Marilyn Monroe on the English countryside: "You see, I was brought up in the town so I love the country. The birds and the bees and all that sort of thing."

Washington—Gen. Nathan F. Twining on the Russian position in the airpower race: "They are moving ahead on a wide front in the Soviet Union. They're out to build the greatest industrial country in the world."

Orlando, Fla.—The Rev. James Sibole, Baptist minister, on his decision to have his four-year old son undergo an eye operation which will leave him totally blind but save his life: "But what do you tell a four-year-old at a time like this? What would you tell yours?"

New York—V. K. Krishna Menon, India's roving ambassador, denying that American or Russian aid could buy his country's allegiance: "We do not receive aid from the Soviet Union. If aid came from the Soviet Union, we would not more be conditioned by it than by aid from the U.S. It cannot buy our allegiance."

Sodus, N.Y.—Secretary of State John Foster Dulles comparing his changes in foreign policy with sailing a boat: "You and I know that when we set ourselves an objective we have to find out how to get there in spite of the winds against us. This calls for a lot of tacking."

Man, Mad at World, Smashes Showroom

Hollywood—(U.P.)—Unemployed painter Clifford Frazer, 31, said he drove his car through the big window of an auto show room because he was "mad at the world."

Frazer said he was musing about being unable to get work yesterday when he drove past the show room. The sight of the new cars inside was too much for him, he said, and he swerved his auto through the window, hitting one of the new cars and causing some \$3,000 damage.

Miss Universe Schedule Starts

Long Beach, Calif.—(U.P.)—Tours of a major Hollywood motion picture studio and rehearsals were planned today for 74 beauties competing for the world's most beautiful woman title in the Miss Universe contest.

The group will meet stars on the Universal-International lot and watch the filming of movie scenes before coming back to the municipal auditorium here to rehearse for the opening of the Miss United States judging tomorrow.

Yesterday, the beauty queens donned bathing suits and paraded before a huge crowd lined along a two-mile course near the ocean. Each contestant rode an individual float pulled by a serviceman.

Miss Universe of 1955, Hillevi Rombin of Sweden, led the parade of 18 bands, and 20 major floats. The crowd was estimated at between 500,000 and 800,000.

Fifteen finalists of the Miss U.S.A. title will be chosen from a group of 42 domestic lovelies tomorrow. America's representatives will be selected Wednesday to compete with the entrants from foreign nations.

Miss Universe will be chosen Friday.

Red China Expected To Free 11 Americans

Washington—(U.P.)—U. S. officials believe that Red China, in order to impress the United Nations, may free the 11 Americans it still holds prisoner before next November's meeting of the UN General assembly.

These officials said Red China may make such a move as part of its continuing efforts to gain admission to the United Nations. U. S. opposition, which shows no sign of relenting, has been the major block keeping Red China out of the international organization.

The officials noted that Americans held prisoner by the Communist Chinese have been gaining freedom gradually since U.S. talks with a Peiping representative began at Geneva last August. At that time, 19 Americans

were held in jail or under house arrest in China.

Eleven Americans now remain behind the Bamboo Curtain.

Bavaria Demands US Army Action To Halt Clashes

Nuernberg, Germany—(U.P.)—Bavarian government heads called a special session today to demand U. S. Army action to halt clashes between American soldiers and German civilians. Two Germans were killed and a third hospitalized over the week end.

Bavarian State President Wilhelm Hoegner summoned the Council of Ministers to Munich. "Words do not help," he said. "Serious action must be taken now by U. S. Army authorities or real trouble will start."

Two teenage German girls were raped the previous week end.

Army Man Held

Army spokesmen said today Pfc. Alexander Dimichele, 20, Philadelphia, is being held for questioning in the death of 20-year-old Heinz Weyrauch. Weyrauch died in a Munich hospital Sunday night. Police said he was beaten and kicked by a drunken U. S. soldier on a street corner Saturday night.

A second member of the 11th Airborne Division, Pfc. Robert O. Bairn, 19, of Michigan, was being questioned in Berchtesgaden about an attack Saturday night on Kurt Kornbacher, 44, a war amputee, German police said.

Two Others Held

Military police were holding two other soldiers, whom they did not identify, in connection with the death of Guenther Mueller, 17, who died of a fractured skull Saturday night after being beaten with a beer bottle in a tavern brawl.

The City Council of Bamberg demanded the evacuation of all American bases in the area following the rape of a 15-year-old girl last Monday. Seven soldiers were charged with the crime.

Four other American soldiers are being held in connection

Prayer for Guidance Offered at Bomb Site

Trinity Site, N.M.—(U.P.)—Representatives of three faiths prayed yesterday for the divine guidance of mankind in the atomic age. They gathered at the spot on the barren desert mesa where 11 years ago today the first nuclear weapon was exploded.

Five hundred persons attended the brief religious services conducted by a Catholic priest, an Army Protestant chaplain and a rabbi.

They were the first members of the public ever admitted to the once closely-guarded location on the vast White Sands Proving ground where today the armed services conduct their rocket tests.

The religious observance was sponsored by civic groups of Alamogordo, N.M., 70 miles south, and nearby Tularosa. The spot is 20 miles from a main north-south highway and plans are being made to set it aside as a national monument.

Epidemic of Polio Spreads in Chicago

Chicago—(U.P.)—Eighteen new cases of polio were reported in Chicago during the week end in an outbreak which has prompted health officials to administer emergency Salk vaccine shots.

The Board of Health reported 18 new cases and one death in the 48-hour period ending midnight Sunday. The death was that of a two-year-old Negro boy.

The new cases brought the years total to 169 cases and four deaths, compared with 34 cases and two deaths during the corresponding period last year.

with a similar assault on an 18-year-old girl near here.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

Gismo Sandwich May Win Trip to Europe

San Pedro, Calif.—(U.P.)—Chef Jack Verner is hoping to get a European vacation out of his Gismo sandwich, one of 20 finalist entries in the National Sandwich Contest sponsored by the National Restaurant Association.

His creation: Open halves of a hamburger bun, garnished with Canadian bacon, melted nippy cheese, chopped top sirloin beef patty, romaine lettuce, sliced avocado and a platter of Parisian french fries.

Parts of the interior of Alaska have temperature ranges of 170 degrees Fahrenheit—from 100 degrees in summer to minus 70 in winter.

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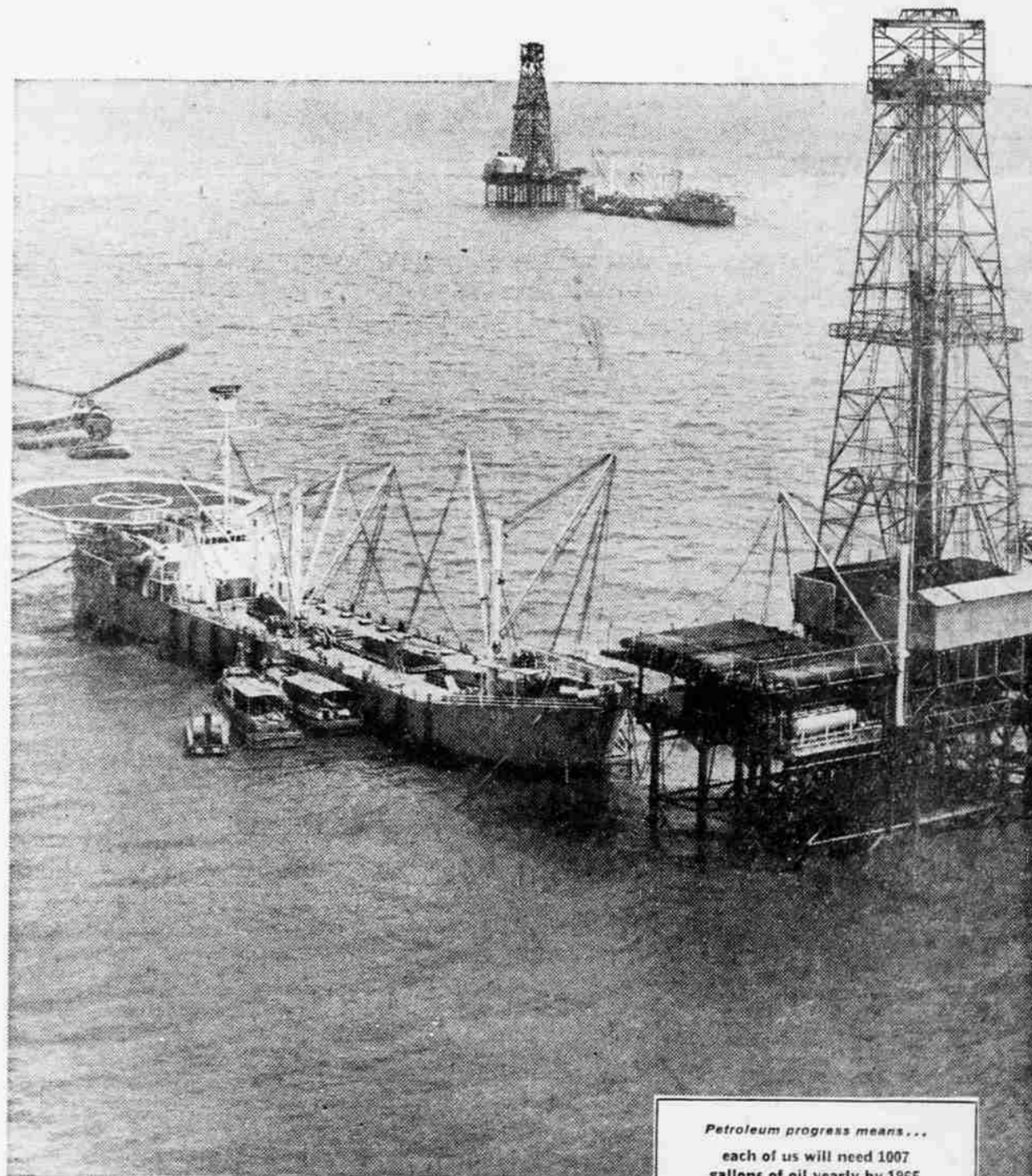
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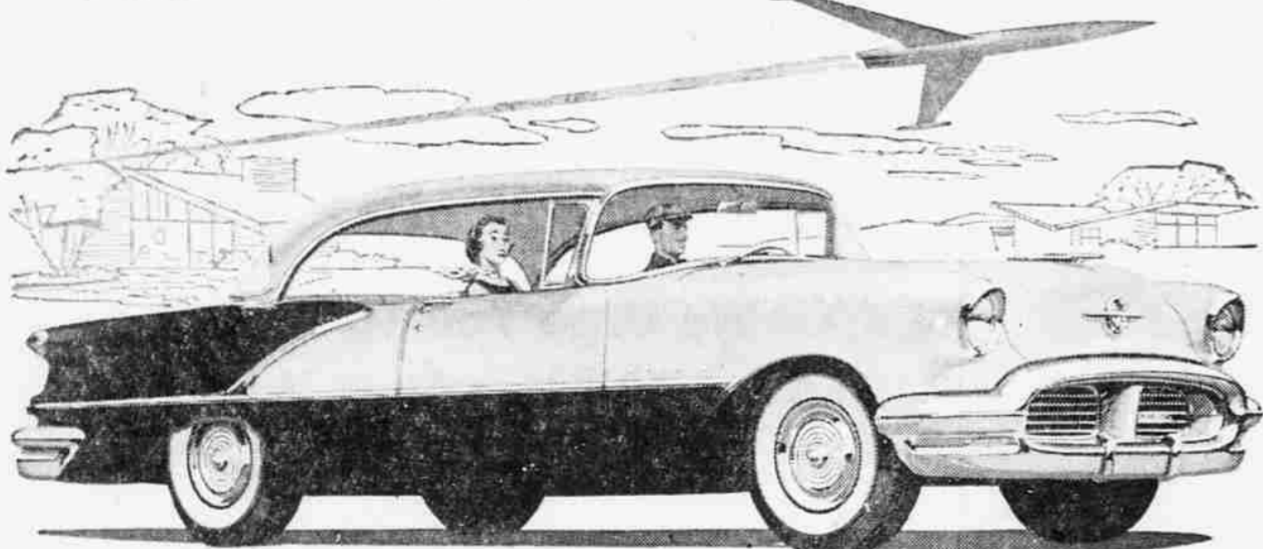
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