

Refinery Explosion Fatal To Nine in Texas

Twin Satellites Fail To Attain Desired Orbit

Washington — (UPI) — Twin satellites launched from Cape Canaveral Tuesday night failed to separate or reach the desired orbit, scientists said today. But they described the experiment as a "qualified success."

The satellites are not only still together but apparently are still joined to the last stage of the launching rocket. Failure to separate from the rocket would have prevented separation of the satellites.

A single rocket sent up a 250-pound Transit IIB satellite topped by a 54-pound big-back sphere, named Lofti. Dr. Richard B. Kershner, director of space research for

the John Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory, said signals are being received from both of the joined satellites.

He added that the Navy's program for achieving an operational system of four navigation satellites by 1962 had not been set back by this experiment.

Advanced Model

Transit IIB is the advanced test model of a system of artificial "radio stars" which next year should provide ocean-going vessels with a means for highly accurate navigation in all kinds of weather.

Lofti was designed to study the transmission of very low frequency radio signals which could be used for reliable communications by submerged submarines.

The two satellites were sent up by a two-stage Thor-Abel-Star booster. They were to have gone into comparatively tight orbits around the equator, but failed to do so.

The Transit navigational satellite already has transmitted messages in code which were fed into it before the launching, officials said at a news conference here.

Lofti Signals Received
Kershner said he had been advised by the Naval Research Laboratory that signals have also been received from the piggyback Lofti satellite.

He added, however, that many objectives set out in the launching will not be realized.

This is because of the malfunction which prevented the two satellites from separating.

As a result, an orbit was produced which varies from 617 to 104 miles above the earth instead of the 500 mile circular orbit that had been planned.

Farmers File Damage Suits

Two farmers in the Table Rock rd. area have filed two damage suits in Jackson county circuit court as a result of an 1,100-acre fire last Aug. 9 in the Table Rock rd. area.

Albert Straus and Frank Straus and the Grange Mutual Insurance company are seeking \$79,339.10 in one suit, and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Straus and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Straus and the insurance company are seeking \$48,058 in the second suit.

Both are filed against Ernest King and Louis Thelen through the state highway commission which employs the two men.

The suits arise from the fire which the state forest patrolmen attributed to a spark from a state highway department tractor. They said the equipment was crushing rock in a ditch along the highway.

Burned on the Albert and Frank Straus ranch were a large machine shed, a hay and bedding barn for cattle, and several smaller structures. Also destroyed were a hay barn on the Charles Hutchinson place and a storage shed full of hay, and a former hog house on the C. Virgil Strong-Duel ranch. The Strauses had hay stored in the Hutchinson barn.

The Straus brothers and the insurance company charge that King and Thelen were careless, reckless and negligent in allowing the tractor to be operated without equipping it with spark arresters, in failing to extinguish or control the fire, failing to provide means of protection from or to prevent starting fires by friction.

At one point Marr exploded, saying "don't browbeat me!"

Flushing with anger, Pearson declared that he wasn't, and ordered Marr to "stick to the facts."

"Let's Move It, Buster"

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WRECK VICTIM ASSISTED—One of the 43 passengers injured in the derailment of the Northern Pacific Main-streeter passenger train near Buffalo, N.D., is assisted from

the doorway of a wrecked car. Eleven of the 13 cars left the tracks and toppled into a ditch. Cause of the accident was not immediately known. (UPI Telephoto)

Escaped Mental Patient Sought In Glide Area

Roseburg — (UPI) — Patrols were posted on roads in the Glide area east of here today in a search for an escaped mental patient wanted for wounding a man Tuesday.

Object of the search was Steve Solovich, about 50, a World War II Army guerrilla fighter who has walked away from the Veterans hospital here three times in the past five years.

Watson Talcott of Glide, who has been deputized to help search for Solovich, was wounded in the shoulder Tuesday by a shot fired as a posse closed in on an area where Solovich was believed to be. Talcott was in good condition.

Has Been Congenial
Solovich had not been regarded as dangerous until after his last escape in December of 1959. He was described as congenial and had talked at times to log truck drivers and other persons in the area.

The case recalled that of George Baker Dunkin, 67, who was the object of a long search in Southern Oregon forest country for shooting state policeman Phil Lownd in 1952. Dunkin was arrested in September of that year by Russell E. Maw, who had tracked him through hills in northern Jackson county, into Josephine county and even into California.

Dunkin was sent to state prison for life that September. He is still in prison.

Wrong Address Noted In Mail Tribune Story

Jack L. Moad, 1401 West Main st., Medford, was one of the two men fined in district court on charges of illegal garbage dumping earlier this month.

Yesterday's story in the Mail Tribune incorrectly printed Moad's address as Sterling Creek rd. The Mail Tribune regrets any embarrassment caused a resident of Sterling Creek rd. with a similar name.

Herons Herald Spring for Hornbrook; A Kite Is Seen

By KATHERINE CHAPMAN
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Hornbrook — Capistrano — and Medford — may have their swallows to herald the return of spring, but Hornbrook's harbingers are of a much more spectacular variety. They are the great blue herons.

For many years now these ungainly, yet majestically beautiful, birds have returned each spring to the very tops of the tall pines in the cemetery. Here a great colony of them nest and raise their families.

Since the arrival of the forerunner, this year on Jan. 30, about 12 have returned to date. They are busy relining their crude nests of twigs, built several generations ago by their ancestors,

and simply remodeled and rearranged each year to suit their fancy.

Last year, the colony numbered 32 of the adult birds.

Following soon after the herons, a flock of tiny yellow finches paused here temporarily on their way to — who knows where? And the sunny mornings last week brought out a flock of fat robins all singing like mad and joining with the meadowlarks in an ode to spring. The freshly-plowed and newly-seeded fields are showing a faint shadow of green.

And last week a white kite flew in the blue, with a small boy on the other end. Ah, spring!

Students To Work With Government Officials in Area

Students from seven area high schools will work with Medford and Jackson county officials tomorrow in the Medford Elks sponsored Student Government Day.

Students from Medford and St. Mary's High schools will be sworn in for city offices at 8:30 a.m., and students from Prospect, Phoenix, Eagle

Point, Crater High, and Butte Falls High schools will be sworn in for county offices in the court house.

Highlighting the day's activities will be a banquet at Hedrick Junior High school cafeteria at which Dr. Kenneth Baker, vice president of California-Oregon Television, will speak.

This is the 13th year the Medford Elks have sponsored the program in cooperation with the Medford city government, and the eighth year with the county government.

Schools participating are in the Elks club jurisdictional area.

Study of Government
Student Government Day is scheduled to coincide with the study of government in the participating schools, and gives students practical experience in nominating, campaigning and electing officers for county and city offices.

General chairman of the program is Marvin Trautman of the Medford Elks lodge. Coordinating the program are Medford Mayor John Snider, County Judge Earl Miller, County School Superintendent Alf B. Mekvold, and Elliott Becken, assistant superintendent of Medford schools.

Among the major student office holders are Dan Campbell, Medford mayor; Dixie McConochie, county judge; Butte Falls, Gary Barber, county commissioner; Crater High, Bill Pfeiffer, county commissioner; Eagle Point High, and Mike Palm, Phoenix, and Dennis Fisher, Crater High, circuit court judges.

Student observers this year are Jill DuCroz and Hisayuki (Don) Kondo, foreign students attending Medford High school.

Some Offices Closed For Holiday Today

County, state, and federal offices were closed today in observance of George Washington's birthday. Although city offices were open, it was a holiday for parking meters in the city.

No mail delivery was made since the day is a legal holiday, but school students throughout the county attended classes as usual.

The majority of Medford's stores observed the day by having special Washington Day sales.

Our Skies Tonight

Sunset today 5:52 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 6:37 a.m.
Moonset tomorrow 2:09 a.m.
Full moon March 2

PROMINENT STAR
Altair, near the Moon.

VISIBLE PLANETS
Venus, low in west 8:15 p.m.
Mars, high in south 8:07 p.m.
Jupiter and Saturn, rise 5:36 a.m.

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Men Working On Construction Victims of Fire

Newsman Shut Out Of Refinery Area

Borger, Tex. — (UPI) — A violent explosion shook the Phillips Petroleum Co. refinery today and the company announced that the fire which followed the blast killed nine workers and injured another worker.

Phillips officials shut newsmen out of the refinery grounds, four miles from Borger, the company's headquarters at Bartlesville, Okla., finally issued the following statement:

"The Phillips Petroleum Co. verified today that at 9:10 a.m. an explosion and fire occurred at a fractionating unit in the company's Borger, Tex., refinery.

Nine construction employees working at the unit were fatally burned and one construction employee was injured. No Phillips employees were injured. The names of those dead are being withheld by the construction company pending notification of the next of kin.

"The fire was under control within minutes after its occurrence. The cause of the explosion at this time is unknown. The extent of damage to the equipment has not yet been determined."

The dead and the injured man all worked for the Bowman-Chase Construction Co. of Borger.

Morgue in Hospital
Sheriff Hugh Anderson set up a morgue in the basement of North Plains hospital. He called in dentists to help identify the victims because they were so badly burned.

Borger is in the Texas Panhandle, 50 miles northeast of Amarillo.

"... People in town heard the explosion," Borger Police Desk Sgt. May Collier said. "They thought at first it was a sonic boom."

Portland Firm Low Bidder on Building

James S. Hickey company of Portland submitted an apparent low bid of \$117,059 Tuesday for construction of a new addition to the Medford offices of the Pacific Telephone Northwest company.

Jack Creager, local manager of the company, said construction is planned to start in mid-March, and should be completed later this year.

Included will be a basement, first floor and second floor addition to the company's existing building on North Central ave. The new addition will match the existing structure in appearance, Creager said.

Other bidders on the project were the Ausland Construction company of Eugene, \$128,478; and the H. Barnhart Construction company of Medford, \$133,425.

The hospital will have 125 rooms and 20,845 square feet of floor space, Flynn said. Flynn said the hospital will operate with about 34 or 35 beds. "We could operate at 100 beds if we needed to," he pointed out.

A shortage of funds has made changes necessary, Flynn said. Originally two surgery rooms were planned with one recovery room. This has been cut down to one surgery room and no recovery room, he commented.

The planned additional surgery room has been turned into a storeroom, as has the recovery room, according to Flynn.

"We just don't have the money to equip the rooms at the present time," he said. It will be possible to convert the

Major Canal Work in TID Nearly Completed

Talent — Three of the four major canals in the Talent Irrigation District distribution system should be finished by April 15, according to Walter Hoffmann, TID secretary-manager.

Bids for the fourth canal in the system will be opened March 7, Hoffmann said. This west canal will be enlarged and extended, bringing irrigation to about 800 additional acres of land in the Dark Hollow-Griffin Creek area, he said.

Portland — (UPI) — Jack B. Lively, Springfield, Tuesday was reelected president of Oregon United Appeal.

More Political Prisoners Said Slain in Congo

United Nations, N.Y. — (UPI) — Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld summoned his advisory committee on the Congo back for another meeting today to decide how to use the broad new powers voted him by the Security Council.

Highly placed sources outside the committee said they doubted Hammarskjöld would move too rapidly on his authorization to use force if necessary to restore Congo peace.

Elisabethville, Katanga The Congo — (UPI) — The United Nations command said today it had reports that 16 political prisoners were shot in Stanleyville Monday in reprisal for the slayings of former Premier Patrice Lumumba and several followers.

Report Unconfirmed
But a UN spokesman said that while he was "fearful for the fate" of the prisoners, he could not confirm the reports that they had been killed by Lumumbists at Stanleyville's Camp Ketele.

The reports said the victims included 10 parliamentarians and six army officers, allegedly liquidated in reprisal for the execution of seven Lumumba supporters on

the order of South Kasal tribal chiefs.

Katanga's President Moise Tshombe said meanwhile that his troops will not attack UN forces, but he warned people in his "independent" province to be "prepared for all eventualities."

No Special Action
The UN spokesman said the organization had not taken any special action following Tshombe's proclamation of a general mobilization Tuesday. Tshombe appeared to have moderated his position considerably since Tuesday, when he denounced the Security Council's latest Congo resolution as a "declaration of war" on Katanga and ordered "general mobilization."

Ashland Hospital Construction About One-Third Complete

Ashland — Construction of the new Ashland Community hospital is about one-third completed, according to Robert Flynn, hospital administrator. Flynn spoke at the Tuesday noon luncheon of the Ashland Chamber of Commerce.

Total cost of the hospital will be \$514,134 when completed, Flynn said. This includes a \$375,898 bid for construction and installation of some equipment. New equipment will cost \$61,796, Flynn said. "We are fortunate in being able to take over some basic equipment from the present hospital," Flynn indicated. Cost of architects fees, land and miscellaneous items was \$76,000, he said.

Money for the hospital is coming from a \$350,000 city bond issue, \$157,153 from the federal government and a \$10,000 gift from a private estate, Flynn said. There will be a \$3,000 increment, he commented.

The hospital will have 125 rooms and 20,845 square feet of floor space, Flynn said. Flynn said the hospital will operate with about 34 or 35 beds. "We could operate at 100 beds if we needed to," he pointed out.

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GOING OUR WAY?—This group of new stewardesses have just graduated from American Airlines Stewardess College at Fort Worth, Tex. They have their new wings, have been assigned to their new bases and are ready to start flying. But there is one problem. Due to the flight engineers' strike, the girls have no transportation to their new jobs. They will have to stay at the college on a no paycheck basis until the strike is settled and they can start their new careers. (UPI Telephoto)