

COAL MINE

EXPLOSION TRAPS 37

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Aumsville Coed Dies in Dorm Fire

Another Girl Also Killed as Building Guffed

Firemen Search Ruins for Bodies

Central, S.C. — (UPI) — Two freshman girls, one who reportedly re-entered a burning dormitory, were believed killed today when flames swept through a 38-room building on the campus of Central Wesleyan Methodist College.

The girls' bodies had not been found early today. They were Myrna Stewart, 18, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Stewart, Doraville, Ga., and Crystal Bennett, 19, daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. Lester Bennett, Aumsville, Ore.

Returned to Building

Firemen today probed the ruins of the three-story McDonald Hall women's dormitory for the bodies. Students huddling in the lobby of the men's living quarters said Miss Stewart left the building, then returned.

"When the fire first broke out," said Dean of Students Dr. Paul Wood, "you could go in and out. She left the building, then went back in. . . . No one knows why. She must have been overcome by smoke. I guess both were."

There were 59 persons in the building, including 56 students and three counselors. All escaped without injury and fled to the men's dorm, where a head count was taken.

It did not take long to find out that two of their fellow students were missing. Some knelt and prayed for their safety.

The fire was discovered by Carolyn Matern, who smelled smoke early today and opened her closet door. The flames leaped out. She fled down the third floor hall, telling down the room and running downstairs to spread the alarm. There was no fire box on the top floor.

The two girls who apparently died in the blaze lived without roommates in quarters near where the fire was first reported at 2 a.m. (EST).

The blaze spread through the top floor and down into the entire building. Later, when firemen began the mopping-up, only two walls and a portion of the first floor remained. The roof had caved in, and both major walls had collapsed.

Firemen Respond To Elevator Blaze

Central Point—Fire of undetermined cause broke out in the Grange Co-op elevator here last night, but damage was reported as "minor."

Three Central Point Fire department trucks responded to the 7:38 p.m. alarm, according to Fire Chief Don Turner. The automatic control in the elevator pinpointed the location of the fire, in a bin of ground alfalfa.

Approximately one year ago the Grange Co-op was heavily damaged in a fire that destroyed the upper portion of the structure.

Allowable Timber Cut Increased in National Forests

By A. ROBERT SMITH, Mail Tribune

Washington Correspondent — (Special) — Medford area lumbermen who have joined the industry demand for more timber at less cost from the national forests received good news today as Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman announced that the allowable cut of Rogue River National forest has been increased by 50 million board feet.

The amount of timber that can be cut from all Oregon national forests has been increased by 170 million board feet. The cut from California forests was increased by 382

million board feet. Three other states were less fortunate. Allowable cuts in Washington state were reduced by 9 million, in Montana by 4 million and in Idaho by 1 million board feet.

The biggest increase listed for an Oregon forest was Rogue River, with Willamette's 49 million board feet second. Klamath National forest, in California, was increased by 53 million board feet. Shasta-Trinity forest was boosted by 66 million board feet, and the Six Rivers forest on the California coast was increased by 42 million board feet.

The impact of the revisions, then, was to offer lumbermen in the southern Oregon and northern California area the most generous increase in timber supply throughout the five Pacific coast and Northwest states in which commercial logging is a major industry.

The revisions were worked out by the forest service, as directed by President Kennedy last summer following a conference on lumber problems with Sen. Wayne Morse and other congressional Democrats from the Northwest.

Flood Victims To Get Information At Monday Meeting

Eagle Point — A meeting for all persons in the Rogue valley who suffered flood damage last week end has been scheduled for Monday at the Eagle Point grade school gymnasium at 8 p.m.

At the meeting will be representatives of various agencies in a position to aid flood damage victims.

Harry S. Anderson, loan specialist with the Small Business Administration, Portland branch, will be present, as will Eugene Denny of the Farmers Home Administration to discuss aspects of disaster loans.

A representative from the Internal Revenue service will explain how storm damage may be deducted on income tax returns.

Representatives from the Red Cross and the Jackson county court will also be present.

The Eagle Point Grange is sponsoring the event, with Charles C. Hoover as chairman.

All valley residents interested in getting flood control projects on valley streams are invited to attend.

Fog Cripples Air Traffic in State

Portland — Fog crippled air traffic in Western Oregon again today.

The fog extended throughout Western Oregon, hampering auto traffic as well. However, Astoria reported clear conditions.

Seattle's airport was reported open but the fog extended into California and shut down air traffic at San Francisco and Sacramento.

In California, the fog caused a minor ship collision in the Oakland Estuary, and numerous traffic accidents in the San Francisco Bay area.

Land, air and sea traffic was disrupted.

Building Drawings Are Expected Soon

Working drawings and specifications for the new county public health building will be prepared soon, the county court reported this morning.

As soon as these are ready the building proposed for the county fairgrounds south of Medford will be put up for bid.

The court noted that the state board of health has approved that part of the overall plans which include soil tests, title clearance and other information needed before the working drawings are started.

Architect Robert J. Keeney said the specifications and working drawings will take about 2½ months to complete.

Matching funds for the \$144,000 public health center would come from a Hill-Burton allocation. The new building would house offices for administration, sanitation, nursing and family and child guidance.

Vernonia Crash Takes Two Lives

Vernonia, Ore. — (UPI) — An elderly woman and her son-in-law were killed in a one-car accident on State Highway 47 about 10 miles south of here Thursday.

State police identified the victims as Mrs. Laura Van Bearison, 93, and John J. Hammer, 60, both of Portland.

Police said they were passengers in a car driven by Thomas Montefalcone, 78, of Portland. The vehicle went off the highway and struck a tree. Montefalcone suffered minor injuries and was taken to a Portland hospital.

Woman Slightly Hurt In Auto Collision

A Medford woman was slightly injured in a two vehicle collision on Highway 99, just south of Talent yesterday afternoon, state police reported.

A pickup truck, driven by Lewis Vaughn Hunt, 42, of route 1, box 237, Talent, stopped to turn into a driveway when it was struck by a car driven by Bonnie Groot, 18, of 4758 South Pacific highway, Medford, according to police.

Bonnie Groot was treated for lacerations and bruises at the Ashland Community hospital and was released, state police said.



MINERS TRAPPED—A cold rescue worker lifts a piece of heavy equipment during a snowstorm just outside the entrance of Robena No. 3 mine at Carmichaels, Pa., where 37 coal men are trapped in a shaft 500 feet underground. The inset map shows location of the mine. (UPI)

Controversy Flares Between City and Local Flying Firm

An outspoken controversy about conditions at the Medford municipal airport has developed between the manager of Rogue Flying Service and city officials.

The hassle flared into the open at last night's city council meeting when Brian Douglas, manager of Rogue Flying Service, unfolded a list of grievances for which he suggested the city administration was at least partly responsible.

The charges were made as the council considered an ordinance to cancel the lease held at the airport by Rogue Flying Service due to non-payment of rental fees to the city.

City Manager Robert Duff told the council that Rogue Flying Service owes the city \$5,876.46 and despite repeated urgings has failed to make any attempt to arrive at a settlement.

No Profit Douglas admitted owing the sum, but explained his firm was "unfortunately not able to pay it at this time."

He said his company has not made a profit for the last three years.

He charged, however, the continued loss was not due to mismanagement on his part but rather to an "unfortunate situation at the airport which no city representative has ever attempted to correct."

After lengthy discussion, the council voted unanimously to defer action for the present on the lease cancellation proposal. Duff and Airport Manager Gilbert J. Gutjahr were instructed by the council to meet with Douglas to work out some method whereby the sum owed the city would be secured by certain real assets of the firm.

Statement issued Gutjahr today issued a statement in which he accused Douglas of resorting to "half truths, misstatements of facts and distortions" at last night's meeting.

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Skybolt Missile Threatens Chill

Washington — (UPI) — Threatened cancellation of the Skybolt ballistic missile, now under development for the American and British air forces, raised the possibility today of stirring up a domestic controversy and throwing a chill over Anglo-American relations.

The fate of the bomber-launched rocket is certain to be a major issue when Prime Minister Harold Macmillan meets with President Kennedy in the Bahamas Dec. 19 and 20.

The Pentagon, meanwhile, announced today that Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara will leave for Europe Monday night, and expects to see British Defense Minister Peter Thorneycroft in London Tuesday. A spokesman said the two officials undoubtedly will discuss the fate of the Skybolt.

Shovel Ruptures Klamath Gas Line

Klamath Falls — (UPI) — A steam shovel ruptured the main gas line coming into Klamath Falls today and some 2,000 customers were cut off from service.

Students at the Ponderosa grade school were sent home as a precautionary measure. The breakage occurred shortly after 8 a.m.

A spokesman for California Pacific Utilities Co. said it may be afternooon before service was restored. Repairmen from the Southern Oregon district were called in.

Newport — (UPI) — Skippers of the first two commercial crab vessels to make deliveries here predicted a good season today.

Kennedy Praises SAC for Airborne Alert in Crisis

Omaha, Neb. — (UPI) — President Kennedy today praised the Strategic Air Command for achieving a "unique accomplishment in the history of air power" in its continual airborne alert during the Cuban crisis.

The President, touring Western and Midwest missile and atomic bases on the 21st anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, presented a special safety plaque to the commanders of SAC at their Offutt Air Force Base headquarters here.

Strategic Posture Kennedy was also expected to announce that the Minuteman, a new and powerful instant-firing intercontinental ballistic missile, will become an operational part of the nation's defense arsenal next week.

The President, in a long citation, said the airborne alert lasted from Oct. 22 until Nov. 21 and "provided a strategic posture under which every United States force could operate with relative freedom of action."

Details of Flights During the alert, the President revealed, SAC bombers and tankers flew 2,088 sorties requiring 48,532 continuous hours of flight, and airborne alert aircraft flew 20 million miles and transferred approximately 70 million gallons of fuel in 4,078 aerial refuelings.

"It was possible only because of the extraordinary dedication and professional skill demonstrated by the combat crews and support personnel of the Strategic Air Command," Kennedy said.

Kennedy is to visit bases in New Mexico and Nevada before finishing up the week end at the Palm Desert, Calif., home of singer Bing Crosby.

Tito, Khrushchev Hold Final Day of Talks

Moscow — (UPI) — Yugoslav President Tito and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev held their third and final day of talks today in what the official Tass news agency said was "a spirit of sincerity and full mutual understanding."

Blood May Be Donated for Injured Logger During Bloodmobile's Visit

Word has been received by the Red Cross that John Bratton, route 4, box 316, Medford, is undergoing surgery in the Corning hospital in California this week as a result of a logging accident which occurred two weeks ago. He is in need of donors to replace blood which he is receiving.

Bratton, an employee of the John Wheeler Logging company of Medford, was injured Nov. 21 when a crawler tractor ran over him while he was working in the woods. A transfusion given in the ambulance during his trip to the hospital is credited with saving his life.

His injuries included a compound fracture of the left leg, double fracture of both bones of his right leg just above the ankle, a broken pelvis and a severely injured right arm. Surgery being performed this week is to reconstruct the right arm and skin grafting will be started at this time.

Bratton's family hopes to have him flown to Medford by Mercy Flights in a couple of weeks, at which time he will be admitted to a local hospital.

Eight pints of blood have been used for Bratton to date and his family has advised he will probably be given additional transfusions during and after surgery.

Persons may donate blood in Mr. Bratton's name, or in

Library Selected To Receive \$1,500 Cash Award in 1963

For the second consecutive year a Rogue valley library has been selected as one of nine libraries in the nation to receive a Book-of-the-Month club library cash award in 1963.

The Public Library of Medford and Jackson county will receive \$1,500, Roy Gilbertson, chairman of the library board of trustees, announced today.

Gilbertson was notified of the award in a congratulatory letter from Harry Scherman, chairman of the board of the Book-of-the-Month club.

The main award of \$5,000 in memory of Dorothy Canfield Fisher, goes to the Beaufort County library in Beaufort, S.C. The award to be received here is listed as honorable mention, which means that the local library was of the ten finalists in the contest.

All awards will be presented Oct. 21, the first Sunday of National Library week. A ceremony will be held at the local library, invited to attend.

The local library was chosen as the Oregon entry in the program. Its application was then sent to the central committee appointed by the Public Library association. Those

in turn were screened, with a smaller group submitted to the club as final arbiters.

Librarian Omar Bacon, said he hoped that there would be some way to recognize the participation of all library staff members, board members and friends of the library who made it possible for the library to qualify for the honor received.

The application submitted by the local board of trustees emphasized the growth of reader interest in the Rogue River valley during the past three years. The continuing need for more and more books was cited as justification for seeking the award, as the award money is to be spent in the purchase of books.

In three years the use of books has increased by 71,125 or 229.65 per cent in the branches, and by 70,346 or 43.6 per cent in the central library for a total increase of 141,471 or 73.56 per cent. The number of users has increased by 5,513 or 39.35 per cent in two years.

Greater use of the library as a community center, increased support by county and city officials, the creation of a county advisory board, a Friends of the Library organization, and starting of the contest for selection of a new book pocket art symbol were listed in the board's letter giving reasons why members believed the award should be granted here.

The official application emphasized that "Jackson County is one of the fastest growing areas of Oregon," while listing the accomplishments and needs of the Public Library of Medford and Jackson county.

Other awards were received by the Chehalis, Wash., Public library, and libraries in Delaware, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, Texas, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Mystery Surrounds Hoffa Conspiracy Trial

Nashville, Tenn. — (UPI) — The conspiracy trial of Teamsters' President James Hoffa took a mysterious turn Thursday when Federal Judge William Miller abruptly adjourned court for the week end.

The adjournment followed a three hour and 20-minute secret closed session requested by special Justice Department Attorney James F. Neal.

Persons may donate blood in Mr. Bratton's name, or in

Rescuers Give Slim Chance for Survival in Shaft

47 Reach Safety After Explosion

Carmichaels, Pa. — (UPI) — Weary rescue workers battled against time today in an effort to reach 37 men trapped 680 feet below the earth's surface by an explosion in the Frosty Run shaft of a U.S. Steel Corp. coal mine.

Rescuers pushed to within 5,500 feet of an area where the men were believed trapped. At that point, progress was halted as a horizontal shaft was sealed off to permit further advances.

Officials said there was a slim chance the miners had reached a safe area and survived the methane gas explosion and a fire which apparently followed. But no word had been received from the trapped men since the blast.

The blast occurred at 1 p.m. (EST) Thursday in the Robena No. 3 mine owned and operated by the United States Steel Corp. Eighty-four men were in the mine at the time. Forty-seven fled to safety.

The blast area was about 680 feet underground and between three and four miles from the mouth of the shaft.

Thursday was the 55th anniversary of the worst mine disaster on record in the United States — one which killed 361 men Dec. 6, 1907, at Monongah, W. Va.

James B. Girod, assistant general superintendent of the Robena Mine, said it was "difficult to say" whether there could be any hope the missing miners were alive.

Girod said that two assistant mine foremen who were among the missing men were "crack rescue men. . . if there were any chance, those two would have accomplished something."

Among the missing was 18-year-old Albert F. Bratton of Bobtown, Pa., a U.S. Steel student-trainee under a five-year engineering program operated jointly with Pennsylvania State University.

The rescue workers, operating in relays of three eight-man teams, encountered traces of carbon monoxide fumes, indicating fire, and small amounts of methane gas which Girod described as "below the safety level."

The rescue workers had to dig through rubble from rock falls and timber cave-ins. As they went along they shored up the walls and roof of the shaft and set up power lines to operate the ventilating system.

At midnight, Girod said it would be a "great many hours" before the rescue workers could reach the blast area.

Weather conditions at the site were bad. Strong winds whipped a steady snowfall, hampering the movement of emergency supplies to the site. State police reported many trailers jackknifed along the main arteries leading to this soft coal mining area in southwestern Pennsylvania about 40 miles south of Pittsburgh.

Minuteman Missile Tests New Nose Cone Cape Canaveral, Fla. — (UPI) — The Air Force today fired a Minuteman "instant ICBM" missile 3,500 miles in a successful test of a new nose cone.

ERROR CLAIMED London — (UPI) — Prime Minister Harold Macmillan said today that former Secretary of State Dean Acheson had "fallen into error" when he said Britain's role as an independent power was "about played out."

NEWS BRIEFS

INDIA NEARING TEMPORARY TRUCE New Delhi — (UPI) — Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru indicated today that India is nearing a temporary truce arrangement with Communist China but cautioned members of Parliament not to regard the terms as final.

ADENAUER TO RESIGN NEXT FALL Bonn, Germany — (UPI) — West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer let it be known today that he will resign from office next fall and that Economics Minister Ludwig Erhard, who is vice chancellor, probably will succeed him.

FEWER THAN 1,000 POLIO CASES EXPECTED Atlanta, Ga. — (UPI) — There apparently will be less than 1,000 cases of polio in the United States this year for the first time since the Public Health service began recording case totals 50 years ago.

14 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

CHRISTMAS SEALS FIGHT TB AND OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES

MAKING CHRISTMAS GIVING EASIER