

Woman Survivor Of Plane Crash Tells Of Experience

(Editor's Note: The following story of the crash of the army transport command Liberator in the Pacific Saturday was written for the Associated Press by Mariee Anna Trautman, the only woman survivor of the crash. She was a civilian employe of the Hawaiian air depot.)

By **MARIEE ANNA TRAUTMAN**
TRIPLEE HOSPITAL, Oahu, Nov. 6 (AP) — It was my rosary, good luck and John Patrick that saved me.

I received the rosary, a sterling silver rosary, too, just a couple of hours before I left on the plane for Tacoma, Wash., to visit my brother, Leonard, who is ill. It came from my mother in Ferdinand, Ida., and was marked "do not open until Christmas." But I did, and I'm glad of it now.

Patrick, I do not know where he's from, but I was standing on a wing of the plane with a powerfully rough sea washing around me. I guess I was frightened because I don't remember getting into the raft with him. He's the one who got the raft and tossed them into the sea. It wasn't until I was on the raft and safe with him that my Mae West (life jacket) was inflated. He did that for me too. Luck, it was just luck all along.

First Plane Ride
 It was my first plane ride, but despite the terrible experience, I'm not afraid of them. I figure it just had to happen and if it hadn't happened to us, it would have to someone else. That's the luck I was talking about. And when I try to reach the mainland again, it will be by plane.

I went to sleep soon after the lights of Honolulu were no longer visible and the first I knew afterward was when Patrick in a very soft voice told me to put on my safety belt, we are going to land.

I had been on ships and thought it was just a practice until I heard some bloody murder screams. A Wac who was among the seven dead returned aboard the escort carrier Casablanca which brought us to Honolulu, in excitement, grabbed my Mae West but gave it back. A colonel, who was a passenger in the seat with me, and I found one for her.

The plane made a very rough landing part of the tail was knocked off and the plane seemed to split. It was standing on its nose. I'm afraid those in the back part may have been hurled against the front of the plane and knocked out.

Because it was my first plane ride, I acted like a country girl while the others who had plane experience knew the difficulty we faced.

Couldn't Swim
 Water lifted the plane up and the colonel called to me to come to the front of the plane. We got on a wing and I became worried for the first time because I can't swim, and the water was rushing up.

The colonel went down in the water and after that I didn't see the Wac. About that time there was lots of screaming.

I didn't remember much after that until I was in the raft with Patrick. I couldn't move my legs then, but all that seems wrong now is my back—and pain in the pelvic region. When I was feeling to see if I was bloody I found my rosary. I found it in my vest and felt much relieved.

We were in the raft about ten hours before the destroyer escort Tills picked us up. Later we were transferred to the Casablanca. My teeth were chattering so bad some crewmen of the Tills put a pair of army socks in my mouth. I was placed on a stretcher and transferred by pulley and rope to the Casablanca. I had come to Honolulu on

TRANSPORTATION NEWS

PERSONNEL SHIFTS BY SP ANNOUNCED

Several Southern Pacific railroaders well known in Klamath Falls were involved in recent personnel shifts.

Willard Barr, former district freight and passenger agent here, more recently at Fresno, was made district freight agent in the big Oakland area.

O. V. Gibson, former traveling freight and passenger agent with offices here, was given the same job at Marysville, Calif.

A. G. Kusler, now traveling passenger agent at Klamath, was given the new title of traveling new traveling passenger agent. The new here is John F. Hoogendyk, recently of Sallinas.

Barr was district agent here from 1936 to 1938.

Fire Department Answers 27 Alarms

Activities of the Klamath Falls fire department during October included 27 fire alarms, seven of which were false. Department equipment was in use four and one-half hours. In line with its job of inspecting fire hazards, the department made 67 inspections and removed nine hazards.

Value of property risked by fire was \$80,250, with a total loss of \$1345. There were no injuries and no deaths due to fire in October. One hundred eighty-two fire permits were granted.

Police Make 401 Arrests In October

Of the 401 arrests made by the Klamath Falls police department during October, 245 were on charges of drunkenness. Other law violations during the month included, traffic violations 38; liquor violations 7; disorderly conduct, 63; vagrancy, 22; reckless driving, 2; warrants, 6; miscellaneous, 6.

Eight cases were turned over to juvenile authorities.

Armistice Day Parade Scheduled Monday

PORTLAND, Nov. 6 (AP) — The Portland Armistice Day parade will be held Monday at 10:35 a. m., Chairman Bert Mansfield announced today. Plans of the Federal Veterans Council call for 75 organizations to participate.

Oct. 20, 1944, to work as a civilian in the Hawaiian air depot, under the jurisdiction of the air transport command. Previously, I had worked since 1941 at the Spokane air technical service command payroll and accounting department, and before then at the Washington Trust company in Spokane.

I came here because I wanted adventure. I have found it and now I'm willing to go home.

OPA RENT CONTROL TO BE MAINTAINED

Rent control will not be lifted immediately, Marvin D. Hixon, area rent director, assured tenants and landlords today.

As long as the price control act authorizing rent control remains in effect and the shortage of housing facilities makes it necessary to protect tenants from unwarranted rent increases and evictions, OPA will not lift the safeguards, Hixon said.

The announcement was made to counteract unfounded rumors that rent control is to be ended shortly.

Landlords were also reminded that failure to comply with any of the rent regulations subjects them to penalties. Hixon explained that the housing situation in Klamath rental area is as tight as ever and is expected to become even more acute as the number of returning service men increases.

Effective rent control can be maintained only if landlords and tenants alike cooperate with OPA, Hixon advised. Tenants should refuse to pay more than legal maximum rents, and landlords must consult the rent office before collecting increased rents.

All rent problems should be referred to the area rent office, 430 Main, telephone 6817.

Classified Ads Bring Results

Freightways Builds Terminal At Portland

Consolidated Freightways will construct a \$300,000 terminal in Portland immediately, according to Don Cram, Klamath manager for the truck freight outfit.

The new plant will occupy an entire block. The facility, Cram said, will bring about improvement in the handling of freight in the entire northwest area, including the Klamath district.

NO AID REQUESTED BY HARVEST HANDS

End of the harvest season in the Klamath area has had no effect upon the county welfare office, Altha Urquhart, welfare director said today, and the office has had no applications for relief from employable persons in several months.

Apparently not so many migrant workers followed the harvest here this year, most of the picking being done by local workers and professional harvest hands, who make enough money to support themselves and be able to move from job to job without outside aid.

However, applications for aid to unemployables continue to come in and this month's budget for old age assistance and assistance for dependent children is slightly higher than for November last year.

The \$40 monthly ceiling on grants to needy cases was lifted by legislation which went into effect in June, but grants continue to be based on individual need.

The budgeted increase in old-age assistance from \$8400 last November to \$8625 for this month, is not due to an increase in the number of cases cared for but to increased cost of individual cases and increased living costs, Mrs. Urquhart said.

Klamath Men On Business Trip

A. M. Collier left for Idaho on business at 5:30 Monday morning. He was accompanied by Charles R. Stark, manager of the Klamath County chamber of commerce, who made the trip on business for his office.

They plan to return to Klamath Falls Wednesday.

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