

# Army Describes Details Of Scientists' Deaths In Atom Work Accidents

LOS ALAMOS, N. M., June 28 (AP)—"It was like you were standing near an arc welder when he struck the arc."

Thus did the army today describe the atomic chain reaction set up last May 21 when Dr. Louis B. Slotin, 35, Winnipeg, Canada, was burned fatally during an experiment at the Los Alamos atomic laboratory.

The report also disclosed that the accident that cost the life of another scientist, Harry K. Daghlian, 24, New London, Conn., in September was "almost identical."

In both cases equipment slipped allowing fissionable materials of the type used in atom bombs to come together swiftly instead of under control as had been done safely many times at the laboratory.

Seven others working with Slotin were burned, but recovered. Daghlian was working alone.

**Equipment Slipped**

The army report gave this description of the accident: "An accident occurred when a piece of equipment slipped. This brought the material swiftly together beyond the critical point. This resulted in a tremendous energy release within millionths of a second, which was evidenced to the persons present through a sensation of heat and visual perception of a blue glow around the material."

"In the words of one of the men present, 'it was like you were standing near an arc welder when he struck the arc.'"

"The blue glow resulted from the ionization of air particles by radiation emanating from the fissionable material. There was no explosion in the sense that there were no mechanical effects, no debris, no noise."

"In the millionths of a second in which this occurred, the immediate area and all in it were bombarded by intense high energy gamma rays and neutrons of all energies—fast, intermediate and slow. There were no beta and no alpha radiation."

"Dr. Slotin, at the instant of the mishap, knocked the equipment apart, thus halting the intensifying radiation and averting serious consequences, possibly death to his companions. He was grasping part of the equipment with his left hand at the moment of the accident."

The report told of immediate removal to the Los Alamos hospital of the eight men, and the effects of radiation were apparent. Slotin died in nine days.

"The medical men began to treat the accident victims as soon as they were admitted to the hospital," the report said. "This treatment, in general, consisted of many transfusions of whole blood and plasma and fluids, principally glucose and saline."

The report said the burns suffered by Slotin were comparable to a "three-dimensional sunburn," explaining: "The skin burns from the radiation are superficial, but as the rays penetrate the body they burn deep, resulting in injury and destruction of tissue and blood cells."

Daghlian, whose burns were less severe, died in 26 days after the accident.

## Spanish Submarine Sinks In Collision

MADRID, June 28 (AP)—The Spanish submarine C4 sank yesterday near the Balearic islands with the loss of 46 men after being struck by the destroyer

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Lepanto, the navy announced today.

The accident occurred during maneuvers of the second destroyer squadron and submarine flotilla. The submarine sank almost immediately with all aboard.

There were 25,519,000 cows on farms of the United States in 1945.

## East Entrance Opens Sunday

The east entrance highway to Crater Lake national park will open to the public at 8 a. m. Sunday, June 30. This entrance to the park joins U. S. highway 97

at a point 51 miles north of Klamath Falls and 93 miles south of Bend. It is eight miles from highway 97 to the park boundary and another three miles to Lost Creek ranger station where visitors will register and obtain permits.

The old dirt road from Lost Creek to Sun Valley, a distance of four miles, will be used until the new road from Kerr Notch to Sun Valley is free of snow and rock slides. This section of dirt road is narrow but entirely safe if reasonable precautions are observed. The dirt road joins the new paved highway at Vido Falls, which leads into park headquarters, a distance of four miles, thence to the rim of Crater lake, another three miles.

Opening of the east entrance highway will save considerable

mileage to visitors coming to the park from the north over highway 97. The north entrance highway is still closed by a heavy snow pack and visitors are urged not to attempt to reach the park by that entrance, as such an attempt results in a drive of 32 miles only to find the gate closed.

Classified Ads Bring Results.

**Attorney General Rules On Schools**

SALEM, June 28 (AP)—When a city extends its boundaries, the added territory automatically is included in the city's school district, Attorney General George Neuner ruled today for District Attorney William W. Bartle of Lane county.

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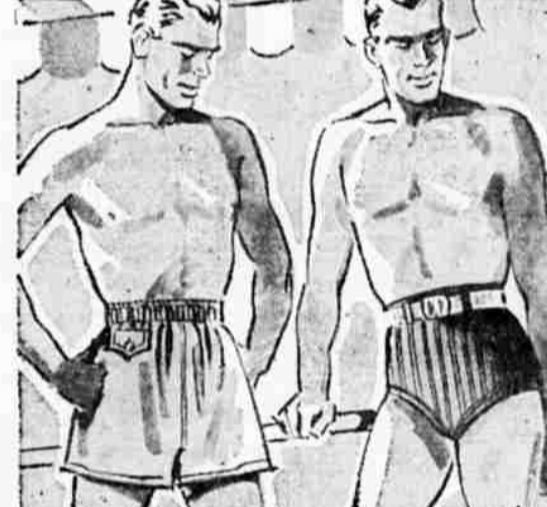
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**HANDSOME SWIM TRUNKS, BOXER OR KNIT STYLES 2.50 to 3.98**

Hot weather's here already—holidays are just ahead, better get ready for both NOW with a swell new pair of swim trunks! Here at Wards we're ready for you with the finest selection you've seen—roomy boxer styles with all-around elastic waists in fine Sanforized poplins and gabardines, snug fitting all wool worsted trunks in attractive fancy knits. All have built-in supporters.



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