

Flash Fire Kills Three At Sub Base

GROTON, Conn. (UPI)—Three men were killed Tuesday when they were trapped by a flash fire in a tiny enclosure while working on the construction of the nuclear submarine Flasher.

Two other men were injured in the fire which broke out in the after trim tank of the Flasher, a sister ship of the Thresher which sank with 129 men aboard off the coast of Portsmouth, N.H., early last month.

The area was so small that it was necessary for Electric Boat workers to cut a hole through the tank to remove the victims.

The fire broke out at the Electric Boat shipyards of the General Dynamics Corp., where the Flasher has been under construction since April, 1961. Cause of the fire was not immediately determined.

Damage to the ship was negligible, a spokesman for General Dynamics said. The Flasher was scheduled for launching June 14. Names of the dead were withheld pending notification of families.

The injured were Stanley Jusczyk, 35, a painter from West Warwick, R.I., and John D. Gulluscio, 26, a welding supervisor from Westerly, R.I.

Jusczyk, who was badly burned, was reported in critical condition at a hospital in nearby New London. Gulluscio was treated for smoke inhalation.

Like its sister sub, the Flasher was a \$45 million project.

Its general measurements were believed to parallel those of the Thresher. The Thresher was 278 feet long and had a beam of 21 feet. Its displacement was 3,700 tons.

Although the Navy has classified the speed and diving depth of the Thresher class ships, they were believed to operate underwater at speeds in excess of 30 knots. The deepest diving sub in the U.S. fleet, the Thresher type was reported to operate as deep as 1,000 feet.

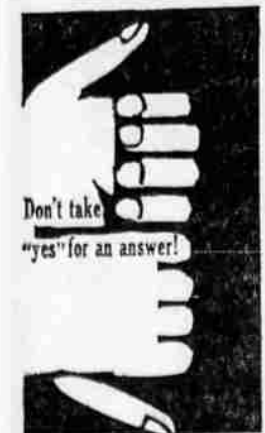
Third Party Scaling OK'd

PORTLAND (UPI)—An amendment permitting third party scaling of salvage timber when conventional methods are inadequate was endorsed Monday by the Bureau of Land Management's Advisory Board for Oregon and California (O & C) Grant Lands.

The amendment has been approved by Interior Secretary Stewart Udall.

It will give the Bureau of Land Management authority to bring in independent scaling bureaus to measure timber for log sales when cruising or scaling by BLM scalars is not adequate.

Joe W. McCracken, executive vice president of West Forest Industries Association, said timber buyers doubt the BLM can get all the timber blown down in the Columbus Day storm measured in the next few months.



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