



Collides With Freighter

ONE MISSING IN TANKER BLAST

10 Pulled From Flaming Waters

NEW CASTLE, Del. (AP)—A freighter and a Navy tanker collided with terrific force in the lower Delaware River early today, touching off a blast that set fire to both vessels.

Nine men on the tanker, including the captain, were missing and feared dead.

Thirty-five others on the tanker and the entire 23-member crew of the freighter were saved. Ten were fished out of the burning oil-slicked water.



The pre-dawn crash occurred off the northern end of Pea Patch Island, three miles south of New Castle and Pennville, N. J.

The sky was overcast and a rain which later turned to snow was falling when the tanker Mission San Francisco collided with the freighter as they tore off. Visibility at the time was reportedly six miles.

NO CARGO

Both vessels were empty of cargo.

Moments after the two big ships plowed into each other, the freighter ripped a big hole into the tanker's starboard side—the blast let gas flow off the tanker's superstructure and the bridge where Capt. William C. Allen of Galveston, Tex., one of the missing, was standing with some of his officers.

The sheet of flame fired the bow of the freighter as it started backing swiftly away.

Ten hours after the collision, the stern of the tanker still burned fiercely. Little hope was held that Capt. Allen and the eight other missing men could have survived the tremendous blast and the resultant fire.

Capt. Alexander Kaare of the Eliza said his ship was about an hour off Wilmington, Del., when he sighted the tanker.

BLEW WHISTLE

"We blew our whistle to signal the other ship to turn," he said. "As we kept approaching we blew the whistle again but they didn't acknowledge the signal in any way."

The other hand, Joseph A. Martell, 42, of Fall River, Mass., on watch aboard the tanker, told news after his rescue that he saw the freighter "suddenly moving out of the river."

"There was time for the tanker to blow only one blast on the horn," Martell said. "The freighter answered it with a bell."

Martell said the collision followed with the freighter cutting across the tanker's bow.

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers surveyed the channel at the wreck scene and ordered the western half closed to all river traffic but kept the eastern half open on a "proceed with caution" basis.

The first survivor from the Mission San Francisco, William C. Allen, was rescued.

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Evening Prayer

Almightly and everlasting God, who hasten nothing that thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, truly lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wickedness, may obtain of Thee God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Drunk Driving Bill Opposed By Ed Scheidt

RALEIGH (AP)—A Senate Judiciary Committee today heard Missouri Senator Ed Scheidt express strong opposition to a bill which would reduce the punishment in many cases of drunken driving.

Senate Judiciary Committee sent off to a subcommittee for more study the bill sponsored by Sen. Lunsford, crew of Halifax.

Under the bill, the Motor Vehicles Department could revoke for periods ranging from 60 days to a year the driving licenses of persons convicted of a first offense of drunken driving. The law now requires a one-year license revocation.

AMENDMENTS OFFERED

Before the bill was sent to subcommittee, Scheidt offered an amendment. It would require the department to follow recommendations of trial judges for revocations between 60 days and a year. If the judge made no recommendation the department could revoke for periods from 60 days to a year.

Scheidt said there were "practical reasons" why the Motor Vehicles Department should be in charge of the suspensions and placing it in the hands of other agencies would cause "confusion" and "as many different policies as there were agencies."

"Now every driver knows exactly what his position is and he is in no position to complain if his license is revoked," said Scheidt. He pointed out that the department has complete records on all drivers while the judges do not.

He said passage of the bill would lead people to believe the legislature regards drunken driving "less seriously" than in the past.

Mute Admits Knife Death Of Woman

NASHVILLE (AP)—A deaf intended to have intercourse with a white woman told officers he killed her when she refused his advances, Sheriff Womble said today.

Womble said he obtained a full statement by means of exchanging notes, from Johnnie D. Knight Jr., 29. Womble said Knight would be charged with murder in the slaying of Mrs. Myra Brown Manning of Bailey, whose body was found in a patch of woods Tuesday night.

TAKEN TO PRISON

Knight was taken to the state prison at Raleigh.

Knight was "very frank about it," the sheriff said. "We had several little clues pointing to him. We picked him over here to Nashville and questioned him, and after checking his shoe tracks and checking the measurements of his shoes and finding some blood on his clothes, he got straight with us about the whole thing."

Coroner M. C. Guley said the 43-year-old mother of four sons died Tuesday of a neck wound apparently inflicted with a "horrible" knife. Her body "was kept for shoes, was found in a Bay-scout Camp four miles southeast of Bailey. The family car was mired in mud about 25 cars away.

Sheriff Womble said Knight gave him this story:

"He went there with the intention of trying to have intercourse... she became frightened when he made passes at her and that's when he killed her. He had an old hawk bill knife, and he admits hitting her with a fire poker on the back of the head."

"He says he drove her down into the woods in the car, took her out and carried her or drug her out into the woods and left her. He was intending to go on in the car but it got stuck and he got out and walked home in the rain."

Womble said Knight told him he had been feeding hogs in back of the Manning home. He went to the house about 2 p.m. Tuesday and she let him come in.

"He's not in the habit of driving a car but he did know how to drive," Womble related. "He drove us over the route, and he took a different way from what we thought he did."

Womble said the case was very baffling from the outset because there were no clues. Assisting in the investigation were Deputies F. D. Brown and P. K. Reams, State Bureau of Investigation.

Sheriff Got Raid Payoff, Elkins Says

WASHINGTON (AP)—Racketeer James B. Elkins testified today a gambling associate told him in September 1955 of paying \$500 to Sheriff Terry D. Schrank to call off a gambling raid in Portland, Ore.

Schrank, a Democrat, now is mayor of Portland.

Elkins told the Senate's racketeering investigating committee he was a partner of Clifford Jimmy Bennett in a Portland gambling joint known as the 8212 Club in the Keaton district of the city.

Elkins said that in early September 1955 he heard that Sheriff Schrank and a group of deputies showed up at the club with word they were going to arrest everybody.

Elkins said only three or four drunks were taken in and fined \$10 after an "arrangement" was made between Bennett and Schrank. Elkins said this consisted of Bennett paying Schrank \$500.

NO ACTION

Elkins said no action was taken against Bennett for operating a gambling joint. He said the place simply folded and moved to another site where it continued operating.

"Bennett told me he gave Mr. Schrank the \$500," Elkins said.

Elkins testified he was financing the place to the tune of \$1,500. He said his bookkeeper, whom he named as Laura Stone, told him Bennett returned only \$1,000 of the sum until the place reopened at the new site.

Elkins said when he asked Bennett about the difference, Bennett told him he paid Schrank the \$500 "because he thought it was better to do that than get pinched, and have to pay the whole \$1,500 or perhaps \$2,000 in fines."

ONE HEARSAY

Elkins conceded that his knowledge of the alleged payment to Schrank was "only hearsay" from what he said Bennett told him.

"What about the possibility, Bennett simply put the \$500 in his pocket and didn't give it to Schrank?" Elkins was asked by Robert Kennedy, committee counsel.

"I don't believe he did that," Elkins replied.

Elkins said he told Bennett the alleged payment of Schrank was "unnecessary" and that Bennett would have to pay the \$500 sum to Elkins to make up the \$1,500. Elkins, who said he is under two dozen state and federal indictments "more or less," repeated his sworn denials that he ever figured in prostitution rackets.



Navy Tanker Lies Helpless After Explosion Followed Delaware River Collision.

De Valera's Party Winner

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP)—Eamon De Valera won control of the Irish Parliament today in a political comeback.

This means the old fighter—now 74 and nearly blind—will replace John A. Costello as Ireland's Prime Minister after three years on the sidelines as opposition leader.

His Fianna Fail (Men of Destiny) party already has managed to shake the cough and cold, Eisenhower noted that both Vice President Nixon and Secretary of State Dulles are out of the country at this time. For that reason, he said, it would be rather awkward for him to leave Washington.

Ike Wants Curbs On U. S. Spending

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower said today he is trying to slow down the rate of government spending in an effort to keep living costs from rising still further.

Eisenhower also told a news conference, opened the news with a request that any of the 228 reporters present who ask questions speak out distinctly because he was having some trouble with his hearing.

The first question put to him dealt with his cough and whether he might be planning a trip to a warm, dry climate.

DIFFICULTY HEARING

Later Eisenhower was asked how he was feeling generally. At that point he reported his cough was better but that he was having difficulty hearing.

The president, wearing a dark blue suit, white shirt and blue figured tie, also dealt with these other matters:

Middle East—Eisenhower said that beginning as early as 1948 he has never discussed Israel with anyone without saying that nation's existence is an historic fact and its problems must be dealt with.

As for the situation resulting from Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the prospective pullout from the Gulf of Aqaba area, Eisenhower said the United States has taken the position that the gulf is an international waterway and that the country plans to so use it together with other nations.

Hunted Man Found Dead

ENGLEWOOD, N. J. (AP)—A 23-year-old construction worker, sought for the shooting and wounding of four persons, was found shot to death early today. Police tabbed the death a suicide.

The slumped body of Leroy Childress was found in the yard in the rear of 191 First St., by an unidentified man on his way to work.

Police said Childress went berserk last night and fired a double-barreled shotgun into a rooming house, wounding three women and a boy. All five were Negroes.

Police said Childress apparently put the shotgun between his legs and fired into his mouth. The shotgun was found alongside the body.

After the shooting spree last night, Childress fled in a stolen car, but failed to get away. He apparently crashed into the rear of a truck, but he managed to escape again with the weapon.

Police said the shootings followed a quarrel Childress had with his girl friend.

WEATHER

Cloudy and cold with occasional rain today, tonight and tomorrow.

Low this morning 41
Low tomorrow morning 38
High today 48
High yesterday 45
High tomorrow 45

Sunrise today 6:45 a.m.; sunset today 6:24 p.m.

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Economic Pressures Called Outgrowth Of Hutchins Case

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
CAMDEN, S. C. — Reports of alleged economic pressure against some local merchants came out of this tense Kershaw County community today and appear wrapped up in the Guy Hutchins flogging case.

A Charlotte News correspondent said today one of the six men originally arrested in the case is reported to have approached merchants with the threat of a boycott if they support an "unfriendly" Camden newspaper.

The newspaper is the Camden Chronicle which has repeatedly voiced strong opposition to mob violence. The Camden News, the opposition weekly newspaper, apparently is getting the support by a group known here as "the club."

Approached, according to the report, have been at least three Camden Chronicle advertisers. They have been asked to support the rival Camden News.

Three merchants say one of the men indicted in the December flogging of the local school bandmaster told them that "the club" has met and voted to support the advertisers of the Chronicle's competitor.

The man reportedly told the

VOTE PLEASING

Eisenhower said he was definitely pleased by the size of the vote, 72-19, by which the Senate approved its version of the administration's anti-Communist Middle East resolution.

Asked for his appraisal of the recent situation in Egypt in the light of Israel's withdrawal from disputed territory, Eisenhower replied he would not want to attempt a personal evaluation. He did say, however, that the Senate had insisted that settlement of one or two preliminary phases would not solve the underlying causes of difficulties in that general area.

Women Lose 'Rest' Home

NEW YORK (AP)—Seven women have been advised they definitely have been on the wrong track by making their home in the Pennsylvania Station rest room.

The women, ages 43 to 72, were rounded up yesterday in the women's lounge and brought before Magistrate Jack I. Nicoll. They all toted their belongings in paper bags.

"MOST UNUSUAL"

Said Nicoll: "This is the most unusual thing I've ever seen — seven women hobnobbing in Pennsylvania Station."

Mrs. Dora Peck, 72, who had \$24 cash on her, tried to explain. The lounge was a rather pleasant place to live, she said, and there was the fun of seeing new faces all the time.

The women had a routine, she said. They went mostly like this: sleeping, midnight to 6 a.m., breakfast, window shopping, perhaps a try at getting a job, a nap in the lounge if the weather was bad.

"What about your bathing?" asked the magistrate.

"We have to go to a public bath or to a hotel for a day or two," said Mrs. Peck.

\$100 A MONTH

Nicoll turned Mrs. Peck over to the City Welfare Dept. She said she received a pension of \$100 a month.

The magistrate suspended charges of loitering against Mrs. Peck and four of the other women.

Judged innocent of the loitering charge was a Mrs. S. John, and Mrs. Kenneth O'neal 39.

Mrs. S. John told the court she formerly worked at Father Divine's peace mission in New York, and would like to go back there. Nicoll gave her a dollar for carfare.

TO RENT ROOM

Mrs. O'neal promised she would rent a room in the future.

"I've only lived there two weeks," she said, producing two bank books showing a total of \$1,410.

Nicoll, who meanwhile had sent out for coffee and doughnuts for the women, commented: "You have more money in the bank than the court has."