



Atlas Blows

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—An Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile blasted off at 12:48 p.m. today but apparently blew up about two minutes after leaving its firing pad.

No Contest

SMITHFIELD (AP)—J. Percy Flowers entered pleas of nolo contendere (no contest) today to eight charges leveled against him in Johnston Superior Court.

Operating Cash

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Appropriations Committee today approved \$2,837,882,907 in additional money to run the government for the remainder of the fiscal year ending June 30 but said the main effect is to make next year's Eisenhower budget look better.

Boost Approved

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Finance Committee approved today the full five-billion-dollar boost in the debt ceiling asked by President Eisenhower effective until June 30, 1959.

214 Feared Dead

CALCUTTA, India (AP)—At least 214 miners were believed dead today after an explosion in India's most modern coal mine which flooded two other mines.

1,200 Evacuated

ORLAND, Calif. (AP)—The 1,200 residents of nearby Hanger City were evacuated today as more than 400 men battled to save a levee which was holding back the rain-swollen Sacramento River.

Leopold Up For Parole

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP)—The Illinois Parole and Pardon Board considers today Nathan Leopold's plea for parole today. The 35-year-old convict, who has served more than 20 years in Stateville Prison for the 1934 kidnap-murder of Bobby Franks, 14, in Chicago, made his latest bid for freedom before the five-man board Feb. 5.

He pleaded: "Gentlemen, I beg you to show me the mercy I did not show. Give me the chance to try to be useful and to justify my existence."

This is Leopold's fifth attempt to win release from Stateville. He and Richard Loeb entered the prison Sept. 11, 1934, after pleading guilty to the crime. They were sentenced to life for murder and 99 years for kidnapping. Leopold was 19 and Loeb 18 at the time. Loeb was slain by another inmate in 1936.

FAIR TRADE

PARKSON, S. D. (AP)—Local farmers pegged their annual hall to sell tickets for their annual hall to this motto:

"You come to our dance and we'll come to your fire."

Leroy Hit Thin Spot And Down He Went

By JOHN KILGO
News Staff Writer

"It was the coldest swim I ever took. I was shaking like a leaf in a windstorm."

That's what 13-year-old Leroy Hull had to say about an ice hockey game that started on a small lake in the Hoskins section yesterday and ended in a neighborhood dry cleaning shop.

The near tragedy occurred when young Hull fell through a thin spot on the ice and five other boys playing in the game came to his rescue.

"I walked down the ice away from the other boys," Huss said, "and I hit a thin spot in the ice and down I went."

Hull said Billy Johnston, 16, of N. Crigler St., came to his aid and he, too, fell through the ice.

Then Mickey Hartgrove, 16, of S. Crigler St., tried to rescue his two buddies, but plunged through the dangerous thin ice.

Three other boys, Benny Hipp, 16, Raymond Guin, 16, and Reggie Rollins, decided not to risk going after the boys one at a time.

"They made a chain by holding each other's hands," Hull said, "and they came out into the lake where I was floating around."



At Scene Of Near Tragedy: Benny Hipp, Leroy Hull, Billy Johnston, Mickey Hartgrove, Reggie Rollins, Ray Guin

"They grabbed my hand and pulled me out. Billy and Mickey were closer to shore than I was and they were able to make it by themselves."

Leroy said the lake is about six or seven feet deep. "But that's plenty deep enough to

cause trouble when the top of it is covered with ice."

"We'd been playing ice hockey out there about all morning," young Hull said, "and the ice seemed to be about two inches thick."

"Then I fell through. All of us were soaking wet and about to freeze."

"Were you scared?" he was asked.

"Are you kidding? If you'd seen me you would have known how scared I was. I was shaking like a leaf in a windstorm."

The boys went to a cleaning shop on N. Hoskins Ave. owned by Reggie Rollins' mother.

There they had their clothes dried while they sat in a back room wrapped in blankets.

"We just don't have anything else to do out in Hoskins," Hull said. "There's no place at all to go and play. We used to go to a drug store. Now they won't let us come around there."

"It sure would be nice if we had a recreation center so we could meet there and play ball."

All six of the amateur hockey players were present at school today.

Another Started

Mystery's Over: Skeleton Found Beneath Prison

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—A skeleton found under a concrete floor at the state prison has ended a 19-year search for a missing convict and opened a nationwide hunt for a fellow prisoner on a murder charge.

Jack Youngblood, who finished a six-year highway robbery sentence in 1940, was

charged yesterday with killing Paul Joe Payne, 21, after a dice game in the prison metal shop in 1939.

Officials said a second prisoner implicated in the slaying was Dick West, a prisoner convicted of murder who was himself stabbed to death in prison in 1951. West's slayer

was exonerated on a self-defense plea.

Three other prisoners still serving time for murders in the early 30s were removed from the prison yesterday for questioning in the case, and for their own protection.

TWO SAW KILLING

Two of them told reporters they witnessed Payne's death. Members of Payne's family have contended for years that Payne was slain inside the penitentiary. Prison officials listed him as an escapee and put out the usual bulletin for his pickup.

Officials received several "tips" on Payne's whereabouts, including two letters which they said were in a handwriting similar to Youngblood's.

Thomas Gore, who was then warden, said yesterday that the prison was searched "from top to bottom, and even the big water tank was drained" in checking reports that Payne had been slain.

The tip that broke the case came Friday. A suburban policeman received information by telephone which opened a new probe and led officers to the concrete grave.

"BABY BANDITS"

Payne was one of four teen-aged reformers, escapes, dubbed the "baby bandits" in Chattanooga, who were sent to prison in 1937 after their capture by a posse near Rossville, Ga.

After he went to prison he came into a \$6,000 legacy from his grandmother. He was declared legally dead seven years later and his estate settled.

Atty. Gen. Harry Nichol said there were reports that Payne learned too much about the prison dope racket and may have been killed for that reason.

The slaying, however, was reported to have followed a dice game in which Payne won about \$400.

Nichol said his information was that West held a knife against Payne's stomach while Youngblood slipped a towel around Payne's neck and choked him to death.

Dubious About Costs

City To Explore School Merger

By DICK YOUNG
News Staff Writer

Though it appeared dubious about some aspects of the proposal for consolidating city and county schools, the City School Board voted today to go along to the extent of naming a committee to study the feasibility of merger.

The board's chief concern was the cost.

It heard business manager John M. Dunlap estimate a county-wide school tax rate of 60 cents would be necessary to support the combined system.

Under prodding from Dr. Herbert Spangh, the board chairman, who said he didn't think the cost situation had been given sufficient study — Mr. Dunlap said: "The city's school tax rate is 30 cents and the county's 40 cent. If the systems are combined the rate would have to be at least 60 cents."

MUST CUT DOWN

Mr. Dunlap said that if costs are lowered there will have to be retrenchment somewhere.

He added, "The biggest item in our budget is instructional service costs and that is the field where we would have to make the greatest cost reduction. This means a reduction in the number of teachers or a reduction in teachers' salaries."

Dr. Spangh chimed the president going into the cost factors.

Our Weather

Fair to partly cloudy today, mostly fair tonight. Tomorrow partly cloudy.

Low this morning 17
Low tomorrow morning 20
High today 45
High tomorrow 49
High tomorrow 49
Sunrise today 7:01 a.m.; sunset today 6:19 p.m.

More Weather Data on Page 2-A



JACK YOUNGBLOOD

'Backstage' Acts In FCC Decried

TV Loser Recalled To Stand

WASHINGTON (AP)—A House investigation committee today called for the disputed Miami TV case today with one member expressing concern over what he called the "backstage" manner that apparently applied to the FCC.

Rep. Wolverton (R-N.J.), senior Republican on the committee, said a person wouldn't have thought of appearing in a federal court in the "backstage" manner that apparently applies to the FCC.

Wolverton said he thought something must be done so that a quasi-judicial commission would be free from the implication that it could be approached along political lines.

A. Frank Katzentine, a loser in the Miami case, was in the witness chair for the second day in the committee's inquiry into alleged pressures in the case.

NIXON, KEFAUVER

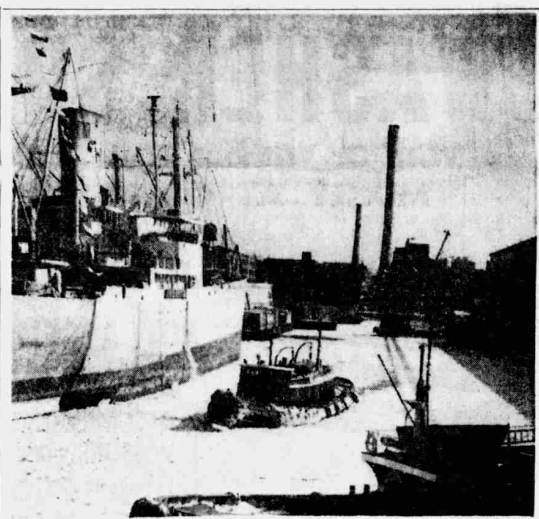
Katzentine's first day of testimony had brought the names of Vice President Nixon and Sen. Kefauver (D-Tenn.) into the hearings in connection with maneuvers to win the Miami TV channel 10.

Wolverton asked why there couldn't be the same attitude toward the regulatory commissions as there is toward the courts.

Wolverton commented that the Interstate Commerce Commission had adopted a code of ethics.

Wolverton read into the record a July 15, 1951, letter he said was written by Jerry W. Kefauver, national Democratic committeeman from Florida, to the FCC.

He quoted the letter as saying it was "my pleasure" to recommend Katzentine and that "Katzentine has been a loyal Democrat all his life" and is "entitled to all the consideration a good citizen and good Democrat is entitled to" and recommending that Katzentine be given every consideration.



Tugs Become Icebreakers As They Move Through Floes In New York Port

Here's Why: Westerlies Turned Into Northerlies

WASHINGTON (AP)—"A shift in the jet stream"—not really unusual—is the Weather Bureau's explanation of what's causing extreme cold over the eastern two-thirds of the country, while the Far West enjoys a relative warm spell.

And there's no real hope for warm weather for much of the eastern area for the next 30 days.

The jet stream is also known as "the prevailing westerlies"—the normally west-to-east wind currents of the upper air at about 10,000 to 40,000 feet. But it seems these winds have become northerlies, blowing north from the central part of the country.

About this time of year, cold arctic air builds up over Canada. Normally, this air

would be pushed out to the Atlantic by the westerlies without too much trouble.

On the fringes of this cold air mass, low pressures or stormy areas develop such as the one that dumped huge amounts of snow along the Atlantic coast last Friday through Monday.

Usually this jet stream shift occurs a few times every winter. But it has been worse this year and of longer duration. Florida, the Weather Bureau notes, has had six freezes where it might normally get about two.

Just what causes the jet stream to make such about faces?

"You'd have to go way back to the sun—we don't know what causes it," a Weather Bureau spokesman said.

More Snow Hurts Recovery

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Temperatures continue to moderate in most areas from the Rockies to the Atlantic coast today but more snow in parts of the storm-stricken Northeast slowed cleanup operations.

Light snow fell on the white-blanketed areas of the northern and central Appalachians, the upper Ohio valley and western New York.

There was a little relief from the severe cold which has hit most of the eastern half of the country for nearly a week as the core of the arctic air mass moved eastward into the Atlantic. However, temperature drops were reported

in the upper Great Lakes Region as skies cleared.

Rescue operations continued in the hardest hit storm sectors, including upstate New York and northern Indiana. Many rural families remained isolated.

Food and fuel have been brought to many of the marooned families. In northern Indiana army helicopters have rescued about 60 persons from snow-bound homes this week.

Gov. Harold Handley of Indiana last night declared a state of emergency in the storm-stricken region as fresh snow threatened the South Bend and Michigan City areas.

Turner group appealed to Gov. Averell Harriman to call out troops if necessary to dig upstate New York out of the snow. Drifts ranged up to 25 feet in some areas.

The long spell of cold and storms since the weekend was blamed for at least 27 deaths in 25 states and the District of Columbia. Most of them resulted from accidents on snow and ice highways, overexertion in clearing snow and fires.

Ice choked the Mississippi River 30 miles above Cairo, Ill., virtually shutting off traffic from the upper Mississippi to the lower river and back.

NC Quake Right On Schedule

Special To The News

WILMINGTON — That earth-shaking mystery was right on time again today.

For the fourth day running, an earth tremor was reported. It wasn't as bad as its predecessors. But residents along a 25-mile stretch of ocean from Seaside to Wrightsville Beach and as far inland as 15 miles reported a mild earth shock.

The shock tremor died on the ground, rattled windows and dishes and caused at least one glass jar to bounce off a shelf.

Dr. C. F. McCarthy, University of North Carolina geologist who has been keeping a sharp eye on his seismograph at Chapel Hill, said if the tremors are caused by nature, the odds against them coming 10 times in a row within 30 minutes of each other was 110,000 to 1.

Dr. McCarthy said there was a slight tremor in the Wilmington area at 9:53 a.m. But he added, "You can't tell me there are earthquakes now. Something else must be causing them."

The shocks started Monday. Each lasted about 10 seconds and did little or no damage. Monday's tremor started at 9:40 a.m., Tuesday's at 9:40 a.m. and yesterday's at 9:25 a.m.

Dr. McCarthy said he was at a loss to explain the shakes.

"It's got me worried," he said. "Quakes sometimes come one after the other, but it's the wild sort of coincidence that they would come as the ones in Wilmington."

Dr. McCarthy said a "moderate" quake was reported Jan. 18, 1954, in the Wilmington area, and another tremor was recorded at Southport in 1927.

Yesterday's tremor rattled dishes and windows from Southport to Wilmington, but no damage or injuries were reported.

Col. J. S. Heiss, commanding officer at the Army's Sunny Point Ammunition Depot, said there were no explosions or blasting operations around the military base. He said his wife reported dishes rattling at their home in Southport for the third day in a row.

The colonel said, "Occasionally we have jet planes breaking the sound barrier. . . . But we are alert when this happens. . . . We can't pin the tremors to a theory that it's an earthquake."

Charles Carney of the Raleigh-Durham Weather Bureau said the tremors appeared "suspicious" to him.

House Gone, But Harry's Still Here

Golden Profile, Page 8A

Business 15A, 9B
Classified 9-11B
Comics 9C
Crossword Puzzle 9C
Editorial 9C
Editorial 9C
Everyday Counselor 12B
Obituaries 9B
Radio-TV 9B
Serials 9B
Sports 6-8B
Theaters 10A
To Your Good Health 4A
Women 2-4B
Worry Clinic 17C



FRANK KATZENTINE