

EL MEDIANE EFFORT FAILS

Transport Plane Carrying 16 Crashes In Flames

All Aboard Carried To Their Death

Tragedy Occurs In Connecticut

CHESHIRE, Conn.—(AP)—A big transport plane reported to be carrying thirteen passengers and a three-man crew crashed in flames here today, carrying all aboard to their death.

The Army flight service at Boston identified the plane as flight 15-B of the Eastern Air Lines, en route from La Guardia Field, N. Y., to Boston.

Representatives of the Eastern Airlines at New York told the New Haven Register that radio contact had been lost with one of its New York to Boston transports at about the time the accident was reported here. The plane, the officials said, carried thirteen passengers and three crewmen.

BREAKS IN TWO
The big ship, first seen with flames and smoke spouting from its engines, broke in two as it came to earth not far from the Cheshire State Reformatory and about 15 miles from New Haven.

Shortly before noon Joseph Siondella of Hamden, called the New Haven Register and said that he had seen a plane fall in flames somewhere near the Cheshire-South Meriden line. Siondella said that he had been driving on the College highway when he noticed a "big" plane about 1,500 feet. As he watched, it burst into flames before his eyes, turned turtle in the air and began a two-mile slantwise plunge toward the earth.

Early arrivals at the scene reported that the plane had been virtually consumed by the flames and expressed the belief that it would be difficult to identify the victims.

Scores of persons saw the plane's plight as it flew over the east side of this town from the south.

Leslie Harris, Cheshire real estate operator, said that he saw the plane burst into flames as it passed over the town. Trailing the craft's plunge to the address farm, Harris said that he saw three bodies near the wreckage while at least ten or twelve others were piled up in the flaming fuselage.

Eastern Airlines said the plane left Miami, Fla., at 9:55 A. M., Jan. 17, and was en route to Washington and New York and was on its way to Boston at the time of the crash.

The Crew Members And Partial Passenger List

NEW YORK.—(AP)—Eastern Airlines announced today the following crew members and partial passenger list for its flight 15-B.

Won't Call Churchill

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—A Republican proposal to call Winston Churchill a witness was rejected, 6 to 2, today by Congressional Pearl Harbor investigators in a 45-minute session that brought these developments:

1. An assertion by Admiral Husband E. Kimmel that confessions had been obtained from the former Japanese admiral in chief of the fleet in 1941 because he was a "friend of President Roosevelt and a Kentucky Democrat" were "misrepresentations and lies."
2. Testimony by Kimmel that President Roosevelt had sided with him at a June, 1941, White House conference against any further transfer of warships from the Pacific to the Atlantic fleet.
3. Kimmel's refusal to draw any conclusion when Rep. Clark, Democrat, North Carolina, asked him if "high officials here in Washington on the Army staff" had disregarded a radar warning of Japanese planes approaching Pearl Harbor because they "muffed the situation and let the Japs outsmart them."

Quoting his acquaintance with President Roosevelt, Kimmel said it began when he served as

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TAR HEEL TESTIFIES—Acting Secretary of War Kenneth Royall, of Goldsboro, is pictured here as he defended the Army's demobilization plan in testifying before a Congressional committee in Washington. Gen. Royall is serving as Secretary of War in the absence of Secretary Patterson. An officer in World War I the Goldsboro attorney was serving as a brigadier general in the Army when he was appointed Undersecretary of War a few months ago. (Acme Photo.)

Southerners Line Up To Fight FEPC

Senate Business Is Tied Up

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—A group of Southern Democratic Senators organized today to block action on a bill to establish a permanent FEPC and promptly tied up Senate business through a parliamentary maneuver.

Immediately after the opening prayer, a roll call showed 21 Senators—more than a quorum—present and Majority Leader Barkley, Kentucky, made the customary requests for unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the journal of yesterday's proceedings.

OVERTON OBJECTS
Senator Overton, Democrat, Louisiana, a leading opponent of the bill, on a motion for a Fair Employment Practice Commission, objected. He said he had examined the journal, noted a number of errors and desired to correct them.

The clerk began reading the parliamentary log at 12:15 P. M. 12-23 Senator Latture, Republican, North Dakota, a pro-FEPC man, moved to suspend the reading. Overton objected and the clerk listened on.

This was part of the strategy worked out by the Southerners at a conference before today's session. This group indicated they would take full advantage of every parliamentary tactic capable of delaying a vote.

At a meeting in the office of Senator Byrd, Democrat, Virginia, Senators Overton and Russell, Democrat, Georgia, were chosen members of the Southern group, apparently preparing for an immediate vote.

After the session, Overton told reporters: "You can say that we propose to fight this bill with every weapon in our sheath."

Overton estimated that fifteen Senators from Southern states attended the conference.

The wordiest filibuster since they took the stand threatened over the FEPC.

The advance billing had Capitol Hill harking back to the 30s when Louis, a Senator from Louisiana, made a filibuster in the Senate during which he discussed on a myriad of subjects, including the merits of the FEPC.

"I'm going to talk against it as long as God gives me breath," Senator Ellender, Democrat, West Virginia, said.

Senator Eastland, Democrat, Mississippi, promised that he and Senator McClellan, Democrat, Arkansas, would intend to speak twice—once to the FEPC legislation before them. Eastland said he would talk "backers" at the measure.

Senator Byrd, Democrat, Mississippi, who knows a filibuster when he is in one, informed newsmen that he would speak twice—three days at a time—against the measure which has been endorsed by the present Truman.

SURPRISE MOVE
The unexpected motion which called up the controversial bill before the Senate yesterday took up Southern opponents completely by surprise.

Eastland asserted that consideration of the bill had been "conceded" by labor unions to stave off anti-strike legislation.

"Backers of the measure were fully aware of the opposition's capability and ready to take countermeasures of their own."

Their most obvious weapon was a resort to cloture, a seldom-invoked parliamentary device to limit debate to a certain number of days. A two-thirds vote, and they were counting on it, see whether they could get it.

Senator Morse, Republican, Oregon, a vigorous advocate of FEPC, told a reporter a fundamental issue is involved: Whether the Senate should pass the bill.

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LEADERS OF STEEL FACTIONS—A Presidential effort to avert the strike of 800,000 steel workers, set for Monday, had met failure today and the chiefs of industry and labor disputants remained at odds. Shown above are Philip Murray (left) United Steel Workers' president, who today agreed to accept the Truman compromise, and Benjamin Fairless, president of the United States Steel Corp., who rejected it, as they shook hands at an earlier White House meeting.

Hearings End Drafters Stymied By Volunteering

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Over protests, a special Senate committee ended its public hearings on Army demobilization today after hearing Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey blame heavy enlistments for a lag in draft quotas.

Chairman Edwin C. Johnson, Democrat, Colorado, announced the termination and promptly drew from Senator Briggs, Democrat, Missouri, a complaint that "only one side of the case has been presented to look them over."

Senator Revercomb, Republican, West Virginia, third member of the group, also protested that he had received many letters from soldiers and wanted the committee to look them over.

Johnson replied that the hearings already held should provide the committee with all the facts necessary to answer complaints of GIs who want to get home or out of the Army.

NOT SATISFIED
Briggs noted that the committee had heard only top War Department and the draft leader and said he wanted to go further into the matter.

"I'm not satisfied," Briggs said. "You have been strangely silent while witnesses were here. I've been trying to listen."

Finally the three agreed that they would report to the Senate on the subject with the unions concerned."

Palm Trees Exhibited By Hotel In Winter

By SPENCER DAVIS (Substituting for Hal Boyle)
CHINSIEN, Manchuria, Jan. 11 (Delayed)—In the dead of winter, the Manchurian Winter, it might surprise you to find cactus and palm trees decorating the lobby of Chinhsien's leading hotel.

It might surprise you if you were not so numb with cold that you are beyond astonishment. You accept it as a minor phenomena of a city where Japan tried to bridge a 4,000-year gap in fourteen years—and almost succeeded.

Chinhsien has its separate Chinese and Japanese-built cities. One is as ancient as Bamnerman of the Mongolian Steppes. The other is new with "Made in Japan" blazer

Truman In Steel Appeal

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—President Truman publicly appealed again to U. S. Steel today to avert a nationwide steel strike by accepting his compromise wage proposal.

The President issued his appeal after the corporation rejected his proposal.

The CIO steelworkers had accepted the President's recommendation of a 10 to 12 cents hourly increase for the 800,000 workers set to walkout at 12:01 A. M. Monday.

"I still hope, and on behalf of the great mass of American citizens, strongly urge, that my suggestion of settlement be adopted by the United States Steel Corp.," the President said.

"A strike in the steel industry will be felt in practically every major industry in the United States. It will hamper our reconversion effort. It will stall our attempts to establish a sound economy to which our veterans can return."

NOT A PATTERN
Mr. Truman said that in suggesting 10 to 12 cents for a settlement of the dispute was "not endeavoring to set a pattern for all industry." controversy should be worked out on its own merits," he said.

"In this connection I regret that we do not have legislation, such as I have recommended, which would require a cooling-off period of 30 days. During these 30 days, I am confident that some settlement could be reached. I urge the steel industry to accept this offer."

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U. S. Steel Rejects Plan While Union Accepts It

Strike Is Set For Monday

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Presidential mediation failed today and a strike of 800,000 steel workers is scheduled to begin at 12:01 A. M. Monday. President Truman had proposed an increase of 18 1/2 cents an hour in steel workers' wages.

The CIO United Steel Workers' Union accepted but United States Steel Corp., through Benjamin F. Fairless, president, rejected, with the assertion that steel reached a limit when it offered a 15-cent hike.

UNION ACCEPTANCE
In accepting the Presidential proposal, Philip Murray, steelworkers president, wrote Mr. Truman that he consistently with the steadfast policy of promoting the national welfare and protecting the interest of its members, the union officers were recommending approval of his proposal by their wage policy committee.

White House Press Secretary Charles C. Ross said the President had no plans for setting the industry and no further steps were under consideration at the moment for averting the strike.

Murray, who had sent a letter accepting the proposal which was to have been retroactive to Jan. 1, had scheduled a news conference for late today.

In a letter to the President, made public by U. S. Steel offices here, Benjamin F. Fairless, president of the company, wrote that the proposal was "not amenable to granting in full the union's revised demand of a wage increase of 19 1/2 cents an hour."

"In our opinion," Fairless continued, "there is no just basis from any point of view for a strike which would cause the steelworkers of the large size increase, if put into effect, is certain to result in great financial harm, not only to the steel industry but also to users of steel in general."

Fairless wrote Mr. Truman that he had "made every effort" to get other Government officials during our conferences in Washington over the past few days through a limit in the extent to which union wage demands can be met by U. S. Steel.

LIMIT REACHED
The letter continued that "until" the latter continued that "until" we raised our offer to the union last Friday from a wage increase of 12 1/2 cents an hour to 15 cents an hour.

This indicated that Fairless had made no further wage concessions in three White House conferences Tuesday, Wednesday and yesterday.

The letter from Fairless was delivered to the White House at about 10:30 A. M. and came about an hour after the deadline previously fixed by the President.

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Earthquake Routs Negro Troops From Movie Show

SYDNEY.—(AP)—Dispatches from Lae, New Guinea, today reported a "violent earthquake had shaken the camp of 15 cents an hour, stamped at a movie being shown to American Negro troops."

The camp of 300 "reminded by a flash," the report said. Bottles and crockery tumbled from shelves, basins and beds were shaken from the swaying breadfruit trees, and buildings shuddered.

The ground rocked so alarmingly that many Australian troops preparing to embark for their homeland believed the Rabaul volcano had erupted. A message to the former Japanese base brought word that all was quiet, though, however.

WEATHER

Fair and slightly warmer today. Lowest temperature tonight 30 degrees. Saturday fair and mild.
Temperature at 2:30 today 48
Wind from west 24 hours 48
Sunset tomorrow 5:10
Sunrise tomorrow 6:10