

Crane Topples Into Missile Silo, 6 Die

ROSWELL, N.M. (UPI) — The giant 35-ton crane tumbled toward the edge of the intercontinental missile launching silo under construction.

The 75-foot towering boom of the mechanical monster swayed as the caterpillar tracks neared the lip of the gaping hole in the earth.

Suddenly the ordinary cacophony of construction was obliterated by the screech of twisting steel, the dull rumbling of crushed concrete, followed by the anguished screams of stunned workers 170 feet below.

The mechanical monster came crashing down, pulling men, equipment and structural steel with it. A rain of flaming gasoline fell on the men in the bottom of the 52-foot-wide tube after the crane's gas tank exploded near the top.

The accident Thursday killed six men and injured 14 others. Two of the injured were not expected to live.

Second Worst
It was the second worst accident in the history of the U.S. missile bases. The worst happened May 22, 1958, when an Army Nike-Ajax ground-to-air missile exploded on its launching rack at Leonardo, N.J., killing 10 men. That accident happened at an operational missile base.

The Roswell base still is under construction. Eight catwalks ring the silo at intervals of about 20 feet. Some men were on these catwalks when the crane toppled over. At least one was swept 14 stories to his death.

The crane operator jumped clear just in time to save himself.

The more quick-footed workers at the bottom of the silo ran into a tunnel leading off from one side to escape the fire and falling debris. Those who hesitated were killed.

It was not possible to determine exactly how many men were in the silo when the crane started to fall, but at least five of those killed were at the bottom.

One Of Twelve
The accident happened at one of 12 Atlas ICBM launching sites under construction around Ros-

Santa Maria Home With One Passenger

LISBON (UPI) — Tugboats, yachts and launches blew their sirens and whistle when the big white ship sailed proudly into port.

On the docks, thousands of people, including Premier Antonio Oliveira Salazar, cheered and shouted greetings.

This was the Santa Maria, queen of the Portuguese fleet, returning home Thursday from a voyage that will go down in history. Its fantastic sea saga of rebellion and seizure was over, but not forgotten.

The 30,000-ton cruise liner arrived from Recife, Brazil, with only one passenger, an American who had experienced the ship's seizure and surrender by Portuguese rebels last month. The quiet crossing was in sharp contrast to the 12-day trip in South American waters under rebel command when the 607 passengers were held captive and rationed on food and water.

Salazar, against whom rebel leader Henrique Galvao's seizure of the liner was directed, boarded the ship and greeted Capt. Simoes Maia and other members of the crew. Their refusal to join Galvao and his 70-man band forced the rebels to surrender the ship in Brazil.

"The Santa Maria is with us again," Salazar told the cheering crowd. "I thank you, Portuguese people."

The lone passenger was Howard R. Weisberger, 55, of Las Vegas, Nev., who had the run of the ship and more than 200 crewmen to wait on him.

When newsmen approached Weisberger, a retired bachelor businessman, he said: "You don't want to talk to me, I'm no hero. I'm just a victim."

"I have nowhere I want to get to in a hurry, and this is as good a ship to travel in as any, right now, anyway," he said.

well, Carrizozo and Walker Air Force Base. It is located about 23 miles northeast of Roswell on U.S. Highway 70.

Each silo is designed to hold one missile, completely hidden underground and standing on its tail. The silos are spaced several miles apart to keep them from all being wiped out at once in case of enemy attack.

This was the second time a crane has fallen into one of the big concrete-lined pits. In the other similar accident the crane operator jumped out just as it went over and suffered a broken leg but no one else was injured.

Storms Costly To Nation's Economy

NEW YORK (UPI) — The blizzards and biting cold that slowed the pace of life to a crawl in recent weeks in many parts of the nation also congealed the bloodstream of the economy, piling up losses of untold millions of dollars.

Economists and statistical agencies declined to hazard a guess as to the actual dollar loss in trade, production and wages, but they were agreed the expected dismal showing of the economy recently cannot be blamed entirely on the recession.

The local retailer undoubtedly was hardest hit by the near-record snowfalls and Siberian cold wave.

Merchants in this metropolitan area virtually have written off a week of business as a complete loss as a result of a ban on all non-essential passenger car travel and paralyzed public transportation.

Retail Sales Drop
Retail dollar sales in the week ended Feb. 8 slumped by as much as 10 per cent nationally, according to Dun & Bradstreet, a retail business reporting agency. Merchants in New England who bore the brunt of the winter onslaught reported their business was down by as much as 20 per cent.

Federal Reserve Board figures show that sales of the nation's department stores in the first week of February were down 5 per cent from the volume of a year ago while sales for the year to date were off 4 per cent from the 1959 period.

The snarling of rail and truck transportation and the inability of workers to get to their jobs forced many big industrial factories either to shut down or operate on sharply curtailed schedules.

In the big steel centers of the eastern states, where normal operations are running at only about 50 per cent of capacity, production fell even lower in the latter part of January and early February because of the crippling effects of snow storms.

Outdoor Work Stops
Construction, mining, quarrying and other outdoor activities were brought to almost a complete standstill by the fury of the elements.

The auto industry also is count-

ing up its staggering losses from weather conditions. Automotive News, trade publication, reported that car sales in the Northeast during the week of the "big snow" were nearly wiped out.

January car sales totaled 368,900 units, down from 488,160 units in December and 453,270 in January, 1960. The impact of the weather on already sagging auto sales came at a time when the industry's inventory of unsold new cars peaked at more than one million units.

In the last 10 days of January the industry production figure was the lowest in more than six years.

Ag Opportunity Day At Purdue Saturday

Some 1500 Indiana high school students are expected to visit Purdue University's campus Saturday, on the third annual agricultural opportunity day, sponsored by the Purdue Agricultural Alumni association.

The program will open at 12:45 p. m., in the hall of music with Frank E. De LaCroix, ag. alumni association president, in charge. Dr. F. L. Howde, Purdue's president, and Dr. Earl L. Butz, Purdue's dean of agriculture, will speak.

A 45-minute class room question and answer session will follow. Boys will visit classrooms on Purdue's agricultural campus and have a chance to ask questions of members of the school of agriculture teaching staff. Simultaneously girls will visit the home economics buildings. Then both groups will visit Purdue's residence halls and the new recreational gymnasium.

A variety show, featuring Purdue's glee club, will complete the program.

Maurice L. Williamson, Association field secretary, said 51 county Purdue ag. alumni chapters plan to bring students to campus.

William Journey, ag teacher at Decatur high school, is in charge of the delegation planning to attend from Adams county. Leo N. Seltner, county agent, will also accompany the group as well as other ag alumni members.



BROWNIE TROOP 256 is shown following a tour of the Decatur Daily Democrat Wednesday afternoon. Pictured from left to right in the front row, are Ann Cowan, Karen Johnson, Cathy Schnepf; second row, Brenda Roughie, Julie Anderson, Cynthia Shannon, Cindy Feltz; third row, Nancy Grabbill, Mary Rae Heller, Susan Shraluka, and Kendra Fraser. Leaders of the troop are Mrs. Bob Shraluka and Mrs. Bob Heller.

Two Muncie Men Are Killed In Accident

By United Press International
A New York Central Railroad passenger train crashed into a car at a crossing near Muncie late Thursday, killing two men and boosting the 1961 Indiana traffic death toll to at least 108.

State police reported 119 persons had been killed in Indiana traffic accidents by this time last year.

Killed outright were Carl Marshall Curtis, 38, the driver of the car, and Amil Morgan, a passenger, both of Muncie.

The accident occurred at a free-guarded crossing on Proctor Rd. about a mile west of Muncie. Apparently Curtis did not see the train coming, police said.

Scores Of Miners Trapped In Africa

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (UPI) — A thousand pounds of dynamite exploded in a gold mine near here today, trapping or killing scores of native miners working deep below ground.

The blast occurred about 8 a. m. shattering heavy wooden shoring in a shaft and causing tons of water to pour into the lower levels of the mine.

Rescue workers recovered the bodies of seven miners by noon. Three men felled by fumes were brought to the surface alive.

One rescue worker said, "Everything is quiet down there—nothing moves." He said heavy timbers were smashed "to matchwood." Other rescuers said the bodies of miners were strewn around the bottom of the shaft.

Unofficial reports said at least 60 men were in the mine when the dynamite exploded. A spokesman for the general mining group was unable to confirm this figure.

Chicago Produce

CHICAGO (UPI)—Produce: Live poultry no USDA price quotations.

Cheese single daisies 40 - 42½; longhorns 40½-43; processed loaf 38-41; Swiss Grade A 51-55; B 49-51; C not reported.

Butter steady; 93 score 60½; 92 score 60½; 90 score 59½; 89 score 58½.

Eggs steady to firm; white large extras 41; mixed large extras 40; mediums 40; standards 39.

INDIANAPOLIS LIVESTOCK

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — Livestock:

Hogs 5,500; steady to 25 higher; uniform 190-230 lb 18.65-19.00; bulk 180-240 lb 18.00-18.50; some to 18.75; 240-270 lb 17.50-18.00; some to 18.35; 270-350 lb 17.25-17.75; 150-175 lb 16.50-18.00; sows 300-400 lb 16.25-17.00; some to 17.25; 400-600 lb 15.5-16.50.

Cattle 125; calves 25; not enough steers and heifers to establish market; cows steady; utility and commercial cows 14.5-16.00; few utility 16.50; canners and cutters 13.00-15.00; low canners 12.00-12.50; bulls steady; utility and commercial 17.00-20.00; fat commercials 16.00; not enough vealers to test market; few good and choice 28.00-35.00; utility and standard 17.00-25.00.

Sheep 50; not enough to test market.

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK

CHICAGO (UPI)—Livestock:

Hogs 4,000; steady to 25 higher; most advance on 240 lb up; around 140 head mostly No 1-2 195-215 lb 18.90-19.00; mixed No 1-2 190-240 lb 18.25-18.75; 240-270 lb 17.75-18.50; largely 18.00-18.50; mixed No 2-3 and 3 270-300 lb 17.75-18.25; load No 3 330 lb 17.50.

Cattle 500; calves none; too few slaughter steers, heifers or vealers for price test; cows and bulls steady; commercial cows 15.50-17.00; utility 15.75-17.00.

Sheep 100; hardly enough any class for market test; few sales slaughter lambs steady; choice 90-105 lb native lambs 17.50-18.00; good and choice 16.00-17.50.

New York Stock Exchange Prices

Midday Prices
Central Soya 29½
General Electric 65½

AFL-CIO Says Action Needed On Recession

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The AFL-CIO told Congress today that U.S. world leadership might stand or fall on how this country deals with the current economic recession.

The union said in prepared testimony that the United States must show other nations that a free, democratic government could meet such problems with speed and concern for the people.

Nelson Cruikshank, AFL-CIO Social Security director, told the House Ways & Means Committee there might have been a time when this country could afford "breadlines" in the court of world opinion, but not now.

The battle between communism and democracy for men's minds and loyalties all over the globe is too crucial, he said.

Hearings Near End
The House group heard the union views as it went into its third and final day of public hearings on President Kennedy's anti-recession plan to extend unemployment benefits.

The administration's \$950 million program would provide additional help to an estimated three million workers whose jobless pay benefits have either run out or are expected to be exhausted in the next year. Employers would foot the bill.

A companion measure proposed by Kennedy also would make available \$350 million in federal-state public assistance aid for a million needy children of out-of-work parents.

Cruikshank told the congressmen: "A ruthless and desperate foe is proclaiming to the restless peoples of the world that this country under our system of government cannot meet the needs of its own working people and is therefore unfit to lead the world in the paths of freedom. We must give the lie to that challenge."

Number Grows Daily
The AFL-CIO official stressed the urgency of the President's request. He said it was a "tragic fact" that as each day goes by another 7,000 families use up all their unemployment benefits. Kennedy has said that the total number of workers in this plight is now 500,000.

"The question is no longer whether to take action," Cruikshank said, "but what action."

He said Congress should quickly approve Kennedy's emergency request and they get to work on some "long-needed repair" in jobless pay program.

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Savings Bond Sales Increase In State

Indiana's U. S. savings bonds sales in January recorded a 7.6 per cent gain over the corresponding period of last year, according to a report made to T. F. Gralik, chairman of the Adams county U. S. savings bonds committee.

The state's sales for January were \$13,966,058 and \$12,979,805 for January, 1960.

Fifty-one of the state's 92 counties reported sales increases for the month. Savings bonds sales in Adams county in January were \$79,243.00 and \$112,861.26 for the like period of 1960. Both industrial and farming areas were included among the counties reporting sales increases. A study of the sales statistics reveals a substantial investment volume in Savings Bonds in addition to the sales on the Payroll Savings Plan by the small investor.

Bank Bandit Kills One Of Hostages

LAKE CHARLES, La. (UPI) — The young Negro bank robber ordered his three hostages, two women and a man, out of the car and shot them as they fled.

When one of the women squirmed in the dirt on the side of the road, he pulled out a knife and stabbed her again and again to make sure she was finished. The other two lay sprawled on the ground and "played dead." It probably saved their lives.

It happened Thursday night before closing time at a branch of the Gulf National Bank. The branch stays open late on Thursday.

Less than three hours after the bandit stuffed \$14,049 into a little black suitcase and kidnapped the three bank employees, he was arrested at a roadblock driving the car belonging to Mrs. Julie Ferguson, 50, who died en route to a hospital. She had been stabbed in the throat and near her heart.

Mrs. Dora McCain, 30, and Jay Hickman, 50, manager of the branch, were reported to be recovering from their bullet wounds. Doctors took a bullet out of Mrs. McCain's neck early today. Hickman was shot in the shoulder.

Mrs. McCain, an attractive blonde, told sheriff's deputies that despite the pain in her neck, she was able to hold her breath and lie still. She said she believed that if she hadn't "played dead," the Negro would have stabbed her too.

Sheriff Henry Ried Jr. identified the bandit as Wilbur Rideau, 19, who worked for a fabric shop in the South Gate Shopping Center near the bank. He said charges of murder, aggravated kidnapping and armed robbery would be filed today.

Rideau still had the suitcase full of money with him when he was arrested, but he didn't have the .22 caliber pistol he used to holdup the bank and shoot his three hostages. Authorities said he must have thrown it away, but early today they hadn't found it.

Recount Likely Of 5th District Vote

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A recount of votes in Indiana's 5th congressional district will probably have to be made to determine who won the November election, according to Rep. Omar Burleson, D-Tex., chairman of the House Administration Committee.

In a prepared statement Thursday, Burleson said "it is assumed that it will be necessary to recount all ballots" to determine whether George O. Chambers, R-Anderson, or former Rep. J. Edward Roush, D-Huntington, will be seated in the House.

Late Wednesday, Rep. Robert T. Ashmore, D-S.C., chairman of the elections subcommittee, scheduled a hearing for Tuesday to hear testimony and decide whether a recount would be necessary.

Roush and Chambers, with their respective attorneys, were expected to attend the meeting. Each believes a recount would increase his margin of victory in the Nov. 8 election which Roush maintained he won by 2 votes and Chambers by 12.

The House decided to seat neither until the committee investigated the matter and submitted a report which then would be subject to a vote by the entire membership.

Burleson said his mail has been heavy from Indiana, inquiring why Congress didn't do something about seating some representative from the 5th District. He promised that a representative would be seated "as soon as possible."

Judge Stults Orders Man To Leave Decatur

Walter Vanable, of Connerville, was ordered to leave town by city court judge John B. Stults, after a fine of \$10 and costs and six months sentence at the penal farm was suspended.

Vanable was arrested for public intoxication at 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon on 13th street. He was brought to court this morning and fined and sentenced. Both were suspended, however, and Vanable was ordered to leave town.

Motorist Fined For Running Stop Sign

Charles E. Neal, 21, Fort Wayne, paid a fine of \$1 and costs, totaling \$18.75, in J.P. court Wednesday afternoon. Neal was arrested February 9 for disregarding the stop sign at the corner of 5th and Monroe streets.

The People's Voice

This column is for the use of our readers who wish to make suggestions for the general good or discuss questions of interest. No articles will be published without signature of the author.

Complains On Dogs

Dear Friends,

Those who love and care for their pets, especially dogs, do not allow them to run around and bother others. But when the dogs are enticed away by piles of garbage and bones it is the dog's nature to follow the scent. When people are careless and deliberate in this it causes so much confusion and barking both day and night. Then, too, the bones are carried home by the dogs and strewn over the lawns and get embedded in the grass. When the rotary mower is used the blade throws the bones and a person could be seriously hurt, and it might be a child. Perhaps one would not think of this. If a person gives his dog a bone he should not be allowed to carry it all over the lot and it should be picked up immediately so a stray will not carry it off.

Sincerely,
Grace M. Hill

Driver Is Arrested Following Accident

One driver was arrested following a two-car accident, on 13th street at 10:03 p. m. Thursday.

Judith Lynn Roberts, 18, 1039 Russell street, was arrested for reckless driving and will appear in J. P. court at 2 p. m. Saturday.

The Roberts girl was driving north on 13th street when the car in front of her, operated by Richard Allen Huffine, 20, Willshire, O., attempted a left turn into a service station. She started to pass the Huffine car on the right, but struck the right rear fender of the car. Damages were estimated at \$200 to the Roberts' car and \$100 to the Huffine vehicle.

Thomas Lutes, 33, route 4, Decatur, struck a parked car owned by Darrel Jimmie Brodbeck, 634 Line street, at 2:34 o'clock this morning, sustaining damages of \$200 to the truck he was driving and \$125 to the parked car.

Lutes stated he was driving south on Line street when he struck a bump in the street, which pulled his vehicle into the right front fender of the Brodbeck car which was parked on the west side of the street, in front of Brodbeck's home.

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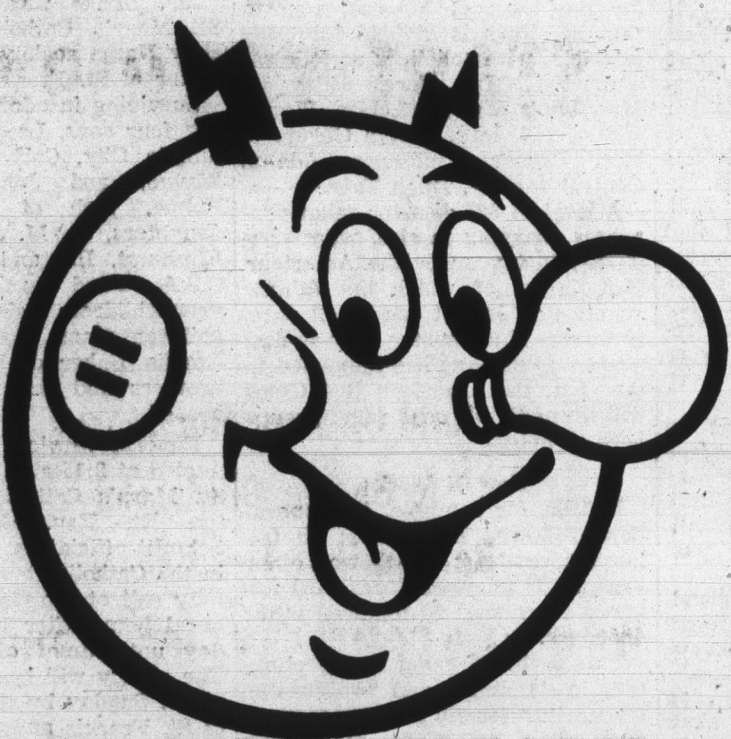
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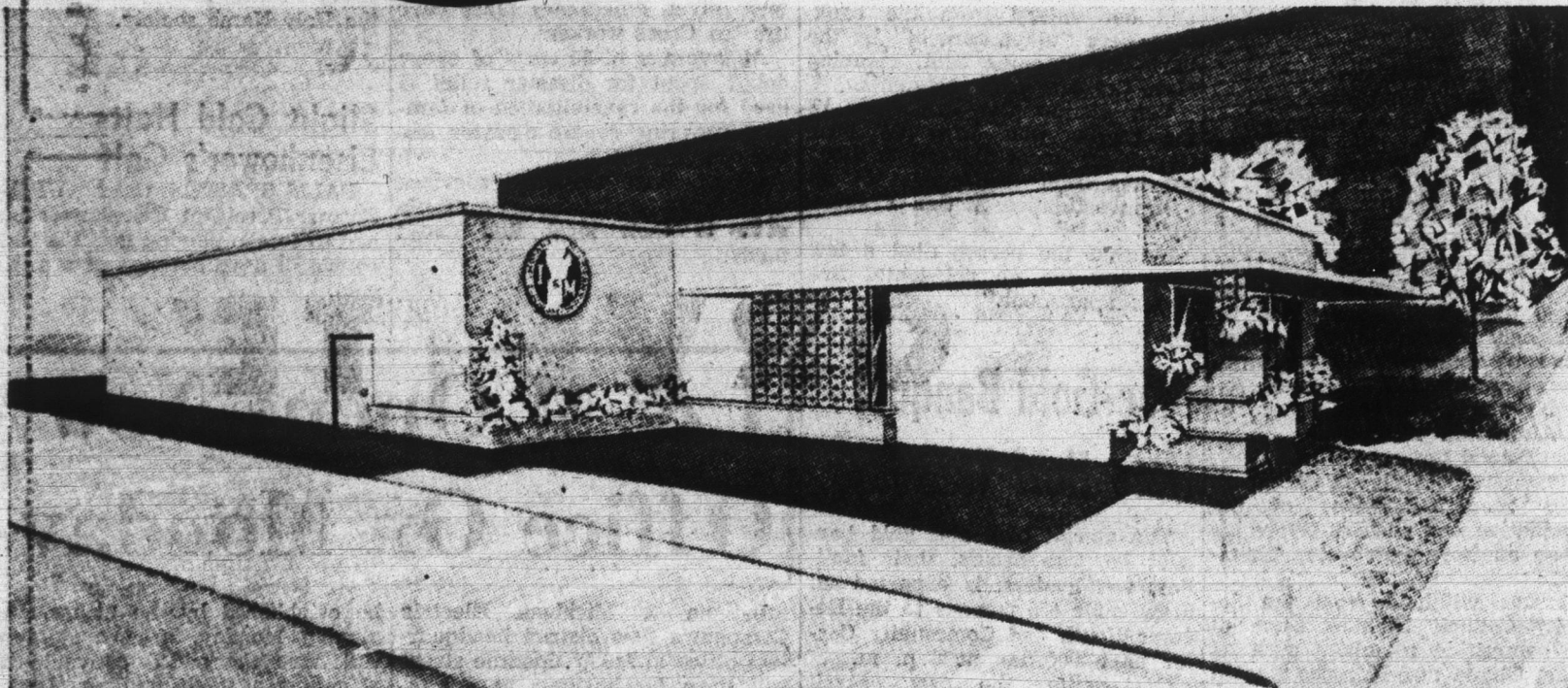
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