

# TWO NOW HELD IN FLORIST'S SLAYING



Charles DeGraffenreid

## MID-AIR RESCUE SAVES HOOSIER

### Chute Collapses; Another Paratrooper Grasps Silk, Hangs On.

A fantastic mid-air rescue saved the life of Pfc. Floyd Oliver, Waldron, during a recent parachute practice jump somewhere in New Guinea.

His chute collapsed and as he started falling through space, the tentmate, whom he passed, grabbed the silk of the doomed man's chute and wrapped it around his own arms and legs, holding on until both landed. The tentmate, Pfc. William Lively, Dallas, Tex., was uninjured and Pfc. Oliver received only a back injury.

The feat was witnessed by hundreds, including Brig. Gen. Albert Pearson, assistant divisional commander.

"I don't know how I did it," Pfc. Lively said. "I just saw him going by and when I got hold of the silk I wrapped it around my arms and legs. I didn't know who it was until we were almost on the ground. I wasn't thinking of anything except holding on."

It was the fourth jump for each man and was made from about 700 feet. The rescue was made at about 300 feet.

Pvt. Oliver is now in the hospital but grinning, and introduces Pfc. Lively to his friends as "The guy who saved my life because I sure thought I was a goner."

## SHOWDOWN NEAR IN M. E. S. A. STRIKE

CLEVELAND, Sept. 4 (U. P.).—A strike at the Cleveland Graphite Bronze Co., which threatens to spread into a general walkout of 64,000 war workers in three cities, headed for a showdown today as the company prepared to resume operations on the night shift.

Mayor Frank J. Lausche issued a strong appeal to the 6000 local strikers last night after he had failed to bring together the management and the Merchants Educational Society of America in a last ditch effort to end the five-day walkout.

The strike, which started last Wednesday in protest against the dismissal of a worker who had broken a 75-cent lock, has completely halted production of bearings for B-29 Superfortresses. Two army trucks penetrated the picket lines Friday to haul away the last bearings finished at the plant.

The M. E. S. A.'s 190-man executive board gathered here for an emergency session Wednesday to consider calling a general strike of union members in Cleveland, Detroit and Toledo, O., to support local strikers who already have ignored two back-to-work orders of the regional WLB.

## 2 YOUTHS HELD IN ROOMING THEFTS

Three 17-year-old youths who evidently realized that the best way to get into a house is to rent one of its rooms were held today by detectives in connection with an alleged "inside job" rooming house racket.

In statements obtained by Detective Sgts. William O'Rourke and Lee Oliver, the boys confessed to having rented rooms on the North side with the idea of looting the homes after sizing them up from the interior. They admitted taking "several hundred dollars" in this manner, the detectives said.

Also arrested in connection with the "rooming racket" were Albert Wells, 31, 2125 N. Illinois st., on a charge of receiving stolen goods, and John Cassidy, 22, 2226 Central ave., on a vagrancy charge. Police said the "teen-age suspects" accused Wells of accepting "hot" loot including alarm clocks, electric fans, table radios, jewelry and luggage. They also implicated Cassidy, the detectives added.

## ASKS MAJORITY FACT VOTE

NEW YORK, Sept. 4 (U. P.).—Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, today advocated an amendment to the constitution to permit ratification of treaties by a majority vote of both houses of congress instead of by a two-thirds vote of the senate as at present.

## BOY DRINKS WHISKY, DIES

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 4 (U. P.).—While his mother and a party of friends were in a downtown cafe, 6-year-old Rudolph Fierro consumed most of a fifth of a gallon bottle of whisky and died a short time later of alcohol poisoning, police reported today.

## PLAN N. Y.-EUROPE AIR LINE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4 (U. P.).—The Moore-McCormack Steamship Lines today asked the civil aeronautics board for permission to establish international airplane service between New York and major cities in South America and Europe.

## Mrs. Wiedenhoft's Identification of Suspect 'Positive,' Becker Says.

Charles DeGraffenreid, 33, of 1925 Hovey st., has been "positively identified" by Mrs. Carrie Wiedenhoft as one of the midnight assassins who killed her husband, florist Gus Wiedenhoft, in a robbery attack at their South side home June 30, Police Chief Clifford Becker declared today.

Although the identification was made shortly after DeGraffenreid was arrested July 29, the chief until yesterday insisted that it was "not positive" and unreliable. It was believed that official details of the case were withheld pending the arrest Saturday of Ryan Woodson, 30, 2301 Kenwood ave., charged with being a "material witness."

Both suspects are held on vagrancy charges in default of \$10,000 bonds.

## Rift Spotlights

A possible solution of the Wiedenhoft murder served today to spotlight the widening rift between Chief Becker and Detective Chief Jesse McMurry. On some phases of the probe, Becker's personal investigations, launched with the assistance of his trusted confidante, Capt. Alfred Schulz, are known to have crossed paths with operations of McMurry's sleuthing staff.

Factors setting Becker and McMurry against each other have had the effect of seriously dividing uniform and detective division jurisdiction. Failure of each group to keep the other informed at all times on progress of various investigations has led to some duplication of effort.

McMurry is the right-hand man at police headquarters of Safety Board President Will H. Remy, with whom Becker has been feuding for the past four months. If McMurry should ever be deposed, as rumored, his logical successor would be Capt. Schulz.

## Revolver Is Clue

Most strategic clue leading to the arrest of DeGraffenreid and Woodson appeared to be a .38 caliber Smith & Wesson revolver found near the scene of the crime. The weapon was stolen four months before the murder from the home of Mrs. Rosella Dowd, 1209 N. Capitol ave., who voiced to police her suspicions as to who might have taken it.

On the night of the murder, DeGraffenreid, according to police, limped into a Northwestern tavern, whispering to a friend that he had "just killed a man." DeGraffenreid is alleged to have informed him that he had leaped from a second-story window. Police previously had established the fact that the bludgeon-slayers had jumped out of a window at the house.

## Has Long Jail Record

The possessor of a long prison record, DeGraffenreid was employed by Roger Carey, 2702 Boulevard pl., a house cleaning contractor, who police said withheld DeGraffenreid's name from an employee list because he feared "it might hurt his business."

Chief Becker said DeGraffenreid had performed clean-up duties in the Wiedenhoft home, 2209 S. Meridian st., before the murder.

Mr. Wiedenhoft was fatally slugged with what police believe to have been a tire iron after two men assaulted his wife as she opened the door. His billfold was taken, but large amounts of money cached elsewhere in the house were untouched.

## FIGHT AXIS, RUSS WARN BULGARIA

LONDON, Sept. 4 (U. P.).—A Moscow political commentator said today that if Bulgaria broke completely with the Nazis and joined the allied fight against them, it would have a chance to regain its independence.

"Fate leads those who go willingly and drag by the collar those who resist," the commentator of the Community party organ Pravda said in a tacit warning to Bulgaria to throw in her lot with the United Nations.

An Ankara dispatch said the new Bulgarian government headed by Konstantine Kuraviev was expected to ask the assistance of Russian troops to disarm the Germans still on Bulgarian soil.

(The British radio reported from Cairo that a Bulgarian armistice delegation there had wired the new government in Sofia, and a reply was expected at any time.)

## FEIK JOINS INDIANA U. EXTENSION DIVISION

Prof. R. E. Cavanaugh, director of the Indiana university extension division, has announced the appointment of Roy W. Feik, former superintendent of East Chicago, Ind., schools, as assistant professor and administrative assistant of the division.

Mr. Feik has been manager of the Calumet district of the Purdue extension division for the last year. He was associated with East Chicago schools since 1916 and was superintendent there since 1934. Before his work in East Chicago, Mr. Feik was superintendent of schools in La Moille, Ill., for three years.

## IN INDIANAPOLIS

EVENTS TODAY  
Indiana 4-H Fair, fairgrounds.  
American Cryptogram association, convention, Claypool hotel.  
Exhibit, International Photography salon, Herron art museum.

## EVENTS TOMORROW

Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey circus, Victory Field.  
Rotary club, luncheon, Claypool, noon.  
Exhibit, International Photography salon, Herron art museum.

# Hoosier Heroes: Brezaussek, Anderson and Graff Killed; O'Brien, Burton Missing; 3 Hurt



S. Sgt. James O'Brien ... missing over Japan.



Lt. James Burton ... missing over Germany.



Pvt. Orville Johnson ... killed in France.

Sgt. Michael Brezaussek, son of Mrs. Anna Brezaussek, 956 Arnold ave., was killed in action Aug. 11 in France, his mother was notified yesterday.

The sergeant was 25 and had lived in Indianapolis all his life. He entered the army April 6, 1942, and had been overseas since November. He was serving with the infantry and had been in France only a few weeks.

Survivors, besides his mother, are his sister, Mrs. Anna Williams, of the Arnold ave. address, and a brother, Rudy, of 25 N. Bancroft ave. A high school class will be held at 8 a. m. Sept. 11 at the Holy Trinity Catholic church, of which Sgt. Brezaussek was a member.

S. Sgt. George P. Anderson, who was wounded June 14 but had returned to active duty, was killed in France July 31, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderson, 435 Manhattan ave., have learned.

Sgt. Anderson had received the purple heart for his wounds and returned to duty July 25. He entered the service in March, 1941, and was home on furlough in June, 1943.

The sergeant was 25 and a native of New Castle.

Pfc. Charles M. Graff, a former employee of the American National bank, was killed in action July 26 in France. He was serving with the infantry and had been overseas since May.

Pvt. Graff was 38 and worked at the bank 19 years until his induction in January, 1943. He attended Technical high school.

Survivors include a sister, Mrs. Edwin C. Jose, 6114 N. Ewing st., and a brother, Lawrence E., stationed with the navy at San Diego, Cal.

Pvt. Orville L. Johnson, husband of Mrs. Thelma Johnson, 1321 Broadway st., was killed in action Aug. 7 in France.

S. Sgt. James A. O'Brien, crew chief on one of the first B-29's to reach Japan, has been missing in action over Japan since Aug. 20.

He entered the service Sept. 28, 1942, and flew overseas with the rest of his crew in April, 1944. The sergeant attended one of the first B-29 schools in the United States at Seattle, Wash., and also received training at Keesler field, Miss.; Chanute field, Ill.; Lowry field, Denver, Colo., and Alameda, Calif.

A graduate of Cathedral high school in 1938, Sgt. O'Brien is 22 and attended Butler university for two years. Before entering the service, he was employed by McQuay-Norris Mfg. Co.

A brother, Pfc. John O'Brien, who was with the engineers when they constructed the Alcan highway, is in Australia.

Sgt. O'Brien is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. O'Brien, 1122 Woodlawn ave., and has two sisters and two brothers in Indianapolis. They are Mrs. Mary A. Reed, whose husband, Pfc. Edward C. Reed, is in France; Miss Margaret O'Brien; Thomas O'Brien and Joseph O'Brien.

Lt. James B. Burton, son of Mrs. Marie B. Burton, 6185 Norwalk ave., and husband of Mrs. Meryl Trimble Burton, Terre Haute, has been missing over Germany since Aug. 5. He is a bombardier on a B-29 and was operating from a base in Italy.

The lieutenant has been in service two years, received his wings March 18 at Kirtland field, Albuquerque, N. M., and was sent overseas July 14. He is the brother of Mrs. Bernice Klipp and Mrs. Mary Lou Commons, both of the Norwalk address.

Pfc. Everett L. Gentry, husband of Mrs. Lula Gentry, 2410 Roosevelt ave., and son of Mr. and Mrs. John Gentry, 2243 N. Dearborn st., was slightly wounded Aug. 10 in France.

He has been overseas since November and formerly was stationed at Camp Forrest, Tenn.

Pfc. Harry B. Shapiro, son of Mrs. Sarah Shapiro, 1109 S. Capitol ave., Okla.

was wounded July 6 in France and is in a hospital in England.

A former employee in the circulation department of the Indianapolis News, Pfc. Shapiro is 32. He has been overseas since April.

Cpl. Merle W. Norris, a veteran of almost four years with the marines, was wounded July 1 in the South Pacific.

He has been overseas twice, serving 18 months the first time. He was on board the carrier Hornet when it was torpedoed and sunk and then was in the United States a year. His last letter was written from the Marshalls area.

A native of Indianapolis, Cpl. Norris is the son of Ed Norris, 19 N. Cruse st., and attended School No. 9. He is 27.

His brother, Loren, is a corporal overseas and served on Guadalcanal.

Pfc. Patrick Dugan, a veteran of the invasions of North Africa, Sicily and France, was wounded Aug. 3 in France, after serving 18 months overseas.

He was also hospitalized this time last year, in North Africa.

Pfc. Dugan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Dugan, 351 N. Addison st.

Pfc. Meredith E. Nicholson, husband of Mrs. Anna Mae Nicholson, 2301 Hoyt ave., has been awarded the silver star for gallantry in action. He is serving with the 1st Infantry division in France.

The citation accompanying the award said:

"Pvt. Nicholson, a machinist, was in position at his gun when his company received a strong enemy counter-attack. Realizing that he could be of no assistance from his present position, with utter disregard for his own safety, and under heavy machinegun and small arms fire, he moved to the front lines and assisted his com-

rades in repelling the counter-attack."

"Pvt. Nicholson then remained in the front lines and assisted in evacuating the wounded. His courage and unselfish action was an inspiration to his comrades and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service."

First Lt. Henry Timbrook Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Timbrook Sr., 3728 N. Delaware st., has been awarded the distinguished flying cross for "extraordinary achievement while serving as navigator on a B-17 Flying Fortress on a number of combat bombardment missions over Germany and German occupied countries."

Lt. Timbrook is the husband of Mrs. Marcia McColly Timbrook, Rensselaer, and formerly was employed by the General Electric Co., Schenectady, N. Y. He was Indiana state junior golf champion in 1940, state amateur champion in 1941, and state intercollegiate champion in 1942. He attended Indiana university.

S. Sgt. William E. Krogher, 3716 College ave., a veteran of more than a score of combat missions over Europe, has been decorated with the distinguished flying cross. He has participated in bombing attacks on Berlin, Schweinfurt, Kiel, Emden, Munster, Ludwigshafen, Brunswick, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Kassel, Augsburg, Stuttgart and Saarbrücken.

Sgt. Krogher is 26 and holds the air medal and three oak leaf clusters. He formerly was a salesman for the P. Lorillard Co.

First Lt. Jack L. Prather, husband of Mrs. Jane S. Prather, Frankfurt, has been awarded the second bronze oak leaf cluster to the air medal. He is a pilot stationed in Italy with the 15th army air force Liberator group, which has struck at enemy communications and industrial centers.

A graduate of Frankfurt high school and the International business college at Ft. Wayne, Lt. Prather formerly was employed as an aircraft engine inspector with the Allison division of General Motors.

The Food Machinery Corp., which specializes in post-war innovations, today revealed details of the "defuzzer," which, whimsical as it sounds, promises to be a boon to peach growers.

Without whiskers, the peaches will command premium prices in eastern markets.

The gadget, produced by the

same company which builds "Water Buffalo" amphibious tanks for the armed forces, scrubs the fuzz from 15 tons of peaches per hour at a cost of one mill per box.

It's innards are simplicity itself, engineers explained. Just an area five by six feet full of conveyors belts and little horsehair brushes topped off by an exhaust fan to suck away the down. It's operated by a one-horsepower motor.

There's only one flaw to the whole plan—nobody has figured out what to do with the fuzz.

## NEW GEOLOGIC MAP FIRST OF ITS KIND

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Sept. 4.—A new map of the United States, depicting the complete geologic structure of the nation, will be available soon. The four-by-six-foot map, in seven colors each indicating geological features, is the first of its kind to be published.

This map, technically a tectonic map, was prepared after nine years of work by a committee of 16 experts headed by Dr. Chester R. Longwell, professor of geology at Yale. The committee is a division of the National Research council. The other members were geologists from universities, the government, and from petroleum and other industries. The map will be obtainable from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Tulsa, Okla.

## SPAIN DENIES PLOT TO HARBOR NAZIS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4 (U. P.).—The Spanish embassy here says the Spanish government has "nothing in common" with Nazism and certainly has no intentions of providing a haven for axis criminals.

Denying charges broadcast by the Moscow radio, the embassy declared last night that "no one has ever contemplated providing a hiding place in Spain for the enemies of the allied countries."

Six German ships and "a small number" of German customs officers who sought refuge in Spain when cut off from their homeland by allied advances have been interned, the embassy declared.

"The government of Spain wishes to stress once more," it said, "the fact that the Spanish regime has nothing in common with national socialism (Nazism), which is condemned by the church, while Spain's own regime is essentially based on Christian principles."

## Platt-LePage Helicopter Now Being Tested



Although the Platt-LePage helicopter, XR-1, is still in the experimental stage, it may yet see military service. This eye-arresting dual-rotor aircraft weighs 4800 pounds and is powered with a 450-horsepower Pratt & Whitney engine, the most powerful ever installed in a helicopter. Two streamlined pylons extend from either side of the fuselage holding the single rotors which are 30 feet, 6 inches in diameter.

# INDIANA R. R. BUS STOPPAGE ENDS

## Dispute on Safety of Coaches Ties Up Service Over Week-End.

Drivers on the Indiana Railroad bus lines were making their regular runs today following settlement of a dispute that resulted in 24-hour service stoppage from 3 p. m. Saturday until 3 p. m. yesterday, the peak of the holiday travel rush.

The dispute centered around five buses which the drivers, members of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric, Railway and Motor Coach Employees (A. F. of L.) said were unsafe to drive.

Union officials said four drivers were discharged by the company Saturday morning for refusing to take out the five buses.

## Military Passenger, Only

Other drivers then put into effect a policy of admitting as passengers only military personnel. At 3 p. m. all service was ordered stopped, leaving thousands of persons planning holiday trips stranded along the routes of the lines to Terre Haute, Anderson, Ft. Wayne, Muncie and Ft. Harrison.

Company officials said there was no lockout against drivers, and union officials denied there was a strike.

Federal Labor Conciliator Arthur C. Ingles and James D. Collins, of the Indiana public service commission, presided over a conference yesterday at which a compromise was reached.

## Bus Inspection Set

The agreement provided for inspection of the five buses as to their road-worthiness by a committee composed of members of the P. S. C., the interstate commerce commission, the company and the union.

Union drivers agreed to abide by the committee's decision and take out buses declared road-worthy.

Company officials agreed to reinstate discharged drivers and submit to arbitration the question of whether drivers should be paid for time lost during the stoppage period.

## CHURCHES RAP IMPERIALISM

NEW YORK, Sept. 4 (U. P.).—The Federal Council of Churches, warning that any tendency toward "narrow isolationism or economic imperialism" would contribute to another world war, appealed to management and labor today to "co-operate whole-heartedly in a vast program for world-wide peace and prosperity."

The tiny airborne tank has the appearance of a toy Gen. Sherman. From the ground to the top of its turret is only about five feet. Flown into Normandy on D-day by glider, the Locust proved it was no plaything by effectively cleaning out enemy machinegun nests which expected to find only infantry opposing them.

The Locust is armed with a rapid-fire 37 mm. machine gun and has a top speed of about 40 miles an hour. More will undoubtedly be heard from it in behind-the-lines battles if the Germans attempt to make a stand on their West wall.

Still another piece of army ordnance shown for the first time is a new 60 mm. mortar designed especially for jungle fighting.

# Studebaker's Water-Going 'Weasel'



Studebaker today revealed its new water-going version of the famed Weasel, the M-29C, which is capable of climbing steep river banks and is readily convertible to water travel. A bow and stern were added to the original "Weasel's" oblong body, increasing the length to 14½ feet. Hinged rudders were released over the stern.

## Travels on Land, Water or In Swamp With Equal Ease

(For details of the "Locust" See page 16)

ABERDEEN, Md., Sept. 4 (U. P.).—Gen. Mud surrendered unconditionally to American ingenuity today when the army rolled out the "Water Weasel" and proved it had a brand new light cargo and personnel carrier which is equally at home on land, water or in a swamp.

Other weapons unveiled for the first time at the ordnance testing center here included two new tank busters, the fastest hardest-hitting weapons of their type in the world; the "Locust," a new airborne tank made by Marmon-Herrington Co. of Indianapolis, and a light tank with fire power formerly found only in medium tanks.

The Weasel, which was designed primarily for use in jungle swamps against the Japanese, resembles a small boat mounted on tracks. In a series of dramatic tests it traveled easily across a huge bog in which it immediately became hopelessly stuck. It carries four men or half a ton of supplies.

The light tank destroyer, which mounts the new high velocity 76 mm. cannon, has proved so fast and maneuverable with its cruising speed of 50 miles per hour that the army is now hard put to supply reconnaissance vehicles which can keep pace with it.

Its heavier counterpart which

is the fastest major caliber tank destroyer in the world, ordnance men said. In the Battle of France, its 24-pound armor-piercing projectiles have knocked out every type of tank the Germans are using.

The light tank which was included in the proving ground parade of new mobile fighting machinery of the American 15 mm. which was at one time to be found only in medium tanks. Another notable feature is that each of its tracks rests on five large rubber-tired wheels.

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STRAUSS SAYS: STORE CLOSED TODAY

# GABARDINES

ALL WEATHER—ALL PURPOSE COATS FOR GENTLEMEN

The pick and choice of native and foreign coatings—tailored in a thoroughbred manner—giving a man a sense of Comfort and well-being—that endures through the years—in fair weather or foul—

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The Man's Store