

Hunt Huge French Ocean Airliner Off Africa Carrying 52

U. S. Ships Aid In Search for 6 Engine Craft

Sky Giant Missing Since Saturday Night

PARIS, Aug. 2 (UP)—Sea and air units searched the mid-Atlantic some 1400 miles west of the African coast today for a huge, six-engine French flying boat missing with 52 persons aboard.

The plane, a Latécoere 631, the largest commercial airliner in the world, was last heard from at 7 p. m. (Indianapolis time) Saturday.

It disappeared over the sea on a flight from Port de France, Martinique, in the French West Indies, to Port Etienne, French West Africa. Port Etienne is north of Dakar.

Air France said the missing plane carried 40 passengers and a crew of 12. No wreckage or debris was available in Paris. It was not known if any notables were aboard.

Authorities here reported that American long-range planes and regular cargo ships had joined the search, and that the French submarine Greble was dispatched to the area.

Warship Joins Hunt
French naval authorities ordered a warship and naval planes from Dakar to search for the missing airliner. Ships at sea were also notified to be on the lookout.

Air France sent two long range planes to join the search.
The U. S. Coast Guard cutter Campbell, on patrol duty in the mid-Atlantic, notified the U. S. Embassy that it was attempting to find the last known position of the giant Sky Queen.

Air France said the missing plane left Martinique at 9:50 a. m. Indianapolis time, Saturday and was scheduled to arrive at Port Etienne at 8 p. m. Indianapolis time. It was last heard from at 7 p. m. Indianapolis time, when it gave its position and said all was well.

Position Is Given
The position given by the plane was about 1400 miles short of its destination in an area some 850 to 900 nautical miles northwest of the Cape Verde Islands.

The U. S. Coast Guard said the Campbell was 420 miles away from the last reported position of the missing airliner and was expected to arrive in the general area of the search at 8 p. m. Indianapolis time today.

Should all aboard be lost, it would be the worst disaster on the Transatlantic run and the third worst aviation disaster in history.

Fatalities in 1947
Fifty-three persons were killed in each of two air crashes last year, a Douglas DC-4 crash in Maryland in May and another DC-4 crash in the mountains of Columbia, South America, last February.

Although the French airliner is the largest in commercial use, it is not the largest transport plane. The American C-97, built for the U. S. Air Force by Consolidated-Vultee, has a takeoff weight of 133 tons. It is the world's largest land-based plane.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hewitt Dies Here at 84
Mrs. Elizabeth Hewitt died today at the home of her daughter, Mrs. A. L. Kaelin, 2108 N. Meridian St. She was 84.

Mrs. Hewitt, a native of Vigo County, resided in West Terre Haute before moving to Indianapolis four years ago. She was a member of Vigo Congregational Church.

Services and burial will be in West Terre Haute.
Survivors besides Mrs. Kaelin include two other daughters, Mrs. G. T. Graham, Chicago, and Mrs. R. J. Setzer, Marshall; a son, Edwin B. Hewitt, West Terre Haute, and seven grandchildren.

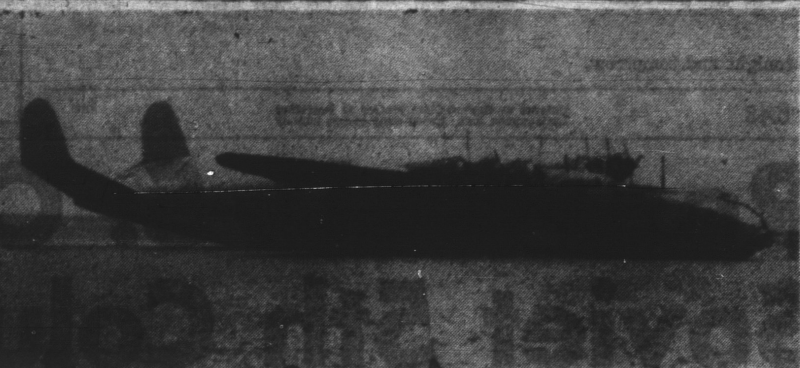
Set Examinations To Fill Welfare Spot
The Indiana State Personnel Board today announced it will give examinations to fill the vacant director's post in the Marion County Welfare Department on Aug. 28.

Both written and oral interviews will be given to establish an eligibility list from which the Marion County Welfare Board will select a successor to Arthur B. Wooden, who resigned under fire.

Persons who wish to take the test must register and establish eligibility. Candidates must pass certain educational and experience qualifications.

Gates To Be Guest At Railroad Fair
Gov. Gates headed for Chicago today where he will be an honor guest for Indiana Day at the national Railroad Fair.

The governor will be accompanied by fair officials on a tour of exhibits and tonight will attend the "Wheels a-Rolling" pageant of transportation.



LOST AT SEA—Air France planes, French naval units and American Coast Guard cutter searched the mid-Atlantic Ocean off the African Coast today for a six-engine flying boat, similar to the one shown here. The largest commercial plane in the world, a Latécoere 631, was reported missing on a flight between Martinique and French West Africa with 52 persons aboard.

Report \$1000 Ring Stolen From Here

Burglars Take \$230 From S. Side Pharmacy

A two-stone diamond ring valued at \$1000 today was reported stolen from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack C. Carr, 728 N. Pennsylvania St.

Meanwhile burglars operating on the South Side took \$230 from a drug store on Shelby St. Mrs. Carr told deputy sheriffs that the ring was taken from a tin box in her dressing table drawer. The house had been unoccupied several days while members of the family were vacationing in Michigan. The loss was discovered on their return home.

Find Ladder
The ring contained two stones of three-quarters carat each. Mrs. Carr told officers she found one window in the house unlocked on her return. It was assumed the burglars entered through it since there were no other signs of entrance.

Burglars entered the Gee Pharmacy, 2845 Shelby St., last night by breaking in a side door. They took \$100 in bills and \$130 in coins from boxes in the store.

In a field next to the store, police found a step ladder which the thieves had used to cut wires of the burglar alarm system. The store is owned by Edward L. Gee.

AVG TO DINE TOMORROW
Indianapolis members of American Veterans' Committee will hold their weekly luncheon at noon tomorrow in Central YMCA, Sanford Ramsey, chairman of Indianapolis Chapter 1, will preside.

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Marine Fighter Pilots Show Zip in Mock War

Reserves Brush Up on Latest Tactics in Full Dress Maneuvers

By JOHN A. THALE, Times Special Writer
WITH THE U. S. MARINES ON MANEUVERS IN NORTH CAROLINA, Aug. 2—The Corsair fighters came down in long, snarling dives that swept below the treetops just ahead of marined amphibious craft approaching "enemy held" shores.

Watching the beautiful precision of their attack, it was hard to imagine that at their controls were just a bunch of businessmen on vacation.

For the Corsairs were flown by Marine Air Reservists, who have completed the most extensive and successful maneuvers in the history of the corps' reserve.

More than 2000 officers and men from 17 fighter and ground control interceptor squadrons in 12 cities were engaged in the maneuvers at the Marine Corps' huge Cherry Point air station.

Their task was to prove that a marine reserve could be maintained in readiness, and summoned to active duty on a moment's notice if needed. What did they prove?

"They are 1000 per cent more ready for combat now than 90 per cent of our squadrons were immediately after Pearl Harbor," proudly commented Lt. Col. A. W. Fisher Jr., USMC, commanding the marine air detachment.

Deadly Fighters
For two weeks pilots here forgot they were law students, or county commissioners, or purchasing agents. They called again on the flying skills that made them the most deadly air fighters in the business in the Pacific.

How seriously they took their mission was illustrated by Maj. Julius W. Berk, of Miami. He reported in to intelligence officers after leading a flight supporting a ground troop "landing."

"At what altitude did you start your dive?" queried intelligence. "At 3000 feet," responded Maj. Berk.

"At what altitude did you pull out?"
"Five feet," said Maj. Berk.

The intelligence officer made unbelievable sounds.
"We were below the level of the landing craft decks," calmly insisted the major.

Some of their operations may have sounded dangerous, but Gen. Christian P. Schilt, commanding general of the Marine Reserve air training command, "There are more planes in that strike taking off now than we had to defend Guadalcanal during the tough days there," commented one pilot, watching a 36-plane formation take the air.

That, in a nutshell, is one big idea idea behind the Marine Air Reserve program.

SEER RAIL PAY HIKES
WASHINGTON, Aug. 2 (UP)—Three railroad unions hoped today to clear the last obstacle blocking the start of third-round pay raise negotiations. Heads of the engineers, firemen and switchmen unions were due to return here for joint conferences with the railroad and Presidential Assistant John R. Steelman.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2 (UP)—Polio is still increasing throughout most of the nation with North Carolina, California and Texas hardest hit. Latest reports to the U. S. Public Health Service here show.

Total reported cases for the week ending July 24 were 983 compared with 717 the previous week. For the corresponding week in 1947 there were only 154 cases reported and in 1946, 668. The five-year median for the week is 389.

North Carolina reported 206 cases for the week ending July 24, compared with 196 the previous week; California reported 192 compared with 164 and Texas 98 compared with 75. These states accounted for 46 per cent of total cases reported for the week of July 24 as compared with 60 per cent for the week ended July 17.

Total cases reported for the year to July 24 are 4886, compared with 1373 last year and 3260 in 1946. The five-year median for the corresponding period is 2048.

Polio Increases In Most Areas

N. Carolina, Texas, California Hit Hard

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Over 900 Mark
North Carolina had reported 892 cases, Texas, 878 and California, 803 to July 24. North Carolina has shot over the 900 mark since Saturday. Only three other states have reported over 100 cases this year. They are: New York, 139; Ohio, 133; and Iowa, 117.

Of five states which reported no cases during the past week—Maine, Vermont, Rhode Island, Maryland, Nevada—Rhode Island is the only state that has reported no cases of polio this year.

While polio rises throughout the nation, deaths in 91 large cities have declined from 8484 the previous week to 7865 for the week ended July 24. This is lower than the three-year median of 8068. Total deaths to date this year in these 91 large cities are 279,329, slightly more than the 278,418 for the corresponding period last year.

Public Places Closed In Fight Against Polio
ASHEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 2 (UP)—Asheville residents kept to their homes today as officials banned all public gatherings in an effort to fight North Carolina's polio epidemic.

Streets, swimming pools, movies and even churches were silent yesterday, and this resort city's million-dollar mountain tourist business faded away.

The last report placed the number of polio cases in the state for the year at 1085.



OFF TO NEW YORK—Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Crane, 2716 Allen Ave., are in New York today for a one week all expense paid vacation. Mrs. Crane was chosen winner of the "Vacation in New York" contest conducted over radio station WISH by the New York Hotel Association. They left last night via American Airlines.

Bell Supervisors Exchange Duties

Phone Firm Lists Promotions, Changes

SWAP JOBS—C. C. Bose (left) and C. E. Mason, Indiana Bell Telephone Co. general supervisors, exchange duties.

C. C. Bose and C. E. Mason, general supervisors for Indiana Bell Telephone Co., have traded their respective duties. Mr. Bose is the new general plant supervisor and C. E. Mason has relinquished that position to take over Mr. Bose's work as general supervisor of building and supplies.

Mr. Bose began his telephone career as a draftsman for the old Central Union Telephone Co. in 1913.

Starts in 1926
The career of Mr. Mason began when he became a combination man in South Bend in 1926 and came to Indianapolis later that year as a student engineer.

At the same time the company announced the following promotions and changes in the plant department organization:

Mr. V. Green, Indianapolis south district plant superintendent, is appointed Indianapolis division plant supervisor. J. C. Gilliam, Evansville district plant superintendent, is appointed Indianapolis south district plant superintendent.

Polio Volunteers Training Opens

Hear Lectures Today At IU Medical Center

A polio emergency volunteer training program opened today at Indiana University Medical Center.

Sponsored jointly by the Center and the Marion County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis the course will give training for emergency polio duty.

Mrs. Fern Norris, vice president of the chapter, is in charge of registration.

Dr. Caseley Speaks
Dr. Donald J. Caseley, medical director of the Center, spoke this morning at the opening session. Others on the program today include Dr. L. T. Meiks and Dr. Carl D. Martz of the IU School of Medicine; Mrs. Ruth Cady, Riley Hospital nurse, and Miss Katherine Kyle of the university's training school for nurses.

On the program tomorrow will be Miss Mary Helen Haydock and Miss Florence R. Brown, head nurse at Rotary Convalescent Home.

Wednesday the class will meet at Riley Hospital for lectures by Mrs. Frances Elstam, chief of physical therapy at Riley, and Mr. Caseley.

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Girls' Coats. Sizes 7 to 14.

D. Detachable hood classic coat with saddle shoulders and softly pleated back. Wine, Forest Green or Brown.

E. Flared back coat, to be worn with or without half-belt, with detachable hood. Wine, Forest Green, Skipper Blue or Brown.

The coat you buy now may be charged to your September bill, payable in October . . . or you may use our convenient Layaway plan.

Little Girls' Coats with matching Warmly lined leggings. Sizes 3 to 6x.

A. Belted, velvet-collared coat in Brown, Forest Green or Wine.

B. Princess style coat with cape. Skipper Blue or Wine.

C. Flared back coat, to be worn with or without half-belt, with detachable hood. Skipper Blue, Wine or Forest Green.

Little Girls' and Girls' Shops, Fourth Floor

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