

Wilmington and vicinity: Partly cloudy and not so warm today. Tuesday partly cloudy with little change in temperature.

Ninety Killed In Movie Fire

Dozens Are Trampled To Death When Panic Seizes Theatre Crowd

PARIS, Aug. 31.—(AP)—Ninety persons were burned or trampled to death last night when fire erupted in a small suburban movie theater filled with frenzied figures seeking to escape, officials announced today, and the theater owner was charged with involuntary manslaughter.

Antoine Moulade, owner of the Elect Theatre at Rueil, was arrested as authorities investigated the disaster.

More than half the identified dead were less than 20 years old, officials said. The three latest victims died in hospitals today.

Police and employees of the ministry of justice still were prodding through the charred ruins of the theater's first and second balconies which collapsed minutes after the fire broke out.

Marcel Vaugelade, assistant to the mayor of Rueil blamed "malfunctioning of fire extinguishers". Police said the blaze apparently started in a projection booth from a short circuit.

Operator Flees

They said it could have been controlled if the 17-year-old projectionist had shut the door behind him when he fled.

The flames leaped from the booth and licked into tinder-dry velvet hangings on the walls. Moulade, according to movie patrons who escaped, tried to douse the blaze with fire extinguishers but failed. Then panic started. Customers rose from their seats and tried to run for the doors. Some of them never had a chance.

There were 850 seats in the theater. Members of the audience were told to get up and stand. Standing customers, folding chairs had been placed in the aisles. Three exit doors were partly blocked.

Madame Helene La Nour, who survived the horror despite burns on her hands and legs, said, "I was in the orchestra when, about 10:15 p. m., I heard cries from the first balcony. I turned and saw

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NATION TO HAVE "BALMY" WEATHER

South May Have Continu- ation Of Humid Tem- peratures Today

By The Associated Press

The Labor Day week end, which started out to be a blisterer in the Midwest Saturday, showed definite signs of improvement Sunday and the outlook for the holiday itself was very pleasant except for some Southern areas.

Temperatures Sunday were comfortable throughout the Great Lakes region, and Northern and central plains states, and forecasters said more of the same was in prospect for Monday.

Reading ranged from around 50 in upper Michigan to the upper 60s in the lower Great Lakes region Sunday, and from 55 in North Dakota to 65 in Nebraska.

Cooler weather also developed in the Northern Rocky Mountain region, with temperatures mostly between 45 and 50.

It was still uncomfortably warm however, southward from Kansas, Southern Missouri and the area just north of the Ohio river, and forecasters said little change in temperatures was expected in the hot region through Monday.

Warm weather also continued in the Gulf states, while about seasonal temperatures prevailed on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

Showers developed Saturday night in Iowa and moved into Northern and Central Illinois and Central Indiana Sunday. The rains were not very heavy, and were not expected to be of much help to crops. Spencer, Ia., however, reported a half inch and Iowa City, 12 inches.

More showers were expected Sunday night in the upper Mississippi valley, moving across the Great Lakes region Monday.

The Chicago weather bureau said most regions would have a Labor Day duplication of their Sunday temperatures, and that skies would be fair, except for the Midwestern shower area.

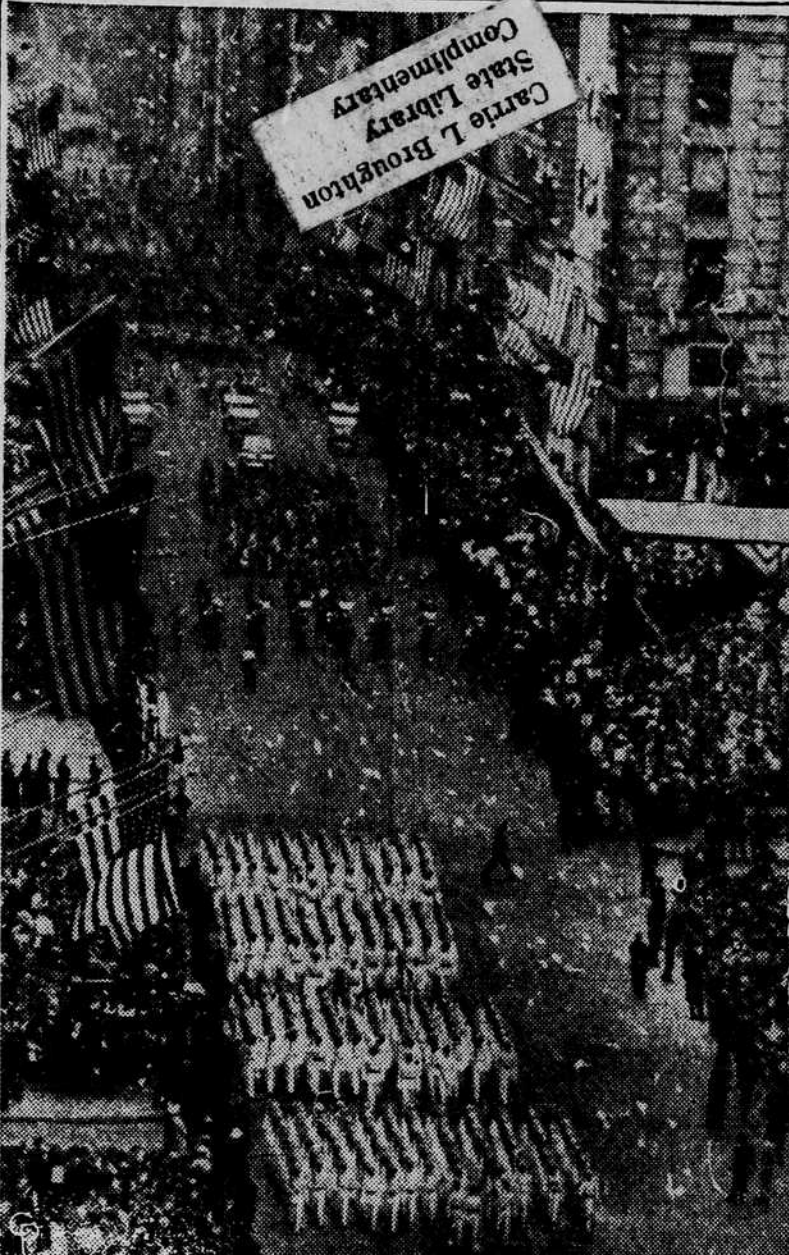
The Weather

FORECAST:
South Carolina: Partly cloudy and continued rather warm Monday and Tuesday.
North Carolina: Partly cloudy Monday and Tuesday, not so warm Monday, little change in temperature Tuesday.
Metereological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday:
7:30 a. m. 71; 7:30 a. m. 71; 1:30 p. m. 70; 7:30 p. m. 81; Maximum 90; Minimum 69; Mean 80; Normal 81.

PRECIPITATION
Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. 0.10 inches.
Total since the first of the month 6.10 inches.

TIDES FOR TODAY
From the Tid. Tables published by W. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.
Wilmington 10:11 a. m. 5:06 a. m.
10:31 p. m. 5:13 p. m.
Moreton Inlet 7:51 a. m. 2:06 p. m.
Sunrise 5:49; Sunset 6:58; Moonrise 1:34; Moonset 8:27.

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SOME OF THE 65,000 LEGIONNAIRES who took part in the parade up New York's Fifth Avenue are shown as they passed the reviewing stand at right. Superfortresses and "Shooting Star" jet planes roared overhead to add their bit to the American Legion's greatest show to date. (International)

Steve Beville Wins Kendall Speed Test

BIG TIME

SAUGUS, Mass., Aug. 31.—(AP)—This was a big day for the folks gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Francis J. Biggart for the wedding reception of their daughter Dorothy, 19, and her bridegroom, Roger Noble, 20.

In addition to the wedding celebration, guests at the reception were observing six marriage anniversaries and one birthday.

BRITISH TO QUIT BUYING U. S. FOOD

Strachey Announces End Of Purchases Because Of Dollar Shortage

LONDON, Aug. 31.—(AP)—Food Minister John Strachey disclosed tonight that Great Britain had stopped buying food from the United States "for the time being" because of her dollar shortage.

"We can manage, it necessary, for some time without buying food from the source," he said in a speech at Dundee, Scotland.

He added that Britain was continuing to import cotton, machinery, tobacco and some other items from the United States.

Since war days Britain has depended on the U. S. for a considerable variety of food, including wheat, canned foods of various kinds, dried eggs and fruit. Purchases being dwindling with the \$3,750,000,000 American loan.

The announcement that food purchases have been suspended completely followed a statement by Prime Minister Attlee that Britain was cutting food imports at the rate of \$48,000,000 a month.

Hanging On Thread
Strachey's speech turned the economic limelight from the Yorkshire coal strike, which appeared

See BRITISH on Page Two

SEVEN U. S. WARSHIPS WILL PAY VISIT TO SMYRNA, SEPTEMBER 12

LONDON, Aug. 31.—(AP)—United States Navy headquarters here announced today that seven American warships would make "an informal visit" to the Turkish port of Smyrna Sept. 12 to 18 during the annual Smyrna fair.

The ships are the Cruiser Dayton, Carrier Leyte, Destroyers Storms, Massey, Henley and J. C. Owens and Destroyer Tender Yellowstone.

Vice-Adm. Bernhard H. Bieri, commander of U. S. Naval forces, Mediterranean, will command the group.

Fmr Cmsf Dmp Wms Is Not Garbled Copy

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—(AP)—JCXG NODQT FCA HWP FTKG ECTGH WNN.

No, it's not garbled copy. It just means that the American Cryptogram association is holding its 15th annual convention in Chicago. Decoded, it reads:

"Have Labor Day Fun, Drive Carefully."
The association started as a hobby 15 years ago with its charter members. During the war many of its members were tapped for duty in military code rooms.

Now the association is back in the hobby class.

See FMR on Page Two

Woman Takes Her Own Life

Coroner Doran, After In- vestigation, Says Shot Self-Inflicted

Mrs. John Dunn, 32, attractive matron, was found shot to death yesterday afternoon at the apartment she and her husband occupied at 818 Grace street a few minutes after the couple had returned from swimming at Wrightsville Beach.

Coroner Gordon Doran, following an investigation, said the death evidently was self-inflicted and that no inquest will be conducted unless further developments are uncovered.

The woman was found in the bedroom of the couple's quarters in a seated position with a .22 rifle, from which one shot had been fired, lying at her feet. Police in reconstructing the event said that the woman had apparently placed the butt of the rifle on the floor and the barrel under her chin and then with one hand pulled the trigger.

The bullet had ranged upward through her chin and mouth into her brain and killed her instantly. Police and the coroner said no note had been left and were unable to furnish a motive although the husband was closely questioned by officers.

He said, and neighbors substantiated him, that he was sitting on the steps on the rear porch of the house when the shooting occurred. He said he ran into the house to find his wife dead.

The coroner related that his investigation had revealed the couple had returned home a few minutes previously from the beach with another couple and that he told his wife to change her clothes and they would go to a show.

Police last night were attempting to locate the other couple who were believed not to reside in Wilmington and to have left the city for their home immediately upon their return from the swimming party.

The husband was not detained by police. Last night he was reported in a near hysterical condition and told authorities, they said, that he knew of no reason for his wife's action.

The body was taken to the Yopp funeral home. The couple had been married several years but immediate relatives had not been ascertained last night at the Yopp funeral home.

Hammond, Indiana Flier Pilots Mustang To Mark Of 384.6 MPH

CLEVELAND, Aug. 30.—(AP)—Two pilots whizzed through a 105-mile race for P-51 Mustangs at the National Air races today at speeds better than the winning pace in last year's 300-mile Thompson Trophy classic, and above the recognized world record for closed course events.

The Thompson will be the closing feature of the racing program tomorrow.

Steve Beville of Hammond, Ind., took the Kendall race for Mustangs and \$3,000 first prize with an average speed of 384.6 miles an hour. Kendall Everson of Cleveland averaged 377.9 for \$1,000 second money.

Last year's Thompson speed by Alvin (Tex) Johnson of Niagara Falls, N. Y., was 373.9. Johnson is not entered in this year's Thompson.

Above Record
Beville and Everson both were above the 374 miles an hour record set by George Welch in a Mustang in the Miami, Fla., All-American maneuvers, recognized by the contest committee of the National Aeronautic Association. The same Mustang will be flown tomorrow by

See BEVILLE on Page Two

NEW REVOLT HITS ECUADOR STATES

Army, Constabulary Stage Uprising Against Carlos Manchego Regime

QUITO, Ecuador, Aug. 31.—(AP)—A revolt by Army and constabulary officers broke out last night in Bolivar State against the regime of Col. Carlos Manchego, who seized supreme power in Ecuador in a coup last Sunday. Manchego's followers claimed today the situation was under control.

Leaders of the counter-revolt said they sought a return to constitutional order. Bolivar State is about 100 miles South of Quito.

The garrison at Riobamba, an important city in the state of Chimborazo adjoining Bolivar State, also was reported to have revolted under Capt. Jorge Lopez Valdivieso. He had commanded the constabulary under President Jose Velasco Ibarra, overthrown last week-end.

Troops and police took over the plants of the daily newspapers El Debate and La Patria in Quito early this morning. Both newspapers supported the Conservative party, which backed Velasco Ibarra. The officer in charge of the newspaper seizures said he had ordered from the minister of interior to see that El Debate and La Patria did not operate.

Legion Blasts Communism, Elects O'Neil Commander; Palestine Report Is Signed

Partition Of Holy Land Recommended

UN Committee Majority Also Urges End To British Mandate

LAKE SUCCESS, Aug. 31.—(AP)—The United Nations Palestine committee majority recommended tonight the partition of the Holy Land, formation of an economic union here, and admission of 150,000 Jews to Palestine during a two-year transitional period beginning tomorrow.

Abdul Rahman Azzam Pasha, secretary-general of the seven-state Arab League and one of the chief Arab spokesmen, immediately assailed the report as "absolutely impracticable."

"I do not think the assembly will take it," he said in a statement. "It does not solve anything. It only makes the situation worse."

The five Arab states in the U. N.—Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia, are certain to fight the whole committee report in the Assembly, which will convene September 16. The Arabs demand an independent Arab Palestine, no more Jewish immigration, and termination now of the British mandate over the Holy Land.

No Statement
There was no statement here from the Jewish Agency for Palestine, which has demanded a Jewish state in the Holy Land and increased Jewish immigration.

The committee majority proposed that the immigrants be permitted into Palestine while the Holy Land is being transformed into the economic union made up of one Arab state, one Jewish state, and the autonomous city of Jerusalem.

A committee minority proposed a joint Arab-Jewish state under a federal government.

Other salient points favored by the majority made up of Canada, Czechoslovakia, Guatemala, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden and Uruguay:

1. That Britain, which holds the mandate over Palestine, continue

See PARTITION on Page Two

TSALDARIS GETS FIVE-DAY LEASE

New Greek Regime Will Not Face Parliamentary Test This Week

ATHENS, Aug. 31.—(AP)—The shaky right-wing government headed by Premier Constantin Tsaldaris was assured today of at least five days of life—the opening of parliament was postponed until Thursday.

Opposition party leaders started a series of conferences to consider the cabinet's invitation to broaden the cabinet, as favored by the United States. The conferees included Sophocles Venizelos, Panayotis Kanellopoulos, George Papandreu, Stylianos Gonatas and Apostolos Alexandris.

With the opposition lined up solidly against him, Tsaldaris would be defeated if he asked parliament for a vote of confidence. However, it is not believed this showdown will be forced because Tsaldaris' failure to maintain a government would compel King Paul I to give a mandate to the Thymisteles Sophoulis, leader of the largest minority party.

Sophoulis Unliked
There is no strong sentiment for Sophoulis among opposition leaders, and it is accepted that he could not get a vote of confidence with the present division of party strength.

An official announcement said that Loy W. Henderson, U. S. State department representative, who came here last week, would not see Greek political leaders individually. Shortly before he returns to the United States in about 10 days he may meet the politicians collectively to explain further the American policy.

Along The Cape Fear

EARTHQUAKE

Sixty-one years ago last night was an eventful and terrifying one in Wilmington's history.

But there are few Wilmingtonians alive today who can recall that night and the days following. Most of those who would have occasion to remember those days are dead or have left the city.

But one of those who does remember distinctly is C. C. Chadbourne, 415 South Front street, a regular contributor to this column and a student of early day history of the community.

For it was August 31, 1886 that Wilmington, together with much of the coast line in this portion of the state and in South Carolina experienced the worst earthquake in the history of this area.

The first shock was felt at approximately 10 p. m. Chadbourne recalls that the shock was preceded by "a roar and a rumble that was ominous and terrifying." Chimneys of many buildings and houses were toppled. Dishes were rattled and in some instances thrown to the floor and broken. Window panes rattled.

Persons inside their homes and buildings rushed into the streets. Most of them were unaware, at least for a few moments, what had occurred. Residents in the business section hurried to their dwellings to ascertain if their dwellings had been damaged.

Chadbourne remembers that many persons after the shock, became hysterical and in many instances cried. He adds that in a few instances, the more nervous fell to their knees and prayed.

In some of the more remote sections of the city where houses were of flimsy construction, "the ignorant and superstitious milled to and fro in the streets, wailing and shouting and having no conception of what had taken place."

However, the more sensible and intelligent remained in their homes but throughout the night the city remained at a tension "fearful that further and more damaging quakes would follow."

Chadbourne remembers a Wilmington attorney who immediately following the quake took out his watch and made a note of the exact time for future reference.

RUSH INTO THE STREETS — See CAPE FEAR on Page Two

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See PARTITION on Page Two

"CAREER PLAN" AIDS RECRUITING

Air Force Adds 30,000 Men In Past Few Months; Seek High Grads

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.—(AP)—The Army Air Forces has recruited more than 30,000 men in the last few months in an effort to regain its wartime efficiency level.

Officials credited much of the upswing in enlistees to a new "career plan" offered by the AAF to high school graduates under which they are given a choice of training in various technical schools of the service.

Records show that while monthly recruiting totals for the AAF during the first part of the year ranged between 6,000 and 7,000 the June total was 10,500, July 12,500 and August about 11,000.

Despite the satisfactory trend in the manpower problem, personnel officials said, the AAF still is short of about 80,000 men of the authorized strength figure for this period of approximately 391,000. At the beginning of the current month, the AAF had about 287,000 men and 43,000 officers (which compared with an authorized strength of 334,000 men and 56,000 officers.)

To bring the force up to full strength for the current fiscal year, enlistments must average better than 9,000 men for each of the next

See CAREER on Page Two



THE BLOOD-SPATTERED bodies of R. L. May and his wife Bette, both 22, (above), were found shot to death on a highway near Omaha, Neb. Members of a wealthy Virginia family and married only six months, the bodies of the two were found in a clump of weeds by two youngsters. May, a grandson of R. L. May, millionaire, Alexandria Va, bus lines operator, had been visiting in Colorado with his wife, (International)

Thousands Throng Beaches On Sunday

BARNUM WAS RIGHT

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 31.—(AP)—George Marlow arrived today from Guthrie Center, Iowa, and said he hadn't been in the steel city three minutes before he was out \$160.

Marlow sadly related his story to police:

He got off a bus, was approached by a stranger who flashed a badge and asked for his credentials. Marlow handed the man his wallet and walked along the street with him. After a block, the stranger handed the wallet back and said "Your credentials are okay."

Marlow examined his wallet. He still had his credentials but no money.

HOLIDAY ACCIDENT TOLL TOTALS 121

Two Auto Race Drivers Lose Lives; Air Patrol In Missouri Active

CHICAGO, Aug. 31.—(AP)—The nation's three-day holiday accidental death toll shot past the 100 mark today as more millions of persons took to the highways.

An estimated 26,000,000 automobiles carrying many more persons jammed country roads, and scores of traffic fatalities resulted.

With the long Labor Day week
See HOLIDAY on Page Two

BELTS, BRASS KNUCKLES USED IN CLASHES AT ANTI-FASCIST M E E T

LONDON, Aug. 31.—(AP)—Fighting with belts and brass knuckles broke out tonight when a number of men singing the Nazi "Horst Wessel" song charged an anti-Fascist meeting in Dalton, an East London section where numerous political clashes have occurred recently.

One man was taken to a hospital with a head injury and police, who quelled the disturbance, arrested eight. Earlier, the police broke up a meeting of the British ex-Servicemen's league — where speakers praised Fascism — after a crowd of onlookers became threatening.

Pilot Dives 7,000 Feet To Cure Boy Of Deafness

TETERBORO, N. J., Aug. 31.—(AP)—Four-year-old Howard Sturm had his first plane ride today. But the flight, in which the plane made a 7,000 foot dive, was more than a joyride for the two-headed youngster. It was a treatment which doctors believe may help to restore the hearing of the totally deaf child.

A former Navy dive bomber pilot, Harry Hunt, took the single engine Belanca Cruiser up to 10,000 feet. Then he dropped the plane at a rate of 900 feet per minute to 3,000 feet, his ears pipping with

See PILOT on Page Two

Convention Backs Marshall Program

Closing Session Also Goes On Record In Favor Of Balkans Plan

NEW YORK, Aug. 31.—(AP)—The American Legion today adopted a program for the coming year according to a militant anti-Communist stand at home and abroad and chose James F. O'Neil of Manchester, N. H., a World War One infantryman, as its new national commander.

The 49-year-old O'Neil, who is police chief in his home city, made plain in a brief acceptance talk to the 29th national convention that he was in full accord with the Legion's sharp denunciation of Communism.

He remarked, however, that he also would lead the fight on "other subversive elements." O'Neil, was assailed by backers of his opponents as the choice of the legendary Legion "kingmakers" but he won an easy victory by acclamation.

In winding up the convention, the Legionaires not only unloaded blasts against Communism but also recommended that the nation guard its greatest weapon by declining to reveal atomic energy secrets to anyone and build up its manpower reservoir by adopting universal military training.

Okay Marshall Plan
The convention gave full approval to the Marshall plan for aid to Europe after terming "the aggressive spirit of Communism the greatest menace facing America today," and called for outlawing of the Communist party as a political group in the United States.

A spirited debate of veterans' housing brought the first roll call

See CONVENTION on Page Two

Thousands Throng Beaches On Sunday

Largest Crowds Of Season Enjoy Perfect Day At Nearby Resorts

One of the largest crowds of the Beach season were estimated to have attended Carolina and Wrightsville Beach yesterday, while Wilmington and Kures Beach boasted the largest crowd of the year.

Officials of the two larger beaches, Carolina and Wrightsville, said that they do not expect as many people on the beach today as were at the resort yesterday.

Prominent businessmen of Wilmington and Kures Beach said they expect a larger crowd today and are preparing for the largest crowd in the history of the beaches.

Chief of Police Bruce Valentine, of Carolina Beach, said that approximately 40,000 to 50,000 people attended the resort area yesterday from all over the state. They only expect from 30,000 to 40,000

See THOUSANDS on Page Eight

GEN. WAINWRIGHT QUITS ARMY LIFE

Hero Of Bataan Retires At Ceremonies At Fort Sam Houston

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Aug. 1.—(AP)—General Jonathan M. Wainwright, who refused to surrender in the face of overwhelming odds to Japanese forces on Bataan, was retired from the Army today at ceremonies at historic Fort Sam Houston.

In his farewell address, the World War II hero said that the merger of the armed forces was assurance to him that "with proper support, the approach to a peaceful world is in the making."

Military men, the four-star general stated, are "profound lovers of peace who believe that it can be obtained and maintained through an efficient military organization as an important part of peaceful government."

Wainwright, commander of the Fourth Army, made his address after he reviewed 2,500 troops, 700 of whom came here from the famed 2nd Armored Division at Camp Hood, Texas.

As soon as the first greetings were exchanged, the band played "Hail To The Chief," "The Star Spangled Banner," and "God Save The King," in rapid order.

The President, wearing a light tan suit, a buff-colored hat and two-toned shoes, inspected a guard of honor while the white-uniformed musicians carefully rehearsed for the occasion, played the waltz that has become a part of nearly every public appearance of the President.

The plane carrying President Truman's party landed at the Army Air Force field here exactly seven hours and 40 minutes after its take-off from Washington. The flight was made in ideal weather conditions.

Charles Ross, the President's press secretary, said, "the President and everyone else is delighted with the new plane."

Breeze Helps Out
A hot sun beat down on the parched airfield as the President, his family, Brazilian Ambassador Carlos Martins and Mrs. Martin and other