

Three Persons Killed, One Badly Burned As Plane Crashes In Ravine At Erwin Airport



SCENE OF TRAGEDY — Spectators are shown here looking down in the ravine at the wreckage of a plane in which three persons were killed at Erwin this morning. The bodies are covered by white sheets. Victims of the wreck were Jim Gregory, 36, his daughter, Susan, 4, and Roy Herring, 45. (Daily Record Photo.)

New York Rolls Out Red Carpet For Korean GI's

NEW YORK (AP) — New York rushed through a heroes' welcome today for the first Korean veterans to be returned directly to the east coast, in an effort to get them home for Easter.

Mayor Vincent Impellitteri briefly greeted 351 travel-weary GI's from the New York-New Jersey area at City Hall, and 1,887 other enlisted men and officers were whisked to Camp Kilmer, N. J., for processing for 30-day leaves.

Many of the men, representing states as far away as New Mexico and Nebraska, feared they would have to spend the holiday weekend at separation centers, or on trains and planes, instead of with their families.

Tens of thousands of New Yorkers lined lower Broadway and cheered the local veterans who were driven by bus directly from their transport, the Gen. William Weigel, which docked at Brooklyn this morning.

The troops leaned over the ship's rail and called down to relatives, some of whom were waving hastily written signs of greeting.

Nearly all the placards bore the word "Welcome Home" with the added personal designations of "Andy," "Phil," "Sugar-Puss" and "Wojni Willie."

One sign greeted "Brooklyn's own Willie Cohen."

The GI's, representing 31 states and 200 "Alien" towns, began arriving shortly after the transport docked at 9:30 a. m.

Despite a spectacular all-night show put on by Broadway stars aboard the Weigel last night, many veterans voiced displeasure at being kept on the ship even a few more hours than they thought necessary.

But most of the travel-weary men appeared relaxed and happy after the six-hour "home" party which singers, comedians and chorists put on for them aboard the vessel last night.

Homeless GI's who had spent 26 days aboard the ship enroute from Japan via the Panama Canal, swarmed into the auditorium in relays to watch the star-studded program. The theatre would accommodate only 500 persons at a time.

A shuttle service of taxicabs and limousines carried entertainers to and from the troopship from dusk last night until dawn today. The troops. (Continued on Page 4)



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Plane Crash Worst In Harnett History

A private airplane crashed and burned in a ravine at the end of the runway at the Erwin airport just before noon today, killing three of its four occupants. The only survivor was seriously burned.

Killed in the crash — worst aviation crash in Harnett's history — were Jim Gregory, 36, the pilot; his four-year-old daughter, Susan, and Roy Herring, 45, of Selma.

Gregory was a brother of Harnett Representative Carson Gregory.

Preston Holland of Erwin, the only survivor, was critically burned. He was taken to Good Hope Hospital in Erwin and then rushed to Duke at Durham.

The party of four had taken off from the airport a few minutes earlier on a flight to Selma, but had turned back, presumably because of mechanical trouble.

BODIES BURNED BLACK
Bodies of the victims were burned and blackened beyond recognition and there wasn't enough of the wreckage left to photograph.

The first man on the scene after the crash was L. C. Barbour of Erwin. He said he rushed to the scene as soon as he saw the explosion and found Holland running around completely naked. He had stripped the burning clothing from his body, engulfed in roaring flames.

Before anyone could reach the scene, it was all over.

The exploding gasoline set fire to grass and brush all around the area. Erwin's volunteer fire department rushed to the scene and extinguished the fire.

Gregory's body, burned black, still stood erect with his arms extending outward as though grasping to pull himself out. The body of his little daughter and Herring lay crumpled behind him.

The watch on Gregory's arm had stopped at 11:05, presumably the instant of the explosion.

It was a horrible scene of tragedy and death and spectators by the hundreds formed a continuous line as they visited the disaster spot.

Nurses from Good Hope Hospital and Fred Jackson, a Dunn

Dunn, Erwin Stores To Be Closed Mon.

Retail stores, banks, offices and other business firms in Dunn and Erwin will be closed Monday in observance of Easter. It was announced today. County schools will also close.

Dunn's city hall and offices in the county courthouse will be closed Monday.

Post Offices will remain open as usual, however. Postmaster Ralph Wade of Dunn said, since the Federal government does not recognize Easter Monday as a holiday.

Citizens today were urged to arrange their buying and other business as they will not be inconvenienced by the closing.

Try To Repeal "Secrecy" Bill

RALEIGH (AP) — A bill to repeal the General Assembly's much-criticized "secrecy" law rushed through that week was scheduled to hit the House today with the backing of the North Carolina Press Association.

W. C. Leaster, counsel for the press group, promised the measure would come in today and would be followed by an immediate request for a public hearing on the bill, allowing the legislature's appropriations committees to hold closed sessions while deliberating state budget matters.

"We're going to fight like any fight," Leaster said.

Clark To Reply To Red Proposal

TOKYO (AP) — Gen. Mark Clark was expected to send a formal reply today to the Communist proposal to discuss exchange of sick and wounded prisoners and resumption of armistice talks.

Clark's headquarters said Thursday the Monday meeting would be held.

The first order of business at Monday's meeting will be arranging for the exchange of the sick and wounded POW's. The Communists want to discuss resumption of armistice negotiations after that.

U. N. negotiators, headed by Rear Adm. John C. Daniel, said they have a "few questions" to ask before true talks resume. (Continued on page two)

Fayetteville Presbytery To Have Meeting

The annual meeting of the Men of the Church of Fayetteville Presbytery has been set for Wednesday, April 8, at 7:00 p. m. at Flora Macdonald College at Red Springs.

R. D. McMillan, Jr., of Red Springs, chairman of the arrangements committee has announced that the principal speaker will be Dr. James A. Jones, pastor of the Myers Park Presbyterian Church of Charlotte. Special music will be supplied by the Flora Macdonald Glee Club, and a turkey dinner will be served by the college.

Rev. R. R. Gammon of Dunn who is pastor of First Presbyterian Church, urges all men of Fayetteville Presbytery to attend this meeting in order to enjoy the outstanding program that has been arranged and to participate in the election of officers for the next year.

March Building Totals \$28,325

Building permits representing the investment of a total of \$28,325 were issued during the month of March it was reported this morning. (Continued on Page Two)

Dr. Carter Elected To Royal Society

Word has just been received that Dr. Wm. Howard Carter, President of the William Carter Bible College, Goldsboro, has been elected a life member of the Royal Society of Literature of England. The Council Chamber and Library of this English Educational Organization are located in London, England. J. M. Patterson is the Honorary Secretary and her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, is a patron.

Dr. Carter is the only North Carolina minister to become a life member of the Society.

The Royal Society of Literature was founded in 1823 by King George IV, and was incorporated in 1825 by the Royal Charter.

The Right Honorable Richard Austin Butler was elected President of the Society in 1952.

Some of the outstanding writers and students of literature who have been elected to the Royal Society of Literature in the past have included Rudyard Kipling, George Bernard Shaw, George Meredith, A. C. Benson, Thomas Hardy, Andrew Lang, Sid Edmund Gosse, the Earl of Balfour, Mrs. Humphrey Ward, Sir James Barry, Professor Sir Walter Raleigh, and Vis-Count Morley and others.

Dr. Carter, who was elected to the presidency of the Carter Bible College in July 1952, did not know until several weeks ago that he was being considered for membership in the exclusive Society.

The Goldsboro College President is widely known in North Carolina as Minister of the Edgewood Baptist Church, Goldsboro. President of the Carter Bible College, and a State officer of the Woodmen of the World. He has been a minister since he was 12 years old. He has contributed many articles and sermons to national publications, and for several years was editor of Sunday School Literature for the Free Will Baptists.

Bound Over For Stealing A Man

Sam McNeill, Dunn Negro, was bound over for action by Superior Court for the theft of a man from the smokehouse of Sidney Massey after a hearing before Judge H. Paul Strickland in Dunn Recorder's Court yesterday morning, after he pleaded not guilty to breaking and entering, larceny and receiving.

Massey identified the pilfered meat and told how the hog was pried off the smokehouse and the man stolen. It was found at McNeill's by Dunn police.

Judge Strickland found probable cause and bound the defendant over under bond of \$500.

James A. McKay was arraigned on three warrants, one charging non-support, another assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious bodily injury, not resulting in death, and a third on damage to property.

For non-support he was given 12 months, suspended on payment of costs and \$12.50 weekly for his three children. The assault charge drew 6 months, suspended 2 years on payment of costs on condition that he does not assault his wife, Shirley. The damage case was not pressed. The non-support case is to be retained on the docket.

Eugene Junior Roberts and William Latham Flinks each were given 30 days, suspended on payment of \$25 and costs for having no operators license.

William Hunter Barnes drew 90 days, suspended 15 months on payment of \$100 and costs for drunk driving.

Percy Sigal, charged with assault with a deadly weapon and carrying concealed weapons drew 60 days, suspended 2 years on payment of \$25 and costs.

Joseph Washington Eason, charged with reckless driving, drew 90 days, suspended 15 months on payment of \$50 and costs.

Prayer for judgment was continued on payment of \$5 and costs in the case of Wilbert Lee Lloyd, charged with speeding.

Carrying a pair of brass knuckles and drunk driving drew 30 days, suspended 12 months on payment of \$25 and costs.

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Bracey Confident He Won't Be Beat

Chas. Bracey, member B. A. Bracey has every confidence about being defeated in office.

His term doesn't expire for two more years, but he isn't worried about defeat after those two years either.

"I'll never be beat for public office," declared Commissioner Bracey today.

And before anybody could accuse him of being boastful, the popular city official added, "I won't be defeated because I won't ever run again."

Commissioner Bracey, who has experienced two hectic years of public upsurge in city affairs, declares he's "had enough."

Churches Planning Easter Services

Tonight will conclude the Pre-Easter Services at the Divine Street Methodist Church which have been conducted each morning and evening this week. Dr. Fred M. Brown of Knoxville, Tenn. Services will begin tonight at 7:30 and those that have not heard Dr. Brown should take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

Easter Sunday morning at 9:00 A. M., a special Sunrise Service will be conducted for the young people of Dunn by the Dunn Christian Youth Council, with Herman Godwin, Jr., president, conducting the services.

Program for the services is: Quiet Meditation

Brass Quartet "The Old Rugged Cross"
Call to Worship—Katherine White Doolittle
Scriptures
Prayer—Erum Kirby
Hymn—"Christ Arose"
Special Music—"Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?"
Comments on Easter—Vernice Hagan
Hymn—"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"
Benediction

The services will be held on the church lawn between the Methodist and Presbyterian churches in case of rain, the group will meet in the church.

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WOODMEN MEET POSTPONED

Dunn Camp #94 of the Woodmen of the World will not meet on Monday night as scheduled, due to the Easter holidays.

Sgt. Hubert Byrd Killed In England

Staff Sergeant Hubert Daniel Byrd, 31, of Bimbleville, has been killed in England in a carbon monoxide accident. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Byrd of Bimbleville, were notified early today by the Army.

Sergeant Byrd, who had been in the Air Force for nearly two years, was based at Davis Manston Air Field in Thurston, England.

He had left Thurston at 11:15 p. m. for a night training period in England. Details of the accident were lacking today.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Byrd, his mother, Mrs. Byrd, and his father, Mr. Byrd, all of Bimbleville.

Byrd was a member of a well-known family in the community. He was a member of the Methodist Church and was a member of the Bimbleville High School.

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NEW HEALTH CENTER OPENING — The new Dunn Health Center opened by opening this morning with all of the usual clinics conducted there instead of at the old building which underwent recent, Mrs. Louise Tackman was the first client. She is shown registering at the reception desk with Virginia Thomas, the receptionist. The new center will operate with the equipment from the old building until the building is completed. With the new equipment will be opened on April 15. The entire staff this morning expressed their delight with their new quarters. (Daily Record Photo.)

BULLETINS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Wallace F. Bennett (R-Utah) said today the firing of Dr. Allen V. Astin as director of the National Bureau of Standards has hurt the bureau and the Commerce Department as well as Astin.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army soon will test a big bulldozer tractor which can tow a 65,000-pound load at 25 miles-per-hour. The 51,000 pound vehicle, dubbed the "Bull Moose" by its manufacturer, is designed to level ground quickly and tow heavy artillery pieces.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Full-scale Senate debate on the administration-backed tidelands bill will get underway next week immediately after the law makers return from their Easter recess. GOP leaders said today.

ATLANTA (AP) — Fourteen Southern governors have urged the Federal Communications Commission to extend for two years the June 2 deadline for claiming certain television channels for educational purposes.

MARKETS

HOGE
RALEIGH — W — Hog markets: Fayetteville, Florence, Lenoir, Martin: Steady at 90.25 for good and choice 140-145 lb barrows and sows.

Other City, Clinton, Rocky Mount: Steady at 90.25.

Kinston: 45 cents higher at 10.75.

Tarboro, Mount Olive, Dunn: (Continued on Page Four)