

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Saturday, January 14, 1950

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Rapids Paratrooper Is Killed in Air Force Glider Plane Crash

Reds Seize U.S. Sector In Peiping

Washington—AP—The state department announced today that the Chinese Communists are seizing U.S. government consular property at Peiping.

It said the United States is recalling "all American official personnel from Communist China."

Chinese Communist police and civilian officials, the announcement said, "invaded the American consular compound" against angry American protests at 9:50 a.m. January 14 China time.

There are 36 American official personnel in Peiping, including Consul General O. Edmund Chubb.

Communications with this group have not been interrupted so far. The 36 had not been arrested at the time the announcement was made.

There are 195 American officials and dependents throughout Communist China—at Peiping, Tientsin, Shanghai, Tsingtao and Nanking. In addition there are an estimated 2,000 non-official American citizens in Communist China, and the state department announced.

"Any facilities for evacuation from China which are arranged for our official personnel will be made available for all American citizens who desire to depart."

Assistant Secretary of State Walton Butterworth said of the recall order, "no one can keep representatives in a foreign country if the foreign country does not wish them to be there."

Butterworth said there are four American compounds—buildings or groups of buildings enclosed by a wall—in Peiping and that the American personnel had been forced out of one of them and into another adjoining.

Divers Begin Study on Plan To Lift Sub

Chatham, England—AP—Divers and frogmen plunged today to the grave of the submarine *Trojan*, sunk with a loss of 65 men, to find out the best way of raising it to the surface.

An admiralty spokesman said salvage might take days or even months. It depends on whether the hulk will hold enough air to make it buoyant, or whether it must be lifted with pontoons.

How many of the 65 missing bodies still are inside the broken wreck remained unanswered.

Some of the 15 survivors estimated as many as 40 of the 60 aboard swam out through the escape

Rodney Toepel One of 13 Dead; Five Survive

An unexplained crash of an air force glider training plane at Lawson airbase, near Fort Benning, Ga., brought death to Pvt. Rodney R. Toepel, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Robinson, 620 Lincoln street, and 12 of Uncle Sam's top-flight rough and ready fighting men Friday afternoon.

According to the Associated Press five of the 17 men aboard the glider survived yesterday's crash, but one of the survivors died of injuries early today. Three of the remaining four survivors are in critical condition at the Lawson air force base hospital.

Instructor Killed

Among the victims were 11 student paratroopers ready for their final exam—hitting the silk in one more jump. Also killed were a sergeant instructor and the glider's pilot, Second Lt. Robert D. Henley of Columbia, Mo.

The glider, one of two released by a C-82 tow plane, was settling on the runway normally when, witnesses reported, one wing dipped sharply and struck the ground.

Another witness reported the glider hit the runway, bounced into the air and began to disintegrate. Debris and bodies were scattered over 700 feet of the runway.

Paratrooper Training

Capt. A. C. Parker of the infantry training center public information office said 15 of the men, including the Wisconsin Rapids youth, were taking glider training in conjunction with their six weeks' training as paratroopers.

The students all were members of Company A, airborne battalion.

Rodney Toepel was born at Marshfield on February 18, 1932, and came to Wisconsin Rapids at the age of six, attending the local schools and graduating from Lincoln High school with the class of 1949. He enlisted in the air force at the local recruiting office late last summer and received paratrooper training at Fort Riley, Kan., prior to being transferred to Fort Benning.

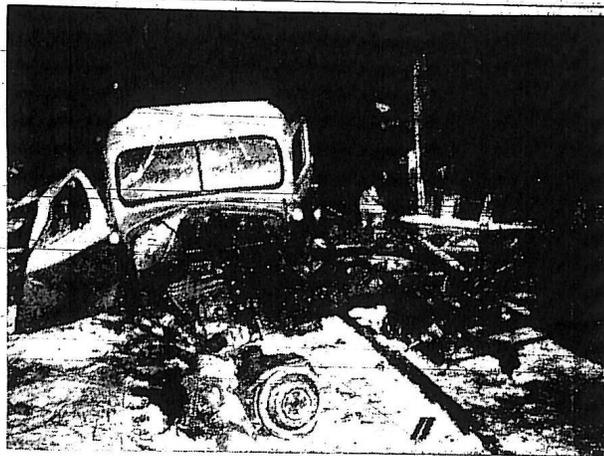
Survivors Listed

Besides his mother and stepfather he is survived by three half brothers, Harold Robinson, Wisconsin Rapids; Wayne and Donald Robinson, Ladysmith.

Arrangements are being made by the Krohn and Berard Funeral home for returning the body here for funeral services and burial early next week.

Extension on Filing of Taxes

Washington—AP—Because January 15 comes on Sunday this year, 1949 income tax estimates due to be



SCENE OF FATAL ACCIDENT—Wreckage of the truck in which Lester G. Moore, 31, Wausau, was killed when the vehicle struck a moving freight train at an Auburndale crossing Friday evening is shown above. In the background, Wood county sheriff's officers remove Moore's body from the debris. It was the first fatal traffic accident of 1950 in Wood county. Property damage was estimated at about \$5,000. (Tribune Staff Photo)

Auburndale Crossing Crash Costs Life of Truck Driver

His head nearly severed, a Wausau man was killed at 6:55 Friday evening when the truck he was driving crashed into the side of a Soo Line freight train at a railway crossing in the village of Auburndale.

Fatally injured was Lester G. Moore, 31, of Wausau, driver of the truck owned by the Gateway Liquor company of Green Bay. His death was the first in an accident in Wood county this year.

Undersheriff Arthur M. Boll said

that the wreckage from the completely demolished truck was spread over a 200-foot area along the railroad right of way. The train, a special with two engines, continued on to Marshfield where personnel were first informed of the accident.

Deputy Sheriff Joseph Pankratz, of Auburndale, notified county authorities and also called the Marshfield office of the railroad to have the train stopped.

Investigation of the train showed

that the truck hit the 56th and cars. The train was made up loaded and 37 empty cars. Boll reported.

Heavy Property Loss

The undersheriff added a conservative estimate of the damage would place it at about \$5,000—a considerable quantity of it was destroyed by the crash.

Moore's body was taken directly to Wausau by the Rembs Fu home of Marshfield. A married Moore was the father of one child. Boll was advised.

The crossing at which the crash occurred is lighted by an arc lamp and has a warning bell but no flashing signal, Boll said. He added extremely icy conditions prevailed on the approach to the crossing. Two injured on Hwy. 73

Two other persons were hurt in collisions involving a road grader, truck and two automobiles on and one-half miles south of Wisconsin Rapids on Highway 73 shortly after 6 p. m. Friday night. Property damage estimated \$1,750.

The two, both of Oakleaf, were William D. Johnson, 57, driver of the truck who sustained lacerations to his left leg and knee; Oliver N. Stifter, 43, passenger in the car who suffered abrasions to his right leg. They were taken to

Coal Diggers May Not Heed Back-to-Work Plea

Pittsburgh—AP—Will the 69,000 striking soft coal miners resume their 3-day work week?

The coal hungry nation should get its answer Monday. Coal people are almost unanimous that the nation is short of the precious fuel despite President Truman's assertion to the contrary.

John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers president suggested a few days ago the striking miners resume their 3-day work week on Monday.

A Lewis suggestion always has been tantamount to an order in the

there seems to be a doubt in some minds that all the miners will heed their leader's suggestion.

Lewis, suffering a personal loss in the death of his mother, made no comment on the situation. He assumed the usual "I have spoken" attitude.

The rumblings of discontent came from sections of West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Many mine locals will hold meetings today and tomorrow to decide whether to follow Lewis' suggestion.