



Deal For Wheat

CAIRO (AP)—The United States today agreed to sell the United Arab Republic nearly 25 million dollars worth of wheat for Egyptian pounds.

Liquor Raid

DUNN (AP)—At least 35 persons have been arrested in five counties following an intensive undercover campaign against suspected white liquor retailers. The mass pickup began early Tuesday and more arrests were still to come.

Gl's Body Found

LILLINGTON (AP)—The unidentified body of a Ft. Bragg soldier was found near Olivia this morning. Harnett County Sheriff Wade Stewart and officers from Ft. Bragg were en route to the scene, about halfway between Sanford and Lillington.

Plane Crashes

CHRISTCHURCH England (AP)—A four-engine Britannia on a training flight roared out of the fog and crashed near an inn outside this south coast city today. At least six of the 11 people believed to be aboard were killed.

Reds Run Out

SEOUL (AP)—Police drove striking opposition lawmakers from the National Assembly today and the government then rammed through a controversial piece of law to combat Communism.

Missiles Ahead

HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Major Gen. Bernard A. Schriever, chief of the Air Force Ballistic Missile Division, said today the U. S. missile program is about six months ahead of schedule.

Terms Studied

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
Striking pilots at American Airlines today considered contract terms suggested by federal mediators to end their walkout. American accepted the proposed settlement.

New Model Fired

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP)—The successful launching of a new model of the Atlas intercontinental missile was announced today by the Air Force.

Our Weather

Cloudy with rain ending about noon, turning cool. Mostly cloudy tonight. Clear and colder tomorrow.
Low this morning 48
Low tomorrow morning 33
High today 57
High yesterday 51
High tomorrow 49
Sunrise today 7:29 a.m.; sunset today 5:16 p.m.
More Weather Data On Page 2A



Aged But Agile

"Uncle Puss" is 20 years old, but the way he gets around belies his age. He is shown above taking a look at the 20 candles on his birthday cake. The cat is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar F. Percival of Oklahoma City.

Gone Since 7th

First Clue Found To Missing Family

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—A gasoline bill today gave the first solid lead in the mystery of a Portland family of five that vanished Dec. 7.

The bill arrived here yesterday, and showed that five gallons of gasoline were purchased Dec. 7 at Cascade Locks with a credit card issued to Ken Martin, 54.

Martin, his wife, 48, and their three young, pretty daughters disappeared after setting from their Portland home to find a Christmas tree. The golden-haired girls are Barbara, 14; Virginia, 13; and Sue, 11.

With the gasoline bill police began following a trail that led into Eastern Oregon—and far away from Portland—a red woodlands where the search had been concentrated.

The trail east included a waitress who said she spotted the family, a salesman who saw a similar car and a policeman who found a car in a gravel pit—with two men in it.

ANOTHER CLUE
Cascade Locks is about 40 miles east of here. Further east, at Hood River, a waitress said she saw the family in her cafe Dec. 7.

Last night a salesman said he saw a car resembling Martin's car on the night of Dec. 7 heading east from the Dallas—50 miles east of here.

The gasoline bill from the Cascade Locks station was the first solid lead in the search.

Dean Baxter said he remembers seeing the gasoline to the family, and that the car then headed east.

John Esberg, a sales supervisor for a life insurance company, said that he passed a station wagon resembling Martin's car and added:

"The main reason I remember it is that it was weaving. When I came up behind I had the impression there were three persons in the back seat."
"When I went to pass the first time, I swerved so far I didn't

Bus Crash Kills Seven, Injures 12

PULASKI, Tenn. (AP)—A Greyhound bus collided with two trucks while trying to pass on a wet, fog-shrouded hill at twilight Tuesday, killing seven persons and injuring 12.

Flames burst out in the bus minutes after it crashed to a halt in a gully seven miles south of here. A majority of the estimated 23 passengers scrambled out before the fire got to them.

Three of the dead were badly burned. The others apparently were thrown from the bus.

The bus driver, who last summer received an award for 15 years of safe driving, was among the dead. He was Samuel Yuroso, 50, of Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Twelve persons, including one of the truck drivers, were treated at a hospital. Six were released. One was sent to a Nashville hospital in critical condition.

HEADON SMASH

Officers peered together this afternoon:

The 40-passenger bus, bound from Birmingham to Cincinnati, was passing a coal truck in the fog when a southeast semi-tractor-trailer struck it.

The bus whipped back toward the right lane, hooked bumpers with the coal truck and then crashed to a stop against the tractor-trailer.

The impact broke the bus loose from the coal truck. The bus careened 75 yards further on and crashed to a stop upright in the gully, catching fire.

The coal truck stopped, its brakes locked, with one wheel off the shoulder of the road.

Luther Jim Beasley, 30, truck driver for the Bradley & Son Co., Pulaski, who was not injured, said: "The tractor-trailer was slowing his horn and signaling his lights. He was going mightily slow, if not stopped, when the bus hit him."

SIDE RIPPED

The collision opened a hole in the left side of the bus through which some of the passengers escaped. Others apparently used the emergency door at the rear.

Guy Mitchell, a Pulaski photographer, said: "The people who were in the bus didn't seem to know what happened. The colored people seemed to be lucky. They were in the back of the bus and were able to get out easier."

Seven bodies were recovered one funeral home said it had charred parts of what could have been an eighth body. Officials decided later it was not.

Four of the dead were identified in addition to Yuroso. They were Charles H. Thompson, about 75, Cleveland, Ala.; Mrs. Billie Jean Holman, about 23, Brewton, Ala.; and Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Parrish of Birmingham.

John H. McWilliams, 34, Elkton, Tenn., the most seriously injured, was transferred to a Nashville hospital.

William Eugene Clifton, 29, Birmingham, driver of the tractor-trailer, was released after treatment for cuts and bruises.



Santa Gets Attention From Debbie and David Dickerson of Monrovia

Mount Gilead Fire

Box Plant Razed In 8-Hour Blaze

MOUNT GILEAD—Fire that raged for almost eight hours in a box factory here and threatened the entire business district was finally brought under control this morning.

Mount Gilead Fire Chief Johnny Russell said damage to the Montgomery Paper Box Co. and two adjacent buildings could go as high as a half million dollars.

The fire which started last night about 9 o'clock and was named most of the night by high winds was finally put out this morning at 5 o'clock.

Two firemen were overcome by smoke while fighting the spectacular fire, worst in the history of this community.

Ernest Thompson and Lonnie Dunn, both of Mt. Gilead, were treated by a local physician and released. Several other firemen received cuts and bruises while fighting the blaze.

MANY UNITS

Twelve fire fighting units from every town in Montgomery County and some from neighboring Stanly County joined in battling the blaze.

Chief Russell said flames apparently broke out in the basement of the two-story box factory and threatened two adjoining buildings—City Dry Cleaners and the Leader Dress Shop.

Several times during the night the dry cleaning establishment caught fire but firemen managed to put it out, Chief Russell said. He added that most of the damage to the two buildings adjoining the box factory was "water and smoke damage."

The fire was confined to the box factory which was a total loss. Suddenly, the door opened and two small children tiptoed in.

"Merry Christmas, Mr. Santa Claus," they chorused. His eyes opened. Tears rolled down his emaciated cheeks.

The spirit of Christmas had returned to 8-year-old Tom Davies.

Equal To Occasion

A first grade Christmas play in New Britain, Conn., demanded the best of acting talent from its trouper.

One of the props was an apple, but the prop man who brought it ate it for lunch.

Undaunted, the cast faked the scene with a make-believe apple.

Live Recklessly

Police are seeking Pine Bluff, Ark., thieves who squandered their loot in one reckless binge.

Thieves broke into Lyndell Turner's place of business on Monday night and blew their loot away Tuesday. Police found the evidence beside a road south of town: a scorched area 15 feet square and a pile of litter—all but remnants of \$400 worth of firecrackers.

Visit Brightens Barren Day For 'Santa'

MONROVIA, Calif. (AP)—It was Christmas time, but none of the solitude filled into the quiet room where the man lay, pale and gaunt.

His only companions were memories.

Memories of other Christmases when big-eyed children told him their dreams.

Memories of happy days when he was the most popular, rotund, bewhiskered Santa Claus in Monrovia, a foothill town 20 miles from Los Angeles.

Now he was alone in a hospital room, forgotten. A sadness welled inside him.

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HIT BY STROKE

For years Tom has been Santa to thousands of San Gabriel Valley children. Several months ago he suffered a stroke.

The children who remembered Santa Tuesday were David, 4, and Bethanie, 7, children of Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Dickerson of Monrovia.

The Dickersons started a movement to get Santa's young fans to write him "thank you" and "get well" letters.

"Tom was the best Santa I ever had," said President Jerry McBratney of McBratney's Department Store where Tom worked for eight years. "He was wonderful with kids. He even visited them at school. Tom knew the true meaning of Christmas."

After the Dickerson children had left the quiet hospital room, Tom looked at the letters they had given him.

"I always told the children when they sat on my knee to say their prayers at night," he said. "I thought that was the real way to teach them what Christmas means."

Stockings Were Never Filled Better

Story on Page 1-B

Business	6-7A	10B
Classified	6-7B	11B
Comics	6-8B	12B
Crossword Puzzle	13A	13A
Earl Wilson	13A	13A
Editorials	11A	11A
Everyday Counselor	11A	11A
Obituaries	10A, 10B	10B
Radio-TV	8A	8A
Serial	13A	13A
Social Service Game	8A	8A
Sports	6-8B	6-8B
Spotlight Series	8A	8A
Theaters	7B	7B
To Your Good Health	6A	6A
Women	2-3B	2-3B
Worry Clinic	12A	12A

The Lighter Side

Elsie Never Returned From Bath

(From AP Reports)

That's what the man said: his ox drowned in a bathtub.

Farmer Fred Frits of Portlandville, N. Y., said the victim was his five-year-old Elsie. He said he thought another ox baited Elsie into a large old-fashioned tub that had been converted into a watering trough.

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Big Missile Blasts Path Over Ocean

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The Air Force has shot an Atlas missile on a successful 4,000-mile flight across the Atlantic just six days after its predecessor became the nation's biggest satellite.

The latest Atlas triumph—the third big one in a row—was announced some four hours after the blast of the 80-foot, wet rocket late last night.

There was no official word from the launching site, but Col. John Powers said at Air Force Ballistic Missile Division Headquarters in Inglewood, Calif., that preliminary reports showed the Atlas test ran smoothly.

The spectacular Christmas fireworks display followed on the heels of last Thursday's satellite launching and the first 6,325-mile intercontinental range Atlas shot Nov. 28.

The four-ton Atlas now in orbit is signaling President Eisenhower's "Peace on Earth" message to the world.

Powers said efforts were being made to recover the nose cone of the rocket, a blazing re-entry from space, but it was not known whether an announcement on this would be forthcoming.

Tuesday night's launching was the first appearance of a new Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile called the "C series." The missile featured some special modifications, most of them classified, which should result in lightening the Atlas payload by about 100 pounds.

ROSE SWIFTLY
The start of the shoot appeared to be highly successful as the 120-ton gleaming rocket burst up through a blanket of puffy white clouds and darted eastward like a fading star.

As the missile climbed, an eerie glow was cast over the launching area by the Atlas' flashing exhaust tail reflecting off a low lying ground haze.

As the Convair rocket streaked out of sight, the Atlas stalled was making its 88th sweep around the globe in an orbit expected to last a continuing series of weeks.

The Air Force, which kept the satellite launching a super-secret last Thursday, announced Tuesday night that the "shoot" was one of a continuing series of research and development flight tests of the Atlas weapons system.

The military rarely reports the results of a weapon shoot such as this.

ANIMAL ABBROAD

Prior to the launch there were rumors that either another satellite attempt would be made or that something else was afoot.

The mission apparently was to see how the "Big A" would stand up under heavy stress now that the special modifications have been introduced.

The mighty Atlas—which may become operational before the end of 1959—reaches speeds as high as 16,000 miles an hour on a long range flight.

The flight time was only about 30 minutes when the missile was shot over the 6,325 mile intercontinental range just three weeks ago on Nov. 28.

The Atlas' three engine propulsion system, developed by Rockwell, builds up 360,000 pounds of thrust before the missile roars aloft.

'I WANTED TO TURN THE OTHER CHEEK'

Ex-POW To Befriend Former Guards

TOKYO (AP)—The gray, balding American stood waiting at the gate of the Japanese steel mill. Down the street strains of "Silent Night" floated through the door of a bar.

From the plant yard a Japanese approached on a bicycle. He studied the waiting man's features, halted, gasped in astonishment, then turned as if to run.

WOULD BE FRIEND

"It's all right, Ishizuro-San. I just want to be your friend," Elsie Gordon said softly.

The Japanese continued to stare in disbelief, then managed a weak smile.

Between them lay the buff of a bitter war, of starvation, brutality and grueling labor, of defeat and surrender.

Shortly after the outbreak of World War II, Gordon, 60, whose home is Los Angeles, had been captured on Wake Island, where he was a civilian employee. He spent almost four years as a prisoner of war to the Japanese.

Ishizuro was a guard at the steel mill, between Tokyo and Yokohama, where Gordon was forced to work long hours. Gordon was a 101-pound skeleton when he last saw the guard.

"I had sworn I would kill them all if I ever met them again," Gordon told the Pacific Stars

and Stripes. "But over the years the harsh memories softened and I wanted them to know I bore no grudge."

"It became almost a mission," Gordon said. "I had been talking about coming back to Japan for years and now I've done what was in my mind since the war ended."

Gordon recently went to work for a firm in Yokohama which transports freight for servicemen.

STARTED SEARCH

The search for his former guards began this Christmas week and carried him to that

mill of so many bitter memories.

"When Ishizuro first rode up on his bicycle, though he was a turd around and ride away," Gordon said. "He hesitated, but got down and bowed."

"I could see he recognized me," he said. "I raised my hand and slapped him on the back. This is the Christmas season and I felt this was a good time to meet."

Friday, at least six of Gordon's former guards will be his dinner guests.

Why is he doing it?

"I guess I just wanted to turn the other cheek," Gordon said.

—TALLY-HO! YOICKS! CRASH!

No Way To Observe Holiday

OXFORD, England (AP)—The hounds of the South Oxfordshire Hunt cornered and killed their fox yesterday on Mrs. Evelyn Lindley's new living room carpet, right in front of the Christmas tree laden with presents.

Mrs. Lindley was out for some last-minute shopping and no one was at home.

NO OTHER PLACE TO GO

The hunt was in full cry, and the fox was cornered. With no place to go, it leaped through a French window into the Lindley parlor.

Seven hounds came tearing in behind it. Mrs. Lindley came home to find the living room a shambles.

"There was mud and blood all over the lounge—awfully decorated in lavender and grey," she said. "Some of the young men

and women of the hunt were already busy with scrubbing brushes and buckets of water. They had our window repaired within two hours and have a bill for cleaning our new red carpet and Jacobean loom covers."

Her husband said there was little real damage "but it was a nasty shock for my wife—she had worked hard to make the place a pie and span for our Christmas guests."

HE WON'T KICK UP FUSS

Lindley added that he's against fox hunting but doesn't want to kick up a fuss over the incident.

The secretary of the hunt, Col. John Ashton, explained:

"It was a good scent. Hounds follow fox closely. Fox met a man on the road and diverged to the house. A jump through glass door. Hounds followed naturally."