



Inventor Hopes Kids Put Slotnik In The Money Orbit

—FROM A DREAM TO A CRAZE?—

Slotnik Bids For U. S. Favor

By BOB SLOUGH
News Staff Writer

CONCORD — Frank Widenhouse of Concord has dreamed up a new toy he says is destined to replace the one-popular hula hoop. It's a variation of the old paddle ball.

Widenhouse calls his new toy the "Slotnik" and it's registered with the U. S. Patent office as "Washington."

R. and W. Manufacturing, Inc., is turning out Slotniks at the rate of 50,000 a day in a cement block building west of here. Widenhouse said his new toy should sweep the country. Slotniks are already on the market in North and South Carolina and New York.

"There is no doubt in my mind that this will replace the hula hoop," he said with confidence. In fact, Widenhouse is so confident, he plans to make 7½ million Slotniks by the end of the year.

Widenhouse got his idea for the new toy about five years ago and he has been

perfecting it ever since.

He picked up the idea by playing with his children.

"I've got four kids and I'm always tinkering," he said. The Slotnik consists of a paddle with a hole in the center and a slot running to the hole from the large end.

A string connected to a rubber ball is anchored at the large end of the paddle.

The idea is to gently flip the paddle up and down, causing the ball to pass through the hole in the center without touching the paddle.

"Finding the right string and something to anchor it in the ball was my biggest problem," he said. He also tried half a dozen different sizes and shapes before coming up with a paddle 11 inches long and five inches wide.

R. and W. Manufacturing, Inc., employs 25 people and Widenhouse says he may add more to the company's payroll in the near future.

DR. THOMAS B. Brantley of Concord is president of the

toy firm and Mrs. Brantley is secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Widenhouse is vice president.

"Me? All I'm interested in is making Slotniks," Widenhouse said. "I think I'm a vice president or something or other."

He immediately scotched any idea that it is a get-rich-quick operation.

"THE OTHER DAY I was in a drug store down town wishing I had a nickel to buy me a Coke," he said, "and these two little girls came in and stood at the counter looking at some Slotniks on display."

"One of them looked at the other and said, 'I'll bet the man that invented that is a millionaire.'"

"I started to tell her, 'Honey, if you only knew.'"

Actually Widenhouse has another business—merchant patrol for the Concord area.

But his main business now is Slotniks—7½ million of 'em.

Police Crack Robbery Case Of \$13,000 In Cigarettes

By JOHN KILGO
News Staff Writer

The sensational February robbery of \$13,000 worth of cigarettes from the Associated Grocers Mutual building on Raleigh St. was cleared up today with the arrest of seven white men.

Four of the men, held on various charges, are from Cabarrus County and three are from Mecklenburg.

Police have recovered about \$3,000 worth of the stolen cigarettes and expect to recover more sometime today.

THOSE CHARGED

County Police listed the men and their charges as follows: Robert Dewitt Starnes, 38, Concord, conspiracy and two counts of receiving stolen goods; Mack J. Wincoff, 35, Concord, conspiracy and three counts of receiving stolen goods; Robert Leslie Heffner, 35, Rockwell, conspiracy and two counts of receiving stolen goods; Howard Eugene Furr, 24, Concord, accessory to store breaking and conspiracy.

Charles Norton Lavery, 25, 114 W. 26th St., conspiracy, breaking and entering, grand larceny and larceny of a truck; Robert William McCoy, 20, Rt. 7, conspiracy, breaking and entering, grand larceny and larceny of a truck; Kenneth Odell Jordan, 22, 426 E. 2nd St., conspiracy, accessory to breaking and entering, and receiving stolen goods.

County Police Capt. G. A. Stephens said the men were disposing of the cigarettes in Ro-

wan and Cabarrus Counties.

Exact details of how the case was cleared weren't immediately available at noon today.

Police said at one time Lavery was employed at the grocery mutual warehouse.

They also said that Jordan—a local taxi driver—rented a house in the county for the purpose of storing the merchandise.

"You took the wrong turn, Gypsy," Ellis said. Nine miles later she conceded he was right. How did he know? The sun was shining on his right arm on the right hand side of the car, and it shouldn't have been.

"If it had been a cloudy day," Ellis said, "we'd have been in real trouble."

Good Excuse

Carol Rolla of Peace Air Force Base, Concord, N. C.,

During the night of Feb. 25 robbers broke into the building, loaded the cigarettes onto a van and hauled them off. The truck was recovered the next morning.

Local officers working on the case with Capt. Stephens were Harold Smith, W. H. Howe, Bruce Abernethy and Richard Brooks.

Gov. Hodges threatened last Friday. At that time, he warned that troops would be sent if necessary to prevent violence.

Subsequently, other issues were included in the job state of new workers hired when the plants reopened on a one-shift basis Feb. 16.

Violence has broken out repeatedly since the plants reopened. A detachment of highway patrolmen was on the scene for several weeks.

Gov. Hodges threatened them last Friday. At that time, he warned that troops would be sent if necessary to prevent violence.

Not Even Smoke

The fire sirens in Bellingham, Mass., sounded at 2:30 a.m. Twenty-four volunteer firemen rubbed sleep from their eyes, donned clothing and went racing away in their trucks.

At the address of the phone call they found an excited woman in a room, but the glow surrounding her car was steam, not smoke. She'd forgotten to add water.

Pickets Are Calmed By Guards

HENDERSON — First shift workers, guarded by long lines of National Guardsmen, quietly entered the struck Harriet-Henderson Cotton Mills today.

There were only occasional jeers and catcalls from small clusters of pickets who turned out at the mill's two plants.

The scene contrasted sharply with Tuesday night's shift change when Guardsmen faced hundreds of shouting strikers with fixed bayonets. There was no violence, however.

Police said some rocks were thrown in an area not policed by the Guard. Five persons were arrested and one was charged with inciting to riot.

The Guardsmen, numbering about 300, were ordered here by Gov. Hodges as a result of a new outbreak of violence Monday night.

Police said the man charged with inciting to riot, in the rock throwing, Elliot Gaudier, was placed under \$3,000 bond. Odell Tart and O. C. Clark were charged with interfering with a law enforcement officer, and Charlie Harris was accused of throwing a rock. Tart's wife, Lene, was charged with loud and boisterous conduct.

A rented car carrying a crew of cameramen from WSOB-TV in Charlotte was pelted with rocks by people outside the area policed by the Guard. None of the men was hurt, but a window of the car was broken.

Frank Beatty, a United Press International photographer, was surrounded by a crowd of strikers and threatened. A union official broke up the crowd.

Workers leaving the plants were armed with rocks, and their cars were fired upon. Local officials said the situation was beyond their control and asked for troops.

An official of the striking Textile Workers Union of America, Julius Frye of Greensboro, charged the Guardsmen were sent "to help the unreasonable management to operate his cotton mills, and provide strikebreakers free access to the plants." Frye denied troops were needed.

The Guardsmen, drawn from the 2nd Battle Group of the 30th Infantry Division, are commanded by Lt. Col. R. A. Peterson.

Peterson would not say how many troops are here. Newsweek estimated the number at 300.

Before their arrival workers entering and leaving the firm's North Henderson plant were pelted with rocks.

The 1,200 employees of the mill struck last Nov. 17 when the company insisted on removal of the arbitration clause from the new contract.

Subsequently, other issues were included in the job state of new workers hired when the plants reopened on a one-shift basis Feb. 16.

Violence has broken out repeatedly since the plants reopened. A detachment of highway patrolmen was on the scene for several weeks.

Gov. Hodges threatened them last Friday. At that time, he warned that troops would be sent if necessary to prevent violence.

Not Even Smoke

The fire sirens in Bellingham, Mass., sounded at 2:30 a.m. Twenty-four volunteer firemen rubbed sleep from their eyes, donned clothing and went racing away in their trucks.

At the address of the phone call they found an excited woman in a room, but the glow surrounding her car was steam, not smoke. She'd forgotten to add water.



Mrs. Arthur C. Eaton of Atlanta, Ga., holds her daughter, Pamela, after both escaped injury when the plane they were riding crashed at Charleston, W. Va.

Both Capital's 2 Plane Crashes Claim 33 Lives

By JACK DAVIS

BALTIMORE — A Capital Airlines Viscount turboprop, flying non-stop from New York to Atlanta, blew apart in storm-swept skies over Maryland late yesterday, spraying wreckage and the bodies of 27 passengers and four crewmen over a two-mile area.

Less than an hour before, another Capital airline, a four-engine Constellation, plunged over a 200-foot embankment at the Charleston, W. Va., Airport and burst into flames, killing two persons and injuring at least six. This flight, from Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh, also was bound for Atlanta.

One official at the Civil Aeronautics Board said it was the first time in its history that a single airline had had two fatal crashes in one day.

IN 32 MINUTES

The Constellation crashed at Charleston at 4:26 p.m. EDT. The Viscount tore apart at 5:13 p.m. EDT while flying at about 14,000 feet over a patchwork of small farms about 15 miles east of Baltimore.

Weather may have been a factor in both cases. A thunderstorm was sweeping across Maryland when the Viscount came through. Apparently the turbulence was causing rock riding.

No one saw the plane the instant it disintegrated with a fiery flash—the sky was covered with low-sounding rainclouds. But aviation engineers and others speculated that a sudden, violent downward or upward force off part of a wing, rupturing a fuel line which spewed

kerosene fuel into an engine. The gas apparently ignited with a roar, tearing the plane to pieces.

The Viscount is powered by four turbojet engines, which turn a propeller shaft and a conventional propeller.

At the controls was Capt. W. C. Paddock of Detroit, who had been

See PLANE on Page 2A

'Bug' Cars Stir Opinion Differences

Story On Page 1B

Business 10A, 9B
Classified 10-11B
Comics 9B
Crossword Puzzle 8A
Editorials 6A
Everyday Counselor 6A
Fables 9B
Radio-TV 4B
Serials 8A
Sports 2A
Theaters 9B
Women 2-4B

More weather data on Page 2A

No Explanation Given For Triple Tragedy

By BILL HUGHES
News Staff Writer

MYRTLE BEACH, S. C.—Three F100 Sabre jet planes on a training flight crashed into the Atlantic Ocean off the South Carolina coast before daylight today, apparently killing all three pilots.

The planes were part of a large flight which roared away from Myrtle Beach Air Force Base about 3 a.m.

The three ill-fated jets had been airborne only minutes when squadron mates saw them go into a rapidly descending turn and hit the water almost simultaneously. The crash scene was about 10 miles southeast of this resort community.

Although the Air Force did not list the flight's destination, it was learned, the squadron was scheduled to take off for Italy this morning. The Air Force said other planes in the flight had not landed late this morning on these measures.

First word of the crash to reach the base was by radio from another plane in the flight.

Search aircraft which rushed to the scene sighted oil slicks and wreckage, but no sign of life.

The pilots were identified as Capt. Mack Bulger of Oklahoma City, Okla.; 1st Lt. Delano G. Lund, Baker, Mont.; and 1st Lt. Morris L. Uden of Buffalo, Kan.

All three lived in the Myrtle Beach area with their families.

NO EXPLANATION

Although the Air Force gave no explanation for the crash, this is not the first time that multiple flights of high speed jets have crashed under similar mysterious circumstances.

In previous incidents the cause has been described as "verging"—whereby pilots flying on instruments become confused by the instrument maze and body position which occur in high speed flight.

Late this morning aircraft were still searching the scene and a Coast Guard cutter from Charleston, S. C., was on its way to the scene.

Col. Francis S. Gabroski, commander of the 334th Tactical Fighter Wing and war hero, the primary pilot at the base, was on the flight.

The Air Force did not disclose the number of planes on the mission, but termed it the "major part of a squadron effort." A squadron normally consists of 18 planes.

BOARD CONVENES

A board of Air Force officers convened at the base to begin investigating the incident.

Maj. Gen. Daniel W. Jenkins, deputy commander, 9th Air Force, arrived at the Myrtle Beach base today to provide whatever assistance may be necessary from higher echelon in an effort to conclude the investigation.

The flight to Italy was to replace another squadron in a normal Tactical Air Command rotation movement, officials said.

Our Weather

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers or thundershowers today and tonight, gradually ending near noon tomorrow. Cooler temperatures tomorrow.

Low this morning 68
Low tomorrow morning 65
High today 73
High yesterday 83
High tomorrow 86

Sunrise today 5:21 a.m.
Sunset today 7:18 p.m.

Remember these telephone numbers for THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

News Dept. ED 3-0303

Business and Display Ads ED 2-7121

Circulation FR 6-6467

Classified Ads FR 7-7474