

Naugatuck Daily News

THE WEATHER

Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Vermont—Showers ending followed by partial clearing tonight. Fair and continued mild Wednesday.

"A Progressive Newspaper For A Progressive Community"

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1946

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ESTABLISHED 1885

Former Resident Witnesses Plane Crash In N.Y.

Fatal Plane Crash In N.Y. Investigated

Five Army Officers Killed When Transport Hit 70-Story Building

(By United Press)

The Army has ordered an investigation into the crash of an Army C-45 transport into a 70-story building in New York's Wall street.

Colonel Clarence Kane of the Atlantic Overseas Division of the Air Technical Service Command has been placed in charge of the board conducting the investigation. He has ordered the wreckage of the aircraft removed to Newark airport.

That's where the transport was headed when it crashed yesterday evening and killed its five occupants—all Army officers. Their mangled bodies have been removed from the office on the 58th floor of the Bank of Manhattan building, where the crash occurred.

Victims Identified

The War Department officially has identified the five victims. They are Major Mansel R. Campbell, of Pontiac, Mich., the pilot; Captain Tom Hall of Austin, Texas—nearest of kin, Helen Hall of Sioux Falls, S. D.; First Lieutenants Robert Stevenson of the Bronx, N. Y.; Angelo Ross of Whitehall, N. Y.; and WAC First Lieutenant Mary Bond of Newtown, Pa.

The transport was on a flight from Smyrna Army air base in Tennessee to Newark airport. It made contact with Newark control tower at 8:10 p. m. (E. D. T.), and reported it was flying blind at a 600-foot altitude. The plane was instructed to make an instrument let-down, and that was the last heard from it. Shortly afterward, it crashed into New York's fourth largest building.

Plane Wreckage Clings To Building



Taken from a nearby building in New York's financial section, this view shows the severed tail section of the C-45 army plane which crashed into the 70-story Bank of Manhattan Building in Wall Street, New York city. Flying through a thick fog, the twin-engined craft plunged into the 58th floor killing five passengers, four men and a Wac. The names of the dead will not be released by Army authorities until the next of kin have been notified. (International)

Wide Circle Of Friends Mourn Death Yesterday Of Thomas Lawley

A wide circle of friends in Naugatuck and throughout the state...

In Survey

Risdon Co. Buys Plant For \$60,000

Takes Title To Pond, Building Now Occupied In Waterbury

The Risdon Mfg. Co. yesterday purchased, for about \$60,000, the land and buildings at 2100 South Main street, Waterbury, which the firm has occupied under lease for the past 10 years. The purchase was made from the Smith & Griggs Mfg. Co.

A warranty deed filed yesterday in the office of the Waterbury town clerk revealed the transaction. Harold P. Baldwin, secretary-treasurer of the Risdon Co., said the company has held a lease on the property for 10 years, with option to buy.

The transaction includes sale of a three-story brick and wood building, land on which the building is located, and Pritchard's Pond on Pearl Lake Rd., including all improvements. The pond is the source of the plant's private water supply.

The sale was recorded on a warranty deed bearing federal tax stamps worth \$66 and the signature of David C. Griggs, president of the Smith & Griggs Mfg. Co. The Risdon company was represented by the law firm of Carmody, Larkin and Torrance.

Situation In Middle East Is Still Confused

(By United Press)

Charge and counter-charge in the Middle East has revived the explosive Iranian issue. There have been reports of fighting between...

Motor Hurtles To Street In Crash



A bystander looks over one of the motors of a two-engined C-45 Army plane which crashed into the Bank of Manhattan Building in New York city during a heavy fog. The force of the impact hurled it a full block south of the scene of the accident where it fell to the street. (International)

Civic Symphonette Plans First Concert June 11 In Music Shed

.. LATE ..

The first concert of the Naugatuck Civic Symphonette will be presented Tuesday evening, June 11 in the Tuttle Music shed, according to an announcement today by Jesse...

Petitjean Watches Part Of Transport Fall To Pine Street

Youth Gets Brighter Year By Year, PTA Told By Collier

"We have an unusually fine generation of youth and they are getting brighter year by year," declared Paul D. Collier, an authority on secondary education, and Director of the Bureau of Youth Services for the State, speaking before a large and attentive audience of parents and teachers Monday evening in Salem school auditorium.

The major job of the secondary school today is not preparation for college, pointed out Mr. Collier, but it is coming to be a preparation for some kind of possible secondary education beyond high school, not necessarily college. Surveys in the state indicate a need for more vocational and business training, even beyond high school.

Another problem is to provide for those who left school to take jobs but are beginning to realize that they will soon be in competition with those who are better trained.

If we are to prepare our youth for their place in the world, continued Mr. Collier, youth must have an opportunity to participate in community government. We must utilize whatever opportunity there is in the community to give youth the experience and practical training...

"I don't know how far up the building was hit. The part I saw fall, seemed to come from about the 25th floor. Must have happened above that, since I didn't see the actual crash.

"The ceiling seemed to be at about 50th floor. I couldn't see the...

"Looked Out Of Window To See Part Of Plane In Fiery Descent"

William G. Petitjean, husband of Mrs. Eleanor (Dillon) Petitjean, formerly of 419 North Spring street, was at the scene of the airplane crash last night in downtown New York city.

Mr. Petitjean, who is affiliated with Walter Kidde Constructors, Inc., engineers and builders, wrote a special delivery letter to THE NEWS immediately after viewing the crash scene.

His letter is as follows:

"Gentlemen, "Thought you might be interested to know that Naugatuck was represented at the scene of the airplane crash in downtown New York city this evening. In fact, I heard the plane, then the crash, and looked out of my office window in time to see a part of the plane in its fiery descent to Pine street.

"By the time you get this, verified accounts will either confirm or correct any statement I make.

"I witnessed the disaster from the 22nd floor at 140 Cedar street, a few blocks west of the building hit. The time was about 8:10 p. m.

"I don't know how far up the building was hit. The part I saw fall, seemed to come from about the 25th floor. Must have happened above that, since I didn't see the actual crash.

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Cut Text:

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Former Resident

(Continued from Page One)

top of the building, which is always well lighted by flood lights.

“Sounded like a single engine plane, but I haven’t found out definitely. Of course, as usual at the scene, you get all sorts of reports, and you’re more confused than enlightened. I went over there shortly after it happened but couldn’t get any information that could be trusted. Too bad I didn’t have a press card. We were kept away from the immediate area, Pine street, between Nassau and Williams streets. A part of the plane was draped over a parapet about 15 floors up. There was some debris in Pine street.

“For your information, I am the husband of Eleanor Dillon Petitjean of 419 North Spring street.

“Incidentally, I am also a nephew, Fred Beasley, of your staff.

“Very truly yours,

“William G. Petitjean.”

Mr. Petitjean’s parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Petitjean, live at Platts Mills.

*See cut text - next column