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WEATHER
Mostly sunny today. High temperature about 73. Complete weather on Page A-2.

L.B. Flier Joan Merriam Smith, Writer Killed in Mountain Crash

LBJ, Ike Talk on Viet War

GOP Congress Leaders Support Firm U.S. Stand

By WILLIAM J. EATON

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President Johnson discussed the Vietnamese situation with former President Eisenhower Wednesday and afterward repeated his determination that "we seek no wider war" in Southeast Asia.

But he coupled this with the declaration: "We must all understand we will persist in the defense of freedom and our continuing actions will be those which are justified and those made necessary by the continuing aggression of others."

JOHNSON had said previously that the United States sought no broadening of the war. This was when the White House announced the original U.S. aerial retaliation on North Vietnamese targets for continuing Communist guerrilla assaults.

The President made his statement on U.S. Vietnamese policy in remarks added to a speech he was making on economic policy to the National Industrial Conference Board meeting here.

HE WAS 15 minutes late to the meeting because of his talks with Eisenhower, whom Johnson described to his audience as "one of the great leaders of our time."

Eisenhower was in Washington for a routine medical checkup, and was invited to the White House by the President. Press Secretary George E. Reedy, asked if Johnson had sought Eisenhower's advice on Viet Nam, replied: "Yes, of course."

Johnson's meeting with the former Republican chief executive came as the GOP congressional leadership issued a statement declaring its support of Johnson's Vietnamese policy.

On the other hand, three members of the President's

(Continued Page A-6, Col. 6)

THIS IS THE LARGEST section found of the plane which crashed and burned Wednesday in Angeles National Forest, killing Joan Merriam Smith and a woman passenger.

Plane Wing Folds; Plunges Near Big Pines

Long Beach's famed globe-spanning aviatrix Joan Merriam Smith and a woman companion were killed Wednesday when their light plane crashed in the San Gabriel Mountains near Big Pines.

★ ★ ★

Bad Luck Plagued Aviatrix

By LEE CRAIG

Joan Merriam Smith's death in the flaming crash of a borrowed plane Wednesday brought a tragic end to the bad luck which had plagued her since she first began preparing for her epic world flight last year.

After a series of troubles with outfitting her twin-engined Piper Apache for a trip, Joan left Oakland last March 17 for the 27,250-mile journey.

From the outset, breaks went against the slight, blonde Long Beach housewife.

It was not immediately determined whether Mrs. Smith of 3055 Garford St., or her companion, flier and aviation writer Trixie-Ann Schubert, 42, of Los Angeles, was at the four-place, Cessna 182's controls.

Both bodies were burned beyond recognition and preliminary identification was made through the plane's registration number.

Mrs. Smith's husband, Lt. Cmdr. Marvin G. (Jack) Smith Jr., commands the Long Beach-based minesweeper Endurance now in port. He is expected to confirm the identification today at the coroner's office in Los Angeles.

WITNESSES told sheriff's deputies the plane was "flying low" just before noon on a flight from Long Beach to Wrightwood. Suddenly, they told investigators, a wing folded back and the monoplane plunged into the north slope of Blue Ridge.

The crash scene, about 45 miles northeast of Los Angeles and two miles from Big Pines, is about 6,500 feet high in the Angeles National Forest area of San Gabriel Mountains.

The plane exploded on impact, igniting a brush fire that was extinguished by forest rangers after it burned about 1½ acres.

FIRST LINK between the downed plane and Mrs. Smith came when deputies discovered the number N-8184-V and contacted the registered owner, V. E. Koster, owner of a Long Beach oil service company.

Koster told deputies that only Mrs. Smith was authorized to fly the plane.

The 5-foot-6 blonde, married in 1960 to then Lt. Smith, grew up in Miami, Fla. She made her first solo flight at 16, earned a private license at 17, a commercial license at 18 and was an instructor at 21.

"I always preferred playing softball to dolls," she used to tell newsmen.

After her marriage she

(Continued Page A-7, Col. 7)

IN HAPPY MOMENT, Joan Merriam Smith poses with husband, then Lt. Marvin G. (Jack) Smith Jr. Famed aviatrix and her husband, now lieutenant commander and skipper of Long Beach-based minesweeper Endurance, were married in 1960. "We haven't had too much time together . . ." she once told newsmen.

INSIDE THE INDEPENDENT

SHE WANTED to be "unmarried from" the husband she is accused of having burned to death, Lucille Miller testifies. Page A-11.

RANGER 8 moon probe is carried into near-perfect course on Atlas-Agena rocket. Page A-2.

FIX SCANDAL hits college basketball as two Seattle University players are arrested on bribery-conspiracy charges. Page D-1.

700-Million Tax Break to Business

By STERLING F. GREEN

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Johnson handed business a $700-million tax favor Wednesday, on the eve of a White House meeting at which he seeks a big favor in return—a voluntary clampdown on overseas investment.

Johnson told 1,100 industry leaders, at a meeting of the National Industrial Conference Board, that the Treasury will soon announce liberalized tax guidelines for plant equipment and machinery depreciation.

The Treasury followed up quickly with disclosure that the new rules, urgently sought by nearly every industry, will be issued late today.

"(The changes) will allow business to receive this year more than $700 million worth of benefits that would have been lost under the original guideline procedure," the President said.

THE ACTION has been expected for at least two months, but the $700 million Johnson specified—in effect, a good-sized corporation tax saving—it twice or three times as big as the Treasury has indicated it would give.

"The new rules," Johnson went on, "will further encourage business to scrap old equipment and bring in new—and they will help business to cut costs, raise efficiency and hold the line on prices to keep our expansion going."

He did not mention the unresolved balance-of-payments deficit in his 20-minute talk. But many of his hearers will be among the 300 leaders of banking and industry who go to the White House today to hear Johnson's plans for industry-government measures to wipe out the payments gap.

JOHNSON told Congress last week he wants American bankers to curtail voluntarily

(Continued Page A-2, Col. 3)

MECHANICAL difficulties with her plane—leaking fuel tanks, engine trouble, an autopilot that worked only occasionally—caused her numerous unscheduled delays.

Most of her stops were at remote parts of the world where competent mechanics were not to be found. Many times, she did her own maintenance or waited until her

(Continued Page A-7, Col. 2)

TRIXIE-ANN SCHUBERT
Died in Crash

'Bugged' Youth Shoots Mother, Composer Dad

BEVERLY HILLS (AP) — Composer Jerry Livingston and his wife, Ruth, were shot in their home Wednesday by their 22-year-old son.

A spokesman at the UCLA Medical Center said they were in satisfactory condition following emergency treatment. The spokesman said Livingston was shot in an arm and that his wife was hit in the chest.

The son, Gary, barricaded himself on the second floor of their two-story Beverly Hills home, and was subdued only after police fired several shots of tear gas.

Police Chief Clinton Anderson said the son claimed his parents were "bugging him" about getting out of bed at 4 p.m.

"He said he had been treated by a psychiatrist,"

Anderson said. "He's a nervous-type fellow."

The shots were fired from a .22-caliber revolver, but detectives said a 12-gauge shotgun and a .22-caliber rifle were also found in the couple's home.

AMONG Livingston's compositions are "Mairzy Doats," music for the movie "Cinderella," and the onetime hit song, "Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo."

Livingston, 56, also has written music for movies with Disney, Paramount, MGM and Warner Bros., including "The 12th of Never," "77 Sunset Strip," "Talk of the Town," "The Hanging Tree," and "Alice in Wonderland."

He has also served as president of the Song Writers Guild of America.

Across the Nation

Girl, 15, Shot Protecting Mother

CHICAGO (UPI)—A 15-year-old girl who tried to protect her mother during a robbery was shot Wednesday by a bandit who said he would "shoot your heart out" if she didn't "shut up," police said.

Virginia Knight, a high school freshman, was shot in the stomach when she tried to stop the thief from searching her mother in a robbery at the family grocery.

The girl was in fair condition after surgery. A second operation was scheduled to remove the bullet, which lodged in her back.

Virginia went to the store before school to help her mother Mrs. Ada Lee Knight, 60. She was in a back room, sorting produce, when she heard a man say, "This is a stickup," police said.

The man cleaned out the cash register, and began rifling Mrs. Knight's pockets.

Virginia entered the front of the store, and said, "You leave my mother alone," police reported.

"Shut up, or I'll shoot your heart out," the man warned. Virginia tried to drive him away from her mother, and the man shot her.

He forced Mrs. Knight into a washroom and fled with less than $100.

Marines Pulled Out

HONOLULU (AP)—A military spokesman Wednesday said plans have been canceled for participation of 7,500 Hawaii-based U.S. Marines in military exercises on the West Coast next week.

The exercise — Operation Silver Lance — will go on as scheduled but the 7,500 Marines from the First Marine Brigade at Kaneohe will not take part.

Military officials would not say why. Presumably it was because of the Viet Nam situation.

Nab Beating Suspect

ST. LOUIS — Police and Federal Bureau of Investigation agents arrested a man here Wednesday night in connection with the robbery and beating of the chief justice of the Nevada Supreme Court.

Arrested was Phillip Denning, 21, of Reno, Nev. Denning denied the charge when he was picked up.

Police said they found a credit card on Denning made out to Frank McNasee, the chief justice. They said cuff links and other business cards in McNasee's name also were discovered in Denning's possession.

A car identified as belonging to McNasee was found about noon Wednesday near Oregon, Mo.

McNasee was found beaten in his Lake Tahoe, Nev., apartment Tuesday. He still was in critical condition Wednesday in a Reno hospital.

Prelates in Hospitals

BOSTON (AP) — Richard Cardinal Cushing was admitted to St. Elizabeth's Hospital Wednesday night and the chancery office of the archdiocese said he may undergo surgery. There was no immediate indication of the prelate's ailment or the length of his hospitalization.

CHICAGO (AP) — Albert Cardinal Meyer, archbishop of Chicago, was admitted to Mercy Hospital Wednesday night for what a hospital spokesman said was a "followup checkup." Cardinal Meyer, 61, was treated last month at the hospital for a gallbladder ailment.

LIBEL CHARGED

Jury Indicts Four in Kuchel Smear

BY LOS ANGELES BUREAU

Four men were indicted Wednesday by the Los Angeles County Grand Jury on charges they distributed a document falsely accusing U.S. Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel of being arrested in 1950 on a morals offense.

The indictments came as the result of an investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, instituted by Sen. Kuchel himself, and a three-week hearing by the Grand Jury.

District Attorney Evelle J. Younger said the investigation disclosed that the allegations were "false, reckless, malicious and vicious."

Indicted were:

Francis A. Cappell, 57, of Zarephath, N. J., publisher of the Herald of Freedom, a bi-weekly, right-wing publication.

John F. Fergus, 47, of 7166 Blue Place, Los Angeles, a public relations man for Schick Safety Razor Co.

Newman H. Krause, 44, of 1950 Topanga Canyon Road, Malibu, a former Los Angeles police officer, who now owns two bars.

Jack D. Clemmons, 41, of 6628 Tampa Ave., Reseda, who resigned last week as a Los Angeles police officer.

All four defendants were indicted on two counts. One is conspiracy to commit criminal libel. The other is willfully and wrongfully using another's name in any manner that will affect, or have a tendency to affect, the moral reputation of the person whose name is used.

EACH OF THE counts carries a maximum penalty of three years in prison and a $5,000 fine.

Both Fergus and Krause appeared before the Grand Jury, but refused to testify.

Bail for each of the four defendants was set at $5,000.

Deputy District Attorney Joseph P. Busch Jr. told Superior Court Judge David W. Williams, who signed the true bill, that Fergus, Krause and

(Continued Page A-10, Col. 1)

Redistrict Failure Predicted

By JERRY RANKIN

SACRAMENTO (AP) — The Assembly finally adopted a Senate anti-reapportionment resolution Wednesday. At the same time the Senate's top leader predicted failure of redistricting efforts in the upper house and offered to submit the issue to the voter.

Senate President Pro Tem Hugh M. Burns, D-Fresno, told his weekly news conference with Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh, D-Los Angeles:

"As a personal observation, I don't think we'll get a bill that will define senatorial districts" by the July 1 deadline set by a Los Angeles federal court.

BUT, Burns added, he thinks he has a plan that might put off redrawing Senate lines by population. He proposed that the legislature submit to a vote of the people next year a state constitutional amendment that would allow one county to have more than one senator. At present, no county may have more than one senator, and no senator may represent more than three counties.

Burns contended this presents compliance with the U.S. Supreme Court's "one man, one vote" ruling. Under

(Continued Page A-3, Col. 7)

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