

INQUIRY OPENS IN SINKING

Sole Survivor Says Ship Was Leaking Like Sieve

ASHTABULA, Ohio (AP) — The sole survivor of the ill-fated Daniel J. Morrell said Friday that he knew of more than 1,000 bad rivets "on the shell" of the vessel and that the port side "leaked just like a sieve."
"I sailed on it (the Morrell) for three years and I thought it was in good shape," Dennis Hale, 28, told a coast guard board of inquiry. "I thought if it wasn't safe the coast guard wouldn't have passed it, and the company wouldn't let it sail."
The ore carrier, operated by Bethlehem Steel Corp., sank in a Lake Huron storm Nov. 29, taking the lives of 28 men. Hale, picked up by the coast guard, now is convalescing at Ashtabula General Hospital.
The hearing was held in a fifth-floor conference room at the hospital. Hale testified while in bed.

Hale said about a week ago he talked with Harvey Hays of Westleyville, Pa., who told him that before the 1965 winter layup he'd gone to mark bad rivets "and water would wash the paint right off." He quoted Hays, who sailed on the Morrell most of the 1965 season, as saying this was on the inside part of the hull above the side tank tops.

RIVETS WEAK
Hale said he himself saw "at least 1,000 rivets marked above the tops of the tanks." He said "some of the heads were sheared off," but he didn't see any missing. This was in August, he said.
"The port side was leaking real bad" about two trips before the layup last season, Hale said, adding that there were complaints from crew members that work scheduled to be done

on the Morrell last winter had not been completed.

He said he asked Arthur I. Crawley, captain of the Morrell, "when the hell we going to get those holes fixed?" and quoted the captain as replying that "we've never in port long enough."

Hale has filed a \$150,000 damage suit against Bethlehem Steel.

He said some work was done on the ship after August of this year, but "there has never been a time since I've been sailing that there's never been any holes in it."

Describing the breakup of the Morrell, Hale said "it started on the starboard side and seemed to rip... The bow dropped in the water and spun us around, and the next thing I knew everyone was in the water."

Hale was on a life raft with three men and drifted for 3 hours on the icy waters before being rescued. The other three apparently were injured, and died one by one.

Traditional Tommycod Event Is Cancelled By Pollution

QUEBEC (CP) — The traditional tommycod fishing on the St. Anne River at St. Anne de la Perade, 50 miles southwest of here, is out this Christmas.
The department of tourism, fish and game says pollution of the river is so serious it has ordered a thorough study of the problem, and until this is completed no one will be allowed to erect a fishing hut on the ice.
Each year as many as 1,500 shacks are set up on the ice by tommycod fishermen, each contributing his own rubbish and fish to the already polluted river.
Gaston Lemay, the department's principal officer in the St. Maurice region, says the department is considering tak-

ing over the river, the property of a local family.
"In other years, a local committee controlled the fishing and saw to it that there was some degree of hygiene, but the organization was dissolved last year when it ran into a \$2,000 deficit."
Mr. Lemay was hopeful that the study undertaken by the department would solve the problem in time to permit fishing sometime in January.

The tommycod season at St. Anne de la Perade is considered a highlight event in the province, second only to the winter carnival at Quebec City. Last year, it brought an estimated \$1,000,000 in trade to the little town.

GESTURE TO FLOOD VICTIMS

Pope Paul Arrives For Florence Mass

FLORENCE, Italy (Reuters) — Pope Paul will come to this flood-ravaged city today as Christmas midnight mass in its famous Renaissance cathedral as a gesture of comfort and consolation to millions of Italian flood victims.
It will be the first time in more than a century that a Pope has not said the midnight mass in the Vatican's St. Peter's Basilica under its Michelangelo ceiling frescoes.
The bells of Florence—a city that seven weeks ago was mired in deep, stinking mud with debris everywhere—will peal out from noon to 9 p.m. today to herald the Pope's arrival.
He will be greeted at the Florence toll gate and will drive through the streets of the town, seeing flood damage on the way, to the Basilica of Santa Croce, where the floods were deepest.
The Pope will pray for a few

moments inside the church whose exquisite frescoes still show the marks of the oil and water and where the priceless crucifix of Cimabue was damaged beyond repair.

Then he will go to the people of Florence from the church steps before going to the archbishop's palace to meet local church and civic officials, and have a brief rest.

Shortly before midnight he will go to the cathedral baptistry to put on his vestments for mass in the cathedral.

After the mass and a sermon, the Pope will say a few more words to the crowds who will be able to follow the mass from loudspeakers playing out into the cathedral square and nearby streets.

Then he will motor back through the night to Rome to say the traditional Sunday morning mass in St. Peter's Basilica.

6 Draggeres Preparing For Sea

GEORGETOWN — Six draggeres here are being made ready for resumption of fishing operations, with the target date Dec. 28. Last night, it appeared two might be ready by that time with the others in a few days following.
Being refitted for winter fishing are the 94-foot Howe Bay, Gulf Gull, Gulf Gullant and Gulf Guard and the 128-foot Gulf Gunn. All except the Gulf Gull had been fishing before, closed down.

Two more trawlers are receiving fishing licenses to construction at the railway wharf last night, suggesting the fish this winter. They are the King Gerd, launched in July and the Gulf Georgetown, launched in November.

This week six watchmen were appointed to guard the ships around the clock, two men to a shift.

It is expected fish will be landed at Souris while ice conditions permit, and then at a mainland port.

Priest Beaten In Montreal

SAINT JOHN, N.B. (CP) — Beaten and robbed in Montreal several days ago, a Saint John priest was reported "resting comfortably" Friday in St. Mary's Hospital in Montreal.

Rev. Ronald Delaney, of St. Peter's Parish here, was in Montreal to attend a funeral. A church source here said Father Delaney was returning to the Griffinstown Church rectory when attacked by two youths. He suffered face and head lacerations and bruises and was robbed of an unstated amount of money. The youths fled.

Most Travelled Christmas Scheduled For Canadians

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
Trains, boats and planes are booked solid as Canadians head into what is expected to be the most travelled Christmas season in peacetime history.
A Cross-Canada survey by The Canadian Press Friday showed that travel services are increasing facilities to cope with the holiday rush.
The CPR will operate 10 extra holiday specials. Eastern Airlines say Montreal-New York flights are booked solid and BOAC flights from Canada to Great Britain are running at capacity.
Air Canada has laid on 164 extra sections in Quebec, Ontario and the Maritimes and 24 additional westbound flights will leave Toronto over the holiday.
Seven extra flights will wing from Toronto to Caribbean destinations and an extra five will go to Florida.

Seventeen additional Air Canada flights will operate between Vancouver, Victoria and Seattle. Canadian Pacific Airlines has extra flights to carry loggers and construction workers to Vancouver from the British Columbia interior.

The British Columbia Ferry Authority is doubling its service to Vancouver Island with boats leaving every hour.
More than 2,000 seamen on 30

ships are expected to be in Vancouver on Christmas Day but one seaman's mission won't be serving Christmas dinner.
"Christmas dinners don't appeal to seamen. They get too well fed aboard ships these days," said Chaplain Stanley Smith of the Flying Angel Mission.

In Montreal, about 350 aged poor will sit down to a feast provided by the Little Brothers of the Poor. "Eating with them will be Paul Emil Cardinal Leger."

FAST FOR VIETNAM AID
Some people won't be eating at all. Four students from Ottawa and Toronto plan to fast for 200 hours in support of a medical aid fund for civilians in Vietnam.

British Columbia telephones, expecting 257,000 long-distance calls on Christmas Day will have more than 1,800 operators on duty.

Weather forecasts for Christmas Day varied from rain to snow blizzards.
Rain is expected in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland with snow for Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

Christmas Day in Montreal should be cloudy with temperatures ranging between 10 and 25 degrees with a chance of snow flurries.

SUNNY IN OTTAWA
Ottawa should have clear, cold, sunny weather while Toronto, may get snow flurries.
Manitoba should be cloudy and clear with temperatures between 15 and 20 degrees. Regina area will have temperatures of 15 or 20 degrees with possibility of snow.

Northern Alberta will have temperatures in the 20-25 degrees range while the southern part of the province should be about 10 degrees warmer.
For most of southern British Columbia it will be a green Christmas. Temperatures Christmas Eve should be in the high 30s rising to the middle 40s on Christmas Day. It will be cloudy and there may be some rain.

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Guns Quiet In Vietnam As Truce Hour Arrives

Brief Lull Is First Of Three

SAIGON (AP) — The guns went silent in Vietnam today as armed forces of the seven nations fighting the Communists paused in observance of a 48-hour Christmas truce.
The ceasefire began at 7 a.m. Saigon time (6 p.m. EST Friday). Saigon police reported there was no terrorist activity in the city at the hour the ceasefire began.

The lull in the war followed exchanges of fire by both sides reported almost up until the last minutes.

As the truce began, U.S. flyers halted their assault on North Vietnam, holding their jet bombers on land bases in Thailand and Guam and on the decks of aircraft carriers in the Gulf of Tonkin.

Pope Paul in the Vatican and the World Council of Churches in Geneva have pleaded that the temporary truce be extended and lead to peace talks.

which the U.S. destroyer O'Brien, cruising in the Tonkin Gulf, fought shore batteries 45 miles north of the border.

Two Communist shells slammed into the destroyer's port side and straggled from near - misses wrought further damage. A spokesman said the O'Brien loosed 130 rounds from her five-inch guns at the batteries during the 15-minute engagement.

Skyhawk jets from the carrier Kitty Hawk bombed the Communist gun positions. Low clouds prevented observation of the results.

The spokesman said casualties aboard the O'Brien, first American warship hit directly in such an action in the war, were light. The destroyer moved away under her own power, presumably headed to a base for repairs.

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Collision Kills 7

CALGARY (CP) — Seven persons were declared dead at the scene Friday after a collision involving four automobiles and one truck on Highway 1-A, 11 miles west of Calgary.

A doctor was at the scene about four miles east of Cochrane, Alta.
An ambulance attendant said three persons were taken to hospital in Calgary with undetermined injuries.
Names of the victims were withheld.

2 Tons Of Explosives Fail To Sink Freighter

HALIFAX (CP) — Two tons of explosives rocked but did not sink the midships section of the St-finked freighter Tegana Friday. Her bow and stern also remained on rocks where the Panamanian vessel grounded almost a month ago.

A spokesman for Atlantic Salvage and Dredging Co. said four bunker oil tanks were blasted to insure that there could be no further oil leakage.

Fishermen and residents had complained that oil, which had been leaking from the vessel since she grounded, could harm fishing gear, shorelines and waterfowl in the area.

The spokesman said so oil was sighted following the explosion but Atlantic Salvage would keep "a surveillance" for two more days. A liquid emulsifier

was used earlier this week to sink an oil slick which was floating around the craft.

High seas battered the 7,300-ton freighter into three pieces after she ran on rocks known as The Sisters off the harbor mouth Nov. 28. The Tegana's 45-man Greek crew abandoned ship soon after and the vessel was given up by salvagers a few days later.

Five men brought to the scene by navy helicopter placed the dynamite in the midships section. The explosives were detonated from other craft in the area.

A navy spokesman said the freighter's bow was also moved by the blast. The stern appeared near sinking after the explosion.

5 More Escape British Prisons

LONDON (Reuters) — Five to trim the annual escape rate more men got out of a British prison Friday night, making a total of 13 escapes since an official report said no British prison was really secure.

Police said the five, all in their early 20s, got out of Drake Hall prison, near Stafford in central England.

A London convict walked out of a prison behind a garbage cart and two short-term prisoners escaped from a working party at Birmingham prison Friday, the day after the official prison inquiry report was made public.

Five men smashed their way out of a Liverpool prison Thursday with mallets and chisels. However, two of them were caught Friday night.

Meanwhile, the Scottish information office in Edinburgh admitted that a 24-year-old convict escaped from Perth jail Dec. 2—but they forgot to tell the public.

The official inquiry said Britain badly needed at least one escape-proof penitentiary. The report was expected to put more pressure on Home Secretary Roy Jenkins for urgent action

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The Guardian will not be published Monday, which is being observed as a Christmas holiday. The next edition will be Tuesday, Dec. 27.



CHRISTMAS EVE 100 YEARS AGO

It was 100 years ago this Christmas Eve that delegates from Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick met in London, England, to shape what is now known as the British North

America Act. Shows from left are S. Leonard Tilley, Peter Mitchell, William P. Howland, Alexander T. Galt, Charles Tupper, Hector L. Langevin, John A. Macdonald, George-Edienne Cartier, William Mc-

Dougall, Charles Fisher, Jonathan McCully, Colonial Secretary Earl of Carnarvon, John Earl Lord Monck, Robert D. Wilmot, William A. Henry, John M. Johnston and Adams G. Archibald.

Arab Christians In Israel Visit Relatives In Jordan

JERUSALEM (AP) — Thousands of Christian Arabs crossed over into Jordan from Israel Friday to their annual reunion with relatives living in Arab countries and to attend Christmas celebrations at the Church of Nativity in Bethlehem.

Laden with gifts, they trudged across the no-man's land splitting the divided city and embraced kindfolk from whom they have been separated since the 1948 Palestine war.

The border between Jordan and Israel normally is manned by armed troops and the only crossing point — an iron pole across the road called Mandelbaum Gate — is open only for diplomats and tourists going one way.

But each Christmas the gate is opened for Arab Christians living in Israel so they can hold a brief reunion with relatives. These have been conversing on the Jordan sector of Jerusalem for days from Lebanon, Kuwait, Syria and other Arab countries.

More than 5,000 Arabs crossed over Friday, and about 3,000 more are scheduled to come over early next year to attend Christmas celebrations for members of the Eastern Rite Church.

COME WITH GIFTS
The visitors were laden with bags of Jaffa oranges, tins cans

of olive oil and other gifts. They are scheduled to return Sunday night after spending three days with their relatives here.

A woman from Nazareth retraced the steps of Joseph and Mary when they travelled to Bethlehem to be counted in the census and pay taxes almost 2,000 years ago.

Handreds will crowd the massive Church of the Nativity at midnight tonight to attend the Latin mass held in the rock cave where tradition says the infant Jesus was born.

The fortress-like church, built in the 4th Century and believed to be the oldest church in the world, will be the scene of religious ceremonies which began at noon today with mass celebrated by the Roman Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem or his deputy.

Christmas carols will be sung in a nearby field where the shepherds keeping watch over their flocks at the first Christmas.

MARK HOLY SPOT
At midnight, mass will be celebrated inside the basilica of the church and a figurine will be placed on a silver star set in a marble slab marking the spot where the Prince of Peace is said to have been born.

The pealing of church bells will be broadcast all over the world from a transmitter placed in a monk's cell.

Caouette Looks For Rediscovery

OTTAWA (CP) — Creditite Leader Real Caouette says 1967 will be the year for Canadians to rediscover their own country.

In a Christmas and New Year's message issued Friday, he said 1966 has been a year of upheaval in the fields of labor, education, politics and economics.

But after 100 years of Confederation, it was time to "turn another page of Canadian history."

"The year 1967 will be one of rejoicing, first of all because it crowns 100 years of the existence of two nations and also because it shows the deep-rooted worth of our forefathers who built with their hands and brains a country as rich and fine as ours."

"But these 100 years of existence also make us want to rejuvenate ourselves, to relocate ourselves, to rediscover our country at a time when we will be bidding welcome to the whole world during Expo 67."

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Berlin's Wall Remains Closed

BERLIN (AP) — Mayor Heinrich Albertz said Friday night Christmas will be "inhuman" for many West Berliners because the East Germans this year refused to issue passes through the Communist-bull wall.

"The Communists have closed the narrow gate to humanity," he said in a broadcast Christmas message.

Albertz referred to the Communist East German regime's refusal to sign an agreement that would allow West Berliners to visit their relatives in East Berlin during the Christmas holidays as they have done since 1963.

British Warship Sails Suddenly

LONDON (Reuters) — A British warship left Bermuda under sudden orders Friday said was believed to be heading for the politically-troubled Caribbean island of St. Vincent.

The 3,600-ton destroyer Defender, carrying a crew of about 300, broke off a Christmas visit to Bermuda—due to last until Dec. 27—to sail on what a defense ministry spokesman here called "a special task."

Fishermen and residents had complained that oil, which had been leaking from the vessel since she grounded, could harm fishing gear, shorelines and waterfowl in the area.

The spokesman said so oil was sighted following the explosion but Atlantic Salvage would keep "a surveillance" for two more days. A liquid emulsifier

WILL PRESERVE DIEF'S HOMESTEAD

Saskatchewan Premier Thatcher said Friday the farm home of John Diefenbaker, 40 miles north of Saskatoon, will

be moved to Regina and restored as a tribute to the former prime minister. This photo of Mr. Diefenbaker

framed in a window of the old homestead was made in October, 1965, when he made a sentimental visit to the farm.