

Claims Amelia Earhart Was On Spy Mission

(SEE WIREPHOTO) — NAPA, Calif. (AP) — The Napa Register says famed flyer Amelia Earhart was on a spy mission when she vanished in July, 1937, and died as a Japanese captive on the Pacific island of Saipan.

In a copyright story summing up a long investigation of the mystery of her disappearance, the newspaper says Miss Earhart succumbed to dysentery and Frederick Noonan, her navigator, was beheaded by the Japanese a few days later.

In Washington, a spokesman for the state department said its files show no evidence that Miss Earhart was on a spy mission or that she was captured by the Japanese.

U.S. officials were concerned about Japanese fortification of the Pacific islands placed under Japan's control by the League of Nations. If Miss Earhart could observe and possibly photograph some of these islands, valuable information could be compiled.

Miss Earhart was 38 and Noonan 44 at the time of their disappearance.

The newspaper says the investigation, which it joined three years ago, was launched in 1960 by Frederick Goerner, a reporter for Radio Station KCBS in San Francisco.

"Literally hundreds of persons have been interviewed," the story says. "Classified federal files have been examined. Now, for the first time, the full story is being told."

She said she was in contact with a woman many times. My father's house was not far away. The Japanese would let her walk about a little bit, but not outside the yard.

Another witness, identified only as the daughter of a Saipan doctor, is quoted as telling the newspaper: "The woman the Japanese called The Flyer died of dysentery. She could not be killed. The man who came to the island with her was executed several days after her death. The Japanese beheaded him with a Samurai sword."

In Tokyo, Fumiko Nakajima, who lived in Saipan and adjoining islands as an industrial development technician from May, 1935, to January, 1946, said:

"It is quite unthinkable that Miss Earhart and her navigator were captured by Japanese military forces in Saipan. There weren't any soldiers on the island in 1937."

Miss Earhart and Noonan had left Lae, New Guinea, on a scheduled flight leg to tiny Howland Island on the day they disappeared. From Howland they planned to fly on to Honolulu and then to Oakland, Calif.

The U.S. Coast Guard cutter Itasca, awaiting their arrival at Howland, reported the last message heard from the twin-engine plane was a radio call by Miss Earhart saying:

"Gas is running low. . . . Been unable to reach you by radio. . . . We are circling but cannot see you."

No Evidence Test Coming

OTTAWA (CP) — Canada has no evidence that an atomic explosion by India is imminent or being prepared, said a spokesman in the foreign affairs department.

He was commenting on a New Delhi report that Pakistan high commissioner in Canada had told Indian high commissioner in Pakistan that India would explode a nuclear device shortly.

The report said the first of its kind in recent months, said India would use plutonium produced by the Trombay reactor, built near Bombay with Canadian assistance.

The blast would be used for an ostensibly peaceful purpose in an attempt to honor India's agreement with Canada on uses of the reactor, said the report.

The account was that the device will be exploded within 30 days.

In New Delhi, an Indian foreign office spokesman expressed surprise at the report.

"This is the first I have heard of this and therefore I am in no position to comment," he said.

Integration by reporters has uncovered so-called sales agreements where tenant-purchasers would take as long as 200 years to pay for their homes.

"Although the contracts make a mockery of the recently toughened housing standards bylaw, city hall lawyers can find nothing illegal about them," the paper says.

It quotes City Controller Margaret Campbell as saying the apparent intention of the agreement is that the owners-tenants will walk out on their investments, allowing a vendor to "sell" a property over and over again.

"The agreements call for no down-payment and the monthly payments often correspond exactly to the amount of rent normally charged for the property. But these payments are so small it would virtually be a miracle if a purchaser ever got full ownership."

"Often the agreements allow the landlord to walk in if one payment is missed and seize all furniture and any other belongings, and even garnish the tenant-purchaser's wages."



THE END OF THE ROAD

Farmers and onlookers crowd in front of the Ontario legislature's main entrance in Toronto Wednesday at the end of the farmers' three-day train drive to protest milk prices. They had planned to meet with Premier Roberts to discuss their problems, but were unable to find him after milling around the legislature for about 15 minutes. (CP Wirephoto)

Neptune Theatre Seen Assured Of Long Life

By DAVE NICHOLSON — Halifax (CP) — Although it faces loss of the man who turned it into an artistic success, the Neptune Theatre seems assured of remaining the solid community theatre that many skeptics doubted it could ever become.

The Neptune now is in its fourth season, a surprise enough for some who felt a permanent repertory theatre might prove an undertaking too ambitious for this corner of the city.

After several preliminary studies which indicated a theatre could survive with government assistance, the Neptune settled into an intimate home converted from a dingy downtown movie house.

Named after North America's first theatre established by French playwright Marc Desjardins in 1600 on the shores of Nova Scotia's Annapolis Basin, the Neptune was guided from the start by Leon Major, a slim, clear-cheeked 33-year-old native of Toronto, who had already won an impressive reputation in Canadian theatrical circles. He added to it by developing Neptune into one of Canada's most successful repertory theatres.

Major recently confirmed that he has received several attractive offers to direct elsewhere. "I suspect I'll be at Neptune for the 1967 season," Major said. After that, it may be "somewhere in Canada, New York or London."

It's a tough decision to make, says NOT LOSING MONEY.

Although it may be losing its artistic director, the theatre seems to have found a firm financial footing.

For the first time last year, the Neptune ended its season in the black—with the help of hefty government assistance.

This year, with a \$272,000 grant from the provincial government, the theatre is relatively secure.

Charles Reynolds, an ebullient 32-year-old Irishman who left his job as a CBC producer here in 1965 to become the Neptune's administrator, feels the theatre's financial problems are its major financial problem.

Reynolds says about 40 to 45 per cent of the theatre's budget comes from government sources, "but no theatre in Canada could expect to survive without government assistance."

"If we can keep our box office receipts at 85 per cent, there's no problem. Last year it was about 72 per cent and we don't think it will go down this year."

Reynolds admits the selection of plays goes a long way in determining the box office, and the theatre comes under fire both from those who want fewer comedies and those who feel the theatre is "pushing culture in the Dark," the Irish play in its year's six-play schedule.

This year's season are Shakespeare's Henry IV, Part One, Arsenic and Old Lace, Arthur Miller's The Crucible, The Physicists by Modern Swiss writer Friedrich Durrenmatt and The Sleeping Bag, comedy by Halifax author-surgeon Arthur Miller.

Major's best supporters of Neptune are his friends and family. "I think the theatre is relatively secure," Reynolds says.

where the theatrical art is foreign," he said. "Most people will naturally distrust the foreigner's product and I doubt we have really yet succeeded. . . . This is probably the major problem, not finances."

Despite his plans eventually to leave Neptune, Major said he will never be able to divorce himself completely from Neptune. There's far too much of myself in this theatre to ever leave it for good."

Rail Relocation Runs Into Snag

OTTAWA (CP) — The \$6,500,000 relocation of railway facilities to Ottawa's southern outskirts ran into a snag today.

Starting Sunday, railway passengers arriving in Ottawa at the new Union Station two miles from downtown, face a quarter-mile hike to the nearest city bus stop.

The new station will not get additional bus service unless someone pays the \$100,000 annual price tag for a direct, 20-minute service, the Ottawa Transportation Commission announced.

Railway spokesmen were surprised to say the least.

The railways were told bus service would be the same as at the present Union Station.

A CNR spokesman said a CPR spokesman said a comment would have to come from headquarters in Montreal.

The present station is a few steps from Parliament Hill and served, almost minute-to-minute, by regular bus routes.

Sunday, the majority of CPR and CNR passenger and express personnel and facilities will be moved to the new Union Station as part of the National Capital Commission's redevelopment project for Ottawa.

The CNR's Panorama will be the last train into the old station, on its way from Montreal to Western Canada. It leaves Ottawa at 1:45 a.m. EDT Sunday.

The CNR also will provide the first train into the new station: its passenger train from Western Canada, due in Sunday at 9:05 a.m.

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