



## Tension Rises Over Plane Loss

(By United Press International)

The 53,000 U.S. troops in South Korea and the fighter squadrons backing them up in Okinawa were on special alert today, following the loss of an American Navy reconnaissance plane off the coast of North Korea.

The plane, a military version of the Super-Constellation loaded with six tons of electronic gear and carrying 31 men, apparently was shot down about midnight Monday by North Korean MIG jets.

No official word on how the plane was downed has come either from the Pentagon or the White House. But Vice President Agnew confirmed what the North Koreans claimed in a broadcast yesterday that the plane was shot down.

The North Koreans have demanded a meeting Friday of the Korean Armistice Commission, presumably to air their charge that the U.S. plane intruded into their air space. The United Nations command in Korea, which is in practice American, has not replied.

Vice President Agnew told newsmen last night that as far as any one knows so far, the plane was brought down more than 100 miles from the North Korean coast. Its pilot had been ordered to fly no closer than 50 miles from North Korea and was about 90 miles away when it was last heard from. Wreckage, but no survivors, have been spotted near that area, and two American destroyers are steaming toward the spot. Two Russian warships are already in the area, guided there by U.S. search planes.

In Tokyo, Japanese Foreign Minister Kiichi Aichi said the unarmed plane tried to flee from the North Koreans jets without taking counter-action, but was shot down anyway. Aichi said the source of his information was the U.S. embassy in Tokyo, which is keeping the Japanese government informed.

At the White House, President Nixon faced a decision on what could become his administration's Pueblo incident.

During the campaign last fall, Mr. Nixon flayed the Johnson administration for what he charged was a loss of U.S. prestige so great that "a fourth-rate power" like North Korea could seize an American warship on the high seas."

### FLAG DAY

The complete program for the two-day Flag Day celebration is on Page 3. Save it.

It appeared unlikely that any of the 31 crewmen aboard the plane lost off North Korea could have survived immersion in the near-freezing waters where some debris has been found. But comparisons already are being made. Otis Pike, chairman of a special House panel named to investigate the Pueblo incident said the Pentagon has learned little from the affair. Pike, a New York Democrat, commented: "We either have to cut out these missions or defend them. We haven't done either.

Instead, we've blindly gone on in the same old way."

The President was to meet with his National Security Council today to review what appears so far to be only fragmentary information on this latest incident.

So far, there's been no official statement from the White House. The President's advisers said he is concentrating on maintaining an atmosphere of calm in which to judge the most appropriate action.

### LATE BULLETIN

HONG KONG (UPI) - The U.S. Aircraft Carrier Kitty Hawk cut short a holiday visit to Hong Kong and was reported ready to sail for an undisclosed destination. The huge carrier had been anchored in Hong Kong only a few hours when its crewmen were recalled from shore leave.

# Power Shortage Halts TV

The power shortage forced the cancellation of television last night and the blackout will continue at least through tonight.

Governor Owen S. Spinnall ordered the telecasts called off because a large shipment of fish was received by the canneries which wanted to operate night shifts. He felt the income the workers would receive from the operation would be a shot in the arm to the economy which would be more valuable than the television entertainment.

Public Works Director Matt Gliver, who yesterday said people violating restrictions on the use of power would have their electricity cut off, said the move indicates how serious the power shortage has become.

MERCHANTS TOLD THEY MUST IMPROVE

American Samoa merchants must improve their handlings of their stocks, increase their turnovers and add modern facilities if they are to succeed, Nat Engel of Wolf Management Services told the Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

He has spent the last week since presenting a seminar to merchants visiting local business firms and checking their operations.

Engel said too many stores are failing to properly advertise and display their stocks. He said poor help is a problem in the U.S. just as it is here and the answer is to use modern facilities and display cases to let the merchandise sell itself.

He said anything can be found in local stores if the buyer could go behind counters and find items where they are hidden.

He also said many merchants are making most of their income on a few items while keeping their shelves cluttered with merchandise which does not move and which ties up capital.

Another speaker was Ed Mitchell of American Can Company. He displayed a large number of items other than cans which the firm makes on a worldwide basis.

Mitchell said Canco invested \$2.4 million when it opened the local plant in 1964 which amounts to about \$70,000 for each of the 36 jobs the opening created.

LEGISLATURE ENDS SESSION

The Legislature ended its session yesterday with a ceremonial closing program at which a number of resolutions expressing appreciation for services rendered the government were passed.

The resolutions were for Director of Education and Mrs. Roy D. Cobb, who will leave shortly, and Attorney General Charles Habernigg, who also is leaving. Others honored Dr. Allen Service, Dr. Robert Blomquist and all American Samoan Medical Practitioners at Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medical Center. Another went to Vern Williams and Station WVUV which aired the entire session.

Governor Owen S. Aspinall spoke briefly at the closing session.

One of the last acts of the Legislature was to approve a resolution endorsing the proposed contract for the University of Southern California as the support agency for the Department of Education.

The resolution and contract were sent last night to Washington. Governor Aspinall said it must be approved by Interior Secretary Walter Hinkel and the House subcommittee on Interior affairs. He said he hoped the contract will be approved shortly.

STORE HOURS

The government retail store will be open from 1 to 6:30 p.m. today and from 8 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. tomorrow. It will be closed Friday.

DANCE SET

The Mapusaga Eagle Chapter of the National Honor Society will hold a dance at 7:30 till 11:30 p.m. tomorrow at Mapusaga High School. Admission fee is \$1. Boys must wear ties and girls are asked not to wear miniskirts.

MISS AMERICAN SAMOA  
CONTEST DEADLINE NEAR

Deadline for entries in the Miss American Samoa contest to be held in connection with the Flag Day celebration is tomorrow. They should be made at the Office of Samoan Affairs.

The age limits are 16 to 22 years. Contestants will be judged according to their display of Samoan clothes, samoan dancing, physical attraction and command of the Samoan language.

SINGING-SIVA COMMITTEE  
TO MEET THIS AFTERNOON

The Flag Day singing and siva committee will meet at 4 p.m. today at the poolside at the Pago Pago Intercontinental Hotel, according to its chairman, Napoleone Tuiteleleapaga. Members who are urged to attend are Fa'amausili Suiava, Pula Nikolao, Leao'ā V. Manumā, Mulitaupele Suiava and Ma'o Tima.

GAS EXAMS  
SET TOMORROW

The following persons should report to Room 4, Building D, at Samoana High School at 2 p.m. tomorrow to take competitive examination for employment with the Government of American Samoa: Sidney P. Rea, Moru K. Mane, Tolomanila Aimalefoa, Saimoa Saena, Sanele Ah Ching, Pelasio Paselio, Gus Ah Kiong, Atapana Iopu, Ailao Suluvale, Sainila Fanene, Punaloa Atofau and Vaapulu Fuimaono.

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