

25 crewmen abandon vessel after two ships collide in Gulf

United Press International
MIAMI—Two merchant cargo ships collided about 150 miles

west of Key West, Fla., Monday, forcing 25 crew members of one vessel to abandon ship, Coast

Guard officials said. The 450-foot Banglar Baani, registered in Bangladesh, col-

lided with the 572-foot U.S. Potomac shortly after 1:30 a.m. a Guard spokesman said.

The men who abandoned the Banglar Baani were plucked from lifeboats in the Gulf of Mexico by the crew of the Phillips Washington, an American cargo ship assisting in the rescue, Coast Guard spokesman Dan Waldschmidt said.

"Ten other crewmen of the Banglar Baani are aboard, frantically trying to keep the vessel afloat," Waldschmidt said.

A U.S. Navy ship and a Coast Guard plane were circling the area near the Dry Tortugas, a small archipelago west of Key West, to search for any crew members still in the water. But Waldschmidt said officials believed everyone was safe and there were no casualties. Two Coast Guard boats also were headed for the area.

Two killed, 28 hurt in church bus crash

United Press International
LUCERNE VALLEY, Calif. — A bus returning teenagers from a weekend religious retreat swerved out of control on a steep mountain highway, overturned and plunged 15 feet down an embankment late Sunday, killing two people and injuring all 28 others aboard.

The passengers who died in the crash were identified as Kristine Knepp, 18, and Tony Viso, 16, of Calabasas, a community west of Los Angeles.

A teenage passenger aboard the yellow school bus said the transmission and brakes apparently failed.

Most of the injured were airlifted from the crash site by four helicopters 30 miles to hospitals in Victorville, about 80 miles east of Los Angeles, after motorists at the scene helped take musical instru-

ments out of the bus so the passengers could be removed.

"There were 30 total on the bus," California Highway Patrol Sgt. Charles West said late Sunday. "Two were killed, and all the rest were injured to some degree."

He said 15 were believed to have suffered serious injuries, though none were life-threatening.

Hospital officials said most of the victims were being treated for broken bones and cuts.

Ben Rubidoux, a deputy San Bernardino County coroner, said the 27-year-old bus driver, Paul Wood, blamed brake failure for the crash.

"He said the brakes went out, and he tried to gear down, and when he saw the curve in the road up ahead, he

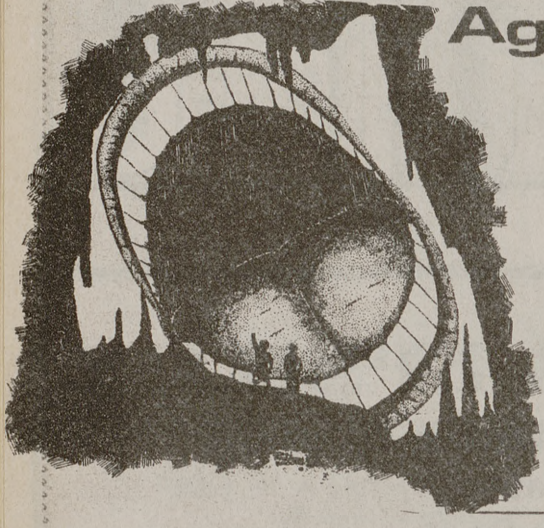
knew he wasn't going to make it," said Rubidoux.

West said the wreckage of the bus, lying on its side in a ditch along Highway 18, was examined by a special CHP investigations unit to determine the cause of the crash.

Bob Hryniuk, a 16-year-old Baptist Church of Redvale member, said the driver was trying to shift into lower gear to "come down" at the time of the crash.

"When nothing happened, he began pumping the brakes, and after they gave out, the bus overturned," Hryniuk said.

The bus had just left a weekend retreat at a private home near Big Bear Lake when the San Bernardino County coroner said the bus was taken following a musical performance by a church group when the crash occurred.

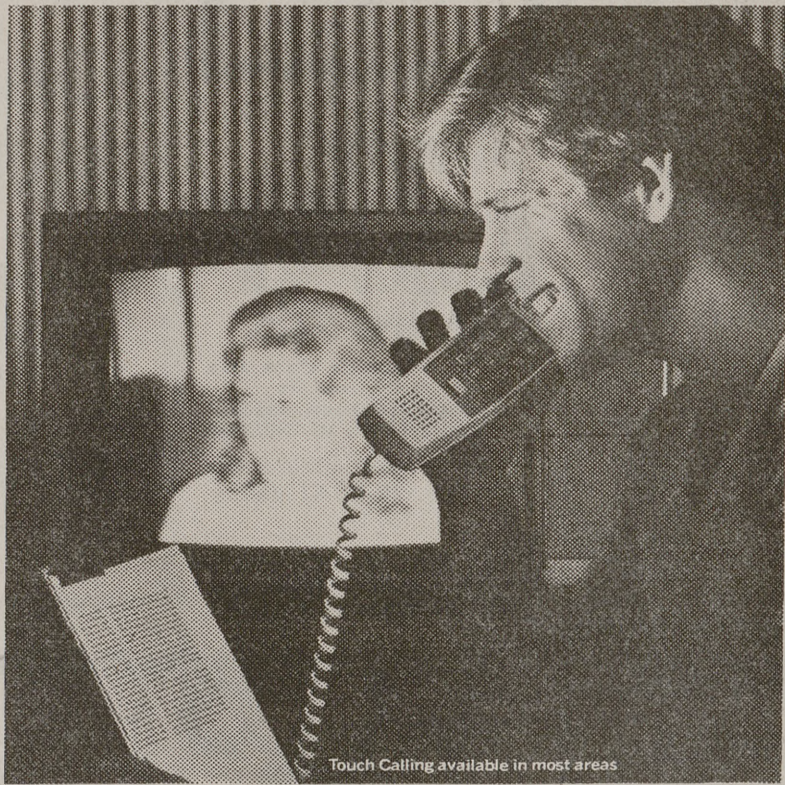


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'Wonder' breads for sale in U.S.

United Press International
White bread said to have the nutritional value and fiber content of 100 percent whole wheat bread is being sold in nine areas of the United States, and its Chicago developers are looking for more licensees to make it available nationally.

In San Jose, Calif., the baking technologist for a trade association has developed a formula for low sodium raisin bread that resembles regular raisin bread in flavor and texture.

Representatives of the California Raisin Advisory Board plan to introduce their bread to the Board of Governors of the American Bakers Association at the board's annual meeting in Phoenix, March 20-24.

The formula for the Chicago company's Whole White Special Bread is a spin-off from one developed by Multimarkes, a food research and development company in Montreal, Canada. The original Canadian formula produced a rather heavy-textured bread preferred in that country.

The Chicago company that bought U.S. patent rights to Multimarkes' Daily Bread adapted it to make the type of soft, spongy white bread preferred by many American consumers.

Bakeries licensed to make Whole White are in Yakima, Wash., Portland and Eugene, Ore., San Diego, Calif., Topeka, Kan., Fort Wayne, Ind., Madison, Wis., Grand Rapids, Mich. and West Bridgewater, Pa.

In an informal taste test, few white bread eaters could tell the difference between the new white loaf and similar brands made without extra fiber and nutrients. Its slight textural difference comes from the addition

of pea bran, which corresponds to the bran layer of wheat.

The low sodium raisin bread was made for CALRAB by the way Stores' bakery in Richmond, Calif. It has the slightly firm texture associated with whole bread and some bakery breads.

Safeway had run a taste parison test in December with 93 families from the Francisco Bay Area participating. They compared the sodium variety with standard raisin bread. A bakery spokesman said 52 percent of the respondents said they would buy the low sodium variety if it were available today.

Fred Fedorenko, quality assurance department manager for Safeway's baking division, said his company had been working on formulas for four different varieties of low sodium bread when approached by the raisin group.

"One, maybe two, will improve raisins," Fedorenko said. He said Safeway's own product is still in the development stage.

When salt is removed from bread dough, he said, it tends to have a bland taste. Raisin spices help restore flavor.

The raisin board's low sodium formula was developed by Bill Zienke, Fedorenko's successor at Safeway and CALRAB's baking technology manager. Zienke said he had been working on formulas for low sodium breads for a couple years, after his wife and daughter had been put on low-sodium diets.

"Raisins are high in sugar and tartaric acid, both of which help to bring out flavor, so you won't notice the absence of salt," he said.

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