

Woman claims she heard pilot's radio

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — A woman claims she overheard the final radio communications between the control tower and doomed Flight 759, including the pilot's desperate "I'm in trouble, I'm in trouble."

A spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board said Monday she was unaware of the woman's claims to a television station but was highly skeptical of her account.

"There was no such transmission to the air traffic control facility, according to the transcript we have from the FAA," Brad Dunbar said.

He said there nothing to prevent someone from tuning in to official airport communications but investigators lis-

tening to control tower tapes had heard no emergency transmissions from the Pan American flight crew.

The Texas woman, who asked to remain anonymous, told WWL-TV she monitored the airport band on her second-hand radio because her husband flew often to oil-fields in the Gulf of Mexico.

She said she was tuned to the proper frequency late Friday afternoon, listening to the routine give-and-take of tower and cockpit, when a terrifying pattern began to emerge.

"The tower was talking to several different aircraft, telling them to go so many degrees north, south, east or west," the woman said. "In fact, they seemed to be circling all over because landing was impossible at the present

time because of the weather."

A sudden pocket of severe thunderstorms settled over New Orleans International Airport and the residential area of Kenner. Lightning flashed and wind whipped sheets of rain.

Federal investigators said the weather may have been a cause of the crash of the Pan American flight that killed all 145 passengers and at least eight people on the ground.

The woman said she remembered hearing a distress call from the plane's pilot over her radio.

"I just wasn't thinking that anything like this would ever happen that I would ever hear," she said. "But he was saying, 'I'm in trouble, I'm in trouble.' He either said 'I'm in a turbulence' or 'There is a turbulence.'"

Campus Names

Dr. William John Lee, a Texas A&M professor of petroleum engineering, has been named a recipient of the 1982 Distinguished Achievement Award for Petroleum Engineering Faculty.

The award was presented by the Society of Petroleum Engineers for demonstrated excellence in research, teaching and counseling and includes a \$3,000 cash award. Nominees were submitted by SPE student chapters.

Lee is among only six recipients of the award nationwide which will be presented at the society's annual meeting in New Orleans Sept. 26-29.

Dr. Don F. Seaman, a Texas A&M professor of interdis-

plinary education, has been named president-elect of the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education.

Seaman will serve a one-year term as charter president of the 3,000-member organization, which was formed recently in a merger of the Adult Education Association of the USA and the National Association for Public Continuing Adult Education. The new association is designed to promote adult education as a field of study and as a profession.

Seaman, who received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Ohio State University and doctoral degree from Florida State University, came to Texas A&M in 1971.



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Today's almanac

Today is Wednesday, July 14, the 195th day of 1982 with 170 to follow.

The moon is in its last quarter.

The morning stars are Mercury and Venus.

The evening stars are Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

Those born on this date are under the sign of Cancer.

Swedish film director Ingmar Bergman was born July 14, 1918.

On this date in history: In 1789, the French stormed Bastille Prison in Paris, a day now commemorated as a national holiday in France.

In 1965, American statesman Adlai Stevenson, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and former governor of Illinois, died of a heart attack in London at the age of 65.

In 1966, eight nurses were found murdered in Chicago.

Drifter Richard Speck later was convicted of the slayings and sentenced to death. The U.S. Supreme Court subsequently ruled out the death sentence and Speck remains in prison.

In 1976, Jimmy Carter won the Democratic presidential nomination on the first ballot.

Study says Texas growth to continue through 2000

United Press International
HOUSTON — By the year 2000, Texas will replace New York as the second most populous state, behind only California, a report by the National Planning Association says.

The Houston Post printed the report Tuesday, released Monday in Washington. It also said the Texas Sun Belt prosper-

ity and growth will continue through this century.

The non-profit organization said that four Texas counties — Harris, Bexar, Dallas and Travis — will increase their populations and employment, making Texas the state with the most growth.

By the year 2000, Harris County and Houston's popula-

tion will increase by 933,000, to 3.5 million people. One in five Texans will live in Harris County by the end of the century, the report says.

The state's population is expected to increase 36 percent, reaching 19.3 million in the year 2000. Texas recorded 14.2 million in 1980, according to the census.

17-year-old gets 25-year prison term for Houston mini-grocery robberies

United Press International
HOUSTON — A youth who said he wants to be a basketball player — but who made his living by robbing mini-groceries every day but Friday, his day off — has been sentenced to nine concurrent 25-year prison terms.

Larry Wayne Jenkins, 17, who was 16 at the time of the holdups but was certified to face prosecution as an adult, pleaded guilty to one robbery on Oct. 28, 1981, and eight more in 2½ hours on Nov. 4, 1981.

No one was hurt in the holdups, although victims were threatened with a pistol. A second teenager, Noland Sharp, awaits prosecution on the same charges.

State District Judge Dan Walton imposed sentence Monday after receiving a presentence report from investigator Gwynne Pierce.

"Mr. Jenkins alleges that he and Mr. Sharp performed as many as six armed robberies per day, six days per week," Pierce wrote. "They did not perform robberies on Friday, their day off."

Another portion of the presentence report form asks the

defendant to state his goal in life. Jenkins, who prosecutor Dave Carlson described as about 6-feet-5-inches, answered: "I want to be a basketball player."

Carlson said he doubted Jenkins' claim that a mastermind ran the gang of young thieves. "In my opinion, he just made

that up," Carlson said. "They (claim they) were required to provide 'big dude' proceeds of a robbery and they received a small portion."

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