

BIW Fighting To Hold \$51 Million Contract

PRESS HERALD NEWS SERVICE

BATH—The Bath Iron Works Corp. may lose a \$51 million shipbuilding contract on which it was low bidder, it was learned Monday.

Public relations director William E. Haggitt said BIW "has been notified American Export Lines on Oct. 13 petitioned the Maritime Administration for permission to cancel plans for placement of a contract with BIW and advertise for new bid covering an eight-ship contract."

The BIW official noted, "If this petition is granted by the Maritime Administration, it will in effect reject BIW's low bid for three or four cargo ships."

On Aug. 12, BIW submitted fixed-price bids on one, two, three or four cargo ships and was declared the apparent low bidder for three or four vessels at a public Maritime Administration opening.

HAGGITT NOTED BIW "was in full compliance with all stipulations of the invitation to bid" in its proposal. According to Haggitt, "BIW officials contend that as low bidder in competitive bidding on the four cargo ships at a total price of \$51,224,000, the Maine shipyard is entitled to award of the contract."

"BIW has made strong representation to this effect before the Maritime Administration," he added.

The firm "definitely feels that it should not be denied the right to build these ships for which it was the low bidder," Haggitt noted.

"The company has dealt in good faith with the owners and the Maritime Administration," he said, adding, "failure to accept the low bid would violate the intent of a competitive, publicly-opened price proposal."

THE AMERICAN Export line marked BIW's first attempt in many years to diversify its work into the private shipbuilding field.

At present, BIW's efforts are concentrated on defense vessels. There are nine in process, three guided missile

destroyer escorts, three guided missile frigates and three guided missile destroyers.

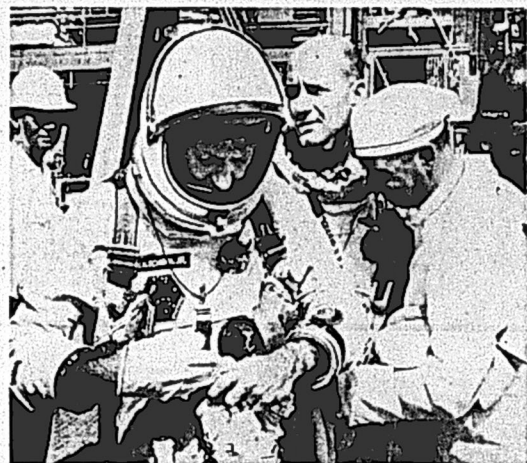
The latter group is being made for the Federal Republic of Germany under an exchange agreement. The last ship in that contract is slated for a 1966 completion.

HAGGITT SAID it was not known when a decision will be made on the American Export petition.

The award of bids are due to be made Nov. 16 by the Maritime Administration.

The BIW spokesman said his firm has been "in very close touch" with the administration, has met with American Export officials and has conferred the Maine congressional delegation about the petition.

Target Rocket Fails; Gemini 6 Mission Off For 1965 Space Docking Test Total Failure



Grounded

Gemini 6 Pilot Walter Schirra pulls off a glove as he and his space partner Thomas Stafford leave their spacecraft Monday.

CAPE KENNEDY (UPI)—In a crushing disappointment, the United States Monday failed to pull off its historic space rendezvous when the Agena target satellite missed orbit and plunged toward the sea.

It was the first total mission failure since the United States entered the manned space race nine months ago, and postponed the rendezvous attempt until next year.

Meantime the 14-day endurance voyage of astronauts Frank Borman and James Lovell will be pushed up with the hope of getting it off before Christmas. Sources said it could come in late November.

The catastrophic failure of the 7,000-pound, 26-foot-long Agena, first noticed within six minutes of a perfect and on-the-button launch, was personal agony to Walter M. Schirra and

Thomas P. Stafford, the Gemini 6 crew.

Space officials said it will be five to 10 days before they may be able to say what went wrong. There were preliminary indications of five pieces of the Agena, and one official said that meant "something came apart."

A speed of 17,500 miles an hour is necessary for a satellite to fall into orbit. The Agena missed that by 5,500 miles an hour before plunging back down, rubber burning up in the atmosphere or plunging into the Atlantic.

It was a \$15 million disaster—the cost of launching the Agena on an abortive mission.

And it was a personal blow to the veteran Schirra and the rookie Stafford, who had spent months preparing for this mission.

They were strapped inside their capsule and waiting for the moment at 12:41 p.m. EDT when they were to be shot into the skies for a game of space tag.

If all had gone as planned, they would have caught up with the Agena on the fifth orbit and docked their own spacecraft with it. This fantastically complicated maneuver must be performed in the moon flight.

But instead of embarking on the most dramatic journey in the history of the space age, they were two disappointed and embarrassed men.

The countdown for the double launching—first of an Atlas booster with the Agena on top, then a Titan rocket with Gemini—was perfect, as it had to be in this delicately timed flight.

At four seconds after 11 a.m. the Atlas boomed off launch pad 14, home base of the early Mercury flights, as Schirra and Stafford watched on a television monitor inside Gemini 6 on pad 19—6,000 feet away.

The flight looked excellent, as indeed it was in the early stages. The old reliable Atlas booster performed beautifully.

But six minutes after the fiery blast-off, engineers trying to make telemetry contact with the instruments aboard the Agena found they could not do so. Disaster apparently struck at the point where the Agena's engine was to ignite to kick the

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School Was Never Like This

These young people are learning to type as part of a federal Manpower Development and Training program at the Oakdale School.

Oakdale School Operated For Manpower Training

By CHARLES C. RUTTON
Education Reporter

Oakdale School has reopened, but its students are there to get jobs.

The 17-year-old building is the third in Portland being used for federal Manpower Development and Training Act programs. The others are in the 800-block on Forest Avenue.

So far this fall the school is being used for basic courses, pre-vocational training for girls, and typing and office training for both boys and girls.

The school, at 1911 and Oakdale Streets, was closed in June and the 23 kindergarten pupils scheduled for fall were transferred to nearby Nathan Clifford School.

Kevin E. Weber, manpower training project director, said the school is serving young people between 16 and 21 who need additional schooling or counseling before they step into regular manpower training programs.

"There's no starting or ending date at the school," he said. "Some may be there only a week, others 15 weeks."

Pre-vocational training for boys includes general shop one day a week at the manpower training center, 803 Forest Ave. The shop includes woodworking, drafting, electricity, sheet metal work and small engine repair.

Girls are given instruction in cooking, sewing and office procedure. They also get reading and mathematics if these basic skills need polishing for a job.

A boy who wants to be an auto mechanic will have to be able to read the manuals," Weber said.

Enrollment at the school is expected to drop off in November when several programs get under way at the manpower training center on Forest Avenue or elsewhere in the area.

These programs include service station mechanics, auto body, dental technician, machine technician, house wire, oil burner serviceman and kitchen helper.

Weber also said other manpower training programs running up next year are auto mechanic, small engine repairman, and food-truck cook.

Manpower training draws most of its students through referrals from the Youth Opportunity Council, Oak Street.

YOC director Vincent G. Boyer said the center also recruits for the Neighborhood Youth Corps and the Job Corps.

Boyer said there are several hundred young people in the Portland area who are out of school and out of work who should know about these programs.

He said that thanks to the manpower training program, these "unrecoverables" can be trained for good jobs.

LBJ Ready To Halt Bombs If Peace Talks Seem Likely

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL

JOHNSON CITY, Tex. (AP)—

President Johnson, mingling light work with conversation in the sun, related indirectly Monday a willingness to interrupt bombing of North Viet Nam again if this might lead to the peace table.

The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., renewed Sunday a suggestion for another, longer interruption

of air attacks on North Vietnam, a target to see whether this could help bring about peace negotiations.

Asked for the administration's reaction Monday, White House press secretary Bill D. Moyers told newsmen:

"Our position has been known on that for some time. We certainly did call a halt once, for believe, a period of five days. We have indicated that we would be willing to do it again if there were any indications from

anyone else that to do so would be productive.

"But we have had no indications that another cessation of military strikes at military targets in the North would change anyone's mind anywhere else."

The President conferred with Secretary of State Dean Rusk on the direct line to Washington Monday. But Moyers gave no indication that Fulbright's proposal to suspend bombings for a more "reasonable length of time" came up.

Johnson and Rusk, he said, went over developments in the troubled Dominican Republic and also discussed Rusk's trip to Rio de Janeiro for a session of Western Hemisphere foreign ministers Nov. 17.

But the emphasis with Johnson was more on rest, reading and relaxation—although some of the reading involved official papers and reports.

The President is using the LBJ Ranch as a convalescent. Continued on Page 15, 2nd Col.

KKK Defense Funds Diverted, Say Probers

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Committee on Un-American Activities has information that money collected by the Ku Klux Klan for legal defense of members was diverted to other purposes, Chairman Edwin E. Willis, D-La., said Monday.

Willis made the statement while inviting Fred L. Wilson, described by investigators as the grand klansman of the North Carolina Klan, to reconsider his refusal to answer any questions.

Wilson was questioned about a fund raised for the defense of Raymond Mills who, chief investigator Donald T. Appell said, eventually pleaded guilty to charges growing out of bombings in New Bern, N.C.

Willis, following the pattern of other Klan witnesses, invoked the Fifth Amendment's protection against self-incrimination and refused to give the committee any information except his name. He refused to say whether he was named by investigators as a Klan organizer and district officer.

Willis interrupted Appell's questioning to tell Wilson: "The committee has information that so-called drives for defense funds were made and the funds did not go to the designated person. If this is not such a case you may wish to clarify it."

But Wilson stuck to his invocation of the Fifth Amendment. Called to the stand a little later, he refused to answer questions about Klan financial arrangements, including what was presented as a series of \$150 checks, drawn to him approximately weekly.

Wilson refused also to say whether he knows anything of cross burnings last May 28 at Continued on Page 15, 2nd Col.

Prayer For Today
Deliver us, O God, from the blind of eagerness which runs to people with answers before we understand their questions. School us in the art of listening before we sharpen our tongues in the art of speaking. Make us responsive to the needs and hunger of these dependent on us, lest we give them stone for bread and serpent for fish; through Jesus Christ, Amen.

—Dwight E. Stevenson, Lexington, Ky., professor of homiletics, The College of the Bible.

Today's Chuckle
Marriage is an institution held together by two books—cook and check.

News, Features On The Inside

The Weather

Partly cloudy, windy today. Fair, cool Wednesday. Full report on Page 19.

A SOUTH VIETNAMESE relief column breaks through to beleaguered outpost of Plei Me, which had been under Viet Cong assault for a week. Page 2.

USING A CANNON, bourgeois blast vault at Brinks and make off with \$400,000 in cash, checks and securities; mattresses muffled break overheard. Page 3.

INDIA WALKS OUT of United Nations Security Council emergency meeting on Kashmir crisis. Back Page.

CBS News Special!

TOWN MEETING OF THE WORLD

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4 Hurt, 40 Flee Mill Fire At Strong

STRONG (AP)—An explosion and fire destroyed the Strong Wood Turning Co. mill Monday, leaving four of 40 workers on duty.

Owner Carroll Brackley estimated the loss at \$250,000 to \$300,000.

Brackley said he hadn't been able to determine the source of the blast that touched off the flames.

A larger explosion was heard after the fire started. Brackley said it was "just as

if the roof were lifted off the building."

Richard Kingsley, 67, of Strong was taken to a Farmington hospital, then transferred to Maine Medical Center in Portland for treatment of second degree burns on his head, trunk and arms.

At the Farmington hospital are Mrs. Charles Adams, 37, of Strong, with second degree burns on her face, neck and body; Carl Steward, 63, of Phillips; and Brian Spencer, 21, of Strong, both with mod-

erately severe second degree burns.

The company, founded in 1919, manufactured wooden novelties. Its three-story wooden plant was built in 1947 and rebuilt.

Mrs. Ruth Krushinsky, 67, in the setting room, told of hearing a sound of vibration from an adjacent room. Then dust and dirt started falling around her, there was an explosion and the room was all ablaze.

An unidentified woman worker, trapped on the third floor, jumped from a window and was caught by men below. She was not injured.

Firemen of Strong, Phillips, Farmington, New Concord and Kennebunk battled the flames.

Five Chief Philip Puskas of Strong said that was a second blast after his men approved, presumably the boiler blowing up.