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# C5A Plane Deficiencies Cited By Air Secretary

## IRS Finding Fraud In Tax Preparations

WASHINGTON (AP) — Air Force Secretary Robert C. Seamans Jr. says training flights of C5A cargo planes have been restricted to save the controversial plane for normal operations.

In closed-door testimony released Thursday by the House defense appropriations subcommittee, Seamans said the C5A's structural life expectancy actually is about 7,000 flying hours compared to a planned 30,000. But he said the plane can still meet its strategic air-life mission—ferrying combat troops and equipment to an emergency.

"We have got to conserve it for that purpose," he testified last Jan. 25, "and only fly it enough to have our crews current so that in an emergency we can use it."

And, Seamans testified, a team of specialists is trying to find ways of increasing the plane's life up to 20,000 flying hours.

He said the 130-man team's \$3.8-million study also is designed "to be sure there aren't any other surprises" like the engine that ripped off a C5A on an Oklahoma runway last year.

"Yes, I am disappointed in the airplane," Seamans replied to one question. "Not from the standpoint of its performance measured in terms of range, speed, and requirements for landing, but from the standpoint of the structure itself. It

was designed too close to the margin."

A Government Accounting Office report said the C5A fleet of some 50 planes suffered 12,994 equipment failures during a six-month period ending last Aug. 31.

It said the Air Force estimate last July of \$164 million to correct the plane's major structural deficiencies is too low because it did not account for the engine-pylon strengthening required after the Oklahoma accident.

The highly technical report, released by Reps. Clarence D. Long, D-Md., and Les Aspin, D-Wis., said one C5A recently accepted by the Air Force had 196 deficiencies.

### Kohls Food Stores Freezing Prices

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Kohls Food Stores, which operates supermarkets in Milwaukee and other Wisconsin cities, announced today a 30-day "price freeze" on all food prices.

Herbert Kohl, president, said there will be no increase in the regular shelf prices on all food items. He also said that if any wholesale prices go down during the period, prices in the stores will be reduced immediately.

He said the freeze is being ordered "to further assist the federal government in their effort to control inflation."

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Fraudulent tax returns were submitted by nearly half of 318 Northern California federal income tax preparers surveyed by Internal Revenue Service agents, an IRS official says.

Raymond F. Harless, Northern California IRS director, told a news conference Thursday that agents posing as taxpayer clients went to the return preparers with a common situation, reporting \$9,121.30 total income for a husband and wife. This included \$1,600 income for the wife working as a waitress and \$1,000 in tips.

He said that using standard deductions the correct tax is \$907.

Harless said 122 of the returns were correct, a number were questionable, 17 were incompetently done and 159 were fraudulent.

He said 149 preparers understated the taxpayers' income, usually by omitting all or part of the wife's tips.

Seventy preparers listed too many dependency exemptions, he said, and 95 claimed excess itemized deductions.

One preparer forged the wife's signature and two others asked the taxpayer to sign blank returns, Harless said.

The fees charged by the consultants range from \$4.50 to \$50, he said, adding that the

least expensive return proved correct, while the costliest was fraudulent.

Four tax return preparers have been arrested this year for assisting in the preparation of phony returns, Harless said.

He said more arrests are expected soon.

Seven arrests were also made in the Los Angeles area recently stemming from fraudulent returns and one indictment has been returned, the IRS said.

## Convicted Of Telephone Fraud

FOND DU LAC, Wis. (AP) — A 24-year-old blind youth today became the first person convicted in Wisconsin for using electronic equipment to defraud the telephone company.

William Evans, 24, of Fond du Lac, pleaded guilty to the charge. County Court Judge Hazen W. McEsey assessed the maximum penalty of a \$200 fine and six months in jail — then suspended sentence.

The Bell System brought the charge, saying Evans had used the electronic equipment, described as a "black box" and a "blue box," to cause the firm's electronic toll billing equipment to incorrectly record details of the call. That allows the caller to escape being charged for it.

Evans was told his telephone had been tapped. He was charged with using the equipment between Dec. 18, 1971 and March 20, 1972. His equipment was confiscated.

## Senate Panel Votes To Limit ITT Inquiry

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Judiciary Committee voted 8-7 today to expand its investigation of the activities of the International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. and to end the probe April 20.

Chairman James O. Eastland, D-Miss., said the hearings will resume Monday and will include allegations by Life magazine on improprieties by the Justice Department in addition to the qualifications of Richard G. Kleindienst to be attorney general.

The vote came on a motion made Thursday by Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., which was a compromise between proposals made by Sens. Roman Hruska, R-Neb., and John V. Tunney, D-Calif.

The inquiry began March 2 at Kleindienst's request to clear up allegations made by columnist Jack Anderson.

Democratic Sens. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts and John Tunney of California have submitted a list of some 60 witnesses they want to testify before the hearings are terminated.

During the closed hearings Thursday, according to Kennedy, the committee agreed that at least 38 of the witnesses on the list were acceptable but it was unlikely that all of them could be

called in two weeks.

Among the witnesses labeled as "clearly necessary" by the Democrats are White House aides Peter Flanigan and William Timmons. The White House has said it will bar them from appearing before the committee.

In another turn in the case, Tunney released what he called a transcript of an interview held March 3 between Rep. Bob Wilson, R-Calif., and Robert E. Cox, a reporter for the San Diego Union.

The transcript quoted Wilson as saying ITT lobbyist Mrs. Dita Beard wrote a memo linking the ITT financial commitment to the convention with the out-of-court settlement of antitrust suits.

Reached on the Island of Antiqua, Wilson was asked if Mrs. Beard ever linked the ITT pledge with the settlement. He replied: "She never told me that, and I never said she did." But he said Mrs. Beard had written a memo.

### Gunshot Victim In Fair Shape

A story in Wednesday's Journal reported that Donald Cass, 21, Old Wausau Rd., who was hit in the thigh by a .45 caliber slug as he was reportedly an innocent bystander during a fracas on March 18 at Romie's Rendezvous, 908 Maria Dr., had been released from St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield.

He has been released from there but was transferred to the Veteran's Hospital in Madison, where he is reported in fair condition.

## Burned In Wax Spill, Condition Is Satisfactory

LEO MAYER, 37, Junction City, burned in an industrial accident Monday, is in satisfactory condition at St. Joseph's Hospital, Marshfield.

He suffered third degree burns on his left shoulder and arm and the left side of his face and neck in a hot wax spill at the Paperboard Products Division of Consolidated Papers, Inc., in Wisconsin Rapids.

A company spokesman said Mayer was working in the new fiber can operation. He was trying to adjust the valve on a line which carries wax from one tank to another when back pressure caused the hot liquid to spurt out.

Mayer was taken by ambulance to Riverview Hospital, Wisconsin Rapids, and was transferred to Marshfield the next day.

### Tavern Shooting Victim Dies

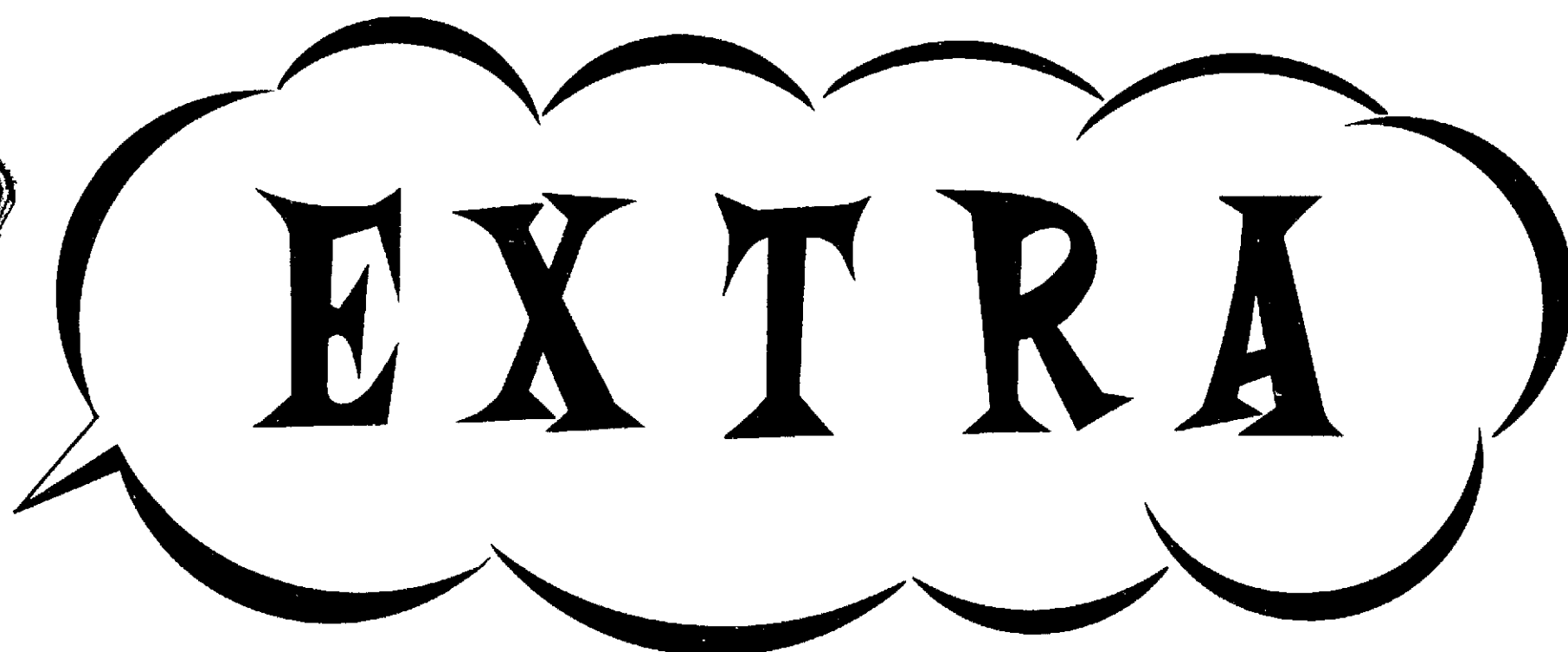
BEAVER DAM, Wis. (AP) — Robert C. Strasefski, 21, of Juneau died today of a gunshot wound inflicted Thursday night in a rural Beaver Dam tavern, officials said.

David Muse, 39, operator of Igor's Tap, was to be charged with first degree murder in the slaying, Dodge County Sheriff Ed Nails said.

Strasefski was shot in the stomach about 6:30 p.m. Thursday and died about 4:30 a.m. today, Nails said.

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