

Helicopter Rescue Service Urged For Civilians

WASHINGTON — A 19-year-old in a Kansas wheatfield, his arm mangled in a thresher; a Kentucky coal miner, leg crushed in a cave-in; a family clinging to a capsized boat in Chesapeake Bay; a skier with a broken ankle on an undeveloped slope—all these and thousands more each year are in need of fast rescue they may very well not be getting.

They need, in fact, a service resembling the helicopter ambulances so successful in Vietnam.

Now there is a chance such a system could be set up to cover the United States.

It could require cooperation between the Defense Depart-

ment and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. This has already been broadly proposed by President Johnson.

IT WOULD ALSO entail the adaptation to civilian needs of evacuation techniques developed in Vietnam; this is being strongly pushed.

At the 21st National Conference on Rural Health held recently in Seattle, Wash., sponsored by the American Medical Association's Council on Rural Health, the use of helicopters to speed patients to hospitals will be a major theme.

The aerial crash rescue system called Flatiron appears to be the most adaptable to the

problems facing civilians, Col. Spurgeon H. Neel Jr. of the Army Surgeon General's office, Washington D.C., told the conference.

In an interview in Washington, Col. Neel pointed out that the "experiences the Army Medical Service has gained in utilization of helicopter ambulances can and must be translated to comparable civilian emergency health programs."

"THE HARDWARE and know-how are available," he said. "Personnel problems are not

insurmountable. The costs are acceptable relative to the benefits to be derived. An effective program only awaits dedicated leadership and a resolve to see it through to completion."

The UH-1D, or Huey, which won its stripes in Southeast Asia, is the preferred and authorized helicopter in all of the medical air ambulance and crash rescue units.

This helicopter can carry six litter or nine ambulatory patients with a crew of four. It has a 360-mile range.

supplies and equipment weighing up to 4,000 pounds can be airlifted permitting rapid movement of complete medical teams when the situation demands.

THE VERSATILITY of the helicopter in the role of ambulance and crash rescue is enhanced by an internal rescue hoist.

Rescue and medical personnel can be lowered into an otherwise inaccessible site, and patients may be lifted to the helicopter while it hovers.

This has been a frequent requirement in Vietnam, and one can visualize conditions comparable in civilian accidents.

One air ambulance detachment recently reported 111 hoist extractions in one month alone.

As of Dec. 31, 1967, more than 162,000 patients had been evacuated in Vietnam. Today there are 110 air ambulances in Vietnam, averaging more than 7,000 evacuations per month.

FLATIRON IS THE CODE

NAME for the less dramatic and less known work of the Army Medical Service, which is believed to have more applicability to the civilian emergency medical care problems.

First established at the Army Aviation Center at Ft. Rucker, Ala., Flatiron has been expanded to cover all major Army aviation activities.

Although the basic mission of Flatiron is aerial crash rescue, the units frequently respond to a variety of requests for emergency evacuation not involving aircraft accidents. For ex-

ample, the unit at Ft. Rucker evacuated some 30 highway accident victims between November 1966 and June 1967.

The Medical Aviation Branch of Brooke Army Medical Center at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., responded 44 times to similar requests, and evacuated 38 patients during fiscal year 1967.

To clean a fireplace for summer, shovel out ashes, vacuum the hearth and walls to remove loose dust, then scrub all surfaces with a stiff brush dipped in suds.



DONALD J. ROKOS, 7612 Melvin, Westland, has been manager of conferences for the American Society of Tool and Manufacturing Engineers. He will plan the Society's conferences, and workshops. He is a former employee of Ford.



VINCENT W. BECKLEY, 21733 Colgate, Farmington, has retired from Detroit Edison after 40 years; he was a technician in the underground lines department. Beckley and his wife have lived in the Farmington area for 35 years; they have ten children and 45 grandchildren.

Age Ends Life For 7-Year-Old

WELLESLEY, Mass. -- Figaro Demosthenes Newton died at the age of 7.

He died of old age in a women's dormitory at Wellesley College here.

He spent two years in the dormitory. He also spent some time in the office of the president of Wellesley College.

Part of his vacation time was spent with a member of the Harvard crew team and with the president of the MIT Tech Community Association.

When he died there was great sorrow at the college and he was eulogized in the Wellesley College News.

Figaro was a goldfish. He had been purchased by Suzanne E. W. Niles, on October 7, 1961, from a Woolworth store in Detroit, and remained the constant companion of Miss Niles through high school and into college.

"He was only three inches long," said Miss Niles, "but he swam tall!"

Enough Killing

NEW YORK -- Amid calls for stronger gun-control legislation, citizens in many cities are voluntarily turning in their own weapons in the wake of the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy.

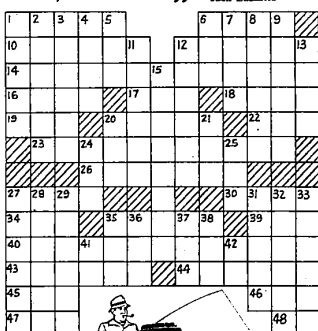
Alan E. Schoening of Lancaster, Pa., expressed the feeling when he said: "I don't feel like killing anything any more. Enough people have been shot now. I want to give you these guns so you can destroy them. I hope this gesture will encourage others to do the same."

He turned in two hunting guns to police officials.

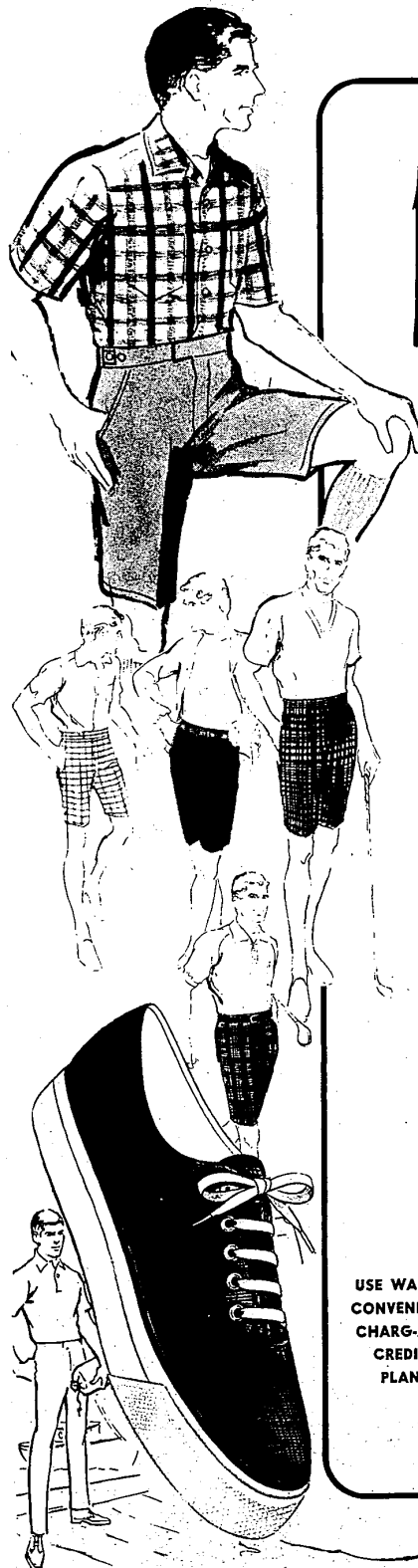


Sportsword Puzzle

By Jack Luzzatto



- ACROSS
1. Throws a line
 6. Exaggerated
 10. A compass and will help you navigate
 12. One who takes exams
 14. Sturdiness and safety of a craft
 16. Extra-sensory perceptions
 17. Crude metal
 18. Return blows
 19. Take to court
 20. Fall in a faint
 22. Where to fish for tuna
 23. Equipped with motor boat driving part
 26. Pike worth catching
 27. Son of Adam
 30. Western gambling game
 34. Monk's title of Brother
 35. They're usually nylon
 39. Where the Humboldt River is
 40. Rods, reels, etc. (2 wds.)
 42. Of the eye
 43. Badly
 45. Stern
 47. Indian area: Abbr.
 48. Accomplish
 - DOWN
 1. Boxes for tackle
 2. With high-cut cards showing (2 wds.)
 3. One who molds or forms
 4. Games of marbles
 5. Standing Room Only
 6. Hawaiian wreath
 7. Verbal construction
 8. Really comfortable (2 wds.)
 9. Took a breather
 11. What some fisherman lay it on
 12. ... Swim. Opposite of the out-siders
 13. U.S. weather satellite
 15. Fishing from a slow-moving boat
 33. Pouch
 41. Horsepower, for short
 42. Symbol for copper
 21. One of Napoleon's marshals
 24. Night bird
 25. Boxing umpire, for short
 27. Business matter
 28. A mooring line
 29. Artist's stands
 31. Part of the foot
 32. Get a fish on shore again
 33. Go to extremes in anything
 35. Started a fire
 36. Opposite of the out-siders
 37. Europe, as a war theater



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