

June 13, 1963  
**Salt Laker  
 13th Victim**

Deseret News Special  
**PANGUITCH**—The 13th victim of the tragic truck accident Monday afternoon 47 miles southeast of Escalante died here Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Pangutch Hospital.

His death was attributed to severe head injuries.

He was Marvin Porschatis, 29, of 923 Laird Ave. (1200 South), Salt Lake City.

**Died Shortly After**

Twelve persons—five adults and seven Explorer Scouts—were killed outright or died shortly after the accident which occurred when a truck, carrying 46 persons, en route to the Hole-in-the-Rock for a Colorado River outing, overturned.

The accident occurred in an isolated area of Utah and it was two hours before officials were notified and help arrived at the scene.

The accident resulted when the truck, headed up a sharp grade, stalled, rolled backwards for 124 feet, then plummeted over a 35-foot cliff. The passengers were spilled and crushed at the bottom of the ravine.

**Driver Error, Failure**

Wednesday, Utah Highway Patrol Superintendent Col. Lyle Hyatt attributed the accident to driver error and mechanical failure.

The error, he said, was an attempt by the driver to shift gears from second to first while moving uphill.

This caused the truck to stall.

When the driver attempted to use the brakes he apparently had none.

**Lacked Fluid**

Col. Hyatt explained that the brakes failed to hold because the motor stopped and eliminated the power brakes, and because the master cylinder of the hydraulic system was empty.

The highway patrol official made his report after an investigation by troopers and expert mechanics, and by Sheriff Leland Johnson of Kane County.

Meanwhile, the truck, a 1962 2½-ton stake flatbed, was brought to Salt Lake City where it was undergoing examination and testing by an insurance firm.

**Sootwa Expeditions**

The truck was operated by Sootwa Expeditions, a non-profit corporation of Salt Lake City. Driver of the truck was Ernest Stephan Ahlborn, 21, 845 E. 2950 North, Provo.

Col. Hyatt said no charges were being preferred against the driver since there appeared to be no negligence on his part.

The driver told officials that when the truck stalled he used the brakes, "but they just weren't there."

The truck was insured by Traveler's Insurance Co. Glen Johnson, claims manager for the firm, said the company's investigation was continuing.

"We hope to be able to talk to the driver of the truck some time Thursday. Expert professional auto damage appraisers have been over the truck and are continuing their investigations," he said.

He explained that the company would have no official word to report until the studies and investigations were completed.

In addition to the 13 dead, See TRUCK on Page A-7



Checking the program for 64th annual MIA Conference are, from left, General Superintendent G. Carlos Smith, General Florence S. Jacobsen and their counselors, Mrs. Margaret R. Jackson, Marvin J. Ashton, Carl W. Buehner and Mrs. Dorothy

**MIA Leaders Gather  
 For Annual Conference**

By ARNOLD J. IRVINE  
 Deseret News Staff Writer

With gala festivals and pageantry in readiness, the Mutual Improvement Association of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will launch its 64th annual June Conference Friday morning.

Thousands of youth leaders from all parts of North America and some from overseas are arriving in Salt Lake for the three-day event. Some 60,000 are expected to attend the various instructional and recreational events, and 10,000 of these will be actual participants.

General sessions of the conference will be held on Friday and Sunday.

The two Friday sessions will be conducted by the general executives of the bilateral organization: G. Carlos Smith, general superintendent of the YMMIA, with his assistants,

**Medics Replace  
 Cancerous Lung**

JACKSON, MISS. (UPI)—A 55-year-old man was reported doing well after undergoing what is believed to be the first lung transplant of its kind in medical history.

A team of surgeons at the university medical center here replaced his cancerous left lung with a healthy lung from an unrelated donor in a three-hour operation Wednesday.

A spokesman for the medical center said the Mississippi team of surgeons had completed detailed studies in more than 500 experimental animals over a period of seven years prior to attempting the transplant.

The hospital said it was too early to know if the operation will be successful.

**Afro-Asia  
 Detour In  
 Financial**

UNITED NA (UPI)—The pe Asian group The ened a long dela to end the U.N. In Informed sou nation group, wh majority in the l eral Assembly, w negotiations with on a financial peace-keeping op The Afro-Asia counter to the st the Western Po sources said it m of the month be tion is reached. In Fifth The current sp session on the f already is in it longer than ori pated. The sessi to devise ways \$100 million def future peace-ke

**NEGROES COL  
 For Equal So**

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, CALIF. (UPI)—The Air Force launched a secret satellite Wednesday only a few hours after a rocket carrying another satellite exploded shortly after leaving the launch pad at nearby Point Arguello.

**Truck Crash In Utah  
 Claims 13th Victim**

Continued from First Page

In the accident, 25 persons were injured and many hospitalized temporarily.

Still in the hospital Thursday were:

Ronald Benson, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Simon K. Benson, 630 E. 2330 North, Provo.

Clyde Ashton, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ashton, 475 E. 1700 North, Provo.

R. Chase Allred, 44, 565 E. 2200 North, Provo.

Jay Lee Colvin, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Colvin, 595 E. Spruce Ave., Provo.

David Shaw, 17, son of the late Dr. Merlin J. Shaw, who died in the crash, and Mrs. Shaw, 362 E. 700 North, Provo.

All were listed in "fairly good" condition Thursday at Utah Valley Hospital.

Belva Barlow, 1024 E. 4th South, was listed in "fair" condition at Cottonwood Hospital.

Meanwhile, funeral arrangements were made for the 12 victims who died earlier. Most of the funerals will be held Friday and Saturday.

Marvin Edom Porschatis was a student at the University of Utah at the time of his death. He had worked at Hill Air Force Base for 10 years and while there attended and graduated from a four-year HAFB electronics school.

He was a former scoutmaster and served two years with the U.S. Army, 1957-59.

Survivors include his parents of Salt Lake City, Mr. and



Marvin E. Porschatis ... head injuries fatal

Mrs. Paul H. Porschatis, and a brother, Robert Carl, also of Salt Lake City.

Mr. Porschatis was born Nov. 28, 1933, in Salt Lake City, a son of Paul Henry and Hattie Edom Porschatis.

Price: \$1,500

**Rainmaker  
 Delivers C.O.D.**

NASHVILLE, ARK. (UPI)—Arkansas' peach growers rejoiced today over rain which salvaged their crops. They paid \$1,500 for the rain.

Maj. Homer Berry, a North Little Rock, Ark., rainmaker had contracted to make two inches of rain by midnight Saturday.

Berry had hardly finished seeding clouds over the Nashville peach belt Wednesday when it began raining.

Three weeks had passed without any measurable rainfall.

Berry has also been successful in seeding clouds with iodine crystals at Augusta, Ark., and Memphis.

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