



Family members and friends of those who died or survived the truck wreck gather for dedication of the red sandstone marker.

CARCASS WASH

Deseret News June 11, 1993

Dedication marks tragedy, healing

Monument commemorates 1963 crash in S. Utah that killed 13.

By Dennis Rombo
Deseret News staff writer

CARCASS WASH, Kane County — Jim Taylor regained consciousness in the back of a station wagon wondering why he wasn't having the time of his life running the Colorado River with his Explorer Scout buddies. The truck wreck that claimed the lives of 13 of his teenage friends and adult leaders bound for Hole-in-the-Rock 30 years ago Thursday didn't seem real to him then.

"It was almost a dream to some of us. We refused to believe it. I was like that," Taylor said.

Taylor, 47, whose father, Harvey Darrel Taylor died in the accident, can't remember much about what happened June 10, 1963. "I've been thankful a lot that was blocked out. I don't know how I would have handled it," he said.

But Thursday at the dedication of a monument to those who died, Taylor lingered with those who do remember.

"I've had a lot of blanks for years and I want to sort through all those," he said. "I am glad that I came. I need to work out those

details. As painful as it is, I just need to know."

Taylor wasn't alone.

Hundreds of family members and friends of those who lived and died in the horrible accident in the southern Utah desert gathered around the red sandstone marker to soothe emotional wounds. Tracy Hall Sr. offered a dedicatory prayer. Hall's two sons and a nephew survived the crash; a second nephew died.

The accident occurred when the 2½-ton cattle truck loaded with Scouts from Provo Explorer Post 36, their leaders and others failed to climb a steep hill and overturned in the wash. Of the 49 passengers, 13 were killed and 26 injured. The group was en route to Hole-in-the-Rock to begin a river trip on the Colorado just prior to the im-

Peacekeepers in Bosnia kill 2 Croat attackers

Sniper slays a driver after women soldiers slow 521-vehicle convoy.

Associated Press

VITEZ, Bosnia-Herzegovina — British U.N. peacekeepers escorting a Muslim convoy through central Bosnia killed two Croat soldiers who attacked the trucks Friday, U.N. officials said.

It was the first time British soldiers have killed anyone in Bosnia, the Defense Ministry said. There have been no reports of other peacekeepers killing combatants the 15-month Bosnian war.

In a separate attack on the 521-vehicle convoy, a driver was killed by a sniper after some of the aid trucks were slowed by screaming Bosnian Croat women and soldiers who separated the trucks from an armored British escort vehicle.

And British soldiers reported that Bosnian Croat troops, apparently incensed over Muslim gains in eastern Bosnia, took about 30 drivers of the convoy hostage. The convoy was headed for a Muslim enclave in the east.

A U.N. spokesman said a British Warrior armored vehicle fired the deadly rounds from its rapid-fire 30-r cannon after it let loose two warning bursts.

The two Warriors were stationed at the village of Novi Bila, near the British base Vitez, guarding part of the route for the seven-mile convoy.

"After firing the two warning bursts, our Warrior then replied with about 20 rounds from the chain gun," killing two of the attackers, said the official. "A third man with a rocket-propelled grenade launcher then ran off into the village."

Snipers killed the driver in a separate incident, about one mile outside Vitez. As he slumped over the wheel, his truck smashed into a telegraph pole and rolled into a ditch.

The British were unable to provide full protection to the convoy because it was so large. As a private rather than U.N. initiative,

STUART W. JOHNSON, DESERET NEWS

Please see **MARKER** on A2

Please see **AMBUSH** on

a role model for all."

BIRTHDAYS

Friday,
June 11



Historian Jacques Cousteau	83
Author Gene Wilder	59
Actor Chad Everett	56
Baseball pitcher Joe Montana	37

ke the Bullett family, Torres
her husband gained a first-
awareness of neighborhood

Sunday, potted plants were
from the couple's front

his is stupid," Torres said. "It
't even something good. It was
toes. What am I going to do,
my pots to my porch?"

xt door to the Bullets, Mi-
e Wallace, whose home has
vandalized numerous times
tly, has installed various
y measures and devices, in-
ng flood lights.

e said she's tired of cleaning
e mess. "It's really frustrating
st a total mess," she said. "I
(the explosion) last night has
done everybody in."

llett said she called neighbor-
parents Thursday to look at the
ge to her home. The culprits
ot be from her neighbor-
she said, "but it's some-
s kids doing it."

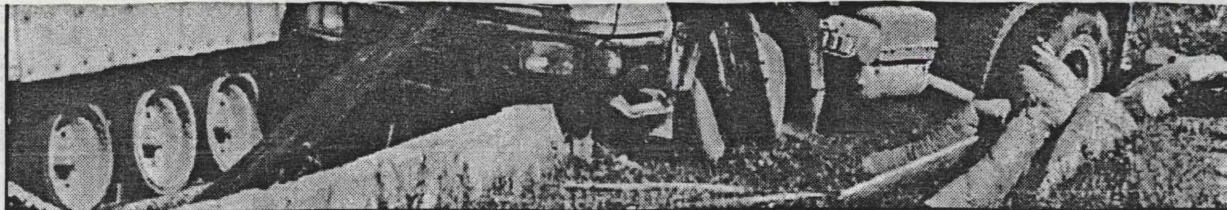
LAKE CITY, UTAH (ISSN 0745-4724)

LAKE CITY, UTAH (ISSN 0745-4724)
Salt Lake City, UT 84145

Travnik, with both Muslims and
Croats ignoring a truce signed
Thursday.

Muslims stepped up attacks on
Vitez and other Croat strongholds,
possibly in retaliation for an initial
assault on the "Convoy of Joy."
That attack Thursday killed seven
or eight drivers, British U.N.
peacekeepers said.

In the murderous atmosphere in
the region, there seemed little
hope of calming tensions between
the Muslims and Croats, once allies



A soldier looks into cabin of truck near Vitez that hit pole and rolled into ditch after the driver was slain.

against the Serbs and now set
against each other in a land grab.
The failure of the outside world
to intervene against the Serbs, who

control about 70 percent of Bosnia-
Herzegovina, seems to have en-
couraged Croat and Muslim forces
to take what land they can. War

broke out last year after Muslims
and Croats voted to secede from
Serb-dominated Yugoslavia and
Bosnian Serbs rebelled.

MARKER

Continued from A1

poundment of Lake Powell.

Tom Heal and Lee Colvin, two of
the survivors, spearheaded the ef-
fort to erect the monument.

"If we had any reservation at all,
we feared bringing back the old
memories. In so doing, we feel like
it has been a healing experience
for many people. It has been for us,"
Heal said.

Colvin avoided the hauntingly
named Carcass Wash for 27 years.
Through raising funds for the
monument and helping build it,
Colvin has a new outlook for the
spot 47 miles southeast of
Escalante, Garfield County.

"It's a sacred place to me now.
I've camped here. I've lived here
for a week. I find that when I come
here it's peaceful and it's wild. Al-
though I have bad memories of it, I
like the place now," he said.

Many of the people who at-
tended the dedication hadn't spo-
ken about the accident since the
day it happened. Mary Prior —
whose sister, Dorothy Hansen, a
Deseret News reporter, died —
never read any newspaper ac-
counts of the accident.

"I think that I really haven't
dealt with it. Not reading the news-
paper was part of it," she said sob-
bing. Attending Thursday's cere-
mony rekindled many of the
thoughts and feelings she'd stowed
away. "I think it was bad for me,

but I needed to do it." Prior said
she might go back and read the pa-
pers now.

For the Christensen brothers,
David and Bill, the event was an
opportunity to learn more about
their brother, Gary Lynn
Christensen, who died.

"It's something we talked about
in our family, but never in great
detail," David Christensen said.

Bill Christensen lived in
Escalante for eight years but had
never visited the crash site. "I've
been down this road a dozen times,
but never this far," he said stand-
ing near the wash. "I'm a Vietnam
veteran. It's like going to the
Wall."

Indeed, children used crayons to
stencil on paper the names of loved

ones listed on the plaque like
people do at the Vietnam Memo-
rial in Washington, D.C.

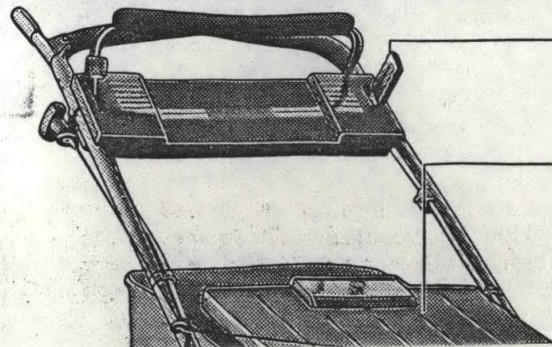
Of the nine survivors who at-
tended the dedication, Ron Clark
was the most visibly emotional. Be-
fore leaving for southern Utah, he
said he expected a hellish trip.

As he stood looking over the
wash, Clark tried to find words for
his feelings. "I suppose I can't de-
scribe for you what I'm feeling. It's
a numbness. It's more difficult
than I thought it was going to be."

However, Clark said the monu-
ment and its dedication — albeit
three decades later — served its
purpose.

"Today we did it. We opened up
and we talked," he said. "Maybe
the healing can begin."

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