

# R. M. Witter, ex-POW Dies in Orleans Crash

## Army Unwraps Secret Weapons In Mass Display

ABERDEEN, Md. — The Army took the wraps off some of its hitherto secret equipment today in a display at the Aberdeen Proving Ground, but a number of atomic age guns and gadgets were conspicuously absent.

Ordnance items on view ranged from the latest in protective body armor to the new 280 millimeter atomic cannon, set up to fire a conventional shell.

But, abiding by the terms of an order issued last spring by Secretary of Defense Wilson, the Army made no effort to display such items as the new Nike antiaircraft guided missile, the "Ontos" carrier for antiaircraft weapons or the new T43 heavy tank. The Wilson order prohibited for reasons of security and economy any "public demonstrations of important new weapons and equipment."

The 280 millimeter cannon which fired its first atomic round in Nevada last spring was out in the clear for public demonstration.

Also unaffected by the order was the 75 millimeter "Skysweeper" antiaircraft gun, with radar controls to detect and "look onto" approaching enemy planes.

Unveiled for the first time were a 58-ton tank retriever capable of hauling the Army's heaviest vehicles off the battlefield under fire; a 15-ton tractor which can travel 50 miles an hour and has a towing capacity of 75 tons; and a new twin 40-millimeter gun mounted on the chassis of the Walker Bulldog tank.

BINGHAMTON MAN

CHICAGO — Frederick D. Russel of Binghamton, N. Y., has been named to the executive committee of the American Life Convention, an association of more than 200 legal reserve life insurance companies of the United States and Canada.

The election was held here yesterday.

Ray M. Witter, Oaks Corners, 28-year-old veteran of World War II and former Nazi prisoner, died at 7:10 a.m. today at Clifton Springs Sanitarium, 10 and one-half hours after his car left Warner Hill Rd. at Orleans and crashed over a 10-foot embankment.

Dr. Charles J. Bobeck, Ontario County coroner, said Witter died of crushing chest injuries, and a fractured jaw. He was the father of three girls.

Deputy Sheriff James Furnal said Witter apparently lost control of his car as he drove down the hill about 8:15 p.m. Wednesday.

His death was the 17th traffic fatality in Ontario County this year, as compared to 19 for the same period in 1952.

Witter a paratrooper during the war, served with Headquarters Company 508th Parachute Company in the European Theater of War.

He entered service Nov. 2, 1943 and was discharged with the rank of corporal, Aug. 13, 1945.

Witter was with the Allied Airborne Army's drive preparatory to the invasion of Germany when he was wounded in the right arm Sept. 20, 1944 in Holland. He was taken prisoner by the Nazis the next day and remained their captive nine months.

Among decorations and citations given Witter were: Middle Eastern Service ribbon with one bronze star, Combat Infantry badge, Purple Heart, American Theater ribbon, World War II victory ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and overseas bar.

Witter was born Aug. 8, 1925 in Canandaigua. He was a member of the Methodist Church, Canandaigua. He was head meat cutter at Loblaw's in Newark.

Funeral will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Kennedy Funeral Chapel, Bristol St. The Rev. Ellroy B. VanDyke, pastor of the Methodist Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Woodlawn Cemetery. A military service will be conducted by the American Legion.

Friends may call from 3 to 9 p.m. tomorrow and from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday.

Survivors are his wife, Mary Gullick Witter, Oaks Corners; three daughters, Michaela, Marcia Ann and Lynn Marie Witter, all at home; his mother, Mrs. Mildred I. Squier Witter, S. Main St.; his father, Ray E. Witter, Jefferson Ave.; a brother, Richard L. Witter, Canandaigua; two sisters, Mrs. Francis Yerkes, Canandaigua, and Mrs. Roy Ross, Rochester; several nieces and nephews.

## Group Tells UN Build Center Or Let Reds Do It

SEOUL — The Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission today accused the Allies of trying to stall away more of the dwindling 30-day period allotted for interviews with 23,000 war prisoners who refuse to return to their homelands.

The NNRC told the United Nations Command pointedly that the Reds offered to take only four days to build an explanation center which the Allies estimated would require a month.

The Allies offered to build temporary facilities in a week, but the commission said the Reds proposed building in four days a permanent center which the UNC said it would complete in a month.

Truce terms specify that the explanation period end Christmas Eve. The Allies have turned down repeated NNRC and Red requests for an extension.

The construction of a satisfactory explanation center has delayed the start of persuasion attempts since Sept. 26, and apparently is the only remaining obstacle.

## Wicks Explanation Not Satisfactory

NEW YORK — Gov. Dewey says he is not satisfied with Acting Lt. Gov. Arthur H. Wicks' explanation of his visit to convicted extortionist Joseph S. Fay at Sing Sing Prison.

Dewey, however, has declined so far to say what form his dissatisfaction with his fellow Republican would take.

A number of Democrats have called for the resignation or removal of the 65-year-old Wicks, who assumed the unqualified title of lieutenant governor a week ago. He stepped up to a vacancy by virtue of his office as president pro tem and GOP majority leader of the State Senate.

Newsman asked Dewey about Wicks yesterday in Brooklyn after the governor spoke at a hospital fund luncheon.

## To Work Toward East-West Talks

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Thu, Jul 17, 2014