

Giant U.S. Bomber crashes

~~2005~~ (1) 2045

✓ This is an American Convair B.36, the giant ten-engined bomber which crashed into the sea, about 400 miles west of Ireland. The plane was ^{BOUND} flying to ~~Lakenhall, in Suffolk,~~ ^{FOR HUSFROCK AIRBASE ON A TRAINING FLIGHT} with twenty-three ~~aboard,~~ ^{ON BOARD, ON 1307HR} on a training flight... ^{RADIO TOLD OF FIRE IN TWO ENGINES AND ORDERS} The first signs of impending disaster were radio signals telling of fire in two engines. Later, a voice was heard telling the crew to bale out, ~~and then~~ then - silence.

Immediately, at Sculthorpe U.S. Air base and other centres, air-sea rescue

~~plans were put into operation.~~ ^{A SEARCH AREA HUNDREDS OF MILES} ~~An Atlantic corridor, about two hundred~~ ^{IN EXTENT} miles square, became the focal-point of the ^{QUEST} search by planes and amphibious craft...

Crews were briefed, and not a moment lost before the take-off - for a slender chance remained that survivors were drifting in dinghies or rafts - somewhere in the Atlantic...

While American aircraft, with British ^{HELP} assistance, scanned the waters for survivors, floating wreckage - ships were rushing to the spot - among them the destroyer, H.M.S. Tenacious, and ^{TWO} the merchantmen, the Manchester Shipper and the Manchester Pioneer..

At first, the news was hopeful - four survivors were picked up. Then came the sad recovery of five bodies... ^{OTHERS} ~~Fourteen~~ are still missing - but ~~fourteen~~

British ships and American aircraft ^{KEEP} ~~are~~ keeping up constant patrols as the search goes on.....