

WELSH AIRLIFT ENDS IN CRASH

The airlift switches to a lonely valley in Merionethshire, where materials are urgently needed to plug a crack in the Croesor Dam Reservoir. The Dam lies amid the 17-hundred foot peaks of the mountains in wildest Wales. A helicopter is chartered for the job.

Many local inhabitants of this isolated district hardly ever see a 'plane. The nearest town, Portmadoc, is nine miles away, and to manhandle supplies of cement to the scene would be a two months' job. As it is, hauling half-a-ton a time (8 trips an hour) the helicopter plans to do it in a quarter the time.

Hearing the target on a subsequent flight, something goes wrong. The engine cuts out and the load is jettisoned. Attempting to land on a narrow shelf above the dam, the aircraft crashes.

From the wreckage, pilot Dennis Bryan steps out unhurt. A rock in its path stops the helicopter from plunging into the dam a hundred feet below. The one-plane airlift comes to grief - but no bones broken.