



Stunt pilot Frank Ryder waves to the crowd as he flies by in his modified Chipmunk airplane.
Citizen photo by Brock Gable

VANDERHOOF AIR SHOW

'Only' 12,000 came

by MALCOLM CURTIS
Staff reporter

VANDERHOOF — Hot weather and a poor economy are blamed for keeping expected crowds away from this year's Vanderhoof international air show. Preliminary gate receipts show that attendance was down from last year, and air show chairman Wayne Doerksen said the hot weather and a poor economy were to blame.

"When it's hot like this, you know, people like to go to the lake." Those who turned out were treated to the usual combination of crowd-pleasing thrills, but an unexpected mishap occurred during Saturday's performance.

Against a picture-blue sky a green Hughes 500-C helicopter whirred through its paces 75 metres above the main runway at the Vanderhoof airport.

The crowd of about 12,000, watched as pilot Gotfried Suss routinely manoeuvred the chopper backwards.

Then two pieces fell from the tail and spectators gasped as the helicopter plummeted sideways to earth in a cloud of dust.

Suss escaped serious injury, and was reported in good condition this morning at St. John Hospital, where he is being treated for back injuries.

Before the craft hit the ground a response team of Vanderhoof volunteer firemen moved in three vehicles across the airfield.

Within three minutes they had helped Suss from the wreckage and covered it with foam.

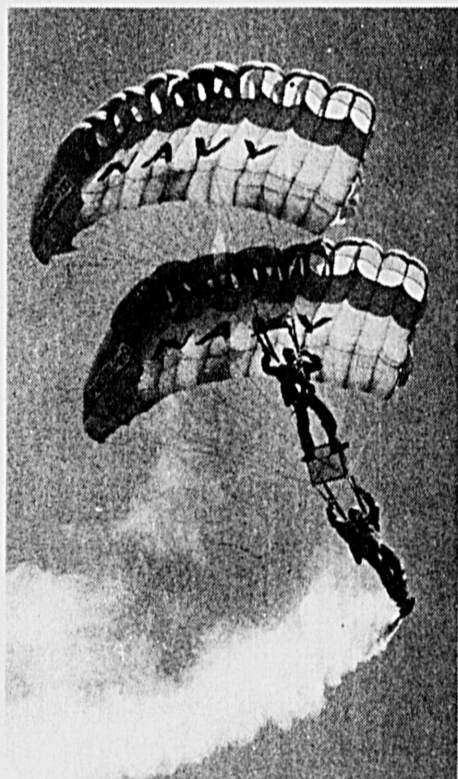
The accident is being investigated by the Canadian Aviation Safety Board but a report won't be available for at least two months.

Board investigator Phil Ablitt arrived at the scene from Vancouver Saturday night.

The crash occurred when the tail rotor separated from the tail of the aircraft, but it is not yet known how this happened, said Ablitt.

"Once the rear rotor breaks you have no anti-torque device and the fuselage starts to rotate uncontrollably," said Ablitt.

The aircraft worth about \$200,000 is



Two members of the U.S. Navy parachute team, the Leap Frogs, ride piggy-back after jumping from a Hercules transport plane.
Citizen photo by Brock Gable

considered a write-off. The wreckage was moved by flatbed truck to a nearby barn Saturday night.

The accident marred what was otherwise a perfect weekend for the airshow, now in its ninth year. A blazing sun brought out halter tops and shorts while clear skies served as a perfect backdrop for the aerial displays.

The Leap Frogs, a U.S. Navy parachute team wowed the audience with precision jumps and manoeuvres.

The Ray-Ban Golds, three biplanes flown by three CP Air pilots, put on a death-defying display, flying wingtip to wingtip in various loops and rolls.

Various other solo acts were featured along with 14 Warbirds, a collection of Second World War vintage aircraft, which flew in formation over the airfield.



Spectators watch Gotfried Suss's helicopter moments before it plunged to the ground after the rear rotor disconnected.
Citizen photo by Perry Corling

Paper prospectors targeted

by MALCOLM CURTIS
Staff reporter

There's funny business afoot in them thar hills.

The B. C. Ministry of Mines is cracking down on prospectors who file phony mineral claims after failing to set up posts or establishing claim boundaries as required by law.

It's a con game known as "paper-staking" with a history as old as mining in the province itself.

But the recent unchecked proliferation of underhanded transactions and paper profits has alarmed both the mining industry and the provincial government.

When a mineral claim is made, the land is supposed to be posted with an identifying tag, while boundaries should be clearly marked.

A prospector can then legally register his claim with one of 23 mining recording offices across the province, provided he has a free miner's certificate. The certificate, available for \$25, is much like a hunter's licence, enabling a person to locate claims, acquire title to them and extract minerals from Crown or private land.

A minimum of \$100 worth of work has to be done on the land each year in

order to maintain the claim and a statement verifying this has to be filed with the mines ministry.

However, the problem is that staking is done on an honor system without much policing. Last year alone, 81,729 new claims were staked in B.C.

The province issues a document verifying the claim, which is only investigated if there are complaints or if a third party challenges it.

On the basis of the government document, claims can be sold to another person or company with a recording fee paid to the province when the sale occurs.

Individuals have been known to sell claims which are only later staked.

In remote areas, a different tactic, called "claim-bombing," is sometimes used.

"I've seen someone stake the property by throwing a post out the window of an airplane," said Ian Semple, mining analyst for Pemberton Houston Wiloughby Inc. in Vancouver.

"It's highly irregular," said Semple. "But it's done."

For the first time ever, the provincial government recently suspended miner's licences for paper-staking.

Three prospectors were caught red-handed following investigations in Kamloops, Chilliwack and Burnaby. One of the unidentified prospectors had his licence lifted for three years, while the two others received 18-month suspensions. Their claims were also cancelled.

"There's quite a groundswell of this sort of thing happening," said Dennis Lieutard, operations manager for the ministry's mineral titles branch.

"There's been quite a plea from the industry saying (to the ministry), 'Don't you think you should take some responsibility for this?'"

Before the ministry takes action, however, it has to be clear that a person has acted like a "scondrel" before his licence is suspended, said Lieutard.

Mineral claims appear to be down across the province from the peak of 1983 when over 106,000 stakes were punched into the ground.

The most active areas in the province are the Cariboo, Omineca and Skeena mining regions.

Last year more than 11,000 claims were filed in the Cariboo region, which encompasses an area from Mackenzie to Williams Lake and from Valemount to Bella Coola.

College progress claimed

Some progress has been made in contract negotiations between the College of New Caledonia and its faculty association, says association president Mike Fuhrmann.

The two sides signed off about 20 items on the contract during a Friday morning bargaining session, he said.

Fuhrmann said the agreements represented "progress in the right direction."

College officials would not comment.

The two sides will meet again Tuesday morning. They have been negotiating since January for a first contract for 130 part-time instructors and a new contract for 150 full-time instructors, which expired in November.

Tree falls too close for comfort

Bunty Mercier, wife of Prince George Mayor Elmer Mercier, was at the door of a trailer at Stuart Lake Thursday when two cottonwood trees suddenly crashed down, cutting the trailer in half and missing her by just 18 inches.

"It was a miracle," said the mayor, who had been standing about four feet from his wife at the time.

She had left the trailer and was on her way back in when strong winds blew the trees down, he said. The Merciers are using the trailer as a temporary shelter while they build a cabin at the lake.

"We didn't hear it at all. The wind was so loud. Then all of a sudden, down came these trees," he said. "It was weird."

The trees were about two feet in diameter and at least 100 feet tall.

"They were huge things," Mercier said. During the excitement their dog ran for safety to neighbors.

"The poodle was so frightened she took off. We found her about two hours later."

Wind uprooted about 50 or 60 other trees along the beach.

Europe proposal backed

The Europe Hotel soon may have a new lease on life.

The Prince George heritage advisory committee says the city should accept an offer by a local businessman to lease the Europe Hotel as a cold storage facility.

This is one of the many items city aldermen will look at during tonight's regular council meeting.

In a report to council, the commission says a lease proposal by Rene Lamoureux of Spruce City Resale meets city concerns that the premises be cleaned up.

In an earlier letter to council, Lamoureux said he is willing to repair the building's roof, clean up the front, and take out \$75,000 of fire insurance and \$1 million of liability insurance if the city rents the premises for \$1 per year.

Other matters on council's agenda include:

• A report by city engineer Ernie Obst which says Columbia Bitulithic submitted the lowest of five tenders for the grade separation of the Cameron Street overpass. Co-

council tonight

lumbia made a bid of \$1,978,325.15 for the project, which has not yet been approved by the Canadian Transportation Commission.

• City manager Chester Jeffery has recommended that council deny the Lions community centre a \$291 grant to offset catering, liquor and building rental licences. Jeffery said other non-profit groups pay for similar licences.

Man hurt in mishap

Gary Darbon, 22, of Prince George is in satisfactory condition in hospital after the sports car he was driving was in collision with another car at the intersection of Fourth Avenue and Vancouver Street Sunday evening.

RCMP said Lyle Giesbrecht, 21, of Vanderhoof, the driver of the other car has been charged with failing to stop for a stop sign.

Giesbrecht and his five passengers es-

caped with superficial injuries, police said. Total damage was estimated at about \$8,000.

George Winters and Jim Gibson and Ron Drane.

• The Cariboo Tourist Association wants council to support ferry service between Bella Coola and Bella Bella. The association said this service would create a circle trip between Prince George, Williams Lake and Prince Rupert.

J. Ian Evans & Associates OPTOMETRISTS
J. IAN EVANS J.D.O.S. F.A.A.O.
GREGORY E. EVANS B.Sc., O.D.
ALANE EVANS B.Sc., O.D.
DONNA MOCKLER, B.Sc., O.D.
ROBIN G. SIMPSON, B.Sc., O.D.
Optical Wing 401 Quebec St. Fine Building, Prince George, B.C. 562-1305

LOTTO 6/49 & PROVINCIAL WINNING NUMBERS
Sponsored by **CONNAUGHT AUTO SALES**
"Cleanest Cars & Trucks In Town"
1797 Victoria St. 562-1341 D.L. 5145

Friday, July 26, 1985, the winning number for the main prize of \$500,000 for the PROVINCIAL draw was 2096575.

Saturday, July 27, 1985, the LOTTO 6/49 Jackpot of \$5,868,966.30 was won by one winner.
The six numbers drawn were 3, 8, 21, 24, 30, 42. The Bonus number was 19.
18 winners of the 5 correct plus bonus number category win \$48,809.70 each, 431 winners of the 5 correct category win \$1,558.80 each, 22,242 winners of the 4 correct category win \$58.10 each, and 380,016 winners of the 3 correct category win a prize of \$10 each.
Next week's Jackpot is estimated at \$1,800,000.
In the event of a discrepancy between this and the official winning numbers list, the latter shall prevail.

NEW!
In The **4TH AVE. MALL HART DRUGS**
Also the Hart Mall Location **WEEKLY SPECIALS**
July 29 to Aug. 4 SALE ENDS SUNDAY

Edge **SHAVING GEL** 200 ml 4 to choose from **\$1.99**

Purex **BATHROOM TISSUE** 4 rolls **\$1.29**

Modular **TELEPHONE EXTENSION** 25 ft. **\$2.47**

Hostess **POTATO CHIPS** 200 gr. box ass't'd flavours **89¢**

Chef Boyardee **SPAGHETTI SAUCE** Plain, Meat or Mushroom. 398 ml **84¢** ea.

- Always **MAXI-PADS** 30's **\$4.19**
- **MINI-PADS** 30's **\$2.99**
- **PANTYLINERS** 30's **\$2.59**
- **MINI PADS** New Freedom 30's reg. or deodorant **\$2.99**
- **LIGHTDAYS** Kotex, New contour shape. 30's or ovals **\$2.69**
- **TAMPONS** Tampax, Reg. super, super plus or slender **\$1.34**

HART CENTRE LOCATION
OPEN 9-9 7-Days a Week.
Sunday & Holidays 10-6 — 962-9666

DOWNTOWN LOCATION
OPEN 9-6 6-Days a Week
CLOSED Sunday & Holidays — 564-7147

ANSA PHONE NOW HAS **WORD PROCESSING!**

Call us today . . . we can do your typing and secretarial duties.

Dont' forget our Free Hook-Up Service when you subscribe to our phone answering service.

See **ANSA - PHONE**
It really does pay to use our service
564-7711 #201 - 1253 Fifth Ave. 564-7711