

City Airman Hurt In Crash Of Plane Near Seoul, Korea

**Staff Sergeant Allen Hile
Suffers Second Degree
Burns, Wife Informed
Here — Second Escape
From Death.**

A Sunbury Air Force sergeant has survived Friday's crash of a troop plane in Korea in which nine men are known dead and 13 are missing and presumed dead.

Mrs. Evelyn V. Hile, of 340 Linden Street, said she received a Defense Department telegram on Sunday stating her husband S-Sgt. Allen P. Hile, 40, was hospitalized in the Army's 121st Evacuation Hospital near Kimp'o Airport in Korea. He was a radio operator aboard the plane.

The message said he escaped the crash with "second degree burns of the arms and extremities." Brig. Gen. John S. Hardy of the Air Force expressed his regrets in the telegram and promised a quick report of any changes in Hile's condition.

For Hile, the father of four children, this was the second air crash he has survived in almost six years. On June 28, 1951, he was one of three crewmen who were injured in a crash of an Air Force assault transport during a

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City Airman Hurt

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take-off at Eglin Air Force Base, Eglin, Fla. The pilot was killed in the crash.

Hile is one of 28 survivors of the Korean crash who are hospitalized. The big Air Force plane, an engine afire, slammed down on



S-SGT. ALLEN P. HILE

a Han River sandbar, less than five minutes after takeoff from Seoul's Kimp'o Airport. Many of the 159 men aboard were headed for leaves in Japan.

Hile has been in the Air Force since early in World War II when he saw service in Africa and flew 60 missions over Egypt and Southern Europe. He was transferred to Agra, India, where he flew with cargo planes into China and Burma.

His wife, the former Evelyn Geyer, lives with their four children, Virginia, ten, Susan, eight, Cheryl, three, and Allen, Jr., three.

Hile is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Hile, Harrisburg, former Wolverton street residents. He has six brothers and five sisters living in the Harrisburg area.

Hile was graduated from Sunbury High School and he was employed at the Hoover Furniture Company store prior to his enlistment in the Air Force.

Other members of Sgt. Hile's family living in this area include a brother and sister, Kenneth Hile and Mrs. Lester Marshall, of Sunbury, and Mrs. George Walker, of Lewisburg.

4 More Bodies Found

SEOUL, LA—Search crews today found four more bodies in the twisted wreckage of a U.S. Air Force Globemaster that crashed and burned Friday night on a Han River sandbar. This raised the list of known dead to 9, leaving 13 others still missing and presumed dead.

The big C124 transport was en route to Japan with 159 Americans aboard—10 Air Force crewmen, 147 Army men and 2 Army civilian employees. Most were on leave. Twenty-eight of the 137 survivors accounted for are still hospitalized, two of them in serious condition.

T. Sgt. Hile, 3 Years In Army, Discharged

T. Sgt. Allen P. Hile, of 241 Lenker avenue, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Hile, 1204 Wolverton street, completed more than three years of service Wednesday, when he received his honorable discharge at the Newark Air Station in New Jersey. His many decorations—Air Medal with 15 Oak Leaf Clusters, French Croix de Guerre with one oak leaf cluster, Presidential Unit Citation with three oak leaf clusters, ETO Ribbon with two battle stars, Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon with one battle star and the Good Conduct Medal—enabled him to amass 132 points for discharge.

Sgt. Hile, one of five sons of Mr. and Mrs. Hile to serve in the present conflict, entered the Air Corps in August, 1942, and left in May the following year for North Africa. There he joined the 319th Bombardment Group with whom he remained through Italy, Sicily and Sardinia. While in the European theater he participated on 64 missions. In all 300 hours of combat flying time were recorded.

Returning to this country in September of 1944, he was further schooled in radio at Scott Field Ill., and in March of this year was ordered to the China-Burma theater. Stationed with the Air Transport Command in Agra, India, Sgt. Hile flew nine times over the "hump," the Himalaya mountains in Tibet, to deliver supplies to China's forces. He returned to this country in September of 1945 and returned last week to Newark for his release.

Married to the former Evelyn Geyer, of Sunbury, Tech. Sgt. Hile is the father of a one-month-old daughter, Virginia May. His discharge is the third in the Hile family. Recently Clarence and Albert were released while Pfc. Kenneth will be dropped from the army also. The other brother, Pfc. Mahlon, should receive his release by Christmas time.

Sgt. Allen Hile plans to rest before obtaining work.

Sgt. Allan Hile Off For CBI War Theater

Technical Sergeant Allan Hile, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hile, of Wolverton street, one of the five Hile brothers in the service, has left Sunbury for the China-Burma-India theatre after spending a six-day delayed furlough en route with his parents and with his wife, the former Evelyn M. Geyer at her home on Lenker avenue. He has seen action in the European theatre of war and was formerly on Sardinia when he was sent back to this country.

His mother received a letter Monday from Corporal Clarence Hile saying that he had left New Guinea for the Halmaheras Islands which are just north of New Guinea. The other brothers in service are Private Mahlon Hile who is in a Military Police unit somewhere in France; Corporal Albert Hile who is in the Philippines and Private Kenneth Hile who is in Europe with the infantry.

SUNBURY, May 13 — Military

funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon for S-Sgt. Allen Pelham Hile, 40, of 340 Linden St.

Sgt. Hile, who was on the road to recovery from serious injuries suffered in a troop plane crash in Korea on February 22, died of hepatitis Thursday in Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

The services will be held at 1:30 p.m. from a Dornisile funeral home. The Rev. Leon Adams, pastor of Albright Evangelical United Brethren Church, will officiate. Burial will be in Northumberland Memorial Park at Stonington. Friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. tomorrow at the funeral home.

Sgt. Hile was severely burned about the legs and hands when a large Air Force plane set down on a sand bar in the Han River less than five minutes after taking off from Seoul's Kimp'o Air Field.

Though burned, he went into the flaming plane and helped with the rescue of other passengers. From Korea he was moved to a hospital in Japan and from there to this country.

Two operations were performed on his left leg. He finally rallied and appeared to be recovering when he was stricken with hepatitis two weeks ago.

The Korean crash was the second air accident Sgt. Hile has been in during the past six years. On June 28, 1951, he was one of three crewmen injured in a crash of an Air Force assault transport during takeoff at Eglin Air Force Base, Eglin, Fla.

Sgt. Hile was born in Sunbury Dec. 11, 1917, the son of Joseph C. and Lydia Gamby Hile. His parents reside at 1834 Chestnut St. Harrisburg.

Besides them, he is survived by his wife, Mrs. Evelyn Geyer Hile and four children, Virginia, 11,

Radioman Hurt In Plane Crash

A much-decorated Harrisburg radioman was among the three fliers hurt today in the fatal crash of an Air Force assault transport in Eglin Field.

Staff Sgt. Allen P. Hile, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Hile of 1834 Chestnut st., was injured in the takeoff accident in which the plane's pilot was killed.

Extent of his injuries was not immediately released.

Hile, a veteran of 60 medium bomber missions in North Africa during World War II, later flew supplies from India to China over the "Hump." He also participated in the Berlin airlift after his enlistment.

He holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal and Presidential Unit citation.