

Small Plane Seen Vital Tool In Event of Attack by Enemy

"There are more than 68,000 private airplanes in the United States, and they would be of vital importance in case of nuclear attack."

This is the belief of Parke W. Moewe, a Palos Verdes attorney and pilot, who spoke to members of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce on the use of private planes in civil defense.

Moewe is an associate with the law firm of Cornell and Thatcher, Palos Verdes Estates.

Robert L. Thatcher, of the same firm, is also a licensed pilot. "If there were a nuclear attack on our country, roads and highways would almost certainly be blocked, making ground transportation slow if not impossible," Moewe said. "In such an emergency, those 68,000 private planes

could be the answer to carrying medical supplies, doctor and other strategic items to devastated areas and bringing survivors out to safety.

"The small, single-engine plane can operate onto golf courses, isolated roads and small fields, without tying up airports which would be needed for military use."

Moewe believes there is a great need for more research in this field, both by the government and by the aircraft industry.

"This concerns the most serious problem of our time; the problem of survival," he said.

"We don't have an organized fleet or a working plan which would provide the necessary man power and plane power under emergency conditions."

"We need a single program

and a single responsibility if the private fleet is to perform the role for which it is so well fitted.

"The government has delegated responsibilities to the Department of Defense, the Federal Aviation Agency, the Defense Air Transport Administration and the office of Civil Defense Mobilization. No single agency is really in

charge, with the result that nobody would be sure what was expected of him in an emergency.

"There are 700,000 pilots and 3,000 airports in the United States. In an emergency we should make strategic airports collection stations for a private fleet, from where that fleet could be dispatched. Each airport could be a center for doctors and medical supplies for an airlift into disaster areas," he said.

A small plane can take off in 1000 feet and land in 800

feet of space. A fleet of 75 single-engine and 25 twin-engine planes could transport 500,000 pounds of supplies in a day.

A single engine plane can carry 500 pounds, and a twin-engine plane can carry 1000 pounds. A fleet of 100 could carry 50,000 pounds of cargo in a single trip, and 10 trips in a day is not unlikely.

"In addition, the planes could be used to relay communications with the use of their two-way radios, and they

could be used to take air photographs for civil defense purposes, the attorney said.

"This problem is of immediate importance. There is no time to lose."

Moewe, who received his law degree at Western Reserve University in Ohio, is a specialist in corporate law, government contract law, corporate aviation work, and the securities exchange.

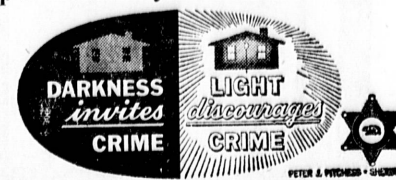
He and Thatcher have a twin-engine Beechcraft, which they use for representing clients all over California.

DECEMBER 7, 1961

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LUAU QUEEN . . . Shelby Peterson, North High sophomore, reigned recently as the school's luau queen at the fifth annual event sponsored by the Boys' League. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Peterson, 19320 Donora. Here she is escorted by Paul Stillwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stillwell, 18420 St. Andrews Place.

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