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JUST THINKING
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...mock crash (continued)

[continued from page 1]
 SERCOM reported that a total of twenty people had been on the plane. The area was combed, turning up more casualties in ditches, rock piles, and hanging from tree limbs. A container of radioactive material was also found. Fortunately, it had not broken open.

I arrived back at the main crash site just in time to see John Zerphey of Mount Joy being loaded onto an ambulance. He was still alive, despite burns and a horrible plastic arm wound.

"See this tube?" John had asked me ten minutes before the crash. "You can run fake blood through it so it comes out of the wound. It's very realistic. They have a stump that's a real shocker." While he was telling me about his wound, John used a cigar-

ette lighter to burn holes in his shirt. "I'm also supposed to have third degree burns," he explained.

Bonnie Drace was sitting calmly beside the road, waiting for the next ambulance. She became hysterical whenever the ambulance arrived. Sometimes they stopped to calm her, other times they went past looking for casualties.

A boy lying in a ditch had a plastic mask on his chest.

"What's the matter with this one?" I asked.

"His face was ripped off. There it is," said the medic, pointing to the mask. "We'll stick it in a solution, in case they decide to sew it back on at the hospital."

Rick Downs of E-town had just been extricated from a piece of fuselage.

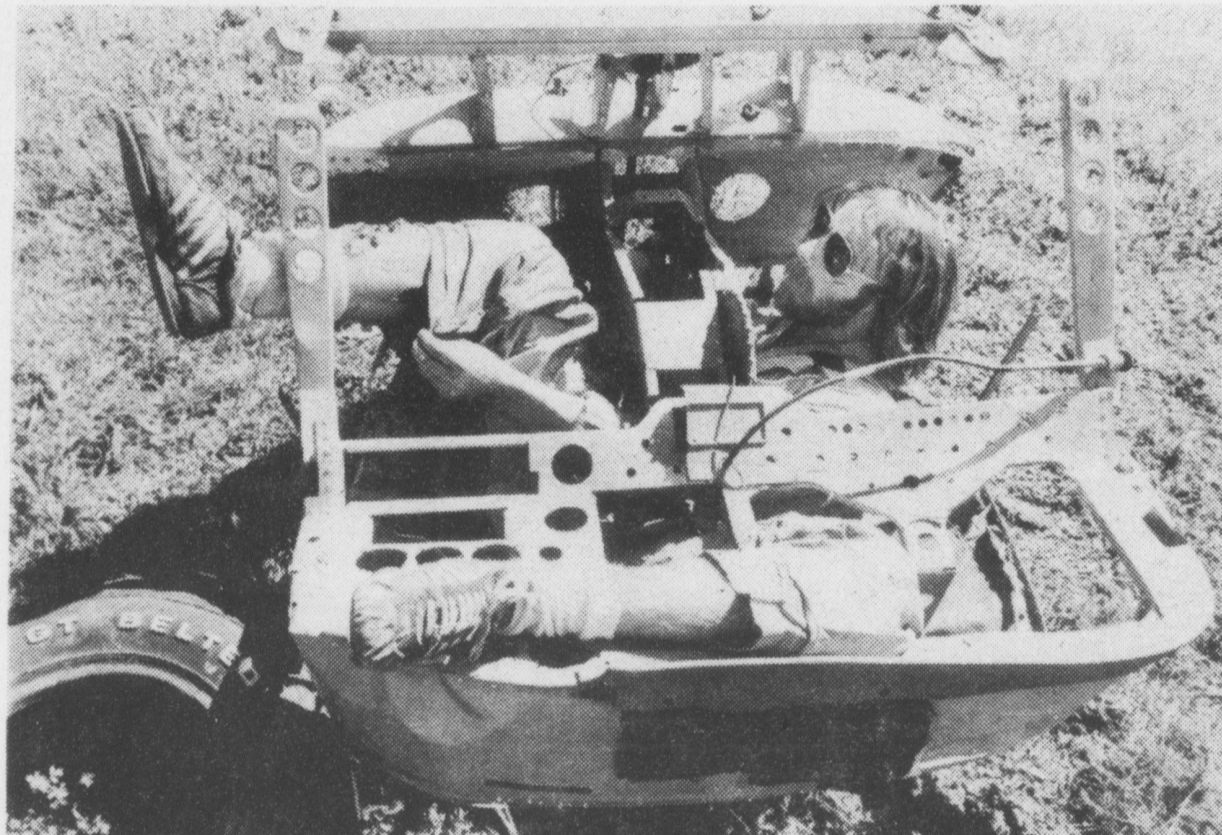
Pointing to a cow cake, he asked the ambulance man. "Hey! Did I get into that?" "No, you're clean," he was told.

"Whew!" Rick exclaimed, "I hope I'm never in a real crash." He had carefully twisted himself into the wreckage in a very uncomfortable posture, where he had lain for two hours, to "make it hard for them to get me out."

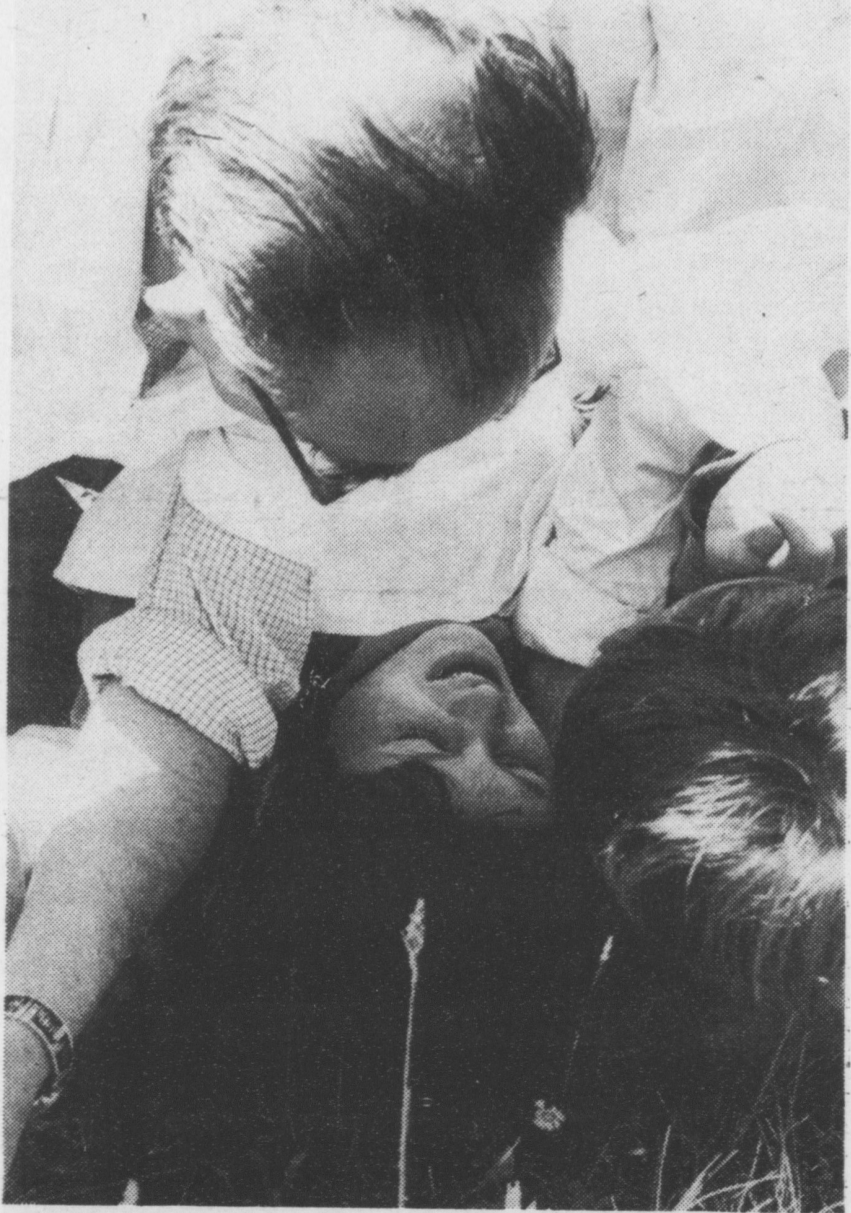
About two hours after the crash the situation was well under control. Fire and ambulance crews from Marietta, Mount Joy, Bainbridge, Maytown, Florin, and E-town had responded to the disaster. When the last fire was extinguished and the last victim evacuated, all personnel met at the Bainbridge Fire Hall for debriefing and assessment.



A 'victim'



Rick Downs spent some time making it "hard for them to get me out" of this section of airplane fuselage. After crawling in, he had another man turn it over.



An hysterical Bonnie Drace is pinned by ambulance personnel. Bonnie's acting was so good it gave our reporter the whim-whams!



The man in the tree is suffering from radiation burns - a hopeless case. Rescue workers don't know it yet, though, and are struggling valiantly to "save" him.

The "crash" was sponsored and planned by the Civil Air Patrol, squadron 308 led by Rick Hamm. Squadrons 304, 310, and 301 also participated.

While de-briefing was held some Civil Air Patrolmen went in search of yet another man who had parachuted from Crunch 01, landing several miles away. This was their first search of the day. Previously they had served as victims.

The Civil Air Patrol, besides sponsoring "crashes" works on real disasters. They served along with the National Guard during Agnes and Eloise. They are volunteers, buying their own equipment and radios.

SERCOM is a group of radio amateur "hams" who also serve the public as volunteers.