

Investigation Continues On Mystery Plane

Final remains and personal effects were brought to Cedar City Monday from the wreckage of a small single-engine aircraft that was discovered in Rattlesnake Canyon near Ashdown Gorge by a deer hunter late Saturday afternoon.

Investigation indicated that the plane contained four persons and is believed to be the Beechcraft Bonanza which left Cedar City May 31, 1961 carrying Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Patch, Mountview, Calif., and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jardrieu, Los Gatos, Calif.

Discovered Saturday

The wreckage was discovered late Saturday afternoon by Oliver Harris, a College of Southern Utah student from Monticello. Harris had wandered away from his hunting party in the remote area approximately 15 miles East of Cedar City, when he came upon the wreckage scene.

Harris brought back to Cedar City Saturday a portion of a skull and a .22 calibre pistol and reported the finding to the Iron County Sherriff's Office.

Sunday, a party under the direction of the Sherriff's Department hiked into the site under the direction of Harris and brought out information that could be used for positive identification.

This included teeth and other personal affects that were sent to San Francisco, where further study will be made.

Identification Pending

Positive identification cannot be completed until the checks have been made, Sheriff Otto Fife stated.

Monday, Harold W. Bement, director of Utah State Aeronautics Commission led a party of approximately 17 into the area and brought out all of the remains as well as other information pertinent to the investigation of the crash. Among the affects were bones, a safety razor, two lipsticks and a woman's and man's gold wedding bands, a camera, a cigarette lighter and two watches.

Assisting with the investigation was an official from the Federal Aviation Agency out of Denver, Colo.

Speculate on Accident

They reported Monday evening that indications were that the plane plummeted to the ground in a near nose dive and had apparently burst into flames. Trees showed scars from the flames and one of the wings and parts of the fuselage had been melted by the intense heat that was created.

It is believed that the two Cal-

(Continue on Page Four)

Investigation Continues on Mystery Plane

(Continued from Front Page)

ifornia couples had stopped over in Cedar City and rented a car to travel to Cedar Breaks National Monument. Upon leaving it is supposed that they had gone back to see the breaks by air when the accident occurred. Mr. Patch, who is assumed to be the pilot of the aircraft, did not, however, file a flight plan at the Cedar City Airport.

Bement reported that an intense air search of the Ashdown Gorge area had been conducted for a week after the plane was reported missing. Heavy foliage and the inaccessibility of the canyon in which the aircraft had crashed, made it undetectable at that time.

Further investigation on the crash will be conducted through the FFA, Sheriff Fife reported.