Eastern Airline Pilot Gets Graphic View of Tragic Conflagration



High in the air over the raging blaze at the Cable Piano Company yesterday afternoon, Lee Willey, of College Park, Eastern Air Line pilot, maneuvered his company plane into position to take the above aerial shot of the fire that took a toll of three lives and injured 18 per-

sons. The thick clouds of smoke are shown as they curled skyward while firefighters on the street below played streams on the flames and fought to rescue men and women trapped in the burning building. Eastern Air Line photograph from Associated Press.

PICTURE BELOW:

Camera-Conscious America Makes Studios Of Airliners

By WILLIAM BORING
AP Feature Service Writer

Atlanta— Commercial airliners are coming to be known as flying studios as pilots and passengers compete in "shooting" America from the air.

An official of an airline company that encourages its pilots to learn photography says it's getting where the men at the controls consider their camea as necessary as their map case.

Pilots, as a rule, go in for news photos that will make front pages of newspapers and good publicity for their company.

DISASTERS GOOD TARGETS

Disasters that lend themselves to aerial photography—floods, storms, fires and explosions are their chief targets.

Passengers try for news shots, too, but usually aim their minicams at mountain ranges, river bends, coast-lines and other picturesque scenes.

Lee Willey, who is on the Atlanta-Houston flight for a large airline, is one of the many picture-shooting air pilots.

His pictures of the Gainesville tornado wreckage and the down-town Atlanta fire were front-page shots in metropolitan dailies.

PILOTS ARE SCOOP-HUNTERS

"Fifty per cent of the pilots I know are amateur cameraman, trying for scoops just as I am." says Willey, who, by the way, has his own dark room.

He says he doesn't try to sell his pictures although he has been offered fancy prices for exclusive use of particularly newsworthy shots.

particularly newsworthy shots, "Photography is my hobby," he explains, "and air shots my specialty."

At home he keeps his radio tuned in for news broadcast and if a hot story breaks in his territory he flies

to the scene to cover it.

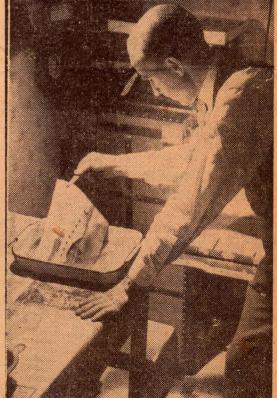
Of the last great flood, Willey says:
"Nearly every pilot and passenger
flying over the flood zone had a
camera swung around their neck. On
our run we'd have to go 20 miles off
the course each way so the passengers
could get good shots."



RIDES A WINGED HOBBY
Lee Willey, airliner pilot by occupation, photographer by inclination, shoots a scene over the side of the plane
he uses to cover news when off duty.



CLICKS IN THE SKY
Miss Bea Reynolds of Chicago, passenger on airliner,
takes a view of the scenery.



INVESTMENTS
Here's Pilot Willey in his darkroom at home. The flying photographer says it cost \$1,000.