

## Majors Field Shutdown Is Confirmed

Shutdown of huge Majors Army Airfield at Greenville was confirmed Thursday in advices from Washington to Col. Fred C. Gray, commanding officer.

A telegram to Colonel Gray said the field will be temporarily inactivated about July 15.

Immediately afterward reports were persistent that Majors Field, with a complement of two officers, twenty-three enlisted men and 100 civilians, may be used as a redeployment center for discharged servicemen. This was not confirmed.

H. E. Scott, editor of the Greenville Banner, said inclusion of the word temporarily in the Army's inactivation order supported the redeployment theory. Meanwhile, it will be necessary to keep a skeleton force of twenty firefighters, two shifts daily, to guard the field.

Sprawling over 2,000 acres, Majors Field was the training center for 5,600 flying cadets while it was attached to the Eighth Service Command. It was detached last December and became a training ground for P-47 combat pilots.

Col. Herbert M. Newstrom, who preceded Colonel Gray as commanding officer, has been transferred to Grand Island, Neb., preparatory to shoving off for overseas duty.

Majors Field, named for Lt. Truett Majors, first Hunt County man killed in the war, was dedicated Jan. 5, 1943. Majors was killed in a plane crash while defending the Philippines. The dedication came only seven months after the Army, starting with a field with one runway, had converted it into a typical training base complete with chapel, hospital, mess hall, ground school, gymnasium, barracks, motor pool, parachute building, hangars, theater and subdepot. Hunt County, which long had sought an airport, voted a \$180,000 bond issue to insure the field's construction. Its buildings are permanent.

## Dallas Air Officer Promoted to Major

R. L. Thornton Jr., whose wife lives at 3813 Maplewood, was promoted from captain to major June 2. He is serving with the Army Air Forces on Iwo Jima.

In the service three years, he has been overseas seven months. Thornton was an adjutant at Shepherd Field, Wichita Falls, Texas, before leaving for overseas duty.



## Police Check Banks for Murder Clue

Police were checking Dallas banks Thursday for an undetermined amount of money, believed to be a large sum, as a motive for the unsolved slaying of Russian-born Mrs. Rose Suger, 59.

Chief of Detectives Will Fritz said investigation showed Mrs. Suger, killed by a bullet fired point-blank through the window of her home, 2634 Jeffries, South Dallas, last Sunday night, had considerable cash, either in her home or deposited in a bank.

Search of Dallas banks began Thursday and so far no account in Mrs. Suger's name had been disclosed. If the victim kept the money in her house it probably was in sufficient amount to furnish a strong motive for the murder, Fritz said.

As police reconstructed the slaying, Mrs. Suger, who had been lying on a sofa beside the window, heard a noise outside. As she peered through the Venetian blind the slayer pressed the muzzle of a pistol against the screen and shot her through the head.

### Fifty Persons Questioned.

The bullet ripped through the screen and blind, leaving powder burns on each. Police removed the section of screen and Venetian blind pierced by the bullet.

Upward of fifty persons, six of whom were detained, were questioned by detectives. These include four neighborhood youths who bought a pistol of the same caliber as used by the killer the day before the murder. They were released, as

was Mrs. Mollie Suger, 35, daughter-in-law of the victim, freed on a habeas corpus writ filed in District Judge Winter King's court by her attorney, Leland Johnson.

The daughter-in-law told police she had no knowledge whatsoever of the slaying.

Fritz said a test may be made of a bullet from the pistol found in possession of the youths, but he added that he does not believe their pistol is the murder weapon.

Mrs. Suger feared for her life, Homicide Detectives T. O. Pope and H. C. Holloway said. They learned from witnesses that she had expressed this fear to several persons and asked them to stay at her home for protection.

She slept on a sofa instead of her bed and frequently slept with the lights on. Her fears were realized Sunday night, police believe, when she peered through the blind.

See MURDER on Page 12.

## Lawyers Wrangle in Money Lender's Trial On Forgery Charge in War Bond Redemption

Legal fireworks broke loose in Federal Judge T. W. Davidson's court Thursday afternoon during the trial of Jesse W. Wilson, 51, Dallas loan company operator, charged with the alleged forging and cashing of a government check.

In a two-count indictment Wilson is charged with redeeming a \$25 War Bond belonging to a customer, Willie James Thomas, Negro, then forging Thomas' endorsement to the government check which Wilson received redeeming the bond.

Testimony was interrupted frequently by side bar comments from both Asst. United States Atty. Clyde Hood and Currie McCutcheon, counsel for Wilson. Judge Davidson, on several occasions, warned

the attorneys. The entire day's record was studded with McCutcheon's objections.

During the afternoon Wilson, white haired and black browed, denied that he had forged Thomas' name. He said he had written Thomas' name on the back of the check at the Negro's request and in his presence after "Thomas had touched the pen to make it legal." After endorsing the check at Thomas' request, Wilson said, he deducted a \$3 payment on a loan owed by the Negro, then gave him \$15.75 in change.

Thomas testified he never gave Wilson authority to redeem the bond or to write his name, as an endorsement, across the back of the check.

Dallas and Moscow now are connected by air through purchase of the American Export Lines by American Airlines. Love Field thus becomes a world port.

## Single Airline Service Established to Europe

Passengers boarding American Airlines planes at Love Field may now travel by a single air-line service across the Atlantic to places like London, Berlin and Moscow.

The Civil Aeronautics Board in Washington Thursday approved

certificates for permanent air routes across the North Atlantic for American Export Airlines, controlling interest in which is owned by American Airlines.

The combination of these two operating air lines will form the first air transportation system of its kind in the world, said Melvin D. Miller, American Airlines southern regional vice-president. For the first time there will be one-system service by air from inland and coastal cities of the North American continent to the British Isles and the European continent.

The certificates issued to American Export Thursday authorize the company to operate service from New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, Detroit and Chicago via Labrador, Greenland and Iceland to Stavanger, Norway; Stockholm, Helsinki, Leningrad and Moscow, and via Newfoundland and the Azores to Foynes, Glasgow, London, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Berlin, Warsaw and Moscow.

American Airlines now operates in the United States and between the United States and Canada and Mexico. American Export operates three commercial flights a week between New York and Foynes, Ire.

## Air Lines to Pay Part of Enlarging Costs at Terminal

Early construction of two wings on the Love Field administration building and remodeling of the lobby were predicted by City Councilmen Thursday as air lines agreed to pay most of the \$175,000 cost for enlarging the terminal.

Both proposals are needed to care for business now swamping present facilities, Acting City Man-

ager V. R. Smitham told Councilmen.

Formal contract will be drafted as quickly as possible and advertisements for bids will follow.

Under the proposal, American Airlines, Braniff Airways and Delta Air Lines will get five-year leases for use of the added facilities.

Cost of the interior remodeling will be amortized in rental payments during the five-year leases. Rentals for the two wings will be based on paying the cost in ten years.

After present five-year leases expire, the companies have options to renew the agreements on prices subject to negotiation which will take into account the prior payments on construction costs.

Thomas D. Broad, architect for the original building, will prepare plans for the new construction for a fee of 6 per cent. Much work on these plans already has been done, so construction will not be delayed.

Councilmen and air-lines representatives agreed the new contract was mutually satisfactory and predicted it would increase business at Love Field considerably.

Councilmen ordered a special meeting at 8 p.m. Friday to expedite preparation of the formal contract.

Municipal officials expect Love Field to be increasingly important, now that transatlantic service is possible from Dallas by American Export Airlines. Certificates for such service were approved in Washington Thursday.

## Former Dallasite Back After Jap Imprisonment

Slowly regaining weight he lost in three years and two months as a civilian prisoner of the Japanese in the Philippines, Joe E. Scott, mechanical engineer, is back in Dallas.

A native of Amarillo and former resident of Plainview, Scott, a 1930 graduate of A. & M. College, had lived in Dallas six years when he left for the Philippines in 1939. He sent his wife home in 1941 before the Japanese attacked.

Scott was picked up by the Japanese in Manila on Jan. 2, 1942, while the Battle of Bataan was in progress. He was interned in Santo Tomas and Los Banos prisons and was in the last group of prisoners liberated on Luzon.

He had lost seventy pounds when freed, but says he has gained back forty-five or fifty pounds of his weight.

He and his wife are making their homes at 3948 McKinney.

## Woman Tells Of France's Hardships

Twenty-five-year-old Mile Sabine Wormser, representative of American Relief for France, a War Chest agency, told the Salesmanship Club Thursday that the most concrete evidence of American generosity is the mound of packages waiting in New York for shipment overseas.

In almost flawless English, the Frenchwoman described the hardships of her people under Nazi domination and dwelt briefly on her experiences as a member of the underground.

An estimated 125,000 French civilians were shot by the Nazis, many of them hostages, she said. Seven Germans were billeted in Mademoiselle Wormser's home, but despite the proximity of the enemy she and her sister worked with the underground, occasionally were able to pick up a foreign news broadcast.

"Hearing a radio voice from the outside world was like being brought for a moment into an air-conditioned room from an airless cage," she said, but added that the enemy was vigilant.

"One had always the feeling of not wanting to turn around for fear a German was behind you."

The opportunity for which the underground had been waiting patiently came on D day. Sabotage kept the Germans from moving quickly to the Normandy front. Trains were derailed. Switches were thrown and trains crashed head-on in tunnels.

France wants to become great again, but it will be a long, uphill road, the speaker said. The meeting was held at noon at the Dallas Athletic Club. Julius Schepps, vice-president of the Dallas County War Chest, introduced Mademoiselle Wormser, who appeared in the uniform of the French.