



PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS SYSTEM

GENERAL OFFICES, CHRYSLER BUILDING, 135 EAST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

August 27, 1943

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. Samuel Anglin, Sr.
New Kingstown
Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Anglin:

Since sending you our telegram of August 20, 1943 concerning your son's disappearance, while in the course of a routine operational flight between India and China on behalf of China National Aviation Corporation, we have been anxiously awaiting further information which has not, as yet, been received. We wish to express our deepest sympathy to you and your daughter-in-law as Samuel, Jr., through his lengthy association with Pan American, has won his way into the hearts of all of us who know him. Reports from CNAC personnel, who have returned from India on leave or on business trips, always tell of the magnificent job your son is doing and the very important contribution he is making to the war effort by transporting urgently needed supplies into China. To say that your son is held in the highest regard by his associates is almost an understatement.

The cabled information we received concerning Samuel, Jr.'s, plane is that it was sighted by an American military plane to have been flying off course with a smoking engine. Not only was the plane considerably removed from the normal air route between India and China but it was also flying in a direction which had no relation to the airport of destination. The observer then noted that the smoke from the engine thickened considerably after which the engine reportedly fell from the plane and shortly thereafter the wing severed itself as well causing the plane to spin and crash. During the period of observation no parachutes were seen which would indicate that the occupants of the plane, if any, had jumped. Significantly, the confidential message received from CNAC stated that if the crew had jumped safely their chances were good. We do not wish to interpret this statement as we are not aware of its exact meaning. We know that the terrain surrounding the present location of the demolished plane is not overly rugged or mountainous although it is deep in enemy occupied territory. The concentration of enemy forces in this area is not known but it is not believed to be sufficient to preclude a person's escape provided one was able to move about at will.

We sincerely regret that we can provide you with no further information at this time but you may be assured that we shall keep

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you closely advised of any new developments which are reported to us. We know that CNAC and military planes are conducting an intensive search of the entire area and that everything possible is being done to speed the search.

We are sure that you appreciate the need for secrecy in this matter as your son's safety may very well depend upon the unhampered continuance of the present searching operations which are directed solely on his behalf.

Very truly yours,

for Owen F. Johnson
Fife Symington

Assistant to Vice President Bixby

OFJ/db