The grimmest prayer and one of the most heartbreaking pictures of the year, were made at the Penitentiary on Rikers Island in New York’s East River, where the institutional Protestant Chaplain, E. Frederick Proelss, gave last rites to the victims of a plane crash.

In the background is the snow-covered wreckage of the DC-6A airliner which fell on the island minutes after take-off from La Guardia airport on a flight to Miami.

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