

Jets Oust LI Scout Camp

Roslyn— Atop Boy Scout official said last night that Nassau camp facilities in Suffolk County would be closed as quickly as possible because of the fear of jet operations at the Grumman airfield in Calverton. A Boeing 707 commercial jetliner crashed within a halfmile of the camp last month.

Richard A. Blauvelt of Sea Cliff, executive secretary of the Nassau Scout Council, said the decision "isn't just a matter of hysteria. We have just decided we can't take chances with the lives of the boys that use the camp. We are very upset as a result of the crash of the 707."

About 1,200 Nassau Scouts at a time use the 600-acre facilities of Camp Wauwepex in Wading River. The camp is less than five miles from the Grumman runways and in a direct line with them. Suffolk Scout officials said they had no intention of moving out of Camp Baiting Hollow, which is northeast of Wauwepex and is not in a line with the runways.

The Boeing 707 jetliner crashed in a potato field

near Camp Wauwepex Aug. 15. Five crew members were killed. The craft was practicing "touch-and-go" landings. Blauvelt said: "One-half mile more or less doesn't mean much to a plane coming down. That plane could have landed in the middle of camp just as well as in the potato field. We can't take any more chances."

Blauvelt said the council's board of directors was deep in negotiations for a \$100,000 camp site in Ulster County. The Nassau council already has a 1,800-acre camp, the Onteora Reservation, in the Catskills. "It makes a lot of sense for us to get additional property upstate," Blauvelt said. "I doubt if we could get away from Suffolk by next year, but we are working as rapidly as we can."

Suffolk Boy Scout Executive Ralph T. Gemmel of Holbrook said yesterday: "I can understand how Nassau officials feel. They are in a direct line with the Grumman runways. But we are across Jericho Tpke. out of the line of flight, and have all the faith in the world in Grumman."