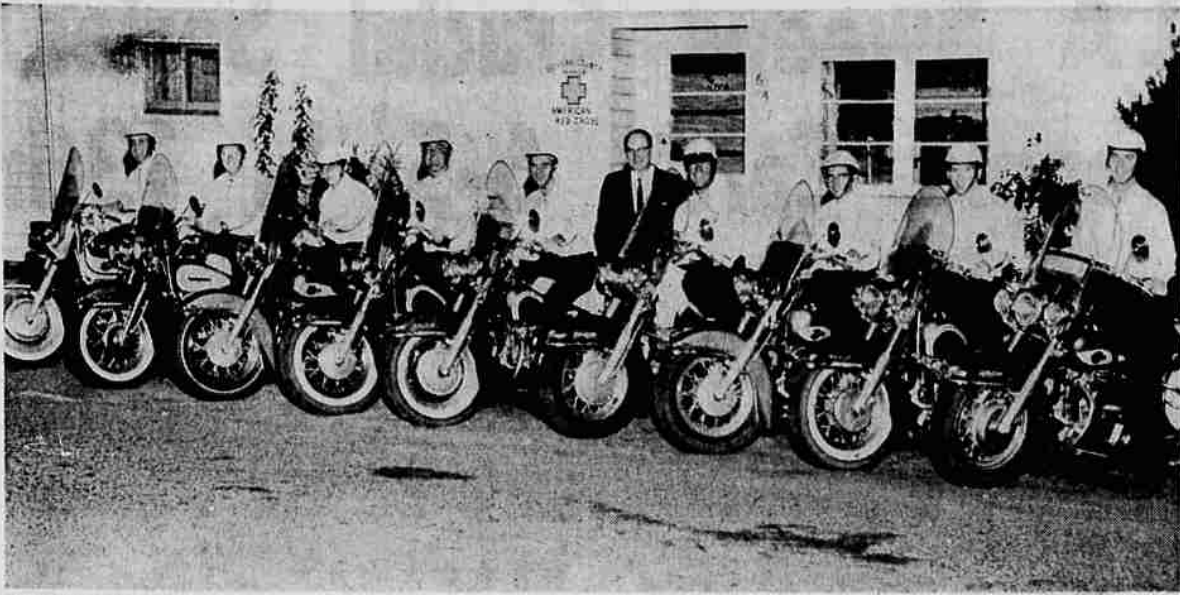




SOON TO RECEIVE their commissions as reserve deputies under Sheriff Ira Byrd are members of the newly formed Douglas County Sheriff's Drill Team. The motorcycle unit, the first of its kind in Oregon, will be called upon to work with sheriff's department officers in law enforcement

duties, especially in rescue and search operations. Members have had three months of peace officer training and are currently taking a Red Cross course in first aid. (News-Review Photo)

Fire Survivors Get New Homes

RIGGINS, Idaho (UPI) — Survivors of the tragic pre-dawn fire which swept through a rest home here Tuesday and claimed the lives of seven elderly men will be moved to other rest homes throughout the area.

Bob Salter, owner of the Paradise Pines Rest Home, said Wednesday, "We are cooperating with state officials in attempting to move these people out as rapidly as possible."

"I would not say we are being forced by the state officials. It's more a matter of both we and the state realizing that Riggins Hot Springs is not a suitable place to keep these people," Salter said. Riggins Hot Springs is a resort run by the persons who owned the hospital.

Salter, who estimated his property loss at \$200,000, said he did not believe he would rebuild the rest home.

Nearly a score of elderly patients, both men and women, were taken to Riggins Hot Springs a few miles from here following the fire. About a dozen others, who suffered shock, cuts and bruises in their hasty exit from the inferno, were hospitalized for observation at McCall south of here.

AZALEA DINNER SATURDAY

The Azalea Community Church will hold a father and son banquet at the Azalea Grange Hall Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Ladies of the church will serve. Tickets may be purchased at the door. The public is invited.

Valachi Due To Talk More

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Joseph Valachi, the underworld's most celebrated stool pigeon, will appear before Senate investigators soon to tell what he knows of the so-called "Cosa Nostra" secret gangland empire.

Sen. John L. McClellan, D-Ark., chairman of the Senate investigations subcommittee, said Wednesday that hearings on Cosa Nostra would begin Tuesday.

McClellan said a committee alumnus, Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, would be the lead-off witness. Kennedy once served as chief counsel to the committee.

But the senator refused to reveal just when Valachi would testify. Valachi, who has been under round-the-clock guard by federal agents since he "sang," fears gangland assassination. He was being kept at Ft. Monmouth, N.J., but at present is believed to be somewhere in the Washington area.

McClellan said Valachi, who is serving a life sentence for murder, will be an "important witness" in describing the inner workings of Cosa Nostra, described as a Mafia-type network of crime kingpins stretching throughout the nation.

Motorcycle Arm Added To Sheriff Reserve

A new working unit in the county's law enforcement agency will be that of the newly formed Douglas County Sheriff's Drill Team—a motorcycle group of 12 men.

The Roseburg group is the first of its kind in Oregon, although motorcycle teams are rapidly becoming more prevalent in law enforcement in other parts of the country. The speed and mobility of motorcycles are desirable in rescue and search operations when the automobile is ineffective.

The local team was formed in June, and members hope to be commissioned as reserve deputies in about 30 days when they complete their peace officers training course. They now have three months of training behind them and have begun an eight-week course in Red Cross first aid instruction. The team, at present, lacks two of becoming a 12-man team.

When fully manned and trained, the group will function as a search and rescue unit and will be on call for traffic and escort duties when needed by the sheriff's department. For this, members will receive full deputy pay.

They expect to receive their uniforms this week, garb which they wear only while on actual duty with the sheriff's department. The uniforms of beige and brown are the same as those of other deputies, except for the tapered trouser leg and the crash helmet necessary to motorcycle riding.

The unit drills every Sunday, and under the supervision of Drill Sgt.

Walt Murray, is rapidly becoming proficient in their precision drills. Spectators at the air show in Roseburg this year saw some of the unit's drills and fall-out exhibitions which demonstrated the men's ability to handle their motorcycles under exacting conditions.

Sheriff Ira Byrd is commanding officer of the unit. Lee Sears is captain. These, together with Murray and other members of the group, will carefully screen applicants needed to complete the team. To become one of the group, an applicant must have high moral character and be of good reputation as well as being a good motorcyclist.

Welfare Checks Use Questioned

GRESHAM (UPI) — A local attorney said today he believes "a lot of welfare checks have been cashed at the dog and horse races."

Attorney A. W. (Al) Gustafson said he plans to ask the State Supreme Court to order the Welfare Department auditor to show him canceled welfare checks.

Gustafson is chairman of the Multnomah County Intermediate Education District and attorney for Gresham High School and Parkrose School districts.

He said his campaign for permission to study endorsements on the checks was "just as a citizen" and had no connection with his education posts.

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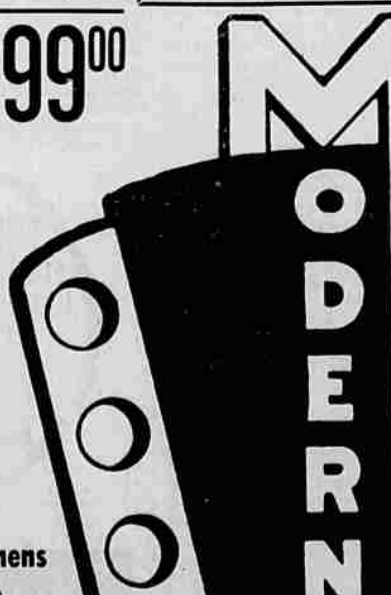
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