

Two Explosions Claim 70 Lives

The News-Review

Established 1873 14 Pages ROSEBURG, OREGON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1963 ★ ★ 258-63 10c Per Copy

Nhu Is Slain, Diem Jailed By Viet Rebs

SAIGON, South Viet Nam (UPI) — Vietnamese marine, army and air force units rebelled today to overthrow the regime of President Ngo Dinh Diem.

(The United States promptly ordered forces in the Pacific to start moving toward Viet Nam to protect American lives if necessary.)

(Diem was arrested and jailed and his brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, powerful head of the secret police, was assassinated by rebel forces, diplomatic sources said in Tokyo.)

The rebels struck at midday. By nightfall they were reported in control of most of the country following fierce fighting.

(The American forces ordered to Viet Nam are primarily part of the 7th Fleet, and were expected also to include some air and ground units. The United States already has an estimated 15,000 troops in Viet Nam.)

(The rebels appeared to be in virtual control of Saigon and other parts of the country except for the immediate area around the presidential palace, according to reports reaching Washington. Heavy fighting continued around the palace. Diplomatic sources in Washington cautioned, however, that it still was uncertain whether the coup was successful.)

There was no immediate word about the fate or whereabouts of Ngo Dinh Nhu, Diem's brother and head of the government security police. Madame Nhu, the president's controversial sister-in-law, is touring the United States and currently is in Beverly Hills, Calif., with her 18-year-old daughter, Le Tuy.

(The Japanese foreign office in Tokyo also said it had received a cable from its acting ambassador in Saigon reporting that Saigon radio announced the formation of a new government some time around 4 a.m. EST. The coup forces were believed to be pro-American.)

(A U.S. Embassy official in Manila said there had been fierce fighting. "One plane has been shot down and the president's palace has been surrounded," the official said.)

The United States has made no secret since then that it would like a change in the Saigon government. The English-language Times of Viet Nam charged here Sept. 2 that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency had planned a coup against the regime Aug. 28 but "postponed the plot" because the "Vietnamese knew and were prepared to fight to the end."

The United States dismissed the accusation as a fantasy. President Kennedy said earlier this month that the United States would continue its support of Diem's guerrilla war against the Communists, but

would like to see a change in "policies and purposes. This was believed directed particularly against Nhu, who has been reported to be the real ruler of Viet Nam and chief instigator of the crackdown campaign."

The United States has been pouring \$1.5 million a day in aid into this country, although some of this aid has been sent back recently. There also are about 5,000 U. S. military advisors in Viet Nam, many of them in Saigon. All U. S. troops were alerted and ordered to guard American installations when today's coup started.

Trapped Mine Workers Safe

PEINE, Germany (UPI) — Three men trapped more than a week in a flooded iron mine rode a steel capsule one at a time to the surface today.

Officials said they went directly into a decompression chamber on top of the mine to prevent them from getting a case of the "bends" following their long ordeal under high air pressure.

Rescue worker Paul Syska went down in the capsule first through a 202-foot escape shaft punched through to the miners by an American-made drill early today in a precision operation. He helped them into the 10-foot-long capsule and they rode to the surface one at a time.

Syska then made the last trip to the surface and joined them in the decompression chamber.

They were expected to spend about three hours in the decompression chamber becoming accustomed to normal air pressure. They had been caught in a 300-foot-long air bubble in which the pressure was the only thing keeping the water from them.

Emil Pohlai, 34, was the first of the trapped miners to be rescued, followed by Fritz Leder, 36, and Gerhard Hanusch, 43. Pohlai entered the decompression chamber shortly after noon 6 a.m., EST and Syska, the last man, climbed into it 23 minutes later.

The rescue capsule was tested by ballast before Syska went down in it. Strict secrecy was maintained until he did.

PLAY BALL

With United Fund
Goal Score To Date
\$69,936 \$41,444
59%

Seventh Fleet Units Move Toward S. Viet Nam Area

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Pentagon today ordered U.S. forces in the Pacific to start moving toward South Viet Nam to protect American lives if necessary.

The forces involved are primarily part of the powerful 7th Fleet, but might also include some air and even ground units, it was reported.

Assistant Defense Secretary Arthur Sylvester said the orders were "purely precautionary."

Sylvester read a statement to reporters shortly after 8 a.m. PST, a few hours after word of the coup in South Viet Nam reached the Defense Department.

Sylvester said: "As a precautionary measure, and with the approval of the President, Secretary of Defense (Robert S.) McNamara has directed the movement of U.S. military forces toward the area of South Viet Nam."

The Navy said the 7th Fleet in the Far East, as usual, was spread widely over the western Pacific, with some units in the Philippines area and some in the China Sea.

The 7th Fleet is led by two large aircraft carriers, currently the Oriskany and the Hancock, each with about 100 planes aboard. The Navy would not say which units are in which areas at present.

Adm. Harry D. Felt, commander-in-chief in the Pacific, were reported to be in Hong Kong. Felt went there after attending a SEATO meeting in Bangkok.

Sylvester said Felt was directed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff to shift some units toward South Viet Nam.

"This order has been given should it be necessary to protect American lives in South Viet Nam," he said.



RESCUE WORKERS probe twisted wreckage in Indianapolis late Thursday for victims of an explosion at the Indiana State Fairgrounds coliseum during a performance of an ice show. The death toll has reached at least 63 and many more were injured. (UPI Telephoto)



FIREMEN AND VOLUNTEERS probe giant hole in the floor of a drugstore at Marietta, Ga., after a mysterious explosion ripped the crowded building Thursday. Indications were that the blast, which killed seven, occurred at this point near the front of the building. (UPI Telephoto)

Kennedy Confers On Viet Nam Crisis

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Kennedy met for 45 minutes today with top diplomatic and military advisers on the security of the Southeast Asia situation.

Sen. George B. Hickenlooper, R-Iowa, top Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said the development represented "a very serious situation that will require scrutiny and watchful waiting until we know more about it."

Another committee member, Sen. George D. Aiken, R-Vt., observed that he did not know whether American officials were involved in the uprising but said, "if we are at all involved, we don't want another failure."

Recalling the ill-fated Cuban invasion attempt of 1961, Aiken said "I hope we don't have another Bay of Pigs on our hands." He added, however, that "it's been apparent for some time that something would have to happen in South Viet Nam or we would have to withdraw our support."

On Capitol Hill, members of the Senate's Southeast Asia subcommittee were generally cautious in their initial reaction to the coup reports.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Maxwell Taylor, said the coup reports were "a serious situation that will require scrutiny and watchful waiting until we know more about it."

Undersecretary of State Mike Mansfield, Mont., a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, and considered one

of the Senate's Southeast Asia subcommittee, said "the best comment at this time is no comment."

Sen. Bourke B. Hickenlooper, R-Iowa, top Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said the development represented "a very serious situation that will require scrutiny and watchful waiting until we know more about it."

Another committee member, Sen. George D. Aiken, R-Vt., observed that he did not know whether American officials were involved in the uprising but said, "if we are at all involved, we don't want another failure."

Recalling the ill-fated Cuban invasion attempt of 1961, Aiken said "I hope we don't have another Bay of Pigs on our hands." He added, however, that "it's been apparent for some time that something would have to happen in South Viet Nam or we would have to withdraw our support."

On Capitol Hill, members of the Senate's Southeast Asia subcommittee were generally cautious in their initial reaction to the coup reports.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Maxwell Taylor, said the coup reports were "a serious situation that will require scrutiny and watchful waiting until we know more about it."

Undersecretary of State Mike Mansfield, Mont., a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, and considered one

Indiana Ice Show Blast Takes 63; Seven Killed In Georgia Drug Store

27 Injured In Marietta Explosion

MARIETTA, Ga. (UPI) — An explosion shattered a crowded store Thursday night on the town square here where hundreds had gathered for a children's Halloween parade. Seven persons were killed and scores injured.

Rescue workers pulled the seventh victim from the rubble of Atherton's Drug Store early today. He was identified as Terry Carter, 7. He had last been seen entering the store with his father.

"They were holding hands when they walked in," said the youngster's uncle, John Carter. They were going to buy Terry a mask.

The boy's 33-year-old father also was killed by the blast.

The explosion, believed caused by gas leaking from a heater located in a shallow basement near the front of the store, sent splintered glass, chunks of concrete and other debris hurtling across the street toward the square.

People standing on the sidewalk watching the festivities were knocked over and the body of one victim was hurled into the street.

Twenty-seven persons were treated for injuries at Kenesha Hospital. Nine were hospitalized in serious condition.

The blast happened at 8:25 p.m. Thursday during the after-school shopping rush in this suburban town of 25,000 and brought fire engines and ambulances rushing into the square where masked youngsters were competing in a costume contest.

"It was like a jet breaking the sound barrier," said high school student Barry Hill who was sitting with some friends in a car near the store when the blast occurred. "Oh, it was 50 times louder than that."

"We all ducked our heads and glass from the windows in the store embedded in our car. When we looked over there, there was nothing...everything just collapsed...it all collapsed on people."

Fire Claims 4 Children

LA GRANDE (UPI) — Flames raced through a two-story home here early today and took the lives of four small children.

The victims, the children of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Mann, were identified as Robin Marie, 4; Timothy Ray, 3; Sonora Grace, 2; and Brian Seth, 1.

Mrs. Mann said the children were asleep in two upstairs bedrooms when the blaze broke out about 7 a.m. Mrs. Mann was asleep downstairs and Mann had left for work.

Firemen were seeking the cause of the blaze.

Mrs. Mann said she awoke after 7 a.m. and saw the flames roaring around a chimney in the kitchen and the stairwell leading upstairs.

She said she ran to her brother's home nearby for help when she was unable to get through the flames to the children's rooms.

She said her brother, Nick Schuler, tried to enter the house four times but was driven back by the flames.

When firemen arrived the whole house was aflame.

She told the medical examiner's office she believed the fire started in a trash burner in the kitchen.

Both parents were put under sedation.

Mann is a La Grande city employee.

Diamond Lake Catch Heavy

PORTLAND (UPI) — The State Game Commission said today that up through Sept. 13 a tally showed some 86,500 anadromous caught about 227,000 trout from Diamond Lake in Southern Oregon.

341 Others Injured In Gay Indianapolis Halloween Pageant

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (UPI) — A tremendous explosion turned a gala Halloween ice show into a nightmarish tragedy Thursday night, killing at least 63 persons and injuring 341.

Officials said the explosion might have been caused by compressed gas used in cooking hot dogs and for pop corn popping.

The catastrophe—largest in Indianapolis history—killed 63 men, women and children, according to official sources. There was such confusion after the explosion. Some bodies were counted twice and, at one point, officials had set the toll at 70 before revising it downward.

The explosion roared through the Indiana Coliseum at the conclusion of the opening night performance of "Holiday On Ice."

Algeria Forces Launch Attack On Border City

RABAT, Morocco (UPI) — Algerian forces launched a massive artillery and infantry attack against the border town of Figuig at dawn today. A short time later, King Hassan of Morocco announced that his troops had withdrawn about a mile from the town.

Figuig is 37 miles northeast of Colomb Bechar. With an estimated population of more than 10,000 persons, it is the biggest town yet to figure in the Algerian-Moroccan border fighting.

On French maps it is shown about three miles inside Morocco.

The attack began at 7 a.m., today, the king said, some 18 hours before the cease-fire, agreed to at Bamako this week, is scheduled to come into force. The truce was signed by Hassan and Algerian President Ahmed Ben Bella.

Reports from the front said the Algerians also were attacking Mengoub, an important road and rail center 45 miles west of Figuig and shown on French maps as about 15 miles inside Morocco.

The king called newsmen to his throne room at midday and told them "a criminal Algerian attack has been in progress since this morning against Figuig."

He said the population of Figuig suffered "loss of lives and property among men, women and children."

Border reports said the Algerians used artillery and heavy mortars to shell the town before their infantry moved in.

The king said Figuig was defended by one company of Moroccan army troops. Correspondents who visited the town recently said arms had been handed out to civilian volunteers to defend the town.

The Moroccan news agency MAP reported that "the civilian population is resisting heroically."

Thursday Moroccan sources claimed the capture of additional U.A.R. troops. The fighting was believed the result of last-minute attempts by both sides to grab more territory before the arrival of truce teams from the Organization for African Unity.

Reds Launch Space Shot

MOSCOW (UPI) — The Soviet Union today launched a new unmanned "space vehicle" to carry out further research in the cosmos.

Radio Moscow said the vehicle launched today "can maneuver in all directions." It identified the craft only as "flight one."

"For the first time a space vehicle was launched with multiple and wide ranges of maneuvering," radio Moscow said of the latest shoot.

Ice." It tore through the concrete floor beneath the \$3.30 box seats, finest in the house, and hurled bodies 50 feet through the air onto the ice, where moments before skaters had pirouetted.

Panic swept through parts of the audience. Crowds surged toward exits. One spectator said, "I saw people jumping over the balconies to their death." Shortly, there were mink coats from women in the audience strewn on the ice, along with popcorn boxes and empty beer cups.

Many of the box seats directly above the explosion were occupied by prominent Indianapolis residents.

Coroner Dennis Nicolas said, "apparently it was an accumulation of leading propane gas used for the concession stands." He said the explosion may have been caused by a leak in copper tubing and not in a gas tank.

Gov. Matthew E. Welsh ordered an immediate investigation. To the stunned city of Indianapolis, the reasons why seemed secondary for the moment.

The shocking and most important fact was a sheet of ice scarred with dead—mothers, fathers, a few children; a holiday Halloween night which became a real nightmare while a band played jazztime music; the double row of covered bodies laid out in the coliseum under the merry eye of a past-board chorus girl which had served as a prop for the show.

Survivors Tell Story

Those who lived through it told the story:

Policeman Jack Ohrburg: "It's the first time I've ever had a 3-year-old girl die in my arms crying 'Daddy, daddy.'"

Richard Crowell, 20, college student, who dragged his girl friend from the rubble and struggled towards safety: "There was a popcorn concession stand beneath us... all over us. I carried Karol. I could see people screaming and running. Legs and arms were sticking out of the rubble. On the way out we had to cross people I believe were dead. One man had his head sticking in the flames."

John Williams, Columbus, Ohio, a member of the company of "Holiday on Ice": "No performers were hurt but some were knocked off their feet from the impact. Fire and flame followed immediately. People ran onto the ice. They didn't know what to do. They were slipping on the ice. The people were just like cattle. They came across the ice and got out of there."

Police Chief Robert Reilly: "I thought I had seen death, but I guess I was wrong. I don't care if you have seen five wars."

Critical Condition

Some of the injured were in critical condition.

Other survivors thought at first the explosion was part of the show.

The skaters were twirling in center ice at 11:11 p.m. EST when the southern end of the barn-like arena exploded. To some, it sounded like firecrackers and they started moving peacefully towards the exit.

But suddenly bodies were falling onto the ice, hurtled from as far as 50 feet away. So were huge chunks of concrete. Flames leaped from the wreckage. Parents clasped their children, tried to shield them, and died with them. Some fled across the ice, slipping, falling, and rising again.

The dead lay between twisted steel, broken concrete, empty beer cartons and crumpled popcorn boxes.

The klieg lights still shone early this morning on the figures stretched on the floor of the coliseum. They were covered by blankets, coats, sweaters, anything which could hide the horror and lend dignity to sudden death.

Eight of the mounds on the floor were small-children's bodies.

Coroner Dennis Nicholas said he had counted the bodies of at least 32 women.

The Weather

AIRPORT RECORDS

Cloudy with rain this afternoon and tonight, showers and partial clearing Saturday. Warmer tonight.
Highest temp. last 24 hours 62
Lowest temp. last 24 hours 35
Highest temp. any Nov. (55) 73
Lowest temp. any Nov. (55) 15
Precip. last 24 hours .46
Normal Nov. precip. 4.46
Precip. from Sept. 1 3.47
Precip. from Nov. 1 .30
Sunset tonight, 5:05 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow, 6:49 a.m.