



CHINESE NATIONALIST TROOPS dig trenches on Nankan Island, the headquarters island of the Matsu chain. The troops stationed on the islands are building fortifications in expectations of a Communist attack from the mainland nine miles away.—(AP Wirephoto)

# Late Afternoon Panic in Theater Kills 22 Children

SCLESSIN, Belgium (AP) — The tiny Theater Rio, packed with children and adults for the late afternoon show, burst into flames Sunday and at least 39 persons died in the panic.

The 39 badly burned bodies, including those of 22 children were removed from the burned out movie house late Sunday night.

They were placed in a nearby school gymnasium for relatives to identify the remains. Eight other persons were hospitalized.

The theater, a narrow building in the middle of a Belgian and Italian steel workers' district, was showing "Adventure of Seville" in which the popular Basque crooner, Luis Mariano, is starring.

Suddenly, said eyewitnesses, the screen burst into flames.

Someone shouted: "Fire!" A general panic followed, with the strongest forcing their way toward the main exit through a corridor six feet wide and 50 feet long.

### Some Trampled

The weaker were trampled underfoot by the rush of spectators in the front rows to the rear.

The emergency exits on either side of the screen were suddenly blocked by flames, and quickly the whole house was ablaze.

When firemen arrived there was not much they could do but protect nearby houses.

### Theater in Ruins

Except for the facade the movie theater was reduced to a pile of black ruins.

A police officer told the story of a 13-year-old heroine who is missing. She is Jeanne Rombaut.

Jeanne worked her way out of the burning theater only to discover that her two little sisters and their friends were still inside.

Twice she rushed back through choking smoke and emerged with her two sisters. The third time she ran back in she did not come out.

Another little girl of 11, a police officer said, succeeded in getting near the exit, holding her 4-year-old sister in her arms. Then under the pressure of the panicked crowd she dropped the baby. The child is presumably among the unidentified bodies.

# Pig Rushes Morse

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Sen. Morse (D-Ore) hobbled off a plane on a cane Sunday night, his right leg injured by a hog.

He told reporters that when he picked up a newborn pig at his Poolesville, Md., farm Saturday, the sow rushed him and sprained his leg.

He came here for a Senate committee hearing on a federal Hells Canyon dam.

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# Youth Shows First Sign Of Remorse for Shooting

PASCO, Wash. (AP) — Sixteen-year-old Richard Petersen has apparently shown his first sign of worry or remorse for the Friday shooting spree which killed a policeman and wounded his father and grandfather.

The 5-foot-11, 220-pound high school youth was defiant under long police questioning Saturday and burst out at one point, "If there had been a hundred of you, I would have killed you all," Police Chief A. L. McKibbin said.

But Saturday night his feelings must have changed, his jailer said.

While food was being given him in his cell, young Petersen remarked:

"I wonder if they'll hang me." His father, P. H. Petersen, 52, a roofer, remained in a critical condition with a rifle wound in the stomach. His maternal grand-

father, Chet Young, 63, shot in the leg, was not seriously hurt.

### Dispute Causes Shooting

The immediate motive for the outbreak in which Patrolman Alva A. Jackson, 38, was fatally wounded with .22 calibre shots in the mouth and body before grappling with the youth, apparently was a dispute over his drinking, Chief McKibbin said. Jackson helped subdue and put him in an automobile before collapsing.

The youth's mother was also quoted as saying it must have been "either marijuana or liquor."

The father reprimanded his son, an only child, for having drunk beer when he came home from school Friday, Chief McKibbin said.

An argument began and the father was shot as he ran into the street, as was his grandfather a few minutes later.

### Kills Patrolman

Patrolman Jackson, rushing with other officers to the scene, found the youth between two cabins. Apparently thinking he was unarmed, he moved toward him and Petersen opened fire. Before dying later at the hospital, Jackson told McKibbin: "Well, I got him, chief."

Police Capt. Glenn Sickles, an investigator, said Peterson had a juvenile record, playing hooky from school often, and had been arrested for breaking out street lights and other vandalism.

# Egyptian Troops Fire on Israeli Soldiers in Clash

JERUSALEM, Israel Sector (AP) — An Israeli Army spokesman said that two Israeli soldiers were killed and 16 wounded Sunday afternoon in a clash with Egyptian troops near the Egyptian-held Gaza Strip.

The Israelis were on patrol near Nahal Oz, not far from Gaza, when they were fired upon from an Egyptian position, he said.

The spokesman said reinforcements were brought up and "advanced toward the Egyptian position and silenced its fire to make possible the removal of the dead and wounded."

The engagement lasted two hours, the spokesman said.

Both machineguns and mortars were employed in the clash, he said, adding that during the night the Egyptians had fired mortar shells at the settlement of Nahal Oz itself.

**FEARLESS FOSDICK**  
by AL CAPP

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