

Tainted Heroin Warning

(AP) — Heroin users should avoid the drug because some supplies have been tainted with a powerful painkiller blamed for hundreds of deaths nationwide since mid-April, law enforcement officials urged on Tuesday.

Heroin shipments in major U.S. cities have been found to contain fentanyl, a prescription narcotic 40 to 100 times more powerful than morphine. Fentanyl is prescribed by physicians for anesthesia and pain control.

Authorities have been reporting fentanyl/heroin-related deaths for some months, but officials said there was a spike in overdoses in recent weeks, sparking the latest warnings.

Drug users are attracted to fentanyl-laced heroin or cocaine because of the extra high that it promises them, said Lynne Abraham, Philadelphia District Attorney, at a news conference. "This is just an extra jolt for people who have become accustomed to heroin," she said.

Abraham said officials had considered whether holding the news conference to draw attention to the danger of fentanyl risked encouraging drug users to try tainted heroin, but they decided that the danger to the public justified it.

Youth Confronted Outside Bowling Alley

Summer vacation starts with near riot

Police officials are considering a curfew crackdown in order to keep large crowds of youths from forming over the summer vacation after a near riot Monday night outside of Hollywood Bowl.

The first weeknight of the summer break saw dozens of police officers, some in riot gear, confronting teens outside the landmark at Northeast 41st and Halsey Street.

A 17-year-old determined to be the ringleader has been charged with rioting, according to Det. Paul Dolbey of the Port-



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
The streets outside of the Hollywood Bowl at Northeast 41st and Halsey Street was the location of a disturbance Monday night.

land Police Bureau. Another person was charged for discharging a pellet gun within city limits.

Nineteen youths were arrested for curfew violations. No one was seriously injured.

Authorities said the incident started when about 20 people refused to leave the Hollywood Bowl and a small fight broke out. An estimated 150 to 300 young people, both white and black, ended up filtering onto the street.

Police think a discount night at the bowling alley attracted the large number of young people. Tuesday, bowling alley management was considering a change in policies to prevent such disturbances in the future.

Missing Soldiers Found Tortured and Killed

One of the dead was from Oregon

(AP) — U.S. forces on Tuesday recovered the bodies of two American soldiers reported captured by insurgents near Baghdad, Iraq last week. One of those killed was an Oregon serviceman.

An Iraqi defense ministry official said the men were tortured and "killed in a barbaric way." Al-Qaida in Iraq claimed responsibility for killing the soldiers, and said the successor to terror leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi had "slaughtered" them.

The claim was made in a Web statement that could not be authenticated. The language in the statement suggested the men were beheaded.

U.S. Maj. Gen. William Caldwell



Pfc. Thomas L. Tucker

said the remains were believed to be those of Pfc. Kristian Menchaca, 23, of Houston, and Pfc. Thomas L. Tucker, 25, of Madras, Ore.

He said U.S. troops - part of a search involving some 8,000 American and Iraqi forces - found the

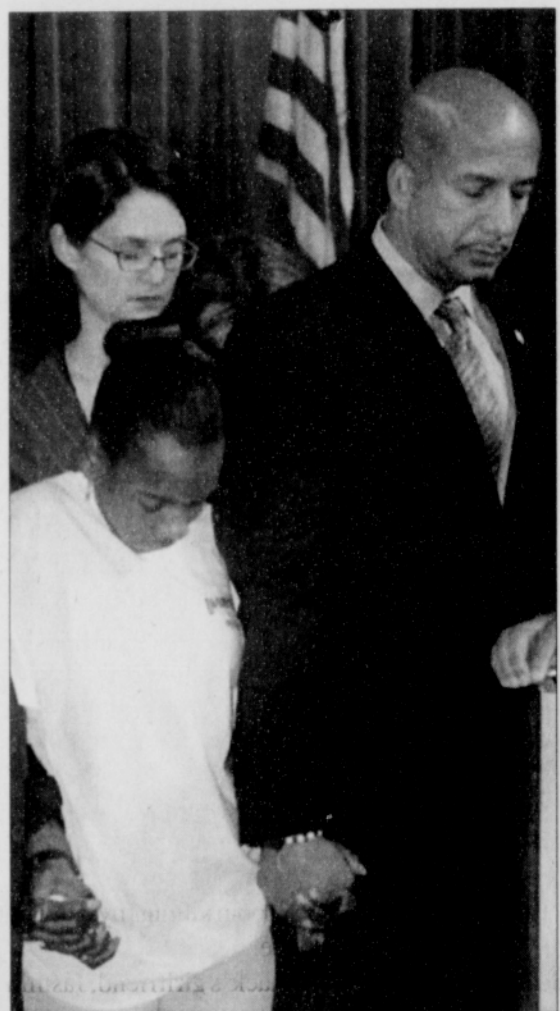
bodies late Monday near Youssifiyah, where they disappeared Friday.

Troops did not recover the bodies until Tuesday because they had to wait until daylight to cordon off the area for an ordnance team for fear it was booby-trapped, Caldwell said.

The checkpoint attacked Friday was in the Sunni Arab region known as the "Triangle of Death" because of frequent ambushes there of U.S. soldiers and Iraqi troops.

The two bodies will be taken back to the United States for DNA tests to confirm the identities, Caldwell said.

The two soldiers disappeared after an insurgent attack Friday at a checkpoint by a Euphrates River canal, 12 miles south of Baghdad. Spc. David J. Babineau, 25, of Springfield, Mass., was killed.



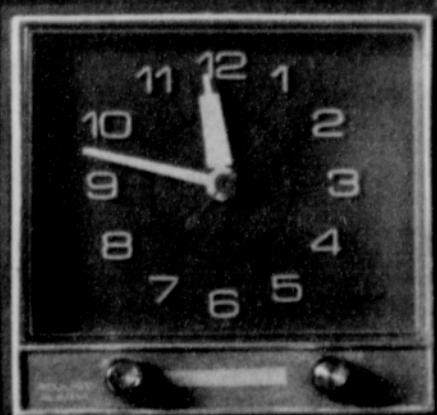
New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin holds Monalisa Hunter's hand during a news conference Monday. Hunter lost two sons, Arsenio, 16, and Marquis, 19, in a shooting over the weekend. (AP photo)



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National Guard to Patrol New Orleans

Mayor gets help after 6 killed over weekend

(AP) — A convoy of National Guard troops rolled into the city Tuesday in 75 Humvees and other military vehicles to begin patrol at the mayor's request.

The presence of about 100 Guard members patrolling the city's hurricane-devastated and largely deserted neighborhoods will free as many as 300 police officers to concentrate on crime in more heavily populated areas, officials said.

Mayor Ray Nagin called for the National Guard and state police on Monday, saying "we've had enough" after five teenagers were gunned down together Saturday and another man was stabbed to death Sunday.

"The situation is urgent," Gov. Kathleen Blanco said in responding to the request. "Things like this should never happen, and I am going to do all I can to stop it."

In addition to the 100 National Guard members with law enforcement experience, 60 state police officers are expected to be sent to the city, Blanco's office said. It marked the first time soldiers had

been used for law enforcement in the U.S. since the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina late last summer.

New Orleans Police Superintendent Warren J. Riley said Monday he had asked in March to have the troops sent in this summer, when the population is expected to jump because FEMA assistance to displaced hurricane refugees ends June 30.

No deadline has been set for the National Guard's mission, which did not require a special order because Louisiana is still under a state of emergency 10 months after Katrina. Blanco said reinforcements would cycle in-and-out of the city.

Frustration over a rise in crime reached a tipping point on Saturday when five teenagers in an SUV were shot and killed in the city's deadliest attack in at least 11 years. Police said the attack was apparently motivated by drugs or revenge. Also, a man was stabbed to death Sunday night in an argument over beer.

The killings brought this year's murder toll to 53, raising fears that violence was back on the rise in a city that was plagued by violent crime before Katrina drove out half the city's population of 465,000.

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