



BODY BY GARY — Ready for an automobile show is two-year-old Daisy May Koerner, of Hays, Kan. Her unique vehicle was constructed by her 11-year-old brother, Gary, who is full of ideas which he thinks are all improvements on modern motor car design.

Dead Uncounted In Wake of Flood

PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico (AP) — This was a town of sorrow and uncounted dead Wednesday night. The greatest flood in the history of the Rio Grande rolled down on Piedras Negras and past the levee that curled around it like a protecting arm. Thirty-eight persons are known dead. But few believed these were all the dead. Unconfirmed estimates ranged up to 500.

Wednesday night campfires flickered on the rough, masquite-covered hills around what was a thriving farm town of 35,000 people across the Rio Grande from Eagle Pass, Tex.

These were the fires of the homeless, people who daily trudge back to their ruined houses in search of the dead.

At least one half — the half farthest from the river — of Piedras Negras still is flooded. The downtown section was in better shape. It is high, on the edge of the Rio Grande, and the water has receded from its white brick, two-story buildings with spires and shutters of red and blue.

Cars move through the paved downtown streets and merchants sadly take up the job of getting back to ruined businesses.

PAVING PLAYS OUT
Away from the business section, the paving plays out and the streets are loblollies of sticky mud down which no automobile can travel.

These are the sections where adobe houses melted like toy mud huts made by children.

Open cesspools pock the town like open sores. There is no pure water in the town.

H. G. Walker, a U. S. Public Health Service officer from Eagle Pass who has inspected Piedras Negras, said, "Sanitary conditions are horrible. The water system was never adequate and now there is none at all."

At first, Walker said, bodies were pulled out of mesquite bushes and buried quickly.

"But listen," he said, "there are five or six kids in every Mexican family. Those families take care of their own. They find a drowned kid and they bury him pronto."

"So who knows how many are dead. From what I hear, there may be anywhere from 200 to 500. But I don't know if that's right and nobody will ever know. But I'll bet there are a hell of a lot of bodies uncounted."

PLENTY OF WARNING
Everybody had plenty of warning that the flood was coming early Wednesday and nobody in Eagle Pass, a town of about 1,100, was lost.

"But in Piedras Negras," said J. R. Sandifer of the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, "nobody believed the warning. They wouldn't get out and those adobe house plain disintegrated."

Walker rubbed a palm over his bald head.

"You see that levee over there — what is left of a levee? You see how it starts at the river and curls around the town, kind of like an arm? They built that levee after a big flood in 1932 and they put their faith in it. "And it failed them."

Border Fight Flares Again

JERUSALEM, Israeli Sector (AP) — Firing broke out again for the second time in 24 hours Thursday over the Arab-Israeli borderlines in this Holy City.

Both sides admitted casualties and said they had asked U.N. armistice observers to check the "aggression" they charged to the other.

An Israeli army spokesman said that Jordanians posted on top of the old city walls over-looking Israel's sector of the city opened fire with rifles, machine guns and mortars at 5:30 a.m.

One Jewish woman was killed and three other persons wounded, he said. Eight other persons were reported wounded in the Jewish section by firing which lasted for an hour last night.

In Amman, the Jordan government charged that bombs from the Israeli section of Jerusalem fell near the British and American consulates.

One Arab Legion soldier was wounded during the night, it said.

Neutral reports said both sides used heavy mortars in the firing.

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