

Mexico City Blasts Kill, Hurt 100

Police Search For Fireworks Plant Owner

By JACK RUTLEDGE.

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Rescue workers dug through a wrecked block of rubble today seeking more victims of two explosions in a fireworks factory that left more than 100 Mexicans dead or injured. Police hunted the factory owner for questioning.

Eleven bodies—four of them firemen—had been recovered late last night. A hundred persons were hospitalized. Many were not expected to live.

Most of the casualties resulted from the second blast, which came as hundreds of curious neighbors watched firemen fighting the fire after the first explosion. Because it was lunchtime, the factory—in a poor residential district—apparently was empty.

Owner Hunted

Police said they wanted to question Antonio Joyas Chavez, owner of the factory. Officers said his adjoining warehouse was illegally filled with dynamite and other explosives.

The factory was less than a mile from Mexico City's International Airport and many windows in airport buildings were shattered.

The sound of the two explosions could be heard over the noise of noonday traffic in the heart of the city five miles away.

Authorities gave this account: Nicolas Lome Munoz, a watchman, saw smoke curling from the factory, located on the Mexico City-Puebla highway which passes the airport, shortly before noon. He told his wife to call firemen and then tried to halt the spreading flames with buckets of water. The woman was unable to find a telephone.

First Blast at Noon

The first explosion occurred at noon, leveling the plant and damaging nearby buildings. The blast killed the watchman, hurling his headless body 90 feet onto the highway.

Firemen from the airport rushed to the factory and sought to halt the racing flames. Hundreds of curious flocked to the scene and milled around watching the firemen.

Fifteen minutes later the warehouse exploded with a roar that could be heard for miles.

Four firemen, a policeman and five spectators were known to have died in the second blast. Ambulances and police converged on the area and began moving the injured to hospitals in relays.

The explosions left a crater nearly 100 feet long and 30 feet deep where the factory and warehouse had stood. Damage was estimated at \$320,000.

Labor, Welfare Cash Whittling In Last Stages

WASHINGTON (AP)—A House drive to cut an estimated 200 million dollars from new appropriations asked for the Labor and Welfare Departments moved into its final stages today.

A coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats showed no signs of weakening in their effort. In the last two days, they have persuaded the House to cut \$14,408,100 from the amounts recommended by its Appropriations Committee.

The committee already had chopped 118 million dollars from President Eisenhower's requests for \$2,862,502,881 to finance the two big departments and several minor agencies for the fiscal year starting July 1.

The House cuts, voted over the opposition of many committee members, were designed to bring 1958 appropriations generally to their 1957 levels by denying funds for personnel expansion.

Similar amendments to cut from 60 to 85 million dollars deeper were pending as the bill moved toward expected passage.

All the cuts are tentative and subject to possible roll-call votes before passage. Rep. Fogarty (D-R.I.), chairman of the subcommittee which handled the bill, said he will demand the specific votes.

If the House coalition reaches its goal on the pending bill, the House will have cut about 900 million dollars from funds requested in five annual appropriation bills it has considered this year.

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Stars of Oscar Night



HOLLYWOOD—These were the stars as Hollywood honored its best performers of the year last night at the annual Academy Award presentations. Left to right: Dorothy Malone, named best supporting actress of 1956; Anthony Quinn, best supporting actor; Anna Magnani, Italian star who presented Yul Brynner with his Oscar as best actor of the year; Brynner; Producer Buddy Adler, winner of the Irving Thalberg Award as an outstanding movie-maker, and Cary Grant, who accepted the statuette won by Ingrid Bergman as best actress of 1956. (AP Wire-photo)

Bergman 'Very Happy' Ingrid, Brynner and Todd's '80 Days' Win Movie Oscars

By JAMES BACON

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Ingrid Bergman, who exiled herself from Hollywood eight years ago amid scandal, said Thursday she is "delighted and very happy" that the movie industry has given her its highest honor.

The 42-year-old Swedish star won the Academy Oscar at its 29th annual awards presentation Wednesday night. The gold award was for her portrayal of the bewildered pretender princess in "Anastasia."

MEET THE LEGISLATORS



REP. RICHARD E. GROENER

Rep. Richard E. Groener (D), Milwaukie, has become known as the Democratic "spokesman" in Clackamas county where he edits a weekly column in the Oregon City Enterprise-Courier.

He operates a general insurance business in Milwaukie, and is a friend of Sen. Monroe Sweetland. Groener is past president of the Milwaukie Community Club and North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce; past county chairman, March of Dimes and of the United Fund Drive. He is chairman of Democratic county Central committee and an executive board, State democratic committee. He was a leader in the fight to retain Kellogg Park for industrial development.

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REP. HARRY L. WELLS

Rep. Harry L. Wells (D), La Grande, back for his second house session, is one of the most respected of Oregon house members. For the greater part of his adult life he has operated a farm near Alsea which is now being run by his nephew.

However, Rep. Wells is still prominent in livestock circles. He was the organizer and first chairman of the Union county Agriculture Planning council. He is past president of Farm Bureau and for a time was regional director of that organization.

He is past president of Kiwanis club, member of Eagles lodge and Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

Rep. Wells was born March 2, 1891, at Imbler. He attended elementary schools in Union county and was graduated from Baker high school. He is married and has a step-daughter and two grandchildren.

H-Tests Halt Put On Agenda at UN

LONDON (AP)—The controversial issue of ending H-bomb tests was laid before the U.N. disarmament subcommittee Thursday.

Soviet delegate Valerian Zorin, taking his cue from the Kremlin, demanded at a closed meeting Wednesday that the question be placed at the top of the agenda. Informal sources said the four Western members of the committee reluctantly agreed.

"We felt the disarmament talks would have a better chance of making progress if we began in the field where we're closest to agreement," a highly-placed observer said.

The Western powers on the subcommittee—Britain, France, the United States and Canada—wanted to start off in the field of conventional armaments.

Until Wednesday, the week-long talks had proceeded smoothly through a general discussion of various disarmament plans advanced by Russia and the West.

Reports from inside the closed committee rooms said there had been no personal clashes or "negative propaganda speeches" during the first week.

Any violent clash over the nuclear test issue, where Russia and the four other powers are almost diametrically opposed, could radically alter the picture.

The subcommittee agreed Wednesday to go from nuclear tests to conventional armaments, nuclear disarmament, control and inspection, missiles and rockets.

Zorin's proposal obviously stemmed from a new declaration by the Soviet Foreign Ministry Tuesday that Russia would immediately halt nuclear tests if Britain and America would do the same.

12 Rescued as Tuna Boat Off Panama Sinks

PANAMA (AP)—The U.S. Caribbean Air Command's rescue center in the Canal Zone said today the tuna boat Helen S. of San Diego, Calif., sank in the Pacific off Panama yesterday. All 12 crewmen were rescued.

Two planes sent from Albrook Air Force Base in the Canal Zone remained over the area until the tuna fishermen were picked up by another tuna boat, the Mary Joe out of San Pedro.

Peiping Frees Omaha Priest After 6 Years

TOKYO (AP)—Peiping radio announced Thursday night that the Rev. Fulgence Gross, a Roman Catholic missionary from Omaha, Neb., had been released in Shanghai after six years' imprisonment and house arrest on spy charges.

Father Gross, a member of the Franciscan Order, was released a day ahead of the completion of his sentence. He was arrested March 29, 1951.

A Lutheran missionary, the Rev. Paul A. Mackensen of Baltimore, Md., was released earlier this month on completion of a five-year sentence. He said he would remain in China to observe conditions there if he could find work to do.

Release of Father Gross leaves four Americans under house arrest in Shanghai and four other Americans believed held in Chinese jails.

The terms of two other Catholic missionaries, the Revs. John A. Houle of Glendale, Calif., and Charles J. McCarthy of San Francisco, both arrested June 15, 1953, are due to expire in June.

Two other Catholic missionaries, Fathers John P. Wagner of Pittsburgh and Joseph P. McCormack of Ossining, N.Y., are due for release in June, 1958.

Ladislav Forgo, 69, recently was graduated at City College at New York with a B.A. degree. During World War II, he volunteered, but was turned down by all armed services because of his age. Finally the Coast Guard accepted him.

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