

Anti-Labor Writer Splashed in Face By Acid Thrower

New York—(U.P.)—Victor Riesel, anti-racketeering labor columnist, was splashed in the face by acid thrown by an unidentified man early today. Doctors said he is in danger of losing his eyesight.

U.S. Attorney Paul W. Williams said Riesel was to have been a witness before a special Grand Jury investigating racketeering in the garment industry, and "I regard this as an attempt to intimidate witnesses in the government's investigation."

Williams called FBI agents and the chief of his criminal division to an immediate conference in an attempt to get "a line on those responsible."

The attack was made about 3 a.m. when Riesel and a girl assistant left Lindy's Restaurant at 51st st. and Broadway and prepared to enter her auto.

Attacked Racketeering

The two had gone to the restaurant after a midnight radio broadcast in which Riesel interviewed two members of a Long Island building trades union fighting the local domination of William C. De Koning Jr., son of a Long Island labor czar and convicted extortioner.

In two previous appearances on the program, and in columns which appeared this week in 193 newspapers across the country, Riesel had attacked labor racketeering on a broad front, including the New York garment industry, the trucking industry, and the New York waterfront. He also had attacked Southern segregation moves as they affect the labor field.

In a column which appeared Monday, Riesel wrote: "Now there's still plenty of muscle around, and they can put acid on dresses or 'stink bombs' on food in restaurants. But that's crude. The dress trucking racket works another way these days."

'I Can't See'

Betty Nevins, Riesel's assistant on the radio program, in which he was making vacation appearances for Barry Gray, said the shabbily dressed young man approached them as they neared her car around the corner from the restaurant.

Egypt Makes New Aggression Charges

United Nations, N.Y.—(U.P.)—New charges of aggression against Israel today by Egypt and Israel on the eve of a peace mission to Palestine by U.N. Secretary general Dag Hammarskjold.

Egypt charged in a letter to the U.S. Security Council that Israel deliberately attacked Egyptian cities in the Gaza Strip. The letter said 33 civilians were killed and 92 were injured.

At the same time, United press dispatches from Jerusalem reported an Israeli charge that Egyptian forces had made seven attacks on Jewish settlements along the Gaza border.

The Egyptians said Israeli troops attacked four Egyptian cities in the narrow Gaza Strip of Southern Palestine.

Barnhart Low Bidder On Building Addition

H. Barnhart Construction company of Medford has been awarded the contract to build a one-story concrete block addition to the Pacific Telephone company's equipment building in Gold Hill, J. H. Creager, local manager said today.

Barnhart's bid was \$7,600. The only other bidder was Wiley company of Ashland, which bid \$7,892.

Work on the 21x25-foot addition will be started about April 10, Creager said, and is scheduled for completion about mid-September. The addition will be used to house more dial central office equipment.

Josef Stalin Attempted To Be Superman, Malenkov Tells London Press Conference

London—(U.P.)—Former Soviet Premier Georgi Malenkov today publicly repudiated the leadership of his political mentor, the late Josef Stalin, whom he charged had attempted to be a superman.

Malenkov succeeded Stalin as Soviet Premier. He now is Soviet minister of power stations, a role in which he is winding up a tour of British conventional and atomic power installations.

Supernatural Features

In repudiating Stalin, he told a press conference that Stalin had tried to assume "supernatural features" in pursuing his "cult of personality."

Malenkov thus fell in step with the new line set at the recent 20th Soviet Communist party

Miss Nevins said the man came out of a dark alley alongside the Mark Hellinger Theatre as if he were seeking a handout. She said she saw him throw something into Riesel's face.

"At first I thought it was water," she said. "Then Vic put his hands to his face and said, 'My gosh, my gosh.'"

Miss Nevins said she led the stricken writer back into the Lindy's. Riesel told Manager Fred Schuterman: "I can't see. There's a film over my eyes."

Schuterman called police who took Riesel to St. Clares hospital.

Doctors said Riesel's vision was impaired and his face badly burned by the acid. They said he was able to distinguish light and moving objects but that full damage would not be known immediately.

Lumber Industry In Confusion Over Notices by FHA

Portland—(U.P.)—The West Coast lumber industry was thrown into confusion here today when the Federal Housing Administration issued official notices that boards now manufactured by many segments of the industry did not conform to FHA standards.

The notices said building constructed of the "illegal" boards would not be eligible for FHA loans.

Emergency Meeting

The Portland Home Builders Association called an emergency meeting to consider the situation.

Portland is headquarters for the West Coast Lumber Grading and Manufacturing Association which March 15 revised grading rules by dropping the thickness of boards from 25-32 to 3-4 inch.

The new thickness has been common for several years at thousands of sawmills both in the western fir and southern pine regions but was only recognized officially last month and the new dimensions stamped on the boards.

Lumbermen here said much of the southern pine lumber manufactured east of the Mississippi is already 3-4 inch and may come under the FHA ban.

Said Not Feasible

The FHA notice said "it is not considered feasible to accept the new specification pending a change in American Lumber Standards rule or an agreement by a majority of the industry on some other standard thickness."

The ALS has scheduled a meeting in Chicago to consider board dimensions April 20 but H. V. Simpson, executive vice-president of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association here, said it would take some time for the ALS rule to be changed.

Smooth Seas Carry Grace Toward Monaco

Aboard Constitution—(U.P.)—Movie queen Grace Kelly today sailed on calm seas, an omen of good fortune, to Monaco to become a princess.

The Constitution, several hundred miles at sea, knifed through moderate seas to Miss Kelly's storybook wedding to Prince Rainier III.

Miss Kelly, the 70 members of her wedding party and the ship's other passengers welcomed the relaxed atmosphere aboard the vessel in contrast to the actress' frantic press conference before sailing time.

Stewards, recovered from the excitement of the departure, removed from Miss Kelly's luxurious stateroom armfuls of flowers, trunks, hatboxes and the scores of gifts which jammed her accommodations.

Famous Engineer Leaves Estate of \$7,000,000

Redwood City—(U.P.)—Col. Daniel Cowan Jackling, Woodside, Calif., the world famous mining engineer who died March 13, left an estate valued at \$7 million.

He left \$500,000 outright to his widow, Mrs. Virginia Jolliffe Jackling, and \$400,000 to relatives, friends and employees. The remainder of the estate was left in trust for his widow. On her death, the principal goes to charities, churches and various colleges to provide loan funds for engineering students.

Mysterious Blasts Off Florida Coast Being Investigated

Military Exercises May Be Responsible

Sarasota, Fla.—(U.P.)—The Coast Guard said today a mysterious explosion which rocked 70 miles off the Florida Gulf Coast may have been caused by "night exercises" of the Navy or Air Force.

The Coast Guard in Miami reported that the cause of the blasts was still unknown and was being investigated.

Restricted Area

"We know there is a restricted area off the coast and that it is used for night exercises by either the Navy or Air Force or both," a guardsman said.

The "rumbling explosions" were felt along the coast from Englewood, some 30 miles south of Sarasota, to Indian Rocks Beach near Clearwater.

Alarmed shoreline residents swamped local radio stations and newspapers with calls. Several windows were reported shattered in the Bradenton area.

A flyer, E. T. Denham Jr., said he saw two flashes from the gulf that looked at first like "lightning flashes from a big thunderhead squall."

No Storms in Area

"I checked my weather reports and the sky and saw there were no storms in the area, so I figured they must be explosions."

He said the blasts appeared to come from a spot in the gulf west of Sarasota.

Fred J. Kruea, leader of the Civil Defense Ground Corps at Englewood, also said he saw two flashes from the gulf at 9:05 p.m. (EST).

A Coast Guard helicopter and amphibian were quickly dispatched from the air station at St. Petersburg. But both returned with negative reports.

Fluoridation Vote Called at Ashland

Ashland—The Ashland city council Tuesday passed a resolution calling for a special election May 18 on fluoridation of the Ashland water supply.

The council did not adopt a specific ordinance for fluoridation, but called for a vote on the general issue.

Registered voters will cast ballots on the proposition: "Shall the City of Ashland, Jackson county, Oregon, add fluoride to the public water supply in accordance with regulations of the Oregon State Board of Health, with the cost thereof to be added to the water bill of each user not to exceed 15c per month?"

The action follows a public hearing last month at which proponents and opponents discussed the proposal. A show of hands at that time indicated the majority present favored fluoridation.

A group of Ashland physicians and dentists presented a petition urging fluoridation to the council earlier this year.

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Alaskans, Hawaiians Must Pay Their Taxes

Washington—(U.P.)—Internal Revenue officials said today representation or no representation, residents of Alaska, Hawaii and District of Columbia still must pay their taxes.

A Fairbanks, Alaska, jury this week acquitted former Internal Revenue collector Jack Marler of a charge of willfully failing to file an income tax return. Marler pleaded "taxation without representation."

Weather

FORECAST: Fair tonight with colder temperatures. Variable high cloudiness Friday. Low tonight 25-30. High Friday 65.

Highest Yesterday	Temp.
Lowest this Morning	64
	38

Hammarskjold Dies as Wall Falls

Victims Trapped Beneath Rubble Of Old Building

Six Perish, Six Others Injured

New York—(U.P.)—The brick front wall of a burning one-story building collapsed on a squad of firemen Wednesday night, killing six of them and injuring six others.

Five of the firemen died instantly in the roaring mass of rubble and the sixth casualty died shortly after he was taken to a hospital. Two of the injured suffered broken bones and the others sustained cuts, bruises and shock.

It was the worst toll of firemen taken in a New York fire since 1932, when eight firemen were killed.

Others Narrowly Escape

Several score more firemen narrowly escaped injury Wednesday night by scrambling to safety when the cry went up that the wall was falling.

Fireman Joseph O'Keefe, 29, who was on a ladder with two of the men who were killed said "I heard a cry, 'watch out, watch out, it's going in!' I had no chance to do anything. The next thing I knew, I was going down."

O'Keefe said "I was lucky. I rolled when I hit but it happened so quickly the other men never had a chance."

Marquee Supports Melted

The fire was in a former theater building, now used for the manufacture of artificial flowers. The intense heat of burning chemicals apparently melted the thin supports of a heavy marquee on the front of the building causing it to collapse. Fire Commissioner Edward Cavanagh said.

The falling marquee tore loose a large section of the front wall which collapsed, smashing ladders and equipment, and carrying the screaming victims with it.

County Receives Instructions for Aid

Jackson county has received instructions from the civil defense agency to apply formally for federal disaster relief aid, according to County Engineer Paul B. Rynning.

Word was received last week that the county's preliminary application for \$62,289.19 in federal aid has been approved by the federal civil defense administration.

Rynning said at least five copies must be made of all items, with four certified copies going to the government. Total claims must be in by June 29.

Included in the request is \$562.50 for Rogue River debris clearing; \$1,331.65 for Rogue River police protection; \$86,600 for emergency road and bridge repair; and \$1,640.04 for equipment damage.

Thé items are part of the more than \$100,000 cost caused by the December floods.

Governor Advocates Clean Communities

Salem—(U.P.)—Clean communities to match Oregon's scenery and draw a record-breaking tourist crowd here advocated by Gov. Elmo Smith today in designating May 14 to 20 as clean-up and general beautification week.

70 Indicate Participation In Fire Training School

About 70 men have indicated they plan to participate in a foreman's fire training school here April 19 and 20, according to Lewis L. Simpson, secretary-manager of the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association.

Arrangements for the training course were made in cooperation with state and federal agencies. Instructors will be furnished by the state and federal forest services, Simpson said.

The need for a foreman's training school developed during last September's forest fires in this area when supervisory personnel had to be brought from outside the area, Simpson said.

He pointed out that local foremen are more familiar with men fighting fires in this area, as well as the topography, burning conditions and other factors. Simpson urged mills to make a special effort to send men to the school, as mill crews back up logging crews in fire fighting. He noted that last fall the need for trained foremen from the mills was acute, and that only one or two operators had any trained personnel in mill crews.

The school will be held at the state forest patrol headquarters on Table Rock rd. Lunch will be furnished by the forest patrol.

Fire Die as Wall Falls



RIPPING THROUGH FOUR STATES, tornado kills at least eight persons, injures more than 75. This is destruction wrought in Drumright, Okla., where five died. (International)

Tornado Victims Start Cleanup As Storm Moves Over Atlantic

By UNITED PRESS

The remnants of a vast killer storm moved out into the Atlantic Ocean today, leaving a heart-breaking job of reconstruction behind.

The final death count in the two-day barrage of tornadoes and storms stood at 43. Hospitals

were jammed with many of the estimated 500 injured. Hundreds of families, their homes wrecked, searched for new dwelling places.

In Washington, U.S. Weather Bureau officials said the 12-state tornado rampage may go down as one of the worst in the nation's history. Other tornado barrages have killed more persons, but few have ever moved so fast and covered such a wide area.

The storms came raging out of the Southwest Monday and hit their climax Tuesday night when they killed 17 persons in western Michigan. The vicious weather front kept going east, but lost much of its power trying to get over the Appalachian Mountains.

Winds got up to 75 miles an hour at Rochester, N.Y., and a tornado funnel was sighted whirling over Vermont. Winds up to 70 miles per hour hit West Virginia, while a dense fog delayed shipping in New York City and made driving hazardous through eastern and central Massachusetts.

The fog lifted in New York shortly before midnight, however, and the winds died. Forecasters said the East should have clear, sunny weather today.

The twisters' final toll in terms of lives and millions of dollars probably will not be known for weeks. Long after a tornado had passed, the fatality count went up in Tennessee with the death of an infant hospitalized victim.

State by State Toll

State by state, the death count was Michigan 17, Wisconsin 8, Tennessee 5, Oklahoma 5, Texas 3, Kansas 2, Mississippi 1, Minnesota 1, and Kentucky 1.

Twisters and storms also spread havoc through parts of Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska and Arkansas.

The worst-hit states called upon their full resources to clean up the wreckage.

Damage was estimated at \$11,000,000 around Grand Rapids, Mich., with 69 buildings destroyed and 186 other damaged or destroyed. National Guardsmen and other authorities sealed off the entire disaster area.

Woodcock Resigns City Council Seat

City Councilman Dick Woodcock, who has represented Ward II on the council for the past 3 1/3 years, today submitted his resignation.

He has moved from Ward II, and no longer is eligible to represent that district on the council. The resignation is effective immediately. Woodcock said he hopes that eventually he can return to city service in some capacity, possibly on the council again.

His successor, under the city charter, will be named by the council. Its next meeting will be April 17.

Woodcock was elected for a four-year term starting Jan. 1, 1953.

Portlander Beaten By Gang of Youths

Portland—(U.P.)—Albert M. McHenry, 21, told police today he was beaten by a gang of six youths while parked with a girl friend on Council Crest last night.

McHenry told officers that while he and Barbara Goshorn, 18, were parked another car pulled up behind them. He said the door on his side opened and that he was pulled from the car and beaten up. The girl sounded the auto horn and the youths fled.

Police later questioned a youth who said he and five companions had been there. The youth denied taking part in any beating and would not identify his companions. He said the group intended only to frighten the couple but that the situation "got out of hand," according to detectives Einar Moen and Phil Jackson. The youth was released to his father.

Salem—(U.P.)—Gov. Elmo Smith designated April 15 to 21 as home economics week in Oregon.

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