

Explosions Damage Four Birmingham Homes

By United Press International
A new racial troublespot loomed in Alabama today — the little cotton-cattle town of Selma.

Sheriff's deputies, a volunteer posse and state troopers Tuesday arrested 156 Negroes for staging anti-segregation demonstrations. But Negro leaders were not deterred and said there would be another demonstration today.

Sheriff James G. Clark Jr. vowed to "fill up the jails" in Selma and neighboring prison camps, if necessary, to put down the protest marches.

At Birmingham, eight Negro homes and four automobiles were damaged today by two explosions. The "harassment tactics" snatched a utility pole and gouged a crater in the ground. No one was injured.

The explosions occurred just hours before the two-man presidential team of Kenneth Royall and Earl Blaik was to begin separate meetings with white and Negro leaders in an effort to work out some basis for talks on the city's racial problems.

A federal court at Montgomery issued a preliminary restraining order Tuesday night prohibiting Alabama Gov. George Wallace from interfering with public school integration in Alabama.

The order was considered somewhat stronger than a temporary restraining order that had been in effect against the fiery segregationist governor.

The Alabama Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that Wallace has the constitutional authority to close the state's public schools.

Fly-By-Night Firms Work Big Swindle

SINGAPORE (UPI) — Chinese fly-by-night import firms, which have a habit of "vanishing" at just the right moment, have bilked unwary overseas companies of millions of dollars during the past year.

Both the U.S. Consulate in Singapore and the Canadian Trade Commission have confirmed they have done extensive work to prevent firms from their countries being taken in by the international swindle.

Albert Zucca, U.S. commercial attache, said losses during the past year have run well into the millions of dollars.

Here is how the swindle works: These fly-by-night companies — not to be confused with many responsible Singapore firms — send out letters of inquiry to thousands of foreign firms asking for their price lists or catalogues.

Place Orders
Having received the catalogues, they then seek to place an order, usually for a total value of \$5,000 to \$15,000. The next move depends on whether they are out for a really big kill, or are content to make only a few thousand dollars.

If they are out for a big kill, they will make arrangements for an irrevocable letter of credit through one of the local banks, thus guaranteeing that the firm exporting the goods will get its money upon shipment.

Gradually, the local firm may then increase the size of its orders. Then, after three or four orders, the Singapore firm may ask for credit on a really big order.

It was in this manner that one American firm dropped \$250,000. It extended credit, shipped the goods and never received a cent of payment.

The Singapore firm had suddenly ceased to exist. The goods had been dumped on the Singapore market at low prices and were quickly gobbled up.

Shoppers' Paradise
This all helps to make the free port of Singapore a shoppers' paradise, albeit at the expense of the trusting foreign companies.

The mistake foreign firms make is extending credit to these fly-by-night traders, according to E. H. Maguire, Canadian trade commissioner. Maguire said he had received all kinds of enquiries from Canadian firms which had received orders from Singapore companies.

Maguire said the Canadian companies that bothered to check with the government trade office saved themselves money. Those who didn't got burned.

"There have been some very large losses so far," said Zucca. "We are doing our best to prevent further losses, but there is not much we can do if we don't know anything about a deal."

Money Dried By Machine

PRESTON, Minn. (UPI) — Money problems are nothing new — except perhaps one faced recently by a bank in this southeastern Minnesota community.

W. A. Garratt, president of the Farmer & Merchants State Bank of Preston, and his wife were playing bridge one recent rainy evening. The game was interrupted when the bank's burglar alarm went off. Garratt rushed to the bank.

He found not a burglar, but more than \$2,000 in drenched currency. The bank's roof drain had clogged during the heavy down-pour, causing water to pour down the tube of the alarm system and into the vault, flooding a tray of \$1, \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills. Moisture had also set off the alarm.

Concerned the money would mildew, bank officials started hand-drying the bills. An observer of this tedious process was John Boche, appliance dealer in Preston. He had the dripping bills taken to his store. They were placed in one of his electronic control clothes dryers and dried automatically in three loads, taking a little over an hour.

The Department of Agriculture reports cotton classers determine cotton grades by color, smoothness of ginning and foreign matter in the cotton.

if such closure is necessary to keep the peace. The court also said Wallace had the authority to send "such forces as are available to him" into Alabama municipalities to preserve law and order.

Other developments:
Shreveport, La.: Police today were ready to use tear gas and mounted officers to break up unauthorized racial demonstrations

by Negroes. This segregated northwest Louisiana city was hit by rock-throwing demonstrators for the third straight day Tuesday.

Greensboro, N. C.: James Farmer, national director of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), was expected to arrive this weekend, and a local Negro leader indicated demonstrations might be staged at that time.

Surviving Dionnes Invited To Quints' 'Birthday'

ABERDEEN, S. D. (UPI) — The surviving Dionne quintuplets are going to get a special invitation to Aberdeen's big Oct. 14 celebration for the brand-new Fischer quint.

While the young Fischers continued "doing fine" in St. Luke's Hospital, townsfolk started drawing up a list of persons they would invite to the big day when the quint will be one month old. E. C. Pieplow, president of the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce

and spokesman for the Fischer family, said invitations would be sent to governmental, religious and medical personages.

He said, however, their names would not be revealed until they responded to the invitation.

Pieplow did say that special invitations would go to the four Dionne quint in Canada — now 29 years of age — and the Diligenti quintuplets in Argentina.

Pieplow said a notice would be sent to Pope Paul VI and it was hoped the Pope would send his papal blessings. The Fischers are Roman Catholic and their three oldest children attend Sacred Heart School.

Pieplow said the Fischers have received two new offers of a site for their planned \$100,000 new home for their household of 10 children. This makes 10 prospective sites in all. It is expected Andrew Fischer, 33, and his wife, Mary Ann, 30, who returned from the hospital Monday, will visit the sites later this week.

The regular hospital bulletin said the quint were "very active in their isolettes and their color is good." They continue to receive food through tubes in their noses.

A hospital spokesman said Tuesday the quint probably would be sent home one at a time and "not in a package lot," and then not until they reach a weight of 5 to 5½ pounds.

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Race Strife Appears In New Spot

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI) — Two street corner explosions damaged at least eight homes and four cars in a Negro neighborhood of this racially troubled city early today. No one was hurt.

The blasts, which police investigators theorized were planted, sheared off a utility pole at the base and dug a three-foot crater in the ground a few feet away.

Shattering the early morning quiet of southwest Birmingham at around 3:50 a.m. EDT, the explosions occurred about seven hours before a two-man team representing President Kennedy was to begin a round of mediation talks aimed at restoring racial peace here. Kennedy sent the team here after an explosion Sept. 15 at a Negro church killed four girls and made the city powder-keg tense.

Rocks and debris from the explosions this morning broke windows and caused other damages in at least eight houses in the area. Four cars suffered shattered windows and body damage from flying gravel.

The nearest house to the explosions, the 22nd and 23rd in Birmingham since 1955, was occupied by John D. Hardrick, who said an object was blown through his windows and broke a mirror in a rear room. "I was sure scared," said Hardrick.

Police Inspector W. J. Haley said there was an officer only a few blocks from the explosions and he arrived at the scene "before the dust settled."

No crowds gathered at the scene and police made a door to door check of all residents. Officers had trouble getting some of the families to the door for questioning.

Police said the explosions could have been caused by one stick of dynamite each, much less powerful than the blast which demolished a Negro church, killing the four girls in a Sunday school class, on Sept. 15.

"I think it was just harassment tactics and not aimed at anyone in particular," said an investigating officer.

Talking Rats Aid Science

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (UPI) — Demosthenes, Galatea and Halvah, a trio of "talking rats" at the University of Rochester, may shed new light on the beginnings of the speech process in humans.

The three gabby rodents, whose conversation more properly may be likened to shrill barks and chuckles, have been trained by Dr. Stanley Sapon, director of the University's Verbal Behavior Laboratory.

Sapon and his colleagues hope their project may one day help scientists understand how children first learn to talk and, possibly, how to improve the process.

Until Sapon's experiments, scientists had been unable to teach rats to vocalize. The animals are normally silent except when in pain.

Now, however, Halvah, a star pupil, and the two promising young novices, Demosthenes and Galatea, tell Sapon when they are hungry or thirsty by emitting sharp gurgling barks.

LEASED LAND
Part of the New Territories colony of the British Crown Colony on Hong Kong was leased from China for 99 years in 1898, according to Britannica Book of the Year.

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