

Blast Kills Mother, 4 Children

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (UPI) — An explosion and fire ripped through a converted apartment building early Saturday, killing a mother and four of her children.

A fifth child dove through a window to escape the flames that destroyed the one-story building.

Police identified the dead as Mrs. Betty Lou Ryan, 36; three daughters, Billie Jean, 7, Vickie, 6, and Linda Sue May, 15, and a son, Freddie Arthur, 9.

Another daughter, Karen Sue May, 13, suffered second and third degree burns and severe lacerations when she jumped through a window to escape. She was reported in serious condition in a hospital.

Linda Sue and Karen were children of a former marriage of Mrs. Ryan.

The blast in the concrete block structure awakened a neighbor, James Daugherty. He ran to the flaming building and assisted Mrs. Edith Wilson, 62, from the front apartment.

Patrolman Joe Jared, attracted by the flames, arrived a few minutes later and attempted to enter the rear four-room apartment, occupied by Mrs. Ryan and her children. But he was forced back by the flames and smoke.

"It was a mass of flames . . ." said Jared. "It was just too hot, I couldn't get close enough to find the rear door."

Jared said the roof caved in shortly after his arrival.

Mrs. Ryan and the children apparently were asleep at the time of the blast at 5:20 a.m. Karen, her clothing ablaze, was cut when she dove through the window glass, Jared said.

Firemen quickly extinguished the flames and removed the bodies from the smoldering ruins. Origin of the explosion was not determined immediately.



NEW UNIFORMS — Klamath Falls' three meter maids show off the new, light-blue uniforms they will wear starting Monday. The new uniforms and hats replace old green and white uniforms the maids have been wearing. The meter maids (left to right) are Jody Kitchen, Peggy Glasscock and Donna Hoffman. They are standing on the steps of the police department.

Widow, Lover Arrested In Murder Of Husband

CHICAGO (UPI) — An attractive young widow was held on a murder charge Saturday in the alleged love triangle slaying of her executive husband.

Mrs. Irwin Weinstein, petite 28-year-old mother of two children, surrendered voluntarily to police Friday five days after the charred body of her husband was found in his fire-swept station wagon in a South Side garbage dump.

Her husband, Harvey, 31, was an executive for Royal Display Inc., a firm operated by Mrs. Weinstein's father.

The woman was implicated in the case by a burly ex-convict, Richard Mattox, 31, who told police he and Mrs. Weinstein had been carrying on a love affair.

Mattox, who also has been charged with murder, said Mrs. Weinstein asked him to kill her husband so that they could get married. Mattox said he refused, however, and that she found another man—whom he could not identify—to help her do the job.

Mrs. Weinstein refused to speak with reporters after a 30-minute session with the state's attorney but denied through her attorney that she had anything to do with the death of her husband.

Attorney Frank Whalen unsuccessfully sought the widow's release from police custody, and she was held in jail.

State's Atty. Daniel P. Ward said Mrs. Weinstein refused to answer his "appropriate questions" about the case. He said no bond would be set for the pretty brunette because "it's a murder case."

Mattox told police he was on his way to visit Mrs. Weinstein at her home last Sunday when he saw her strike her husband in the presence of a man he did not know. He said he went home and did not know what happened next.

"I tried to talk her out of killing him," Mattox said. "It's a

story of love and romance. She wanted to divorce him and he would not give her a divorce."

Whalen called Mattox' statement "incredible."

Police said tests on the dead man indicated he was killed by a blow on the head and was dead before the station wagon fire started.

Burned Girl Continues To Improve

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Doctors attending eight-year-old Kathryn Reeves were reported "encouraged" by her improvement Saturday, but the mystery of who tossed the matches that turned her into a human torch deepened.

The child, who was prevented from running for help by braces on her polio-crippled legs, suffered second and third degree burns Tuesday when her light cotton dress burst into flames.

She was able to take fluid by mouth Friday and doctors said she appeared to be "much better." Doctors indicated they might start skin grafts this week.

But police said some witnesses had thrown some doubt on Kathryn's account of the burning. The child said two playmates, who had been teasing her about her braces, threw a lighted book of matches at her, setting her dress on fire.

Witnesses told police they had seen the girl playing with matches Tuesday afternoon. The witnesses said she was joined later by two boys and that all three began throwing matches at each other and at passing cars.

Police said the girl had insisted her version of the incident is the correct one. But they added, questioning of the child had been limited because of her condition.

Space Agency Officials Deny Inefficiency Claim

HOUSTON (UPI)—Top federal space agency officials defended industry Friday against a General Accounting Office (GAO) report that contractors were inefficient on the nation's first space effort.

A press conference of a two-day meeting summarizing Project Mercury Friday turned into a statement and question period between newsmen and four top space figures.

The four were Walter Burke, vice president of McDonnell Aircraft, prime contractor for the Gemini spacecraft; Hugh Dryden, deputy administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); Robert Gilruth, director of the Manned Spacecraft Center; and Dr. William Williams, deputy director for mission requirements.

Burke, representing industry, said "I have never known of any evidence of deliberate sloppy workmanship."

Burke said the fact that parts functioned correctly was testimonial to industry and the space team. "Six men flew (in space capsules) and nobody lost their lives," he said.

Gilruth said the contractors on Project Mercury were a "highly dedicated group on the government-industry team," and Dryden added that quality control on Mercury components "was as high as had ever been contained in any project I know about."

Williams, clarifying a paper he presented to the session concerning industrial testing standards, said the paper was not intended to be "vindictive," but only to point out that such testing must be geared to search for the tiniest flaws.

Because testing did not simulate complete flight conditions, Williams said, the possibility that moisture might collect in capsule electrical components was not revealed.

Such actually did occur in astronaut Gordon Cooper's "Faith 7" capsule, causing failure of the automatic controls as Cooper readied for re-entry.

Williams added that correct functions on Mercury components was "better than 99 per cent."

Burke said discrepancies pointed out in paper at the conference were caused by re-working of the capsule from its regular duties into the Cooper spaceship, John D. Hodge, assistant chief

for flight control at the Houston center, told the conference deliberate crises were simulated for ground controllers before the Cooper flight.

State GOP Stays Mum On Tax Vote

PORTLAND (UPI)—The Republican State Central Committee Saturday refused to take a stand on the Oct. 15 tax referendum.

The committee, meeting here, unanimously adopted a resolution which recommended that voters base their decision upon "non-partisan study and individual judgment."

The action was advisory because only 16 of the state's 36 counties were represented at the meeting. Delegates from 19 counties are necessary for a quorum.

The resolutions committee headed by James Cahill of Coos County noted that a majority of the Republican members of the state legislature voted against the \$60 million tax bill, but it also pointed out that voters traditionally ignore party lines in referendum votes.

Zoo's Baby Named Dino

PORTLAND (UPI)—Portland's third baby elephant will be named Dino.

The Portland Zoological Society announced the name after tallying votes from about 37,000 school children in the Portland area. The name Dino received about 24,000 votes to 7,000 for Rasha and 6,000 for Tyee. The three names had been suggested by the zoological society and city officials.

Dino, the three-week-old son of Pet, is the smallest of four baby elephants born at the zoo. The latest baby, a two-week-old daughter of Tui Hoa, will be named by school children in Portland's sister city of Sapporo, Japan.

Zoo officials also took advantage of the weekend to celebrate the first birthday of Me-Tu, the second elephant to be born at the zoo. The observation was two days late, but Me-Tu was given a large quantity of cotton candy and had her picture taken.

'Fuehrer' And His Bride Greeted By Boos, Eggs

COVENTRY, England (UPI)—British neo-fascist "fuehrer" Colin Jordan and his bride, the niece of the late Paris fashion designer Christian Dior, gave the Nazi salute after their marriage ceremony here Saturday and were greeted by boos, rotten eggs and stink-bombs.

When Jordan, 40, and his fiancée, Françoise Dior, 31, arrived at the Coventry registry office for the ceremony, they were booed and hissed by members of the local Anti-Fascist League who were in the crowd of about 1,000. Several clods of turf were thrown at Jordan and Miss Dior, but they were not hit.

When they emerged from the building 15 minutes later, Jordan and his bride both gave the Nazi salute. The crowd booed and threw rotten eggs and stink-bombs at them, but the couple was not hit. They got into a waiting taxi and were driven off.

The first of two ceremonies that will see Jordan and Françoise mingle their blood over a copy of "Mein Kampf" took place in the civil registry office of the British city that was nearly leveled by Nazi bombs in World War II.

The bride has said she and the former schoolteacher hope to raise their children by "insisting they keep their race pure by not marrying someone of non-Aryan bloods, teaching them to defend their race and venerate the fuehrer and instructing them how to fight for their race."

A "Political" ceremony will take place Sunday at the London headquarters of Jordan's National Socialist party, which glorifies Hitler and preaches anti-Semitism.

Miss Dior told an interviewer in Paris earlier last week she and Jordan will marry in a ceremony in which their fingers are cut, their blood mixed and several drops of it allowed to fall on a copy of Mein Kampf, Hitler's textbook of nazism.

U.S., Japan Adjourn Fish Talks

TOKYO (UPI) — The United States, Japan and Canada announced Saturday they have agreed to adjourn their deadlocked negotiations over fishing rights in the northeastern Pacific.

U.S. sources said the talks would be resumed in Canada.

A brief announcement issued after Saturday's session said the talks would be adjourned Monday. Japanese sources said the negotiations are expected to be resumed early next year.

While all sides say there has been some progress in the talks, the main issue—Japan's demand that it be allowed to fish for salmon and halibut off North America—remained unresolved.

The U.S. wants Japan to continue to abstain from fishing for these two marine resources in the northeastern Pacific convention area. Japan wants to scrap the abstention principle.

Sen. E. L. (Bob) Bartlett, D-Alaska, arrived here Friday to back up the U.S. delegation and to explain America's unyielding position.

Bartlett said it would be "grossly unfair" for Japan to share in halibut and salmon resources which American fishermen and the U.S. taxpayers have spent millions of dollars to build up.

Demo Figure Closely Tied To Firm Under FBI Scrutiny

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A rapidly expanding firm with close ties to Senate Democratic Secretary Robert G. (Bobby) Baker is under scrutiny by FBI agents.

The firm, Serv-U Corp., is reported to be doing a \$3.5 million annual business by placing its vending machines in aerospace plants working on government contracts.

Serv-U acquired five major franchises during the past 18 months at plants of North American Aviation, Northrop Corp. and Thompson-Ramo-Woolridge in the Southern California area.

The 35-year-old Baker and his wife, Dorothy, are listed as recipients of \$290,000 in promissory notes from Serv-U and Mrs. Baker has signed documents as assistant secretary of the firm.

Ernest C. Tucker, board chairman and vice president of Serv-U is a close friend and law partner of Baker's in private practice. Baker is a well-known Capitol Hill figure and has close ties with many Democratic senators. He is a protégé of Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Baker's non-elective job pays an annual \$20,000 salary. His wife is employed on the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee's staff at a salary of \$11,800 a year.

Senate staff members are not barred by law from carrying on private business careers. Baker has made no secret of his financial interests.

The FBI and the Justice Department refused to comment on their interest in the vending firm but it was learned that FBI agents visited several plants in the Washington area in connection with the firm's transactions.

Attention was first called to Baker's ties with Serv-U when he was named a defendant in a civil suit for damages filed by Ralph Hill, president of the Capitol Vending Co.

Hill alleged that he paid Baker \$5,600 for "securing and maintaining" a contract for Capitol Vending to place its machines in the nearby Falls Church, Va., plant of Melpar, Inc., an electronics firm with government contracts.

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