

Flaming Sword Dance Flares, Brings Death and Injuries

By P. D. ELDRIDGE
 SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A flaming Samoan sword dance exploded into a panic-stricken hollocaust at All Saints Catholic Church Saturday night, killing six and injuring more than 100.

The gasoline-torch sword of one of four dancers entangling about 200 members of a Samoan club in the church recreation room touched off a swiftly spreading fire that terrorized the crowded room.

Five victims died, mostly from burns, during the night and another succumbed Sunday. Several others were badly burned they may not live. Many of the injuries occurred when fire strikers people rushed the exits.

The fire burst out when one of the sword dancers lit the gasoline-soaked cotton on his weapon. Flames ignited stage curtains and rickety scaffolding. "We didn't have a chance; it lit the curtains and that was it," said Ray Brown, 26, a San Francisco backstage worker at the party given by the Samoan Catholic Benefit Society.

TREMBLOUS PANIC
 There was a tremor of a panic and a mad rush for exits. William Hall, 34, of Oakland, 71 was at the bar, starting to have a drink when he saw the flames. "I knew the curtains were afire," he said.

Emergency hospitals were

taxed beyond their limits and, to facilitate treatment of the overflow directly at private hospitals, Mayor John F. Shelley declared the fire an official emergency.

The death list mounted to six when Robert Orton, 34, of San Francisco died Sunday at St. Francis Hospital.

The other dead, all San Franciscans, were identified by the coroner as Faasaga M. Auelua, 27, Tumastai V. Malaepe, 29, Tavita Fa'Amali Tulagomoa, 25, Falaniko T. Palalalo, 32, and Nato Himihili, 36.

\$14,000 DAMAGE
 Fire chief William Murray, whose men quickly controlled the blaze and saved the church, estimated damage at about \$14,000. It was limited mainly to the recreation room.

Stage worker Brown told of seeing one of the dancers dip his cotton-soaked sword in a can of gasoline and light it. Then the recreation room immediately filled with smoke as panicky guests scrambled over each other along a narrow corridor.

In less than 15 minutes, bottles were strewn outside the recreation hall, many hurled so badly skin was hanging in tatters.

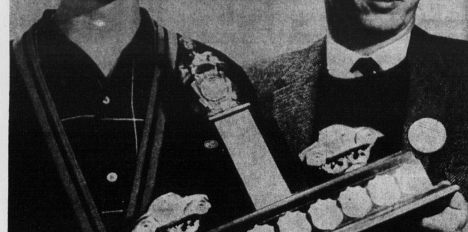
"They were jumping all over each other, screaming and yelling and crying," said one witness, Mike Aragon, of San Francisco. He suffered minor burns.



"L" DIVISION RCMP HOLDS PARADE

The 17th annual church parade of "L" division, RCMP, was held Sunday and members of the force attended services at St. Pauls Church and St. Dunstan's Basilica. The parade was under the command of Superintendent A.S. McNeil and the band of the P.E.I. Regiment was in attendance. Following the services the salute was taken by Lieutenant - Governor W. J. MacDonald in front of the

Memorial building. Shown above are the members of the force as they give the salute during the march past.



HARRY ANNEAR, Montague, left smiles happily as he holds the Charlotteville Unit's Junior Chamber of Commerce trophy for winning the 1964 Kings and Queens County Teenage Safe Driving Road-e-o. Shown standing with

Harry, holding the trophy is the chairman of the Road-e-o, Bill Oulton of the Charlotteville unit's Jaycees. Harry will compete in the Atlantic Provinces Regional drive-off in Summerside this coming weekend.

Alan Burke, Partridge; Colin Campbell, Charlottetown; Gerald Campbell, Charlottetown; Irving Doolin, North Rustico; Regis Gallant, North Rustico; Ronald Gallant, Mayfield; Blaine J. Kelly, Charlottetown; R.E. 2. Blair Macdonald, Bothwell; Douglas Rodd, North Milton. One girl, Margaret White, Milton Station, participated.

Mayor A. Wathen Gaudet, of Charlottetown presented the trophy and \$100 worth of prizes to Harry Annear and also presented merchandise prizes to the second and third placers.

Alf Parks, the president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, who is in town for the Maritime Provinces Board of Trade meeting Monday and Tuesday, presented the prizes to the girls who were selected Queen and Princess of the Road-e-o. Gail Loftus, a student at Queen Charlotte High School, was elected queen and Jean Blue of Montague Regional High School was princess. They will travel to Summerside this coming weekend to participate in the Atlantic Region drive-off.

LARGE CROWD
 A good number of people, both teen-agers and adults, were on hand to watch the drivers test their skill against the intricate course laid out for them. It included a straight line test, a parking test and weaving around the barrel. It was hoped by many more turn out for next year's road-e-o than the 14 this year.

PMs ASKED ADVICE
 LONDON (Reuters)—All the Commonwealth prime ministers have now been asked whether they should be invited to the Commonwealth conference opening here July 8, authoritative sources said Wednesday. The sources said not all the final reactions of the individual prime ministers have yet been received.

DEATH NOTICES
 Received too late for classified death notice column

GOFF — At the Prince Edward Island Hospital Friday, May 22, 1964, Louis Goff of 245 Queen Street in the Maclean Funeral Home in his 86th year. Burial at 2 p.m. Internment will take place in the People's cemetery.

SHAW — At the Livingston-MacArthur Nursing Home, Saturday, May 23, 1963, Mrs. Victor H. Shaw. Burial at the Maclean Funeral Home where the funeral will be held today, May 25, with service commencing at 2:30 p.m. Internment will take place in Sherwood cemetery.

NEW YORK (CP) — A furniture exhibit sponsored by the Canadian department of trade and commerce on behalf of 12 Canadian office furniture manufacturers Saturday was given the grand prize award for most original design by the U.S. National Office Furniture Association. The exhibit is in the national office products exposition at the New York Coliseum.

RECEIVES TREATMENT
 Hillard MacFarlane of Fernwood is receiving treatment in the Prince County Hospital.

BURNS FUNERAL — Funeral of J. Stewart Burns was held Friday afternoon at the Free Church of Scotland, Cape Traverse, where service was conducted by Rev. Kenneth Cameron. Pallbearers were: Walter Reeves, William Rogers, Wilfred Hamill, Alfred Reeves, Donald Bernard and Henry Reeves. Internment was in the church cemetery.

OS KENNETH PARENTS
 OS Kenneth Clark of HMCS Shearwater, N.S., visited his parents over the past holiday. He was accompanied by Paul Venlan of Ottawa.

IN P.C. HOSPITAL
 Charles Henderson, Bedouque, is a patient in the Prince County Hospital.

RESUMES PRACTICE
 Dr. Roy Kennedy has resumed his medical practice in the village of Tignish after a holiday to spend the summer months at his home in the village on Monday. Funeral service was held from St. Simon and St. Jude Church on Tuesday. Burial was in the church cemetery.

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Party Line Split Is Shaping In Vote On New Flag Choice

OTTAWA (CP) — A split in party lines in Conservative ranks—and perhaps among government backbenchers—was shaping up as the government prepares to unveil its choice of a new Canadian flag for the country.

Conservative Leader Leo Baecker promised to support the Liberal government's proposal to replace the current flag, despite the insistence of his chief, Opposition Leader Diefenbaker, that the Red Ensign is Canada's flag.

Mr. Baecker said in an interview during a Young Progressive Conservative Association study conference in Hamilton Friday he favors a new Canadian flag based on a maple leaf motif.

He said the Red Ensign is not distinctive, and he claims support from most Quebec conservative MPs for his view behind the maple leaf flag.

Prime Minister Pearson has promised to unveil the design of the new flag in the Commons later this week. It will be embodied in a resolution placed before the House for approval.

The government seems assured of majority backing in the Commons with indications of support from the New Democrats, Social Credit MPs, Credit Unionists, and some Quebec supporters in the official opposition.

However, some Liberal MPs are understood to be leery about the new flag. Whether their misgivings materialized in Friday's vote is not clear.

WEATHER
 TORONTO (CP) — Observed temperatures from the weather office:

Location	Min.	Max.
Dawson	25	30
Prince George	28	31
Vancouver	38	50
Victoria	35	45
Edmonton	35	55
Calgary	45	61
Winnipeg	44	78
Regina	44	62
Ottawa	63	82
Montreal	67	85
Quebec	67	85
Fredericton	54	91
Saint John	51	73
Moncton	53	84
Halifax	43	61
Charlottetown	50	67
Sydney	44	67
Yarmouth	47	67
St. John's, Nfld.	36	60

HALIFAX (CP) — The weather office says temperatures tapered off late Sunday after a record shattering day in the Maritimes. Truro, Greenwood, Moncton and Fredericton all set new records for May 24, with Fredericton reporting a scorching 91.

A disturbance over Quebec will pass to the north of the Maritimes today resulting in scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over the three provinces. Behind this disturbance drier from the north-west should definitely end the present warm spell.

Regions' forests:
 Annapolis Valley, Northern Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island: Cloudy with showers and a few thunderstorms this afternoon and evening; cooler inland but little change in temperature along the coast; southwest winds 20 shifting in the afternoon to northwest 25. Lowest at Kentville 55 and 80, New Glasgow 50 and 75, Charlottetown 48 and 70.

High tide today at Charlottetown, 10:54 am and 1:04 am. At Rustico 6:05 am and 8:09 pm. Summerside tide 18 minutes later than Charlottetown. Sun rises today at 5:50 a.m. and sets at 8:50 pm. All times

U.S. Defence Dept. Claims Letters Changed In Story

WASHINGTON (AP)—A high U.S. defence department official contends Life magazine, in reprinting letters written by a pilot later killed in South Viet Nam, edited and changed them in such a manner as to completely alter the sense of what he originally wrote.

Assistant Defence Secretary Arthur Sylvester made public a letter he wrote to the editor of Life magazine in which he said he was appalled at the manner in which the magazine handled the letters of Air Force Capt. Edwin G. (Jerry) Shank Jr., of Winamac, Ind.

The letters, which Shank wrote his wife before he was killed in combat late last March, were published in Life magazine and elsewhere. They were the basis of contentions the United States is using obsolete planes in the Vietnamese conflict.

Sylvester, chief Pentagon spokesman, said the Shank letters had been edited but were printed as though they were complete.

"If it had been desired to discredit the T-28 airplane, then certainly the editing as it appeared in Life would have accomplished that objective," Sylvester wrote.

A spokesman for Life said he would prefer not to comment until the Sylvester letter has been received. But he said the Shank letters were difficult to read and the editor had to guess at what one or two "and put in one that made sense." But he added that the spirit of the letters were preserved.

In Winamac, the pilot's widow denied Sylvester's charges. Mrs. Shank said only one word of the letter written before the pilot was killed was changed.

Cameras recorded the reenactment for the Warren commission, charged with investigating the Nov. 23 assassination.

J. Lee Rankin, chief counsel for the commission, said agents were "just trying to check out

printed incorrectly by the magazine and that was because editors could not read her husband's writing.

"Other than that those letters have been word for word," she said. "If this is all they (Pentagon officials) can find to service shortly after the assassination

"We wanted to be as accurate as we could in the reconstruction," Rankin said, revealing the actual murder weapon was used in the simulated assassination.

SHOWS PROFIT
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Memorial building. Shown above are the members of the force as they give the salute during the march past.

Weekend Accidents Kill 44

By THE CANADIAN PRESS
 At least 44 persons died accidentally in Canada during the weekend including 28 in traffic accidents.

A survey by The Canadian Press from 6 p.m. local time Friday to 6 p.m. EDT Sunday showed 76 persons drowned, four died in fires and six in unclassified accidents.

Eight died accidentally in the Atlantic provinces, five on highway.

Newfoundland had four dead in a train-car crash. Nova Scotia had two drownings and New Brunswick one traffic fatality and a miscellaneous death. Prince Edward Island was fatality free.

In Newfoundland, seven miles east of Grand Falls, a levee crossing crash killed Cecil Robert Pynn, Gerald Andrews, Roy Canning and Ray Bishop, all in their late 20s or early 30s and all from Grand Falls.

DIED IN HOSPITAL
 Bishop died in hospital several hours after the accident. The others died on the scene. The car struck a side of an Anglo - Newfoundland Development Company freight train.

Two died in two Dugby County sports fairs here as a drowned in the Salmon River, and a body of a 16-year-old Robycheau, 54, of Saultneuve, and Gerard Sannier of Comeauville, in his late 20s, were recovered from the river Saturday.

In New Brunswick, Wanda Lynn Kingsley, 3, of Quispamsis, near Saint John, died after she was struck by a car.

Lawrence Lavigne, 16, of South Bathurst, N.B., died when he was struck by a CNR passenger train. He was walking along the track.

12 DEATHS EACH
 Quebec and Ontario had 12 deaths each. Eight persons died on Quebec highways, two in fires, one person was drowned and his boy was run over by a mower.

In Ontario, five deaths resulted from highway mishaps, two persons died in fires and two were drowned. Ontario also has three unclassified deaths, including one youth who died when a homemade bomb exploded in a bush-ovener who fell and struck his head near railway tracks and one man who was struck by lightning.

Eight fatalities were reported in Alberta—seven on roads and one in a plane crash. Both deaths in British Columbia were traffic mishaps.

One person was drowned in Manitoba and Saskatchewan reported one traffic fatality.

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NOTICE OF FUNERAL

All members of the Presbytery of Prince Edward Island, The United Church of Canada, are requested to attend the funeral of the late Rev. A.S. Weir, D.D., in Pownal United Church, on Tuesday, May 26th, at 2:30 p.m.

Rev. D. Elton Adams, Chairman
 Rev. Bryer R. Jones, Secretary



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