

SENT BY MAIL

Bomb injures two

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. (CP) — A parcel bomb which exploded in the faces of two Vancouver-area men, badly burning one of them, went unclaimed in a local post office for six days, postal officials say.

That is one of the few clues police have in the explosion of the booby-trapped package which brought traffic in the downtown core of this city, 15 kilometres south-east of Vancouver, to a standstill Tuesday afternoon.

Joe Nicholson, mail processing manager at the post office, said the parcel — about 20-by-40-centimetre square — had been in the building since April 20.

"The mail service courier takes it out and if he can't make a delivery, he cards it for the customer to pick up."

Witnesses said one of the bomb victims shouted, "I don't have no enemies, I don't know why it happened," after he collapsed outside his pickup truck on a downtown street.

As the burned and bloodied men were taken to hospital, police evacuated the post office building and blocked off the area while RCMP bomb experts arrived to search for more bombs.

Police said Henry Blankers, a 27-year-old local contractor, had gone to the post office to pick up the parcel with Gordon Mile, 27, a friend from nearby Coquitlam.

After picking up the package, Blankers returned to his pickup truck which was parked outside and asked Milne to open the box.

Inside the parcel were styrofoam pellets and a smaller, booby-trapped box that exploded when Milne lifted it.

Milne, who suffered second- and third-degree burns to his arm, chest and face, was reported in serious but stable condition at the Vancouver General Hospital burns unit Tuesday night.

Around 200 postal workers and other federal workers were evacuated.

THE FALL GUY

Some party!

VICTORIA (CP) — A University of Victoria student who was celebrating the end of exams in a university dormitory woke up with more than a headache the next day.

Jens Haagerup, 20, woke up Tuesday at Royal Jubilee Hospital with a fractured skull and two broken wrists.

The first year arts and sciences student had fallen 15 metres from a fourth-floor window.

Shirley Baker, the university's housing manager, said dormitory supervisors had noticed parties "in one or two of the rooms" when they looked around earlier in the evening.

"Half an hour later, they heard a crash," she said. "This fellow (Haagerup) had been drinking quite a bit and started to pass out."

"They put him to bed. When they checked on him 10 or 15 minutes later to see if he could stand up, he stood on the bed, which was under the window, and just fell out the window."

The incident, said Baker, "was just one of those bizarre things that sometimes happen when somebody has been drinking."

Haagerup, from the Vancouver Island community of Errington, was visiting friends at the time of the accident.

Rapist jailed 17 years

VANCOUVER (CP) — A man described as a dangerous menace to B.C. women was sentenced Tuesday to 17 years in prison for rape and attempted murder.

Ronald Richard McCauley, 31, father of a two-year-old daughter, has expressed no sadness nor remorse since he brutally attacked, shot, strangled and raped two young women on two separate occasions in June, 1982, said B.C. Supreme Court Justice Raymond Paris.

A jury found McCauley guilty in February of two counts of rape and two counts of attempted murder. He has launched an appeal.

Paris sentenced McCauley to 15 years for each attempted murder and seven years and 10 years on the two rapes, but the sentences run concurrently. Paris also sentenced McCauley to two years for the illegal use of a firearm. This sentence always runs consecutively to any other, except a life term.

Paris said psychiatric reports indicated that McCauley did not suffer from mental illness, psychosis, anxiety, depression.

Crown prosecutor Bill Stewart said the manner in which McCauley made his two victims suffer, indicates "he has a hatred of women."

the weather

Synopsis	Temperatures
Parsnip; Prince George: Today: sunny with a few cloudy periods. highs 13 to 15. Tonight: a few clouds. lows zero to minus 3. Thursday: mostly sunny. highs near 15. Probability of precipitation zero today; zero tonight and zero Thursday.	TORONTO (CP) — High-low temperatures and precipitation in millimetres for the previous 24 hours issued Wednesday by the weather office:
Bulkley Valley: Today: mostly sunny. highs 15 to 18. Tonight: a few clouds. lows near zero. Thursday: sunny with a few cloudy periods. highs 15 to 18. Probability of precipitation zero today; zero tonight and zero Thursday.	Vancouver 15 5001.4
Chilcotin; Cariboo: Today: mostly sunny. highs 13 to 16. Tonight: mainly clear. lows zero to minus 3. Thursday: mostly sunny. highs 14 to 16. Probability of precipitation zero today; zero tonight and zero Thursday.	Victoria 13 4000.0
Okanagan: Today: sunny with a few cloudy periods. highs 15 to 17. Tonight: a few clouds. lows zero to plus 3. Thursday: mostly sunny. highs 16 to 18. Probability of precipitation 10 per cent today; zero tonight and 10 per cent Thursday.	Comox 14 4001.8
Columbia: Today: mostly cloudy with isolated showers. highs 12 to 15. Tonight: cloudy with clear periods. lows minus 3 to plus 2. Thursday: sunny with cloudy periods. highs 13 to 16.	Port Hardy 19 2000.0
	Prince Rupert 22 4000.0
	Stewart 20 4000.0
	Terrace 14 1000.0
	Penticton 14 1003.1
	Kamloops 8 1001.5
	Castlegar 13 2000.0
	Cranbrook 12 2000.0
	Revelstoke 12 2000.0
	Blue River 12 2000.0
	Puntzi Mountain 12 2000.0
	Williams Lake 12 2000.0
	Prince George 13 2000.0
	Mackenzie 13 2000.0
	Fort St. John 18 4000.0
	Fort Nelson 19 3000.0
	Dease Lake 11 2000.0
	Peace River 19 2000.0
	Whitehorse 19 2000.0
	Dawson City 19 2000.0
	Yellowknife 4 7000.0
	Inuvik 1 7000.0
	Resolute Bay -23 2900.0
	Eureka -21 2600.0
	Alert -21 2400.0
	Cambridge Bay -18 2700.0
	Calgary 6 -3000.2
	Edmonton 6 -4000.0
	Lethbridge 6 -2000.0
	Medicine Hat 6 -2000.0
	Swift Current 1 -5001.0
	Regina 6 -2000.4
	Saskatoon 2 -3001.1
	Saskatoon 1 -4005.1
	Prince Albert 1 -5000.6
	North Battleford 17 1000.0
	Brandon 11 -1000.0
	Churchill -7 -9022.2
	The Pas -2 -6003.3
	Kenora 15 2003.4
	Thunder Bay 14 4005.0
	North Bay 17 6000.0
	Toronto 22 10000.7
	Ottawa 16 2000.0
	Montreal 13 0002.2
	Fredericton 13 3000.6
	Charlottetown 17 4000.0
	Halifax 16 5000.0
	St. John's 14 5000.0
	Seattle 16 7000.0
	Spokane 11 -1000.0
	San Francisco 16 12000.0
	Los Angeles 23 14000.0
	Las Vegas 10 -1000.0
	Reno 29 16000.0
	Phoenix 18 9000.0
	New York City 26 14000.0
	Miami 26 14000.0

CHILD CUSTODY

Victoria won't pay Dawson legal bills

VANCOUVER (CP) — The provincial government is refusing to pay a \$26,000 bill submitted by the lawyer who acted for the parents of Stephen Dawson, the seven-year-old boy who recently was the subject of a court battle over whether he should have urgent brain surgery.

Linda Stewart, the lawyer who failed to persuade the court to allow the severely retarded child "to die with dignity," said she may sue the government over its refusal to pay her bill.

Under an agreement Stewart had with Robert and Sharon Dawson, she was to be paid \$80 an hour for preparing their case, \$1,000 for each day she appeared in court, plus all out-of-pocket expenses.

Her final bill included \$6,750 for 64 days of court appearances, \$13,200 for 165 hours of preparation and \$6,183.94 for disbursements — for a total of \$26,133.94.

The bill was sent to the Attorney General's Ministry after Human Resources Minister Grace McCarthy offered, during the course of the trial, "to assist the parents with the legal costs in this case."

But lawyer Ian Jessiman, head of the provincial government's legal services section, questioned the "reasonableness" of Stewart's bill and refused to approve its payment.

Jessiman said in a letter to Stewart: "In all the circumstances, in particular when compared with the bills submitted by our counsel acting in the matter, I do not consider the account, as reached, reasonable."

A Victoria source said the lawyer who appeared in the Dawson case on behalf of the superintendent of family and child service submitted a \$5,000 bill.

But Stewart disagrees. She said her agreement with Victoria was that she would charge her standard rate — which other lawyers told her is moderate — and not the legal-aid tariff.

Stewart appeared in March at a 4½-day provincial court hearing in which the Dawsons, who objected to Stephen undergoing life-sustaining surgery, won custody of their son.

She also represented the couple at a subsequent B.C. Supreme Court appeal.

Man found fit for trial

COQUITLAM, B.C. (CP) — A 22-year-old Coquitlam, B.C. man charged with the first-degree murders of six members of his family was found fit to stand trial Tuesday.

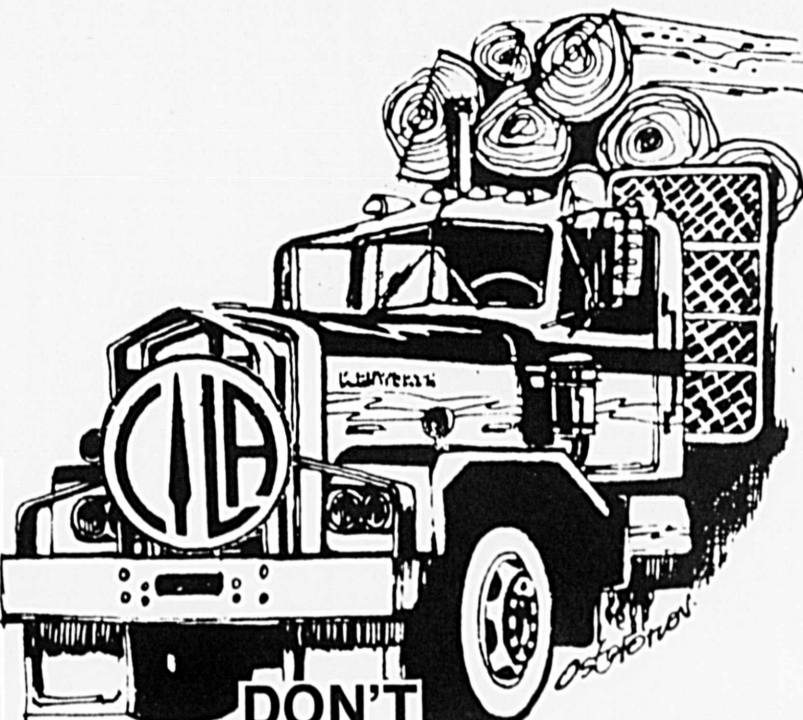
Provincial court Judge Alfred Scow declared Bruce Alfred Blackman — who has been held for psychiatric observation and treatment at the Forensic Psychiatric Institute in nearby Port Coquitlam since Jan. 19 — medically fit.

Scow ordered that Blackman be remanded to the institute until May 17 when he is scheduled to return to court. The judge also ordered a ban on publication of evidence.

The leg shackles and handcuffs Blackman was wearing to and from court were removed during his 30-minute appearance.

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