



## Six Persons Die In Blast At Home Of Religious Cult

### Two Others Missing; Building Destroyed

CHATSWORTH, Calif. (AP)—A bomb blew up headquarters of the Fountain of the World religious cult today, killing at least six persons.

Six bodies were recovered. Two persons are missing. One body was identified as 11-month-old Edwin J. Shanfelt, one of 14 children asleep in the building.

The cult leader, Krishna Venta, bearded, barefoot mystic in flowing robes who frequently led his similarly garbed followers to aid in earthquake, fire or flood disasters, was tentatively identified as one who perished.

Police and sheriff's officers of Los Angeles and neighboring Ventura County believe the infernal device that blasted in darkness about 2 a.m. was brought to the headquarters in a canvas bag by a man.

Survivors told officers they saw and heard a stranger, carrying such a bag, arguing with two members of the cult only five minutes before the explosion.

**FBI ENTERS CASE**  
The FBI entered the case, offering its investigation and laboratory facilities to local authorities.

Venta has called himself the master of the WKFL Fountain of the World. The initials stand for the aims of the sect — wisdom, knowledge, faith and love. He has described himself as having a "lifelong dedication to God."

Cult members dead or missing: Venta, 47, center; San Francisco shipyard worker whose real name was Francis H. Percovich; Martin Baker and his daughter, Keels, 9; Gene Shanfelt, 40, and his wife, 37, and the child, Edwin; Anna Noga, 65, and Ethel Ray, 58.

A woman cultist, Bishop McCann, said she was sleeping in the administration building. She was awakened, she said, and looked out to see a man outside in the 11 boys to safety.

She said she saw, in a woman's dormitory 100 yards away, said: "The ground shook and debris landed on the roof. At first I thought it was an earthquake. I remembered there was a rocket plant nearby and then I thought there had been a nuclear blast."

**FEARS REALIZED**  
"When I got outside, my worst fears were realized. Where the headquarters building was a roaring inferno, I ran to the building. There was nothing left to do. It was terrible."

The explosion started a brush fire which burned 200 acres before it was controlled.

The cult's quarters are sprawling buildings in a Box canyon straddling the Los Angeles-Ventura County line. The headquarters building is a two-level structure, was of stone and stucco.

Linda Lee Baker, 8, whose father, Martin, and sister, Keels, presumably perished, was burned on the face and upper body.

First report of the blast came from a woman living a mile from the remote canyon retreat which is tucked away in mountains at the head of the San Fernando Valley, about 35 miles from Los Angeles.

Mrs. Dorothy Hamm said she was knocked from her bed by the force of the explosion. Running outside, she saw flames leaping high in the sky and heard screams for help.

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**UPRISING TOLD**  
TAIPEI, Formosa — (AP) — A revolt, larger and more powerful than the Hsinan uprising is underway in Red China's southwest-territory of Tibet, a member of Chinese Nationalist cabinet said today.

Then at 11:20 a.m. he directed an order of mistrial, explaining that there was no Georgia law to compel jurors to deliberate until they were physically exhausted.

With time out for Sunday observance and sleep, the jurors actually had deliberated approximately 22 hours — the longest period in the memory of court officials.

They were so worn out that they were allowed to retire early Tuesday night in a vain hope that a good night's sleep might help them to agree.

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Smoldering Ruins Mark Spot Where Building Stood Before Explosion (AP Photos)



KRISHNA VENTA

### —NEED GREAT AT COUNTY'S NEGRO SCHOOLS— Kids Have Own 'Free Lunch' Program

Plato Price is duplicated at the county's six other Negro schools. The 33 white county principals report they are able to take care of those children whose parents cannot afford to provide lunches.

Negro county school principals say they are providing about 30 free lunches now, but should be giving between 220 and 245 a day.

In the county system, each lunchroom is operated as a separate unit, and must provide free lunches out of its own operation.

Negro principals say they cannot take care of the need. For example, no free lunches at all are provided at Plato Price, Sterling, and Woodland.

**TEACHERS HELP**  
At Woodland, as at other schools, teachers attempt to help needy children by bringing sandwiches or buying lunches out of their own limited funds.

The only free lunches to needy hungry Negro county school children are being given at Ada Jenkins, E. J. H. Gunn, 7 and Torrence-Lytle, 3.

But these free lunches do not meet the needs, principals say. It is estimated Ada Jenkins

### Ike Attacks Vote Action In Alabama

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower called it reprehensible for public officials to refuse to produce evidence about Negro voter registration.

At a news conference the President dealt specifically with such defiance in Alabama and with defiance of the law generally.

At his first meeting with reporters since Nov. 5, Eisenhower also said he knows of no reason to question reports that the Soviet Union has developed an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of delivering a warhead almost 6,700 miles.

As for published reports the Soviet Union has test flown an atomic-powered plane, Eisenhower said this government has received no intelligence—no reliable information—that they have flown such a plane.

Eisenhower was asked for comment on the refusal by Alabama public officials to supply Negro voter registration data to the federal Civil Rights Commission.

In the light of that development, the commission Tuesday started legal action to compel the officials to produce such data.

**NOT VERY WELL**  
The President remarked that he doesn't feel very well about the defiance in Alabama.

He said he picked the commission very carefully, making sure that some Southerners were included on it.

It is a rather sad sort of thing, Eisenhower went on, when such defiance develops. He said all around the country we are running into refusals to comply with the basic laws of the land that have been upheld as being legal and proper.

And that, he said, is a reprehensible kind of thing.

The President sounded a new appeal for respect for the law. He said there should be no interference with the right of free men to vote.

### 'VOLCANO' IN BATHROOM SPITS CEMENT

BRENSHAM, Tex. (AP)—Paul Kasprovic, 5, told his mother the commode was "snoozing up like a volcano."

She went and looked, then found the commode was "snoozing up like a volcano." She went and looked, then found the commode was "snoozing up like a volcano."

Once everyone got together, they found the reason behind the cement had broken a sewer line and then backed up the line into the nearby Kasprovic house.

Crews worked long and late trying to get the sewer line cleared before the concrete hardened.

### WITNESSES CALLED CHICAGO (AP)—A blue ribbon jury of experts calls the first of more than 25 witnesses today to tell what they know of the parabolic grade school fire Dec. 1 which took 92 lives—89 children and three nuns.

### Merchants Combatting Shoplifting

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### Mistrial Bid Set In Trial

DENHAM, England (AP)—Key prosecution exhibits in the wife slaying trial of U.S. Air Force Sgt. Marcus M. Marymont came under defense fire today.

Capt. Neil Kasdan, Marymont's defense counsel, told the U.S. Air Force court-narrator.

"The defense will move a mistrial on the grounds that this evidence does not create an impression and that this prejudice cannot afterwards be effectively removed."

The prosecution claims that Marymont, 37, of Hobbesville, N.C., fed his wife, Mary Helen, 43, arsenic poisoning because of his overwhelming passion for another woman.

He also is charged with adultery with Mrs. Cynthia Taylor, a 23-year-old brunette. Marymont pleaded innocent to both charges.

The defense challenged admissibility of a liver, and bottles and capsules produced as exhibits by the prosecution.

Dr. Lewis Nickolls, director of Scotland Yard's arsenic laboratory, testified he found arsenic in all of the human organs he received. He said among the specimens he received was what appeared to him to be a portion of a liver.

Nickolls said the amount of arsenic he found in the liver—three quarters of a gram—indicated consumption of more than two or three grams, which was a lethal dose. His findings in the kidneys were consistent with that.

### It's Sub-Zero, Too Snowbound Towns Face New Storm

By ASSOCIATED PRESS  
Northeastern states were chilled today by the coldest weather of the season. Heavy snowfalls continued in some parts of New York state already staggered by record deluges.

Up to five feet of snow already had fallen in a series of storms during the past four days in western New York.

The new wintry blast portended even greater hardships for those living in and around Oswego and the area east of Lake Ontario. A total of 50.2 inches of snow has fallen since Sunday, a record weather forecasters predict another 24 inches was on way.

Oswego, a city of 23,000, which had to work trying to dig out under emergency conditions. Snowplows were rushed in by state, county and local agencies. One of the main tasks was to get snow off the roofs of private homes lest the weight collapse them.

Schools and government offices were closed but industrial plants were trying to resume operations. Drifts of snow ranged up to nearly 20 feet as a result of the worst blizzard in the city's history. City streets were closed to all but emergency traffic.

Low temperatures were in the single digits, and were falling throughout the northeast.

The bottom reading of all was 31 degrees below zero at Presque Isle, Maine. Caribou, Maine, had 45 below.

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### Bombing Trial Mistrial Ruled

ATLANTA (AP)—Judge Durwood T. Pye declared a mistrial today in the state's efforts to convict George Bright of the Jewish Temple bombing and inflict the death penalty.

The mistrial came with the jurors hopelessly deadlocked nine-to-three slightly more than 84 hours after they began their deliberations.

The jurors disclosed that the division had been the same since 11 a.m. Monday. There was no disclosure of whether the majority stood for acquittal or conviction.

The jurors, worn and weary from the long, frustrating efforts to reach an agreement, were summoned to the courtroom shortly after 11 a.m.

The judge asked all who thought there was no chance of an agreement to raise their hands. All did.

Then at 11:20 a.m. he directed an order of mistrial, explaining that there was no Georgia law to compel jurors to deliberate until they were physically exhausted.

With time out for Sunday observance and sleep, the jurors actually had deliberated approximately 22 hours — the longest period in the memory of court officials.

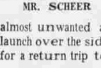
They were so worn out that they were allowed to retire early Tuesday night in a vain hope that a good night's sleep might help them to agree.

### The Christmas I Remember Best

#### Howard's Richest Gift

By JULIAN SCHEER

For men at sea, landfall, any landfall, is exciting. Even in a place like Korea where it was ten degrees below zero and there was nothing to see or do, but only the opportunity to walk about frozen streets and look into the cold and expressionless faces of an unhappy people, a day ashore was a big event.



Our ship, an ancient vessel weary with war, beat its way across the barren Yellow Sea to the port of Insein and dropped anchor on a December night in 1945.

The next morning came up over the water bleak and almost unwarmed and the two of us put a motor launch over the side to go ashore for sailing orders for a return trip to Japan.

"See if there is anything for the crew to do," the Captain had said in his parting instructions. "We may give them a day ashore."

We made the launch secure to a frail boat landing. An American soldier standing on the dock offered to help. He looked at me—hard. There was a trace of recognition, then he blurted our names, almost in unison. It was Howard Clarke, a boy from my hometown.

Howard was not a close friend. He had no close friends in high school, for he was known as a "strange kid," kind of "preachy," with grown up ways.

But it was a good reunion thousands of miles from home on a cold December day and we talked long. My friend from the ship went on without me. Finally, I got around to asking Howard about entertainment, explaining that the men on the ship would be there the next day seeking the usual pleasures, of men long at sea and lonesome for home.

"Follow me," he said quickly, explaining proudly that he had "many friends" in the town.

So we started on a long walk through the frozen back streets of Jinsein.

We walked for what seemed like miles until we came to a low, dingy frame building on a back street. Howard opened a door, walked inside and a group of young men and women rushed up to him excitedly, threw their arms about him and talked wildly in Korean. Then he spoke to them and I saw them watching me. One young girl took my hand and led me across the room.

They gathered about me and started to sing and I didn't recognize the Korean words. But the melody suddenly became clear and I saw Howard smiling at the recognition on my face. First, they sang "Hark, the Herald Angels," then "Noel," and finally, "Silent Night."

Then I realized that time had passed me by aboard a ship—and today was Christmas—Christmas in Korea, 1945.

Howard turned to me. "This is my Christian mission," he said quietly. "This is my flock."

And I stood there on a Christmas morning and watched as Howard received the richest gift of his life.

(Mr. Scheer is a Charlotte News columnist-reporter, who served in the Merchant Marine during World War II.)

### The Lighter Side Delivery In Person Would Solve Problem

(From AP Reports)  
A letter sent by registered mail by city hall to the United States of America, Post Office Building, Tulsa, Okla., was returned with an "insufficient address" notation.

A spokesman at the post office, four blocks from city hall said it should have been addressed, "Postmaster, Tulsa."

### Honesty Rewarded

Jack McDonald, 13, said out of work, found a purse in Dallas. It contained \$41, two wrist watches, eight bus tokens and the owner's address. McDonald borrowed money to pay the fare and rode the bus to the owner's address to return the property. He received \$10 as a reward.

### Just For Them

The faces of nine Russian edu-

BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS  
SHOPPING DAYS LEFT HELP FIGHT TB