

Today—Cloudy, breezy with chance of rain and thundershowers late in the day. High in mid 70s, low in mid 50s. Saturday—Rain, high in mid 60s. Yesterday—3 p.m. AQI: 38. Temp. range: 77-55. Details on B2.

Thatcher to Become British Prime Minister

By Leonard Downie Jr.

Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON, May 4—Margaret Thatcher, the Conservative Party's determined crusader against socialism, will become the first woman prime minister in Britain and in Europe following a comfortable but not overwhelming Conservative victory in Thursday's British election.

After more than three-fourths of the 635 seats in the House of Commons had been decided by 5:30 a.m. (12:30 a.m. EDT) in the slow-moving count today, news organizations here estimated by computer that the Con-

servatives would win about a 30-seat majority in Parliament.

With 496 constituencies counted—and many safe rural Conservative constituencies not set to be counted until later, today—the Conservatives had won 249 seats to 237 for the Labor Party, 6 for the Liberal Party, 2 for the Scottish Nationalist Party and 2 for the Welsh nationalist party Plaid Cymru.

Overall, the Conservatives were winning nearly 43 percent of the vote, Labor 40 percent and Liberals 13 percent. The Conservatives increased

their vote by 8 percent since the last election, in 1974, while Labor's vote fell sharply everywhere but in Scotland. The Scottish Nationalist Party suffered a severe setback in Scotland, losing at least four of its eleven seats in Parliament to Labor or Conservative challengers.

Although the middle-ground Liberals lost a significant portion of their 1974 vote nationally, they had lost only one of their 14 seats in Parliament by early this morning, former Liberal leader Jeremy Thorpe's seat in rural North Devon. Thorpe, who is to stand trial here next week on

charges of conspiring to murder former male model Norman Scott, lost by a wide margin to a Conservative challenger after representing North Devon in Parliament for 20 years.

Neither Thatcher nor outgoing Labor Prime Minister James Callaghan would claim victory or concede defeat this morning, preferring to wait until the results are known in the more than 100, mostly rural constituencies where counting will not begin until later today.

"I am still not absolutely certain," Thatcher told newsmen at Conservative headquarters in London at 4 a.m.

"We were cautiously optimistic. Now we are optimistic."

Asked how she felt, she said, "I'm just aware of the very great responsibility, but it is exciting. But somehow one is very calm about it—it needs that calm. But the people who have helped me through all these days are still here, and they are still helping me."

Callaghan, speaking a few minutes later from the Cardiff, Wales, constituency from which he won re-election to Parliament, said, "I've been watching the results with very great interest. I've seen the trends. I shall have

something more to say [later today] in London after it's entirely clear."

The regional differences in the results were sharper than in the recent past, with Labor increasing its grip on Scotland and northern England, while the Conservatives made their expected large gains in southern and central England. Conservatives increased their strength in suburban and rural areas, while Labor remained in control of most central cities.

Thatcher's new Conservative government thus will have a modest majority.

See BRITAIN, A34, Col. 1

A-Emission At Pa. Plant Revised Up

But U.S. Minimizes Health Dangers of Radiation Dosage

By Walter Pincus

Washington Post Staff Writer

The collective radiation dose to persons residing within 50 miles of the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident was at least twice as high as previously estimated, but the level was still so low that almost no health damage should occur, federal officials said yesterday.

At a Senate subcommittee hearing yesterday, Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph A. Califano Jr. said that based on the new data "we would expect one additional cancer death" and "one nonfatal cancer" above normal among the two million persons living around the nuclear facility near Harrisburg, Pa.

He added that some scientists using the same data would predict as many as 10 additional cancer deaths and 10 additional nonfatal cancers.

At the same time, officials admitted, the data they have is so sketchy that they have no way of telling how much radiation any single person may have received. Thus, their estimates of health effects are just educated guesses.

The difficulty in setting the extent of radiation exposure, they said, is because of the limited number of radiation monitors working outside the plant site during the first three days after the March 28 accident, when most radiation was released. As reported at the time by The Washington Post, the 17 thermal luminescent dosimeters (TLDs) maintained by plant operator Metropolitan Edison Co. were, during the initial key days, the only devices within 12 miles of the plant used to determine off-site exposure.

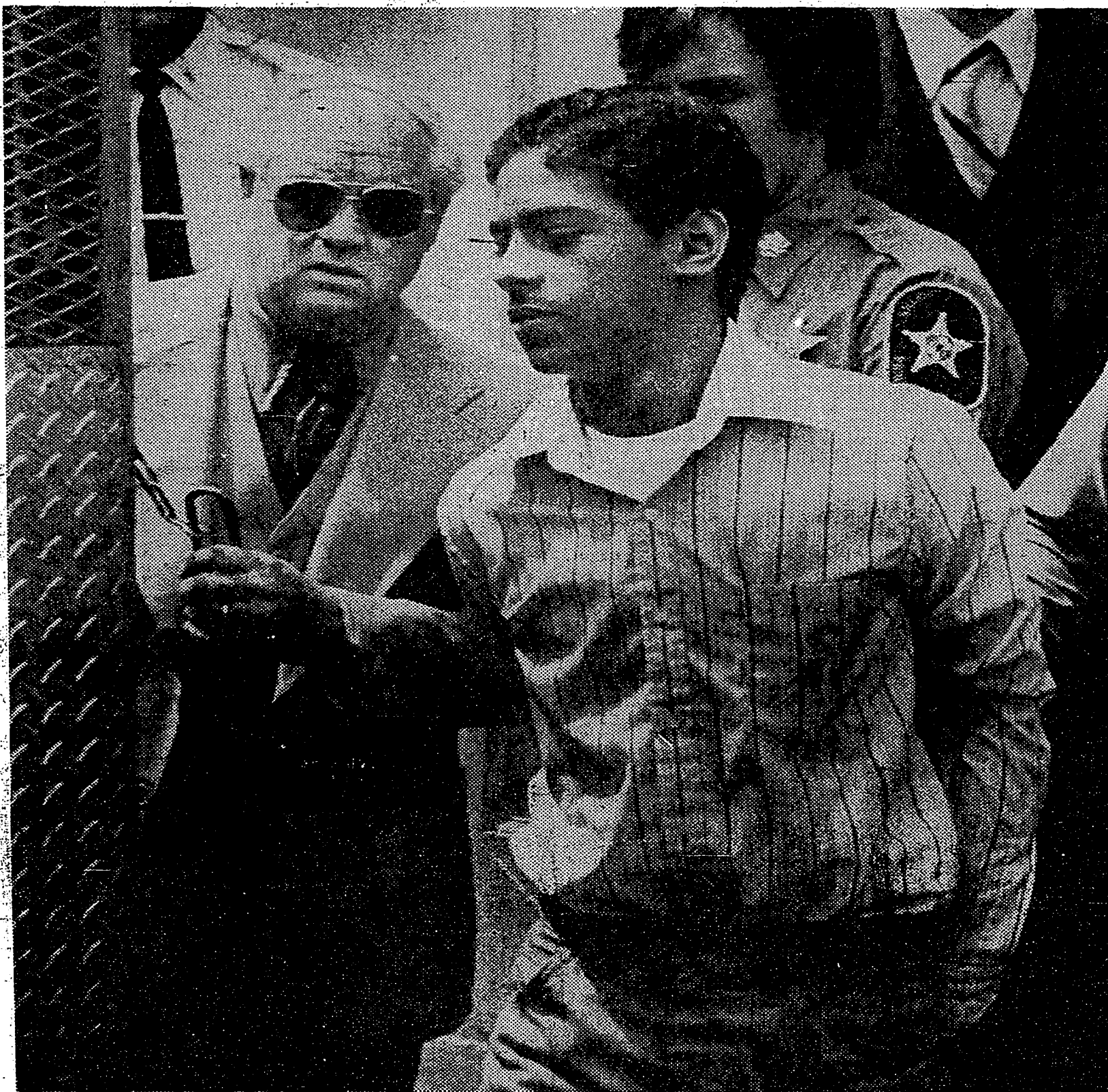
The first of about 200 federal government TLDs were not put in place until most of the radiation releases had ended.

The cumulative radiation exposure figure obtained from TLDs is important in setting dose rates, which in turn are needed to estimate future health risks to the exposed population.

On April 4, before a different Senate subcommittee, Califano predicted that there would be "no additional cancer deaths" as a result of the low-

See RADIATION, A12, Col. 1

A nuclear reactor malfunction causes shutdown of Jersey power plant. A13.



Terrence Johnson is led to patrol wagon after being sentenced in deaths of two county police officers.

By Gerald Martineau—The Washington Post

Johnson Is Given Maximum 25 Years

By John Feinstein

Washington Post Staff Writer

A Prince George's County Circuit Court judge imposed a maximum 25-year sentence yesterday on Terrence G. Johnson, the 16-year-old youth who shot and killed two county police officers inside a police station last summer.

"You are a walking time bomb, and you exploded on June 26 and caused this senseless tragedy," Judge Jacob S. Levin told the youth. "You should be thankful that I am limited by law in what I am sentencing you to today."

Johnson, who was convicted March

31 of voluntary manslaughter and illegal use of a handgun in connection with the killings, will be eligible for parole in 4½ years, according to the judge.

Yesterday's 90-minute court session was punctuated by loud, angry chants from two groups of demonstrators outside the courthouse. One crowd of 125 shouted "Free Terrence Johnson," while another of 75 people stood a few feet away chanting, "We want justice, 25 years."

These final outbursts, which almost resulted in a violent confrontation between the two groups, were typical of the emotions the case has provoked in

the county, which has long been troubled by tension between the largely white police force and the growing black community.

Members of the community began dividing, largely along racial lines, within hours after Johnson, who is black, shot officers Albert M. Claggett IV and James Brian Swart at the Hyattsville station. Johnson and his older brother had been taken to the station as suspects in the burglary of a laundromat coin box.

Tension also was evident inside the Upper Marlboro courtroom as many of those involved in the case re-

See JOHNSON, A18, Col. 1

Ribicoff to Retire



In a surprise move, Sen. Abraham A. Ribicoff (D-Conn.) announced yesterday that he will not seek election to a fourth term next year, ending in early 1981 a four-decade political career.

"The greatest thing for a man in public life is to learn how to step away at the height of his power," said the 69-year-old chairman of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

Details on Page A3

See LAUREL, A18, Col. 2

3 Officers of Laurel Raceway Charged With Diverting Funds

By Martha M. Hamilton

and Sandra Saperstein

Washington Post Staff Writers

A federal grand jury indicted three officers of Maryland's beleaguered Laurel Raceway yesterday on charges of "misappropriating" raceway funds to pay personal debts and funneling Laurel money into companies secretly owned by one of them.

The indictment charges that between March 1975 and December 1978 Joseph Shamy, his wife, Greta, and her father, Daniel Rizk, illegally profited from a \$3.6 million raceway renovation contract awarded to a company in which Joseph Shamy had a concealed interest.

In August 1977, the three, all of New Jersey, allegedly arranged the transfer of \$170,000 from a Laurel Harness Racing Association bank account in Maryland to Joseph Shamy's personal bank account in his hometown of North Brunswick, N.J.

Rizk, chairman of the board, and Joseph Shamy, Laurel's corporate secretary, own a majority interest in the harness racing track, according to the indictment. Greta, Shamy's president of the track.

The indictment is the most recent in a series of legal problems for the raceway, a five-eighths of a mile harness racing track in Howard County, including the 1977 conviction of the

raceway's former president for giving directions to have the track's old clubhouse burned down.

The majority owners of the track also have been beset with lawsuits by banks, creditors and minority stockholders, takeover attempts, a state police investigation of charges of hidden ownership and an FBI investigation into allegations that the track's assets have been diverted into such uses as real estate deals in Atlantic City, N.J.

The Shamys, who moved from modest backgrounds to multimillion-dollar real estate deals in Atlantic City, first invested in the raceway in 1975 and took control of its operations in 1976. In Atlantic City, Shamy has put together real estate deals for two hotels planned by their owners for conversion to casinos and kept a piece of each property for his family.

Yesterday's indictment, returned in Baltimore, charges the Shamys and Rizk with "defrauding" other Laurel stockholders of their right to honest service by creating Howard Construction Company and then awarding it the \$3.6 million contract to replace the demolished clubhouse and improve the track grounds.

The defendants concealed the true ownership in Howard Construction and in two other companies, which were handled special, smaller con-

Diplomat's Son Suspect in School Fires

By Janis Johnson

Washington Post Staff Writer

A Montgomery County junior high school has suspended the 15-year-old son of a high-ranking diplomat at the Embassy of Gabon after police and fire authorities identified the youth as their chief suspect in two fires that caused \$31,000 worth of damage at the school last month.

County authorities said they were unable to arrest the youth and charge him with two counts of arson and one count of burglary because, as the son of an embassy counselor, he has diplomatic immunity from criminal prosecution.

"If it were a normal situation, he would have been arrested. It's as simple as that," said Lt. Carvel Harding, Montgomery County fire investigator.

Instead, county authorities took their information about the fires at Bethesda's Western Junior High School to Richard Gookin, the State Department's Deputy Chief of Protocol, whose office serves as an intermediary between the U.S. government and the foreign diplomatic corps here.

Gookin said yesterday that he was "very much concerned" about the case

and immediately informed the embassy about the police reports.

Embassy officials could not be reached for comment yesterday. The youth and his mother both denied the charges in separate telephone conversations.

"Why would I burn the school?" the youth asked.

The youth qualifies for the diplomatic immunity from all criminal charges and most civil suits because his father holds an "A-1" visa given to diplomats and their immediate families.

See FIRE, A19, Col. 1

State Dept. Faulted on Jonestown Warnings

By Fred Barbash

Washington Post Staff Writer

The State Department was so preoccupied with bureaucratic niceties and legalistic constraints that it was virtually blind to warnings of imminent danger at Jonestown last year, according to a study commissioned by Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance.

The study found that some of the most prized diplomatic attributes—caution, circumspection and tact—ultimately emasculated what few efforts were made to intervene at the Peoples Temple commune in Guyana before last November.

"The single most important substantive failure," the report said, occurred last June, five months before the Jonestown tragedy. After receiving repeated allegations concerning concentration camp-type conditions and mass suicide threats at Jonestown, the U.S. ambassador in Guyana cabled Washington June 6 for authorization to seek Guyanese intervention.

But the cable was so cautious and so couched in legalese that "its intended import was obscured." The request was rejected with a "simplistic reply" from Washington, the report said.

A month earlier, the report contin-

ued, the State Department "all but ignored" a petition from a Peoples Temple defector, Timothy Stoen, in which he, too, spoke of possible mass suicide. "I wish there were some way to convince you that the situation in Jonestown is desperate," Stoen wrote. There exists "a threat so chilling as to be incomprehensible to the average decent person."

Last Nov. 18, Peoples Temple members murdered visiting Rep. Leo Ryan (D-Calif.) and four others accompanying him on a Jonestown inspection. More than 900 Temple followers then

See JONESTOWN, A32, Col. 1