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THE INDEPENDENT IG

BERKELEY GAZETTE

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Weather

Fair through tomorrow. Slightly warmer tonight. Highs tomorrow in the 50s with lows tonight in the mid-30s. Winds will be variable up to 15 mph.

The pressing need for an emergency phone number

PRESSURE FOR IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER precious seconds can be lost with the present system —I-G Photo

By NORMAN COLBY
I-G Staff Writer

If George Umbe had been able to dial "911" he might be here today.

He couldn't remember the fire department number, so he called the operator while flames swept through his Berkeley residence.

The operator quickly switched the call for help to the fire department, but it was too late.

All the answering fireman could hear was the sound of crackling flames. The victim had collapsed from smoke inhalation and died in the fire.

That was two years ago, but the memory lingers.

Alameda County officials want a "911" emergency phone number that anyone can dial for help. These systems are already in use in many cities throughout the nation. Police, fire or other assistance must be available.

But the 911 system must function despite many local boundaries and jurisdictions with other cities, county and park areas all served.

Making that desperate call simpler for the panic-stricken citizen will be a complicated process, they discovered.

And very expensive.

But it turned out the federal government is willing to pay to find out how expensive, and Alameda County will be the testing ground.

About 350 cities in the U.S. already have a 911 system; however, each involves just one city with few jurisdiction problems and one central switchboard.

A single switchboard would have many disadvantages in Alameda County, and a better method is being undertaken.

Alameda County has 13 cities and a maze of overlapping jurisdictions

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Dynamite found on reservation

PARKER, Ariz. (AP) — Authorities today safely removed a quantity of dynamite found at the Bureau of Indian Affairs complex near here following a telephoned bomb threat, the FBI said.

But neither federal agents nor other authorities could shed much light on the incident.

"There was some dynamite found, and that's about all I know," said Richard E. Long, special agent in charge of the Phoenix FBI office. "We are investigating the matter" because it occurred on an Indian reservation, he said.

"I don't know if it was defused or if it was made up so it couldn't go off," Long said in Phoenix. He said he did not know precisely where the dynamite was found at the BIA complex or who had made the telephoned threat.

The BIA complex, which includes at least three buildings and a residential compound for BIA employees, is located on the Colorado River Indian Reservation just outside this town on the California border.

Earlier, Yuma County sheriff's deputy Mike Manny confirmed that a tribal policeman on the reservation had received a call shortly before 10 p.m. Thursday MST saying that a bomb had been placed at the BIA complex. Manny would not comment on a report that the caller claimed to be with a militant Indian group.

William Lawrence, the BIA superintendent, said early today that the dynamite was found "outside the building, by one of the offices."

Lawrence, who has been the superintendent for 10 months and lives in the compound near the complex, said he believed the telephoned threat was not directed against him but "probably just the government."

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Random food check

Price spiral still with us

By LOUISE COOK
Associated Press Writer

Starting the day cost more as Americans started the new year, with an Associated Press market-basket survey showing price increases for milk, butter, eggs and coffee during the last month of 1975.

The AP drew up a random list of 15 commonly purchased food and non-food items, checked the price at one supermarket in each of 13 cities on March 1, 1975, and has rechecked on or about the start of each succeeding month.

No attempt was made to weight the survey results according to population density or in terms of what proportion of a family's actual grocery outlay each item represents.

Among the highlights of the latest survey:

—The market-basket bill was up at the checklist store in seven cities during December, rising an average 3.7 per cent. The bill decreased at the checklist store in five cities, down an average 2.2 per cent, and was unchanged in one. Over-all, the market-basket at the checklist store rose just over 1 per cent during December.

—Sugar prices declined sharply during 1975, although they remained higher than they were at the start of 1974. The average price of a five-pound sack of sugar at the checklist stores went from 85 cents in January 1974 to a high of $1.02 on Dec. 1, 1974, then dropped to $1.27 by the start of this month.

—The declines in sugar made it appear that food prices were dropping. When sugar was included in the total, the AP survey showed the market-basket bill declined in seven cities during 1975 and was up in five.

(Sugar was not available in the specified size at the checklist store in the 13th city.) When sugar was not included, however, the bill went up in every city, rising an average 13 per cent over the 12-month period.

—Increases in dairy and other breakfast products hit consumers hard during December. The price of a pound of butter was up at the checklist store in all 13 cities, rising an average 7½ per cent. The price of a dozen, medium white eggs was up in 12 cities, with an average increase of 12½ per cent. Milk went up in seven cities and coffee increased in six cities. The increases in milk and milk products reflected a seasonal decline in supplies; coffee prices have been rising since midsummer

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CIA recruits mercenaries
(See Page 6)

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The badge wearers
(See Page 16)

Quakes jolt southland, as well as Greece and Pacific

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — The first earthquakes of 1976 struck Southern California, Greece and the South Pacific New Year's Day, jolting the Los Angeles area and killing a child in Greece.

The California quake shook a large area, rattling windows and shaking furniture over four counties. It disturbed millions of residents but caused no injuries and did no serious damage.

More than 40 tremors shook western Greece Wednesday and Thursday, killing a child in the village of Kastraki and injuring two persons in Famila.

The strongest quake registered 4.75 on the Richter scale. The government said 110 homes in Greece were destroyed and 300 damaged. Tents were sent to shelter the homeless villagers.

"The Southern California tremor "was one hell of an earthquake — a really great one," said Mrs. Carlos Schisbeck of Buena Park. "We live in a two-story house and it was swaying."

The tremor, which registered 4.2 on the Richter scale, struck at 9:20 a.m. PST and was felt in northern Orange County, north through Los Angeles County and 30 miles eastward through San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

Scientists at the Caltech seismological laboratory said the epicenter was about 20 miles east of Los Angeles, near West Covina.

The quake disrupted some telephone service and shook up some of the thousands of spectators who turned out for the annual Rose Parade in Pasadena.

The Los Angeles County sheriff's office reported some broken windows and a cracked fireplace in Walnut. The shaking was felt strongly in the Los Angeles police communications center, where an officer said "everything just moved around on the table," and at the 2,160-bed County-USC Medical Center.

R.W. Rayburn said his house in Upland trembled "like a car hit by a gust of wind."

A tremor that registered a strong 6.8 on the Richter scale was recorded at 5:42 p.m. PST at the University of California seismological laboratory at Berkeley. Scientists said the epicenter was in the New Hebrides Islands in the South Pacific, 8,000 miles to the southeast.

In Hawaii, the Honolulu Observatory said the tremor was in the Fiji-Tonga-Kermadec Islands, south of the New Hebrides.

Offshore lease plan reported

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The government intends to lease 1.2 million acres of Massachusetts coastland for undersea oil and gas drilling, but environmental complaints may reduce the New Jersey offshore acreage available for drilling.

TEAR-GAS GUNS — Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., police move into crowd with pepper-fogger tear-gas guns on New Year's Eve. Celebrants got out of hand, pulling down a traffic light at Las Olas. Police quickly dispersed them. (See story on page 2). —UPI Telephoto

No thought of becoming snow heroes

SALIDA, Colo. (UPI) — Jack Lewallan and his two sons wanted to get away from the holiday rush and appreciate the view from 13,000-foot high Tincup Pass. They had no idea they would become heroes.

Lewallan, 48, of Buena Vista, Colo., and sons Harvey and Danny were snowmobiling Wednesday when they thought they heard a cry for help.

"We got up there and just happened to shut our machines off," said Lewallan, a 48-year-old heavy equipment operator. "It was snowing real hard and we didn't have any idea there was anybody up there."

The Lewallans followed the cries and located the wreckage of a light plane which had gone down the night before on a flight from Marshalltown, Iowa, to Las Vegas, Nev. All six persons on board were injured but alive.

"It gave us a weird feeling," said Lewallan. "It was just kind of weird to be up there at the timberline with all that snow and to find someone yelling for help."

Lewallan's sons stayed with the victims while their father drove the snowmobile six miles to the nearest house to use a citizen's band radio to call for help.

"I tell you, it was a pretty good way to start off the new year. It felt good to help them," said Danny

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Ford awaits report on New York bombing

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Ford today awaited a report on the bomb blast that killed 11 persons at New York's LaGuardia Airport this week. He sought recommendations for tightening security at the nation's air terminals.

The LaGuardia explosion also injured 75 other persons Monday and was followed by telephoned bomb threats to dozens of other airports throughout the country.

Ford planned to meet with Transportation Secretary William Coleman Jr., to get suggestions for ways to avoid such tragedies.

The President wound up his Christmas-New Year's holiday vacation with a quiet New Year's Eve and a working New Year's Day.

He phoned most of his Cabinet Thursday to wish them "Happy New Year." The White House said Commerce Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton and Attorney General Edward Levi were out of the country and not available, but that Ford had called all the other Cabinet members.

Ford's daughter, Susan, called from Vail, Colo., where the family had vacationed during the Christmas holidays.

In a brown sports shirt and jacket, Ford sat at a desk covered with worksheets for the national budget he will submit this month to Congress.

Budget advisers sat in a semicircle facing Ford's desk and they discussed government money matters for three hours. Then Ford worked alone until dusk before taking time off to watch the telecast of the Orange Bowl football game between Oklahoma and his old school, Michigan.

Ford invited political adviser Meiran

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Bus seeks to miss diverter, 12 hurt

Twelve people suffered minor injuries last night when a minibus lost its brakes, swerved to avoid a traffic diverter, hit a tree and turned over near the corner of Spruce and Rose Streets.

The bus, operated by the Alameda County Probation Department, was traveling south on Spruce at 7:30 p.m. yesterday, when the brakes went out, according to police. The driver, Jerry Gaylord, 28, of Hayward, swerved to avoid a car at the Rose Street stop sign, crossed Rose and swerved again to avoid a traffic diverter.

The bus then grazed a tree near the southeast corner of Rose and Spruce, which caused it to tip over and strike a parked car.

Six juveniles were taken to Herrick Hospital and released. Five other juveniles and Gaylord went to the county's Chabot Ranch facility to be treated, and police described their injuries as minor

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'Clockwork Orange' in New York City

NEW YORK (AP) — Armed gangs of young hoodlums terrorized a New Year's celebration at the New York Coliseum, stealing money and coats worth at least $15,000, police said.

Authorities said the trouble started when several gangs of young toughs crashed the party at the convention hall at Columbus Circle, where thousands of young persons paid $15 to come to listen to rock bands and dance.

Police said a total of 75 persons filed formal complaints. They said that because of limited manpower and difficulty in tracing individual wraps, they were forced to limit their investigation to the holdups.

Nathaun Williams, 21, said bands of youths were robbing couples on the edge of the dance floor. He said his $250 leather coat was one of many taken.

"People were getting real uptight and hauling with the official cops," Williams said. "cops were called but they were. t any help. They said since the crime happened inside the place, it wasn't their responsibility. I had to go out in the weather without a coat. Some New Year's!"

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