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Casper Star-Tribune

Friday, May 3, 1991 · Wyoming's Statewide Newspaper · Founded in 1891 · Casper, Wyoming

Wiley plea: 'Not guilty' in slayings

Insanity to be defense

By TOM KURTZ
Star-Tribune correspondent

THERMOPOLIS — The Thermopolis teen-ager charged with murdering four members of his family last November told the 5th District Court Thursday he is not guilty.

His attorney asked for a psychiatric evaluation of the young man.

James Michael Wiley, 15, through his attorney, pleaded "not guilty and not guilty by reason of mental illness or deficiency" to all six counts of the complaint against him, which includes four counts of first-degree murder, one count of first-degree arson and a count of burglary.

Wiley is charged in the Nov. 24 shooting deaths of his stepmother Beckie Wiley, 34, his brother Jesse Lee Wiley, 13, stepbrother William Lee Brady, 10, and half-brother Tyrone Wiley, 5.

Fifth District Judge Gary Hartman set the case for jury trial at 9:30 a.m. on Sept. 9.

Hartman also noted that the defense had filed a motion for a psychiatric examination of the defendant which is scheduled to be discussed Monday.

The prosecutor said he plans to oppose the defense's motion for an examination at that hearing.

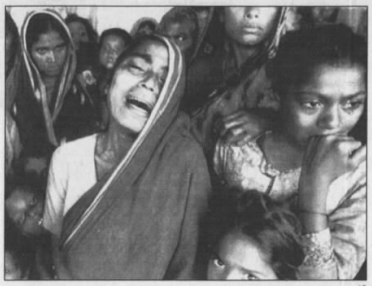
According to state law, a plea of not guilty by reason of mental illness or deficiency means "the defendant shall have the burden of going forward and proving by the greater weight of evidence" that a deficiency or illness exists.

Hartman informed Wiley at the arraignment that a conviction for first-degree murder would be punishable by a sentence of life imprisonment on each of the four murder counts. Since the suspect is a juvenile, he is not subject to the death penalty should he be convicted.

The charge of arson is punishable by 20 years in prison or a $20,000 fine or both, Hartman said. The complaint alleges that Wiley set fire to his family's mobile home after shooting his mother and brothers.

State Public Defender Leonard Munker, who represented Wiley

Please see PLEA, A14



AP

Grief

A Bangladeshi woman cries for four of her relatives killed in a cyclone that devastated southern Bangladesh this week. She joins hundreds of thousands of others left homeless in seeking aid at government-funded relief centers.

Cyclone toll may reach 100,000

Bangladesh asks $1.5 billion aid

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — The bodies of thousands of victims killed in a devastating cyclone washed up Thursday on the shores of Bangladesh as the government struggled to provide relief to millions of survivors.

ZIA

The official death toll for Tuesday's cyclone is 37,543. But tens of thousands are missing on low-lying islands and coastal deltas and Prime Minister Khaleda Zia said at least 100,000 people, and possibly more, could have been killed.

"It is a vast devastation and the loss of human lives could exceed 100,000," Zia said on state-owned television. "The information is incomplete. ... We fear it (the toll) could go up much more. I pray to Allah it's not true."

She announced special prayers would be held Friday, the Muslim Sabbath, to mourn the victims, and that Saturday would be a national day of mourning.

Foreign diplomats said Zia's 6-week-old government seemed to be grappling with the relief effort as well as it could.

"But they've admitted that the need outstrips their ability to meet it," said a Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Khan said that according to preliminary estimates, Bangladesh needed $1.42 billion in emergency funds to overcome the crisis. "We need generous donations from foreign countries," he said.

Relief workers and journalists who visited the stricken region said thousands of decomposed bodies were being brought in by the tides. Survivors searched for missing relatives among the piles of corpses stacked up on beaches.

"I saw deaths, devastation, agony and misery of a magnitude

Please see CYCLONE, A14

Allies push into northern Iraq

INISHAK, Iraq (AP) — U.S., British, French and Dutch forces plunged 50 miles deeper into northern Iraq on Thursday, taking control of a zone that includes a bombed airfield and four of Saddam Hussein's opulent villas.

The push eastward, which the Iraqi government was notified about Wednesday, created a 70-mile strip along the Turkish-Iraqi border where Iraqi Kurds who have fled to the mountains can return without fear, U.S. Lt. Gen. John Shalikashvili told reporters.

The zone extends south ffom the Turkish border up to 30 miles.

Iraqi forces were withdrawing from the zone as allied troops advanced, Shalikashvili said. "Everything is going very, very well," he said.

Moving out at 7 a.m. from the allies' original security zone around Zakho, 2,500 allied troops traveled in convoys of light-armored vehicles, jeeps, trucks and Humvees.

Encountering no resistance, the first cars reached their destination, the hilltop city of Amadiyah, at about 4:30 p.m.

En route, the allied force set up guard posts and checkpoints and took control of a battered air strip near Sirsenk, which is expected to become a landing place for relief supplies.

Iraqi soldiers "have been seen and generally have moved past" toward the south, said Brit. Lt. Col. Graham Kerr, commander of an artillery regiment on the route to Amadiyah.

He estimated the Iraqis numbered "in the hundreds."

British Marines set up a command post facing a 12-foot-high walled villa complex with orchards and manmade lakes near Inishak. It was crowned by a stucco, red-tile-roofed mansion belonging to Saddam Hussein.

Four miles to the south stood

Please see IRAQ, A14

Senate report says U.S. snubbed Iraqi rebellion

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defections by senior officials in Saddam Hussein's army — and possibly a coup attempt against Saddam — were shelved in March because the United States failed to support the effort, according to a Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff report issued Thursday.

In early March, at the height of the rebellion in Iraq, the army officials approached a dissident group in exile with an offer of cooperation, said the report, written by Peter Galbraith, a senior aide to committee Chairman Clairborne Pell, D-R.I.

The would-be Iraqi defectors "contemplated bringing possibly decisive force to the side of the rebels" but first wanted

Please see REPORT, A14

Jeff Gearino/Star-Tribune

United Steel Workers picket FMC Corp.'s soda ash facility

Trona workers, FMC meeting over walkout

By JEFF GEARINO
Southwestern Wyoming bureau

GREEN RIVER — Representatives of the striking United Steel Workers and the FMC Corporation met Thursday for the first time since union workers walked off the job at the company's soda ash mine and refinery Wednesday.

But members of the union's Local 13214 and company officials would not say if the meeting was a bargaining session or simply "talks" to define issues.

Local law enforcement officials said there have been no reports of trouble associated with the strike by 840 unionized FMC workers.

The mayor of Green River, who works for a different trona mine, worried about the effects of the strike on the community. And he urged the company not to bring in replacement workers.

FMC has said that it plans to use company officials to keep the plant running but has not indicated any plan to replace the striking workers.

The Steelworkers began the strike at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday after the union membership voted overwhelmingly to reject the company's three-year contract offer. Strikers said they disliked wage restructuring offered in the contract which gave unequal raises to workers.

FMC Personnel Director Mark Youngblood said late Thursday the company would have "no comments on the result" of the talks.

Union members worked the

Please see STRIKE, A14

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Old Grouch

Wonder if the head of General Dynamics has trouble shaving in the morning.

RESULTS

The Star-Tribune Classified Section is not just for selling unwanted items! If there is something you would like to buy or trade for, don't wait for someone else to place a 'For Sale' ad in the paper...by running your own advertisement in #136–Want to Buy/Trade. Right now, you can buy a classified ad there for just $6 for 7 days! Just call **266–6555** or **1–800–442–6916** (in WY toll-free) for more details!

Fassett refuses BuRec request for more regulation of Platte

By CANDY MOULTON
Star-Tribune correspondent

ENCAMPMENT — Wyoming State Engineer Jeff Fassett said Thursday he won't honor a Bureau of Reclamation request for further regulation of the North Platte River.

"Our position hasn't changed," Fassett said. Once the irrigation season defined by the 1945 U.S. Supreme Court Decree begins on May 1, "it is no longer a pure Wyoming water law question," Fassett said.

On Wednesday, Wyoming Division 1 Water Supervisor Bill Jones, whose area of responsibility includes the North Platte, said the state is not honoring the BuRec request. The state had agreed to regulation of the river from April 8 until April 30 under an earlier request by BuRec.

The BuRec's North Platte Project Director John Lawson said the river regulation is necessary to ensure that the Pathfinder right — dated Dec. 6, 1904 — is filled during the summer in order to provide water to downstream users. Water from the project is used by irrigation districts located in southeastern Wyoming and western Nebraska.

Irrigators whose lands lie above Pathfinder Reservoir vehemently

Please see FASSETT, A14

Chief says Def-Tec won't sell to human rights violators

By HUGH JACKSON
Star-Tribune staff writer

CASPER — The president of a non-lethal weapons-making firm moving to Casper says that although international sales make up the bulk of the company's business, no sales are made to countries that violate human rights.

In an interview Thursday, Defense Technology Corporation's President Robert Oliver also said that his riot-control products — including shields, batons, and rubber bullets — are necessary in the countries to which he does sell.

"I would rather see (rioters) controlled with anti-riot products than see them shot."

Oliver likes to emphasize the non-lethal nature of the Def-Tec product line, and doesn't consider his rubber bullets and other international sales products to be "weapons."

"If I sold weapons, I'd have trouble shaving in the morning," he said.

Grenade fuses made by Def-Tec could be used for lethal grenades, but they are used only on Def-Tec tear gas products, and not sold by themselves, he said.

Def-Tec "distraction devices," or stun grenades, have been used successfully to liberate hostages, he said.

"Because of the products I have, I know many lives are saved," he said.

Oliver also offered an apology for remarks he made during the announcement of his firm's relocation to Casper.

During that announcement, Oliver described an employment program designed to allow mothers to work only a six-hour day: "You get your kids to school, get your house sort of cleaned up, show up here at nine o'clock, work till three, go home, get your kids out of school, take care of them, clean the house again, make the husband happy, and we're all going to get along well."

Oliver said his remarks have been criticized as insensitive.

In Thursday's interview, Oliver said "If I have offended anyone, be they male or female, in my statements, I sincerely apologize. It is only my intent to make available viable employment."

He said he hopes the employment program will be particularly helpful to single parents who, with the high costs of day care, "are hard put-upon today."

Meanwhile, regarding the nature of his product line, Oliver said that it is legitimate for governments in, for instance, South or Central America to use his anti-riot products to control the "general population."

About 70 percent of the company's sales are made in the international market, he said.

"If Venezuela raises the price of gasoline two cents, they riot," he said.

Citing race riots in Florida in recent

Please see DEF-TEC, A14

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