



**TOWER OF TRAGEDY** — University of Texas students crossing the quiet campus early Tuesday look past the lowered flag at the tower that Monday belched death and misery for dozens of persons as Charles Joseph Whitman held the campus under siege from his sniper's nest on the observation deck.

# U.T.'s Symbol of Learning Now a Tower of Tragedy

By NAT HENDERSON  
Staff Writer

The symbol of learning for 185,000 living ex-students of the University of Texas — orange in victory and graduation, white in losses and daily routine — became a Tower of Tragedy before its summit was attained.

Yet the fatal plunge of a workman from the skeleton of the Tower during its construction was almost forgotten in the fanfare and elation of the entire state when the Tower was dedicated during the Texas Centennial.

The nation heard the ceremonies by radio, and Texans were proud even though their Tower

of Learning was incomplete. It was finished in 1937. Nobody dreamed that suicides, accidental death and fire would follow. Nobody could comprehend in their wildest nightmares that the 307-foot Tower would be the stage for a mass murder unparalleled in bizarre terror.

There, where the names of 14 leading poets and world prose writers was inscribed in concrete on the exterior walls of the Main Building below a sniper, the greatest tragedy of the Tower unfolded.

Also beneath 25-year-old Charles Joseph Whitman were the complete alphabets in

stone of the ancient civilizations of the Greeks, Egyptians, Phoenicians, Hebrews and Romans.

Above the sniper was a 17-bell carillon and a clock with four faces. The bells chimed the quarter-hours from 6:15 a.m. until 8 p.m. They play a beautiful concert of carols each Christmas, and Monday they became a death toll for 16 persons while gunfire cracked as regularly as the ticking of the giant clock.

The hands and hours of the clock can be seen for many blocks. The student beneath it could see for many blocks and his hands squeezed the triggers of his arsenal of weapons. His

bullets hit 44 persons on the campus. Thirteen of them died before he himself was felled by the police.

The last words seen by some of the victims was the inscription above the entrance to the Main Building: "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

The living shall probably never know the complete truth about the handsome young honor student and seemingly All-American Boy who entered that massive building for the last time Monday. The puzzle is too complicated for the human mind to understand, and too much information is lacking to feed in-

to the computers beneath the East Mall where so many bullets splattered.

That mall along with other mulls to the south and east were stained with blood where unwary victims fell as they left classes and work. Others were seeing the sights as tourists on a \$125 million campus sprawled out below the sniper on more than 200 acres.

Those on the campus saw other bloodstains at many locations not hidden from the view of the top of the Tower. Whitman fired at random at anything that moved. He was a Marine sharpshooter.

Whitman left notes giving some hints of what was to come and what had already happened, but nobody shall know the complete truth of why he fatally stabbed his wife and shot his mother to death in their beds several hours before taking his arsenal to the Tower.

## Reed Pool Closes For Guard Rites

The Parks and Recreation Department has announced that Reed Pool closed Tuesday so friends and students could attend funeral services for life guard Paul Sonntag, a victim of Monday's sniper tragedy on the University of Texas campus.

City Aquatic Supervisor Ken Persimire also announced an Interplayground Swim Meet at Bartholomew Pool will be held as scheduled Wednesday and dedicated to Sonntag.

The 18-year-old life guard had worked for two summers at Reed Pool, leading Reed's swimming teams to victory at last year's citywide meet and at an earlier meet this year. He had been training about 30 young swimmers for the competition Wednesday.



**FACE OF TERROR**—The face of an unidentified woman at Brackenridge Hospital expresses the terror, anxiety and shock felt by the city as the list of victims grew steadily and rapidly during the sniping spree of Charles Joseph Whitman from the University Tower. A nurse comforts the woman at the hospital, where off-duty doctors and attendants rushed back to work to help with the dead and wounded.

# A Veteran Joined the Combat When Things Got Too Uneven

By JACK MADDIGAN  
Staff Writer

He didn't see combat during his more than 22 years in the military, but Monday afternoon retired M. Sgt. Allen Crum was in the thick of the fighting.

A floor supervisor at the University Co-Op on Guadalupe, Crum offered his services to police battling the sniper atop the University Tower and was one of the three men who stopped Charles Joseph Whitman.

Crum said he didn't notice when the shooting began shortly before noon Monday. The first unusual thing he observed was a couple of students dragging a boy across the ground on the mall.

He thought it was a fight, and as he saw the crowd around the downed youth grow, he thought perhaps the odds in the scuffle were getting uneven.

Crum left the Co-Op to see what was going on and heard a shot before he reached the curb.

"Someone said the boy had been shot," Crum recalls, "but people were still walking around."

After a particularly "sharp

report," Crum and some others took cover in bushes and then he got back to the Co-Op.

Somehow, Crum said, he wound up outside directing people to "go down 23rd." Suddenly he realized that he was "sticking out like a sore thumb," and headed for cover.

Across the street (Guadalupe) looked like the best place, but when he got there Crum realized he had better phone his wife to assure her of his safety.

He didn't make the call for about an hour and a half, and it was just as well. His safety wasn't assured until then.

His search for a phone, and a wish to help which he said "was probably in the back of my mind," brought Crum to the base of the tower and finally inside.

His thoughts about telephones ended when he ran into Patrolman Jerry Day who accepted his offer of assistance. After trying to get a shot at the sniper from a window of the Main Building, Crum and Day returned to the basement.

There they met Patrolmen Ramiro Martinez and Houston

Martinez deputized Crum, and McCoy gave him a rifle.

Day, Martinez and Crum left McCoy to man the telephone and headed for the top of the tower.

They got off the elevator at the 26th floor "prepared for the worst," Crum said.

Still not sure what they were up against, the trio methodically searched offices.

After making plans, the men moved cautiously up to the 27th floor. Checking offices carefully there, too, they came across a small group who told them the gunman, or gunmen, was on the observation deck above.

On the 27th floor, Crum, Day and Martinez met a blood-covered man who said his family had been shot in the corridor leading to the deck.

This apparently was M. J. Gabour of Texarkana whose sister and 15-year-old son were probably the first victims of the gunman. Warily entering the corridor, the three men could see the bodies.

Gabour's wife and another son, Mike, 18, were wounded but still alive.

Crum recalled that this was a

particularly "crucial point," because the location of the gunman was still unknown. They spoke to the wounded boy who told them the sniper was outside.

While Crum covered them, Day and Martinez got the boy and then the trio "took the staircase."

Military terms come easily to Crum who served in the Army Air Corps, the Army and the Air Force before retiring June 1.

At the top of the stairs, not yet outside, the trio found a pair of glasses and a trail of blood. They pushed a wastebasket into the room, but drew no fire, and entered cautiously.

Thinking perhaps the trail of blood would lead to a wounded sniper, the men slowly followed it only to find the body of Mrs. Edna Townsley, an elevator operator, behind a couch.

The men went separate ways when they went out on the observation deck.

Crum said the fire from the ground was quite loud and he thought perhaps the two officers had "made contact" with the sniper.

Crum said he fired a shot into the west wall of the deck to draw attention from the two patrolmen. Then he thought he heard someone running towards the corner nearest him and out ready.

Whitman never got there. Martinez put a bullet through his neck and emptied his service pistol at him. Crum said Martinez then blasted the sniper with a shotgun.

differs from the official police version related by Police Chief Bob Miles. The police version put Officer McCoy on the observation deck close behind Martinez. After Martinez emptied his revolver at Whitman, the police account says, McCoy rushed forward and fired two shots from his shotgun. One struck the sniper squarely between the eyes. Chief Miles would not permit newsmen to talk with the officers involved Monday.)

Why had Crum placed himself in such a dangerous position when he was not required to do so?

"Seeing that boy wounded on the ground kind of aggravated me," Crum said. "That could have been my boy."

The former B-52 gunner is the father of 17-and-14-year-old daughters, and a 13-year-old son.

Crum's estimation of the policemen he risked his life with was: "Two of the finest men I've ever known—for the short time. We worked together like we'd been doing it for years." Incidentally, he finally called his wife about 1:30 p.m. Monday, and she was glad to hear from him.

## Whitman as Marine Just One Bad Mark

WASHINGTON (AP) — Charles Joseph Whitman, the Austin, Tex., sniper, was basically a good Marine who might have gone on to better things in the corps.

Records reflecting the 25-year-old Whitman's Marine service between 1959 and 1964 show one bad mark—he was court-martialed once for failing to obey an order.

A picture also emerges of a young man intelligent enough to qualify for a Navy scientific training program which would have given him the equivalent

of a B.S. degree and an officer's commission.

Whitman apparently flunked out of the program 3½ years ago—ironically at the University of Texas where he was killed at the University of Texas by police bullets Monday after he had killed 15 others there.

Marine records, though not detailed, showed Whitman held a sharpshooter rating, scoring 215 of a possible 250 points on his last weapons qualification test.

The court-martial is a matter of official secrecy. The Pentagon declined to relate the circumstances of Whitman's failure to heed a military command, a refusal which cost him a demotion from corporal to private and left him restricted to base at hard labor for 30 days at Camp Lejeune, N.C., in 1963.

"It is unusual, but Whitman's conduct and proficiency marks before and after the court-martial were high," a spokesman said.

He earned the Good Conduct Medal and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

Whitman enlisted in the Marines July 6, 1959, at Jacksonville, Fla., and was honorably discharged from active duty Dec. 4, 1964. He was discharged from a Reserve status July 18, 1965.

Whitman got his basic individual training at the Parris Island, S.C., Marine recruit depot and then received his unit training at Camp Lejeune.

For his first assignment, he served from Dec. 9, 1959, to May 9, 1961, at the Guantanamo Naval Base, Cuba.

After this hitch, Whitman applied for the naval enlisted scientific education program, des-

igned to provide the Navy and Marines with officers in technological specialties.

As a prelude to entering this program, Whitman was tested at the naval preparatory school at Bainbridge, Md. Then he went to the University of Texas for his Navy scientific studies in September 1961.

He dropped out in February 1963 presumably because of "academic insufficiency," a spokesman said.

Whitman served out the remainder of his active duty in the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune.

## 23 Still in Hospitals, 5 in Critical Condition

Twenty-three victims of U.T. sniper Charles J. Whitman remained in Austin hospitals Tuesday, five in critical condition.

A Texarkana housewife, Mrs. Mary Frances Gabour, 41, is listed as critical, while her 19-year-old son Mark Gabour, an Air Force cadet remains in serious condition. Both are in Brackenridge. Another son, Mark Jerome Gabour, 16, died atop the tower.

Karen Griffith, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Griffith of 8210 Briarwood, is listed as critical, as are David Gumbly, 23, a U.T. student from Dallas; Claire Wilson, 18, of 800 E. 23rd, whose son died while surgery was being performed.

An evangelist from Conroe, Adrian Littlefield, 19, remains in critical condition at Brackenridge, while his wife, Brenda Gail Littlefield, 18, is listed in fair condition in Seton Hospital.

Listed as in serious condition in Brackenridge Intensive Care unit are Alec Hernandez, 17, of 190-B S. 1st; Morris Hohmann, 30, of 410 Lightsey Rd.; Devenau Huffman of 1505 Ridgehaven; Sandra Wilson, 21, of 2298 Rio Grande.

Janet Paulos, 30, a Garland native, is in serious condition in the Intensive Care unit, while her fiancée, Abdul Khassab, a graduate student from Iraq is listed in fair condition.

Also in serious condition at Brackenridge are Avelino Esparza, a carpenter from San

Antonio; listed as fair are Irma Garcia, 21, of Los Angeles; Nancy Harvey, 21, a student library assistant of 5210 Shoal-creek; Robert Heard, 30, an Associated Press reporter; David Mattson, 23, a Peace Corps trainee from Minneapolis, Minn.; Lana Phillips, 21, of 2106 Oldham; and Billy Snowden, 35, of 2202 Woodmont.

Three victims of Monday's shooting spree have been transferred to the U.T. Student Health Center, including Roland Ehke, 21, a Peace Corps trainee from Milwaukee, Wis.; Oscar Royvela, 21, of Bolivia and Dolores Ortega, a graduate student from San Antonio.

Eight other persons were treated and released from Austin hospitals.

(Editor's note: Crum's account of the observation deck shooting of Charles Whitman)

**Russ Worried At U.S. Crime**

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet news agency Tass, in a New York dispatch reporting the Austin sniper tragedy, said Monday night "crime has become a national problem in the United States."

The dispatch mentioned the Chicago slaying of eight nurses and FBI statistics showing an increase in crimes in 1965.

"Murders, armed attacks, robbery and rapes have become common in present-day America," Tass said.

## Sniper Victim Was On Way to England

LIVERPOOL, England (AP) — Dr. Robert H. Boyer was on his way back to his family in Liverpool when a sniper killed him at the University of Texas yesterday.

Prof. Louis Rosenhead, head of the department of applied mathematics at Liverpool University, said Boyer, 33, was married to a Liverpool girl. They have two children and his wife, Lindsay, is expecting their third child. Boyer was an American citizen.

Dr. Boyer had an international reputation for the excellence of his work in the field of general relativity," said Rosenhead. "He had many recent publications to his credit, and he did a great deal of ex-

remely useful academic work for the University of Liverpool. He was extremely well liked and respected by everybody who came into contact with him at the university."

Boyer received his bachelor of science and master of science degrees from the Carnegie Institute of Technology at Pittsburgh and his doctor of philosophy degree at Oxford. He came to Liverpool in 1961.

In 1964-65 he was given a leave of absence to be a research assistant at the University of Texas Center for Relativity Theory.

When he was killed, Boyer was returning from six weeks at the Research Center in Relativity at Mexico City. He had stopped off at Austin.

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## She Had Clear View Of Tragedy

Associated Press

For more than an hour, Norma Barger sat at a library window, hypnotized by the rifle she could see firing sporadically from high up the University of Texas tower.

Miss Barger couldn't see Charles Joseph Whitman as he laid down a blanket of gunfire across the campus which killed 13 persons.

But the rifle was visible, with its occasional jerks and flashes as Whitman shot at his victims.

She remembers that as she walked out of the building she could see, as she gazed across the sun-baked cement, "one shoe, two or three pools of blood, one book, and one notebook."

Harry Julius Rosenstein, 20, a pre-medical student, leaped to his death from the Tower in March of 1951.

Last August a spectacular fire swept through the Tower. The flames were confined to the upper four floors of the 27 regular floors, but smoke and water damaged the entire Tower.

There were no human casualties, but some valuable manuscripts, art and book collections were destroyed or damaged.

The Tower has 27 floors of offices and archives. From the 27th floor, three flights of stairs lead steeply to the observation deck on what would be about a 39th story. The clock and carillon are located in a structure of classic columns in the center of the observation deck.

It was on that ledge, made for persons to enjoy a view, that Whitman sacrificed so many lives as he roamed around at the base of the temple-like top of the Tower.