

Hormel's Press Agent Says Shooting Was Publicity Gag

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Police said Thursday that a press agent for George (Geordie) Hormel, the meat packing heir, has admitted that he fired a bullet through the window of Hormel's apartment as a "publicity gag."

Det. A. W. Hubka quoted the press agent, Tony Kent, 26, as saying he fired the shot at Hormel's suggestion. Hormel, 25-year-old jazz pianist and U.S. Coast Guardsman, has denied any knowledge of plans for the shooting.

The detective quoted Kent as saying that it was "nothing but a publicity gag" and that it was a scheme for "free publicity."

Deputy Chief of Police Thad Brown said Kent told him: "Hormel called me Wednesday and said the police probably would pick me up for questioning. He told me to say I didn't know anything."

Brown said Hormel, still denying any knowledge of plans for the shooting, did say he had called Kent and told him to "tell the truth."

Kent and actor Fred Hartman were booked Wednesday night on suspicion of "feloniously and maliciously discharging a gun into an inhabited dwelling." The rifle was found in Kent's home, officers said.

Hubka said Hartman accompanied Kent on the drive up Laurel Canyon Blvd. when the shot was fired early Wednesday.

Hubka said Kent told him Hormel suggested the shooting as a way to "get even with the cops" for Hormel's arrest on charges of possessing marijuana. A jury acquitted Hormel on Jan. 12.

Robbery Suspects Admit Getaway Made in Airplane

POMONA (AP)—Two men are charged with armed robbery in a holdup in which an airplane getaway figured.

Albert J. Kilgore, 32, and Danny Cunningham, 22, both of Pomona, were arrested here Tuesday and the charges were filed Wednesday.

Police said the pair admitted robbing the Budget Finance Plan, Inc., office at 348 S. San Fernando Rd., Burbank, of \$306 last Thursday, then flying a rented airplane from Glendale to Pomona.

Wife Divorces Harry Bridges

RENO (AP)—Mrs. Nancy Bridges was granted a divorce Thursday from her waterfront labor leader husband, Harry Bridges.

She appeared briefly in closed court before District Judge John B. Sexton.

Mrs. Bridges charged mental cruelty, claiming her husband worked too much, and was away from home too much. In addition, she charged him with being cool and indifferent.

She was granted custody of a son, 6-year-old Robert Alfred, and awarded \$200 a month child support. A property settlement, previously made in California, was accepted by the court, but its terms were not revealed.

The couple was married in San Francisco Sept. 27, 1946.

JET FIGHTER CRASHES IN NAVY PRISON AREA

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A Navy F9F2 Panther jet fighter crashed into a Navy Retraining Command prison area near here Thursday, killing the pilot.

He was identified as Lt. Douglas Mosser, 31, of La Jolla, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Ann; a son, Bruce, 1; and his mother, Mrs. Anna S. Mosser, Chino, Mont.

Parts of the exploding craft struck a warehouse and set it afire.

A wing was seen to fall from the plane as it came in for a landing at Miramar Naval Air Station, across U.S. Highway 395 from the Retraining Command's Camp Elliott.

It rolled over and struck between the warehouse and another building, about a mile from the Miramar runway.

The Navy said none of its personnel, including the 900 Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard prisoners confined for various offenses, was in the immediate area of the crash.

Three Small Sisters, Babysitter Perish as Blaze Destroys Home

CHESTER, Pa. (AP)—Three small girls and the babysitter who was caring for them perished Thursday in a fire that wrecked a home in nearby Wallingford, fashionable Philadelphia suburb.

Police identified the girls as Stephanie, 8, Selby, 6, and Hilarie, 3, only children of Mr. and Mrs. C. Robert Spencer.

The woman caring for them was identified by firemen as Mrs. M. A. Wingate of nearby Media.

Spencer, 34-year-old Chester businessman, was vacationing with his 30-year-old wife Patricia in Atlantic City, N.J. They had left the children in care of Mrs. Wingate.

The parents were notified of the tragedy shortly after firemen broke into the house and removed the bodies.

All four victims were dead when firemen reached them, apparently victims of smoke inhalation.

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NEWARK, N.J. (UP)—Photographer Melvin Weiss complained to police that when he poked his head under the black cloth of his tripod mounted camera to focus it, someone stole another camera he had set up to take a picture of a store front.

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Actress Ends Jail Sentence

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"This was sort of like college—it was a good experience," said actress Lynne Baggett Thursday as she checked out of County Jail after serving 50 days of a 60-day sentence for hit-run driving in the death of a 9-year-old boy last July 7.

"I'm anxious to get back to work, if anyone will take me," she added.

Miss Baggett, sporting a short haircut given her by a jail inmate, was met by her mother and bail bondsman August Nardoni.

She spent most of the 50 days mopping floors, waiting on tables and washing dishes at the women's jail on Terminal Island.

She was acquitted of a manslaughter charge but convicted of hit-run driving in the death of Joel Watnick. She said at her trial she "blacked out" and fled after the accident.

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