



The Public Parade

Price Is Too High

Our government has just announced that it has agreed not to seek the death penalty if the Germans will allow us to extradite an accused Lebanese hijacker-murdered for trial in the United States.

What on earth do we want with this character on those conditions?

Most Americans still recall the scene at the Beirut airport back in 1985 when a U.S. Navy man, a passenger aboard the hijacked TWA jet, was beaten by the terrorists, then shot to death and kicked from the plane like a bag of garbage.

Mohammed Ali Hamadei, 22, arrested recently in Frankfurt as a suspected terrorist, has now been identified as one of the two men who hijacked the TWA jet and diverted it to the Beirut airport, where they threatened to blow it up unless some of their compatriots now being held in prison in Kuwait were set free.

As a result of this information, the U.S. government has been trying to get the West German authorities to release Hamadei for trial in the United States, announcing over the last weekend that it had agreed, as a pre-condition of extradition, that it would not seek the death penalty.

We ask again, what do we want with Hamadei under those conditions? The one sure cure for terrorism is to shoot the terrorists. To hold them in custody, no matter how humane the conditions, merely triggers further terrorist acts, such as the West German businessman who was kidnapped in Beirut almost as soon as the Hamadi arrest was announced.

If we cannot, through capital punishment, speed this hijacker to the moslem paradise he so richly deserves, why do we want to go to the trouble and expense of bringing him to this country for trial when, if found guilty of a heinous crime, our only recourse is to house him the for next 20 to 30 years in a nice federal prison, where all his physical needs will be looked after? While other moslem minds plot other kidnappings for use as "negotiating chips" in seeking his freedom?

Caught In Storm

We should have stayed in Edenton.

When we left last Thursday, we intended to go home by way of Pine Knoll Shores; but when we got down there we found our place had been broken into and our

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STORM VICTIM—This vehicle is representative of dozens that sustained damage in traffic accidents as a result of Monday's storm that turned area roads into sheets of ice.

Icy Roads Cause Traffic Mishaps

Mild winter weather was broken early Monday morning as low temperatures, freezing rain and snow swept into the county on cold arctic winds. The change in the weather brought a rash of traffic mishaps, school closings and a near total shutdown of downtown businesses well before normal closing hours in anticipation of more precipitation and even colder temperatures.

The northern part of the county was the scene of countless accidents as vehicles slid off the glazed roads or into each other. Chief Jailer Walt Linhardt, acting as sheriff's dept. dispatcher prior to 8 a.m., said that, while he had not kept track of reported accidents, he did recall reports of two tractor-trailer trucks and other vehicles in the ditches on a curve

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Center Hill Firemen answered an alarm at Rocky Hock Grocery and a community institution was lost to fire early Monday morning.

Perry Favors Adopting FIN Program

If state funding can be secured, firefighting agencies in the state will soon have a twin to the Police Information Network. Edenton Fire Chief Lynn Perry attended a meeting in Greensboro January 24 where the Firemen's Information Network (FIN) was discussed.

The system would allow each of the state's 1,400 fire departments to have a computer connection with a central storage system in Raleigh. The system would provide instant access to whatever information each department needed.

The meeting adopted a uniform reporting system so that each of the departments would submit the same reports to Raleigh.

Another improvement program discussed would set minimum standards for firefighters. The program would be completely implemented three years after adoption by each department and would be on a voluntary basis. Guidelines say each firefighter would meet the same requirements in any department. Active members at the time of

adoption would be under the grandfather clause.

Perry said, "Fire departments would be set up under the same training guidelines statewide. If you follow those guidelines for training, there is no reason why any man would not be as proficient as another."

The minimum standard program would mean an experienced firefighter could move into a new town, ask to join the fire department and tell the chief what level of training he had achieved at his old department. The fire chief at his new location would know immediately what training the newcomer had received.

The program would be recertified and updated by the state every five years. "This would be on a voluntary basis," Perry emphasized, "and no department would be required to adopt these standards."

The Greensboro program was sponsored by the N.C. Fire Commission, organized by the N.C. Dept. of Insurance.

Roper Man Robbed, Beaten

By JACK GROVE and JEANETTE WHITE

A Roper man was attacked Sunday, Jan. 18 in his home, where he was cut with a knife, shot, clubbed over the head, maced, handcuffed and robbed.

John Krawcsyk, 46, of Blair Shores, was alone at his home at about 7 p.m. when he answered a knock at his door. Two men in ski masks pushed their way in and the victim reached for one of the masks, thinking it was a prank, according to Washington County Sheriff Jim Whitehurst.

Krawcsyk was ordered to get on

the floor and he began to "tussle" with one of the assailants. The second man shot him through the hand and into the neck with a .38 caliber handgun and he was also sprayed with mace, cut in the back and head with his own knife, was struck over the head and handcuffed.

The pair then apparently ransacked the house. Sheriff Whitehurst said that "items were strewn about, but that could have been a result of the struggle." Items reported taken included \$100 in cash, an AM-FM stereo cassette, two speakers, three guns and other items.

Reports indicate that Krawcsyk waited some ten minutes after his

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Construction Is Lagging

Construction on a new bridge across Albemarle Sound remains at a standstill since a portion of the bridge collapsed in November. Builders say the collapse will not affect the May 1988 completion date.

Mark Heim of Cianbro-Williams Brothers said the collapse involved the fall of seven deck slabs across the pilings. Cause of the collapse has not been determined. "We don't really know what caused it. When a collapse is not witnessed, like this one at night, you just can't always pinpoint the cause," Heim said.

Three of the 18 supporting pilings have been removed from the water and Heim says the remaining 15 should be taken up and replacements installed within two weeks. He stated that bad weather is hampering removal and that there is no way to determine yet

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Night Fire Destroys Rocky Hock Grocery

By JEANETTE WHITE

A Rocky Hock institution is gone.

A Sunday night fire destroyed the meeting place where tall tales were swapped about the biggest deer, the fish that got away and the best yield per acre.

For 50 years, farmers and hunters have met at Rocky Hock Grocery each morning and evening to catch up on the news and add a bit to the story. But it will be a while, if ever, before they can do that again.

Center Hill Fire Chief Leon Evans said his department received the call at 2:55 a.m. Monday and found the grocery and adjoining garage completely engulfed in flames. Center Hill called Edenton Fire Department for assistance and three pumpers and one tank truck fought the blaze. Another building about 30 feet from the store was saved, but a car outside and another inside the garage were total losses.

Three gas tanks outside the store burned, but did not explode. Evans said gasoline in the tanks and hoses above the ground burned, but the fire did not reach underground storage tanks. Small explosions did come from aerosol cans and sealed oil and paint cans.

Evans said extremely cold temperatures did not hamper the firefighting efforts. His concern was focused instead on curious onlookers sliding on the ice-covered roads.

"We were concerned with the number of people on the road and

afraid they would skid into each other or some of our equipment," Evans said. One whiplash injury was reported when a truck skidded into a parked car.

The store was built by J.E. Peele, who sold to Earl Smith in early 1953. Smith sold the store to George and Shirley Drawdy about five years ago. The garage was rented to Joe Jones.

Drawdy said he received between 75 and 100 telephone calls Monday from well-wishers who wanted to know if he planned to rebuild.

"But right now I just can't tell. I would like to rebuild," Drawdy said. The building was insured, but the owner said no monetary loss had been determined.

Evans asked for routine investigative assistance from the SBI Monday, but arson was not suspected in the blaze. Cause of the fire was determined late Monday to be an electrical problem around the meat department.

One Rocky Hock resident said the fire caused a real loss. "Shirley and George are both so nice, people in the community just enjoyed gathering there," Avis Dail said.

Smith said even though he was no longer connected with the grocery, he considered the loss to be great.

"I sold it, but I hated to see it go, it was needed in the community. When you take the church, school or country grocery store out of a community, you don't have much left," Smith said.

Make-Up Scheduled

All the schools of the Edenton-Chowan school system will have a regular class schedule Friday, Jan. 30.

Community Relations Director Walt Noneman said this is a make-up day for students caused by school closing Monday due to weather conditions.



LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON—Jerry Parks is presented with the Jaycees' annual Distinguished Service Award by last year's recipient, Morris Small, Jr. as his wife, Brenda and his father, Luther look on. Luther Parks was a recipient of the award in the late 1950's. The award was presented for active involvement in service to the community.

Parks Winner Of Local DSA Award

Edenton Jaycees presented their Distinguished Service Award for 1986 to a man with a long history of service to his community. Last year's honoree, banker Morris Small, Jr., made the presentation to Jerry Parks at the annual award banquet last Thursday evening.

Parks, a graduate of Holmes High School and East Carolina University, was twice the recipient of the Outstanding Young Men of America award; coaches Little League baseball; is an Edenton volunteer fireman; member of the board of directors of the county chapter of the American Cancer Society; an active leader in his church; and has received honors on the job with the health department.

Parks and his wife Brenda have one son. The DSA award seems to run in the family as well. His father, Luther Parks, received the award in the late 1950's.

Guest speaker, West Byrum, lauded the Jaycee organization and outlined the prerequisites for individual success. "I think our country is a better place to live because Jaycees are in our communities. This is true only

because you are better men and women for having belonged to the Jaycees. The past and future success of the Jaycees is attributed to the initiative which came from you. This initiative was spurred by enthusiasm and enthusiasm will accomplish any objective and is the key to success in any undertaking.

"He who would accomplish little, must sacrifice little; he who would achieve much, must sacrifice much; he who would attain highly, must sacrifice greatly. The person who does not willingly want to conform will find that

he has many opportunities to express his individuality. The wise man uses the opportunities to express his individuality. The wise man uses the opportunities provided by our civilization to develop his individual talents. And when you begin to develop yourself for the benefit of your community, you begin to develop leadership."

The guest speaker's words seemed to sum up the work of the Jaycees and the attributes that they look for in a recipient for the Distinguished Service Award.

Special Consent Order Issued

Town officials went to Raleigh on January 15 to meet with R. Paul Wilms, Director of the N.C. Div. of Environmental Management. The town had requested a Special Order By Consent from the state to allow additional wastewater discharges into the sewage collection and treatment system.

Last year, plant performance had not been up to state standards on effluent limitations, especially

phosphorus and nitrogen, discharged into Edenton Bay. Local officials were able to show a steady improvement in plant performance, increased understanding and cooperation by local industries and a heightened awareness on the part of the town to prevent a recurrence.

At stake was the addition to the wastewater system of the planned motel at the intersection of U.S.

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