

News Digest

By The Associated Press

Violence in Northern Ireland IRA bombing kills 2nd-highest judge, wife

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Guerrillas of the Irish Republican Army killed Northern Ireland's second-highest judge and his wife Saturday in a bomb blast that turned their car into a fireball.

Six people, including three Irish rugby players, were wounded in the bombing that killed Lord Justice Maurice Gibson and his wife as they were driving along a road about two-thirds of a mile from the border with the Irish Republic.

The outlawed IRA said it "executed" Gibson because he cleared three Northern Ireland policemen of killing an unarmed IRA suspect in 1984.

IRA killings have taken 18 lives this year.

'It was so bad we could not see anybody inside . . . I couldn't get the occupants of the other car.'

— Irwin

The Royal Ulster Constabulary, the British province's police force, said the bomb apparently was planted in a car left by the side of the main road from Belfast to Dublin, and detonated by remote control as three cars were passing.

Gibson's car took the full blast, blazing like a "ball of fire," said Dr. David Irwin, an injured rugby player.

His car was split in half by the judge's careening vehicle.

"It was so bad we could not see anybody inside," Irwin said. "There was a large crater on the other side of the road. . . I couldn't get the occupants out of the other car. The flames were too hot."

Police said the bodies of the two victims were burned beyond recognition. Authorities were waiting for dental records to formally identify them.

But the British government's Northern Ireland Office confirmed late Saturday that Gibson, 73 and his wife, Cecily, 70, were killed.

Gibson was ranked only below the lord chief justice of Northern Ireland, Lord Lowry.

American 'spy' plane shot down over Angola

PITTSBURGH — The American pilot of a light plane reported shot down over Angola was ferrying the craft to South Africa, a colleague said Saturday.

The pilot was identified by the colleague as Joe Longo, 33 of Greensburg, Pa.

ANGOP, the official Angolan news agency, said Friday that jet fighters downed the Beechcraft Bonanza N72400 in southern Angola on Tuesday, 78 miles north of the border with the South African-controlled territory of South-West Africa, also known as Namibia.

The Angolan report did not identify the pilot and the State Department said it could not confirm or deny that Longo was the pilot.

The news agency, monitored in Lisbon, quoted military officials as saying the pilot, the only person aboard, was in good condition after the crash.

The agency quoted one unidentified military official as saying, "It is highly possible the plane was on a spying mission for South Africa. . . to pinpoint troop positions around Cahama."

Longo reportedly was delivering the plane to National Airways Corp. in Johannesburg, which is a distributor for Beechcraft.

Boy waits for fourth liver transplant

PITTSBURGH — Seven-year-old Ronnie DeSillers' condition rapidly deteriorated Saturday. He was placed on the waiting list for a fourth liver transplant, while his mother pleaded with him, "You can't give up now."

He was added to the waiting list because his third transplanted liver failed to begin functioning, said Brian Broznick, director of the Pittsburgh Transplant Foundation.

Ronnie's condition began worsening Friday, a day after he underwent his third liver transplant at Children's Hospital.

"Doctors are still hopeful that the function of the new organ may improve," said hospital spokeswoman Lynn McMahon. "As long as it's not functioning, that means he is worsening. There are a lot of bodily function not being performed."

Ronnie's mother, Maria DeSillers, 31, said doctors told her Saturday morning that her son might have to undergo a fourth transplant.

"They said he's going to have to fight with everything he's got," DeSillers said.

Thursday, Ronnie received the liver of a child who died of complications from Down's syndrome. Ronnie emerged from the 10 1/2-hour operation looking healthier than he did after the second transplant three weeks earlier.

But Friday, tests showed that the liver was not functioning.

"Doctors would not proceed with another transplant unless they feel that Ronnie was strong enough to endure the surgery and could benefit by the procedure," McMahon said. "This boy is amazingly resilient."

Ronnie was the 15th patient at Children's Hospital to undergo three liver transplants. The hospital's surgeons have transplanted four livers into only one patient, an 11-year-old New York boy who is now back home.

Fremont Beer: An 'Intoxicating liquor' Hidden bottles bring memories of Nebraska brewery's past

FREMONT — To Fremont residents Pat and Linda Dotson, a wooden case full of empty, 24-ounce "Fremont Beer" bottles is a treasure.

The Dotsons received the bottles as a Christmas present from Mrs. Dotson's brother-in-law, Lyle Sechser of Sioux Falls, S.D.

Sechser and his brother, Ron, also of Sioux Falls, rewired the home of Mrs. Dotson's parents — F.B. and Burneita Hurley — in Ponca several years ago. In a crawl space the found the case, and later decided to give the Fremont Brewery bottles to the Dotsons because they live in Fremont.

The aquamarine colored bottles are heavy — weighing about 1 1/2 pounds each. They bear red, white, yellow and blue "Fremont Beer"



labels around the bottle neck.

The main label bears an elk or stag trademark in the center. It reads: "Intoxicating liquor. 3 7-10ths alcohol. Extra Pale. Pilsener Style Beer, Brewed and Bottled by Fremont Brewing Co., Fremont, Neb." They also carry a guarantee of

quality.

Loell Jorgensen, executive director of the Dodge County Historical Society, said the bottles are a rare find. Museum collections include only one such bottle.

According to the 1892 "History of the Elkhorn Valley," the Fremont

Brewing Co. was incorporated in 1890-91.

The brewery, and beer drinkers, suffered a setback with prohibitions. Jorgensen said owners converted the plant to soft-drink manufacturing. But most of the building burned in the early 1930s.

What remained of the original plant now is part of Campbell Soup Co., Jorgensen said. Some old brewery buildings still are visible at the site.

Most of the bottles still have lids and labels. A little brown liquid remains in some. The case had a hinged lid, metal snap lock, metal handles and wood dividers to separate the bottles. The front of the box also bears the brewery trademark.

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Photos of actress found in Hinckley's room

WASHINGTON — Twenty photographs of Jodie Foster were found in the mental hospital room of John W. Hinckley Jr. the day after a psychiatrist testified the presidential assailant had given up his obsession for the actress, a source says.

The photographs were found April 14 by officials at St. Elizabeths Hospital who searched Hinckley's dormitory-style room after they were ordered by a federal judge to produce letters, poems, notes and other writings that might be relevant to Hinckley's state of mind.

The photographs were not turned over to the judge because his order had not included pictures, a source familiar with the case said Friday, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The search was ordered by U.S. District Judge Barrington D. Parker after unexpected courtroom revelations that

Hinckley had exchanged letters with triple-murderer Theodore Bundy, who is on Florida's death row.

Hinckley was committed to St. Elizabeths in 1982 after he was found innocent by reason of insanity in the March 30, 1981 shooting of President Reagan, White House press secretary James Brady, a Secret Service agent and a city policeman in Washington.

Psychiatrists and prosecutors say Hinckley shot Reagan in an attempt to impress Foster, who played a prostitute in the movie "Taxi Driver," which was about a presidential assassination plot.

Parker's search order came after he suspended a hearing on the hospital's request to grant Hinckley an Easter weekend pass for an unescorted visit with his family. The hospital later withdrew the request.

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In Brief

Mexico says no U.S. garbage barge

MEXICO CITY — A barge carrying 3,000 tons of garbage from Islip, N.Y., turned back toward the United States after Mexico refused to let it anchor off its coast, the Mexican news media reported Saturday.

Four Mexican naval vessels, a helicopter and two planes were patrolling the area off Campeche and Veracruz states to make sure the barge did not enter Mexican waters or dump its waste, a navy statement said.

The barge headed into the Gulf of Mexico April 18 after North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana refused to give Lowell Harrelson, a Bay Minette, Ala., contractor, permission to dump garbage.

Sean Penn faces arrest warrant

LOS ANGELES — An arrest warrant has been issued for Sean Penn for allegedly violating probation by punching a film extra during shooting of a movie in which the tough-guy actor plays a policeman, officials said.

Penn, 26, could receive up to six months in jail if he is found to have violated a year's probation received in February for a nightclub brawl.

Penn allegedly became enraged April 2 when Jeffrey Klein, 32, an extra in the movie "Colors," began taking photos of him and co-star Robert Duvall.