Page News Digest By The Associated Press Edited by Roger Price

Friday, May 1, 1992

Los Angeles riots overwhelm police City on fire after King verdict

LOS ANGELES - Riots, arson and looting raged throughout the Los Angeles area Thursday and the death toll rose to 18 as National Guard troops moved into neighborhoods torn by outrage over the Rodney King

About 450 people had been injured and 300 arrested in the outburst of destruction that terrorized vast parts of the city for a second day, from downtown to the suburban San Fernando Valley

At nightfall Thursday, violence had spread into San Bernardino, 60 miles to the east, where a gun battle be-tween a security guard and a motorist that police said was riot-related left one dead. Santa Monica, to the west, closed its beaches, and vandals descended upon historic Hollywood Boulevard, setting fire to at least one

As many as 40 fires were burning as a citywide dusk-to-dawn curfew took effect. At least six new major blazes ringed downtown, enveloping the city's skyscrapers in thick smoke.

Arizona Gov. Fife Symington said California Gov. Pete Wilson had asked

and told him: "It's out of control." Wilson was flying to Los Angeles from the capital, Sacramento.

Much of the city shut down. Bus service was halted, professional sporting events were postponed, thousands of businesses and schools were closed, and some flights were rerouted around columns of smoke.

Shoppers stocked up on batteries and candles, fearing power outages as night approached.

Police spokeswoman Sharon Michaelson said 17 deaths had been confirmed in Los Angeles from the rioting. That was in addition to the death in San Bernardino.

Most of the rioters were black, but whites, Asians and Hispanics took part in some of the violence. The dead included eight blacks and one white, all male, the coroner's office said. The ages and gender of the other victims were not immediately avail-

Arsonists torched hundreds of buildings. In 15 hours ending at 1 p.m., firefighters responded to 1,084 structure fires. Officials said they were him for National Guard equipment too busy to compile damage estimates.

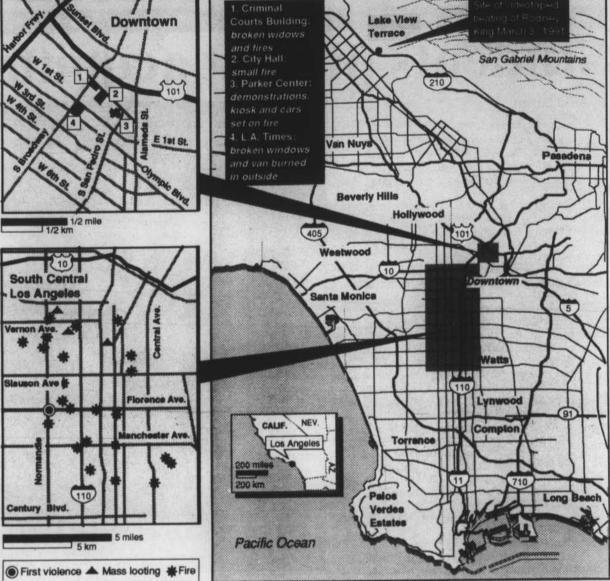
Bush, Barr condemn violence

condemned "murder and destruction" by Los Angeles rioters on Thursday, but at the same time said the Justice Department would intensify its in-

WASHINGTON - President Bush taped-beating case that ignited the

Bush met at the White House with Attorney General William Barr, who raised the possibility that four offivestigation of police conduct in the cers acquitted of brutality charges in

Areas of heavy rioting



stopped," Bush said.

the streets of Los Angeles must be sible" to determine whether there are pped," Bush said. grounds to charge the four white po-licemen with violating the civil rights "The murder and destruction on will move "as expeditiously as pos- of Rodney King, who is black.

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if his investigation shows they violated the civil rights of King.

state court could face federal charges

Croatian bridges blown up SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina Masked commandos blew up the last two bridges

linking Bosnia-Herzegovina with Croatia, killing at least four people, according to a television report Thursday.

The railway and pedestrian bridges near Brcko were the only links left to the relative

safe haven of Croatia for refugees fleeing northeastern Bosnia. Two months of fighting in the new republic have created about 400,000 refu-Croatian radio said masked men in camou-

flage uniforms captured a police patrol guarding the bridges at dawn and set off explosive charges. News reports said refugees may have been hurled into the water by the blast. Sarajevo TV said four people were known dead; other reports put the toll 10 or more.

Sarajevo was quiet after being shelled for several days, but there were more deaths in the southern city of Mostar, and a Muslim village was put to the torch in fighting between Serbs, who oppose Bosnian independence.

Greek Premier Constantine Mitsotakis arrived in Belgrade, Serbia's capital, and met Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Mitsotakis said Greece supported the new Yugoslav federation announced Monday by Serbia and its ally Montenegro. EC foreign ministers were to meet Friday in Lisbon, Portugal, to discuss whether to recognize the federa-

The new Yugoslavia on Thursday established border posts with neighboring Croatia, Bosnia and Macedonia. Passports will be needed to cross the borders, Tanjug said.

Also in Lisbon, Serb, Slavic Muslim and Croat delegates met with Portugal's EC coordinator, Jose Cutileiro, to discuss dividing Bosnia-Herzegovina into areas of "competencies" for each ethnic group.

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Quiet roommate was actually dead

KEY WEST, Fla. — A 78-year-old man thought his roommate was ignoring him and didn't realize the other man had been dead on

the kitchen floor for two months, police said. Thomas Warren turned himself in for psychiatric treatment at dePoo Hospital after police discovered the body of 43-year-old William Everett Delaney on Tuesday, authorities

"I guess he might have had some kind of mental block where he didn't want to believe the guy was dead," said police Detective Duke

Warren told police he recalled Delaney falling in the kitchen about two or three months ago. He said he often asked Delaney if he wanted food or drink or if he needed to go to the hospital.

"He said the guy was very stubborn and wouldn't answer him," Yannacone said.

No foul play is suspected and no charges against Warren are expected, Yannacone said. Police said alcohol abuse is suspected as the cause of death.

Police were called by a welfare worker who had gone to check on Warren.