

Capitol quips

Nelson Rockefeller learned long ago there are some things money can't buy, such as political support from Ronald Reagan.

Established 1858

Waterloo Courier

Waterloo, Iowa, Sunday, November 2, 1975—92 Pages—9 Sections

Monday's weather

Fair and mild

Complete weather forecast—Page 2

35 Cents

Ford videotapes historic testimony

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ford gave brief, but historic, videotaped testimony Saturday as a defense witness in the California trial of Lynette Alice Fromme, charged with attempting to assassinate him.

It took just 19 minutes of Ford's time for the legal proceedings conducted by federal judge Thomas J. MacBride, who came here from Sacramento to supervise the unprecedented session. None of the President's testimony was made public.

Afterward, the judge told reporters that "the President was very cooperative and we appreciate very much his giving us this time on Saturday to help us out with the case."

FORD WAS questioned by defense co-counsel John E. Virga about what he heard and saw when 27-year-old Miss Fromme allegedly pointed a loaded .45 caliber gun at him as he greeted a crowd near the state capitol in Sacramento on Sept. 5.

Virga called for the President's testimony, saying he considered the President "may be our most important witness." Ford is the fifth president to

give testimony in a criminal trial, and the use of videotape to record it for presentation to the jury is a new procedure. Previous presidents to give written testimony or submit documents for criminal proceedings included Thomas Jefferson, James Monroe, Ulysses S. Grant and Richard M. Nixon.

The President's statement under oath was taken in privacy in a small third-floor conference room in the Executive Office Building next door to the White House.

PRESS SECRETARY Ron Nessen described the session as "dry, legal, businesslike and very low-key," starting off with the President and the judge shaking hands.

Ford, wearing a dark blue suit, blue shirt and blue and red striped tie, arrived at 10:04 a.m. It was all over by 10:23 a.m. The President sat at the center of a U-shaped cluster of tables with a blue backdrop behind him and a microphone in front.

Judge MacBride, in his black judicial robes, was seated at Ford's right, with the defense and prosecuting attorneys on his left.



Guerrilla tells 'head-hunting'

TEL AVIV (AP) — The commander of an Arab guerrilla squad, captured while infiltrating across the occupied Syrian Golan Heights front, said Saturday that part of his mission had been to cut off the heads of Israeli civilians and take them back to Syria.

There was no immediate comment from Syrian sources on the Arab's statement.

ISRAELI TROOPS captured Abd'el Ra'af Slah Mass'oud, 25, along with four other Arab guerrillas, on Tuesday. In a brief gunbattle the Israelis killed two other members of the gang.

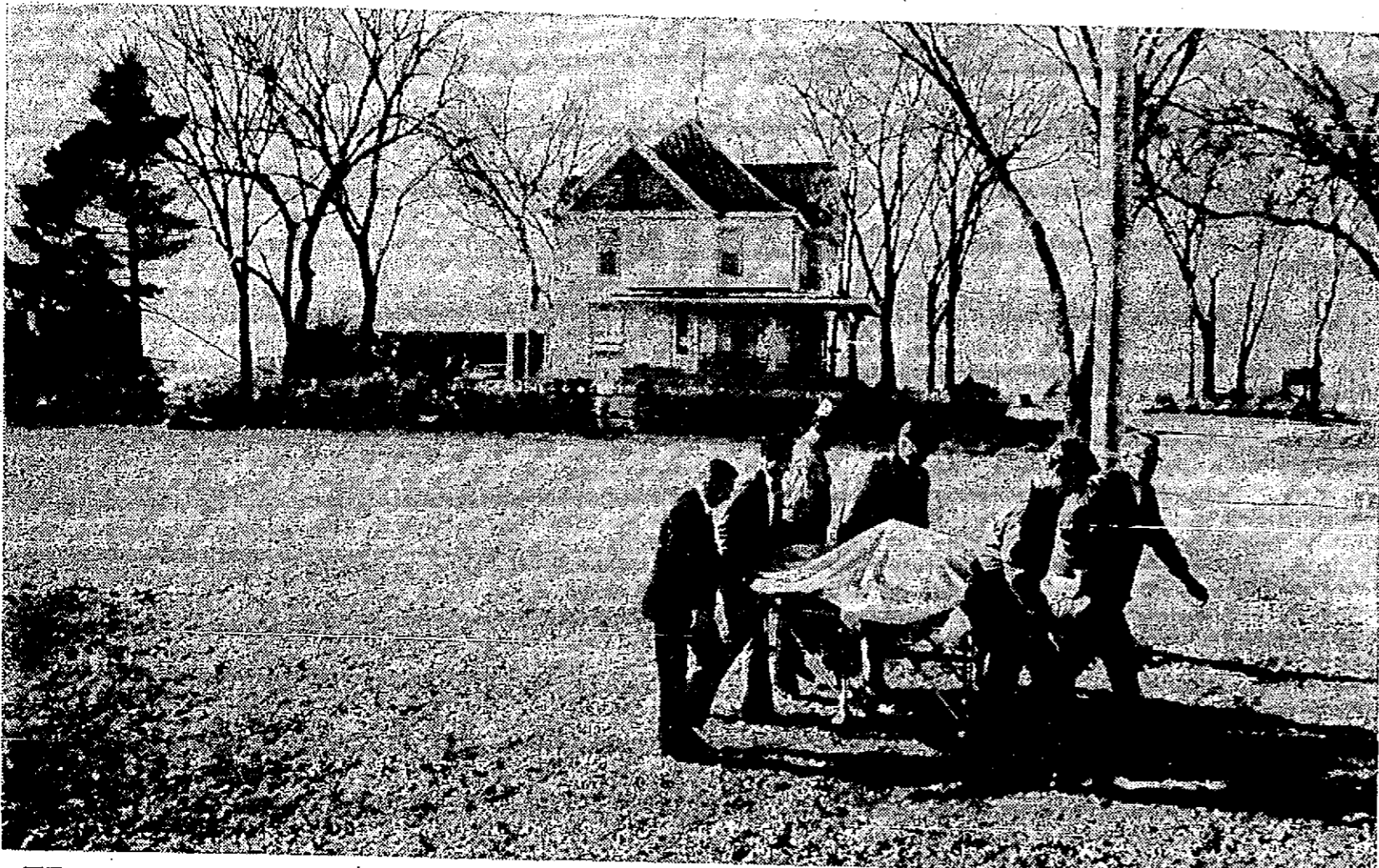
In an interview to be screened over state television, Mass'oud was asked why the guerrillas had an axe among their equipment.

—A. "To cut off heads."
—Q. "Whose heads?"
—A. "Inhabitants."
—Q. "For what reason?"
—A. "To take them with us to Syria."
—Q. "Why?"
—A. "Two reasons: to prove that we had reached a settlement and returned safely, and to spread terror among the settlers so they would leave the country and return to where they'd come from."

THE INCIDENT, which has raised Israel's concern over a possible change in Syrian policy, was the first reported infiltration along the front since U.N. troops were stationed there in May 1974, following a disengagement pact arranged by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

Four killed at rural Cedar Falls home

No suspects in family's slaying



THE BODIES of a rural Cedar Falls mother and her young son are taken across the wide yard of their farmhouse. Mrs. Leslie Mark, 23; her husband, and two children, Julie, 5, and Jeff, 2, were murdered in their bedrooms early Saturday. (Courier photo by Jim Humphrey)

By DAN DUNDON
Courier Staff Writer

CEDAR FALLS—Investigators said Saturday night they have no suspects and established no motive for the gunshot slayings of four members of a rural Cedar Falls family.

The victims, Leslie W. Mark, 25, his 23-year-old wife, Jorjean, and

More pictures, related story on page 2

their two children, Julie, 5, and Jeff, 2, were found about 8 a.m. Saturday.

Authorities said they were shot to death in their bedrooms in the large, two-story farmhouse at 5828 Union Rd., about five miles northwest of Cedar Falls.

While investigators said they had no substantial leads, they believed the murders occurred following a break-in.

THEY SAID a glass pane in the side door of the house was broken and a grandfather clock on the first floor was damaged.

The circuit breakers in the basement were found open and the electric clocks had stopped at 5.

The bodies of the two children were found in their beds in separate bedrooms.

Sheriff Wendell Christensen said both children had apparently been shot with a rifle or handgun at close range, Julie in the chest and Jeff in the head.

The bodies of their parents were found in a downstairs bedroom, the sheriff said.

Christensen said some of the furnishings appeared to have been damaged but he said the house was "not in great disarray."

THE BODIES were discovered about 8 a.m. by a neighboring farmer, Clark Renner, and Mark's mother, Mrs. Wayne Mark, who lives in the area. She summoned sheriff's deputies.

The area was cordoned off and deputies began an exhaustive search for clues in the house and surrounding area outside.

Shortly after noon, the bodies of the murder victims were taken to St. Francis Hospital for examination by County Deputy Medical Examiner Dr. Edward Ceiley.

For a time, authorities considered a murder-suicide theory but that theory was dismissed after investigators failed to turn up a murder weapon in the house.

SOME 25 members of the sheriff's reserve were then called in to aid deputies in combing the area for the weapon and clues.

But a search of all the buildings on the farm and fields and roadside ditches near the farm failed to turn

up anything. Most of the sheriff's reserve had left the area by mid afternoon.

A small contingent of regular deputies remained at the scene while others talked with neighbors and followed up leads.

Shortly after 3 p.m., a National Guard helicopter was dispatched from Waterloo to assist in the search and to take film footage of the area to be used in the investigation later.

It was learned that deputies questioned a man late Saturday afternoon who said he picked up a hitchhiker on Union Road near the farm about 1:30 a.m.

CHRISTENSEN said every available man in the department would be used in the investigation.

"I can assure you," he emphasized, "we will leave no stone unturned."

The sheriff said investigators would be talking to immediate family members and neighbors to determine the events leading up to the incident and in an attempt to establish a motive.

"There are no suspects at the present time," Christensen said Saturday night.

Also at the murder scene Saturday were Black Hawk County Attorney David Dutton, investigators with the Waterloo police department's criminalistics lab, and Cedar Falls detectives.

On the inside

FOR 23 YEARS a group of women in the Fairbank area have been gathering with needles, thread, pins and material for an important mission. See photographs and story on page 37.

WATERLOO VOTERS will cast ballots for a mayor and a full slate of city councilmen Tuesday. Story and pictures on page 17.

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Pilot's release told

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — An American pilot kidnaped from his Beirut apartment by unidentified gunmen three days ago was reported released Saturday, the U.S. Embassy said.

A spokesman said he heard unofficial reports that Herman Clyde Huddleston, 47, of Ft. Worth, Tex., was released Saturday morning and is apparently "in some part of Beirut."

Spain: Will halt march

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (AP) — Spain will use its army if necessary to stop a march of Moroccan civilians into the Spanish Sahara, the U.N. Security Council was told privately Saturday night.

Real 'monsters' spoil Halloween fun

By The Associated Press

Razor blades, pins and needles hidden in apples, candy bars and cupcakes spoiled Halloween for some trick-or-treaters in communities across the country.

Many cities and towns resorted to civic-sponsored "haunted houses" and other diversions Friday

night to replace the traditional trick-or-treating. Reports from some communities indicated fewer spooks and goblins making the rounds.

THE FEAR of parents is that real monsters are afoot, a justifiable concern in some cases.

—Jeff Brizzell, 12, of Little Rock, Ark., bit into a

candy bar after making his trick-or-treat rounds and his teeth hit a razor blade. His mother had made him throw away all his unwrapped candy, but the razor blade was stuck into the bottom of a wrapped candy bar. He was not injured.

—Parents in many parts of the country ordered children to cut open fruit

before eating it. Eight-year-old Randy Veilleux of Auburn, Maine, cut his finger on a razor blade while quartering a trick-or-treat apple.

—Parents in the Casa View section of Dallas reported to police four incidents of needles hidden in candy. There was also one report of a motorist trying to run down children.

SOME Halloween tricks were more traditional. Police reports in Denver noted that "ghosts" slashed 11 tires on cars in a shopping center parking lot.

For protection from such tricks, an Oakland, Calif., woman replaced the shrubs in her garden with tombstones.

Some people went

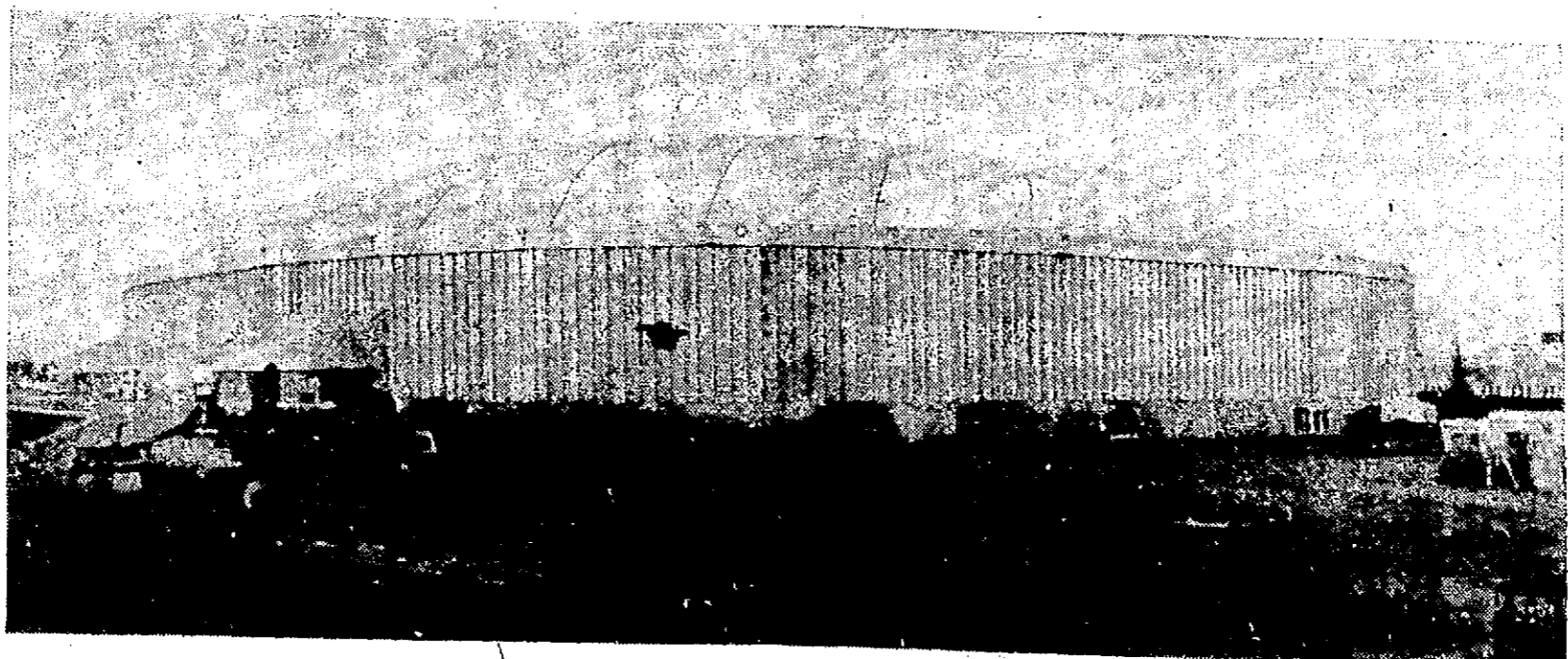
further. Officials in Salem, Mo., said at least five shots were fired into the rural home of witches Yvonne and Gavin Frost.

"We hope it was just mischief, but it isn't funny in any case," said Mrs. Frost, who with her husband operates a mail order school of witchcraft from their home.

Last year in Pasadena,

Texas, a suburb of Houston, 8-year-old Timothy O'Bryan died of poisoned Halloween candy. His father, convicted of killing his son to get \$30,000 in insurance money, spent this Halloween on Texas' death row. "Trick or treating was almost nonexistent in our neighborhood," a Pasadena patrolman said Saturday.

"From everything I've heard around here, that was the story everywhere else around town," he added.



The Dome is up

The fibreglass, 94-ton roof of the UNI-Dome in Cedar Falls was "pumped up" Friday, afternoon. Huge fans provided air pressure to inflate the roof to a height of 115 feet. Another picture on page 22, story on page 53. (Courier photo by Dan Jacob)

ConWay events

SUNDAY
2 p.m.—Square Dancers of Northeast Iowa.
5 p.m.—Reception in Conference Room.