AMA: CIGARETS DAMAGE HEART

Tobacco Firms Financed Study

ABC Faked Gang Report, Youths Claim

ELVIS

First installment of the new book 'The Boy Who Dared to Rock'

Bury Fireman. Barbara Ann McManus, widow of Fireman James P. McManus, reaches to place a rose with her husband's casket yesterday at Monaview Cemetery, New Dorp, S. I. Their daughters (second and third from left) Caroline, 13 and Tana, 9, hold flowers for their own farewells. Funerals were held yesterday for two of the six firefighters killed in Brooklyn supermarket fire.

—Story on page 3; other pix centerfold.
Canada Bus Falls Into Lake; Divers Seek 41 Victims

Eastman, Quebec (AP) — Divers groped along a murky lake bottom yesterday searching for a bus holding the bodies of 41 passengers, most of them handicapped, who were trapped and drowned when the bus apparently lost its brakes on a hill and plunged into the water.

Only the driver and six volunteers accompanying the handicapped people on a theater excursion managed to escape after the vehicle failed to make a sharp turn at the bottom of the hill and slid off the roadway into Lac d’Argent, 50 miles southeast of Montreal.

Alain Pouliot, one of the survivors, said the bus began to list for about five minutes before it sank in 60 feet of water. "Everybody in the bus was yelling, 'Help! Help!'" he said. "Moments later it sank.

Pouliot said he had drifted about 150 yards onto the lake before it went down. The Friday night tragedy was the worst bus accident in Canadian history.

Most of the 41 victims were members of the Society of Informed and Handicapped of the Asbestos Region and ranged in age from 14 to 83. Two were in wheelchairs. Some were mentally handicapped, and others had physical ailments.

Among the dead were two nuns, a priest and parents of the disabled persons.

A 90-Degree Turn

The group was returning home from the nearby mining town of Asbestos about midnight after seeing a French-language comedy called "A Simple Double Wedding" in Eastman. It was a special performance for the handicapped group. Free tickets had been provided by a supermarket chain.

Pouliot said the driver realized the brakes had failed as he headed down the hill.

"The bus started to speed, and the driver told me to hold everyone to get set because he was going to do a 90-degree turn," said Pouliot. "But at the speed we were going, he couldn't turn and drove right into the water."

Pouliot said he got out of the bus door open and the first thing he saw was a boat anchored offshore. "I swam out, the boat. There was nobody on board, so I yelled for help."

He said residents came running from nearby summer cottages but they could not free the boat from its mooring.

Quico provincial police drug Lac d’Argent early yesterday for some of the 41 passengers that died when a bus plunged into the lake.

Pouliot said his wife escaped from the bus through a window. "I don't know how she made it to shore, because she doesn't swim," he said.

Driver Found Okay

Constable Alain Perron told a news conference that police "have already investigated the driver and he was in perfect condition — no alcohol, nothing."

The worst previous Canadian bus accident was July 31, 1953, when an express bus traveling from Toronto to Montreal crashed into a ditch at Morrisburg, Ont., killing 30 and injuring 19.

Study Links Cigarettes, Heart Deterioration

Chicago (UPI) — Cigarette smoking can cause irreversible heart damage and may be responsible for other maladies ranging from indigestion to cancer, American Medical Association and research analysts told today in a report funded in part by the nation's tobacco companies.

The $15 million, 14-year research project was sponsored by the AMA Committee for Research on Tobacco and Health, and most of the funding was contributed by the tobacco industry's Tobacco Institute, which expected the AMA panel to refute the surgeon general's report of 1964.

"The committee believes that the bulk of research sponsored by this project supports the conclusion that cigarette smoking plays an important role in the development of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and constitutes a grave danger to individuals with pre-existing diseases of the coronary arteries," the AMA report stated.

Strokes and Heart Disease

The 365-page report is composed of more than 70 abstracts of individual research projects on the effects of cigarette smoking in various bodily conditions.

Dr. Ira Sings, secretary of the committee, said research into cancer-causing properties of cigarette smoke was minimal because "they thought the National Institute of Health had covered that area pretty thoroughly."

But the committee did find cancer-causing agents in nicotine. Researchers also found strong links between cigarette smoking and a variety of other problems — most notably strokes and heart disease.

"It makes it pretty clear that anybody with heart trouble better not smoke," Sings said.

Risk of Blood Clots

Researchers found that a combination of nicotine and a temporary lack of oxygen can cause irreversible heart damage. They also found smoking increases the risk of blood clots that could cause fatal strokes or heart attacks.

A spokesman for the Tobacco Institute, which represents the tobacco industry, declined to comment on the report, saying he had not yet read it. Officials of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Industries Inc., parent company of the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., also withheld comment.

Four Slain in Attack On PLO Paki Office

Islamabad, Pakistan (UPI) — Two terrorists shot their way into a Palestine Liberation Organization office yesterday and machine-gunned four persons to death in the bloodiest attack yet in a worldwide vendetta between the PLO and more radical Palestinians based in Iran.

The gunmen killed a Pakistani police inspector and three PLO Palestinians at an office in Rawalpindi after hurling two grenades.

"The action comes under the private target, PLO Chief of Mission Yassir Arafat, who led his office while his car would be attacked by the Israeli government," said a Pakistani official.

"This was a serious action plotted by the Israeli government," Punia said.

"The Israeli government supplied them with machine guns and organized the attack. We hold the Israeli government responsible."

Iraqi Government Accused

In Beirut, the PLO also accused the Iraqi government of planning the assault and said police in Bangladesh had intercepted a load of weapons intended for another attack on PLO headquarters in Damascus.

Five in High Command

The incident was the latest in a series of attacks on PLO officials and terrorist attacks by Arab governments on diplomats in London, Paris, Kuwait, Beirut and Karachi spawned by the feud in the Palestine high command.

The vendetta stems from a bitter personal rivalry between PLO chief Yasser Arafat and a man known by the code name of Abu Nidal, who broke away from Arafat and established his own, more radical group in Baghdad.

In Beirut five radical Palestinian groups called yesterday for an end to the clashes and said all differences should be settled through "a national dialogue without any external pressures."