



On camera: Record bank holdup

Hidden-camera photos of three men conducting what is believed to be the largest bank robbery — about \$78,000 — in this area's history were released yesterday by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Witnesses at the Kenmore Branch of the National Bank of Commerce, 6700 N. E. 181st St., said the three gunmen were in their early 30s and about 5 feet 10 inches tall. False beards and mustaches and two raincoats were found in a car believed abandoned by the robbers. The gunmen took money from the vault and tellers' cages after forcing employees and customers to lie on the floor soon after the bank opened yesterday morning.

Alioto returns to courtroom in fee-split suit

Times Wire Services

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Mayor Joseph Alioto of San Francisco returned today to the trial of a \$2.1 million civil lawsuit against him and two other men.

The mayor arrived about 10 a. m. and said, "I just wanted to look in" while he was on a visit to Portland on private business.

Alioto had not been here since he testified in mid-November during the eighth and ninth weeks of the trial.

"I heard the plaintiffs were about winding up," Alioto said, "and I wanted to confer with my attorney."

THEN HE repeated a statement he made several times during his previous stay at the trial:

"This trial should have been over four weeks after it started. This is why people are getting tired of the judicial process. Not a single new fact has emerged since I gave my press interview two years ago."

After making his statement in the hallway of Vancouver City Hall, where the trial is being held, he went into the courtroom and sat, smiling at the jury, at the counsel table.

BEFORE the jury was brought into the courtroom

this morning attorneys completed their arguments over portions of a deposition by former United States District Judge George Boldt, now chairman of the federal Pay Board. The deposition is to be read to the jury later.

Superior Court Judge Donald L. Gaines deleted parts of the deposition concerning Judge Boldt's experience with the Montana attorney general 40 years ago. The questions involved the right of that attorney general to engage in private law practice and a conflict-of-interest statute.

THE STATE and 12 cities and public utility districts paid Alioto \$2.1 million in the 1960s for recovering \$16.2 million from major electrical equipment manufacturers during antitrust cases.

His former clients now want a refund of the fee because they contend he illegally shared \$800,000 of it with John J. O'Connell, then Washington attorney general, and George K. Faler, a former O'Connell aide, for their work in the suits.

O'Connell insists he was acting as a private attorney and therefore did nothing wrong in accepting part of Alioto's fee.

Metro Council OK's express-bus plan

By BOB LANE

The basic concept of a regional bus system built around a multicenter plan was endorsed by the Metro Council yesterday.

Council members also voted to postpone an election on the system and a financing proposal from May until September.

A multicenter transit system would rely heavily on a system of express buses running between major activity centers. Local service routes would carry passengers from neighborhoods to connections with the express lines.

SOME EXPRESS buses would operate under the Blue Streak system (Northgate to downtown, nonstop) while others would be used as freeway flyers, an idea in transportation new here. Freeway flyers would fol-

low fixed routes on freeways or other highways. They would stop occasionally, often on new pull-off ramps built into the freeway, at a connection point with local bus routes. In some places parking facilities might be provided at a freeway flyer stopping point.

Wallace A. DeLaBarre, of Daniel, Mann, Johnson & Mendenhall, consulting firm working on the bus plan, said the multicenter system would require more transfers than the existing Seattle Transit grid system. Because of the emphasis on freeway express service travel times would be shorter, despite transfers, he said.

The multicenter system would require the construction of 20 or more park-and-ride lots providing spaces for 15,000 to 20,000 cars, DeLaBarre said.

MANY of Seattle's bus lines would be adapted to the system. Those operating on short runs (including most of the lines south of the Lake Washington Ship Canal) probably would not be changed.

DeLaBarre said the planners would not remove any of Seattle's trolley bus routes.

The consulting firm developed the freeway express system after sampling public desires at a round of meetings. Another series of meetings will be conducted next week at which the consultant will ask the public to help design the local-service bus routes, which will provide service within neighborhoods and provide connections to the freeway express service.

Torches, tools stolen

Four acetylene torches and tools valued at about \$2,275 were reported missing from the Modern Iron & Steel Co., 7619 Fifth Ave. S., early yesterday.

The culprit also had taken the car's coil and distributor cap.

Park Board

Edwards Park towers to remain

By VAL VARNEY

The Park Board voted, 4 to 2, yesterday to approve the master plan for the Myrtle Edwards Park on Lake Union, retaining the six gas-plant cracking towers on the site.

Donald Voorhees and John Andrew, who believe the towers have no value to the park voted no.

Richard Haag & Associates, the Park's designer, believes the towers represent the theme of the park.

Virginia Van Ness, board vice chairman, said if the towers are removed there never will be another chance to see them.

Lou Coaston, board member, said it would be best to retain the towers and if the community does not want

them they can be removed later.

Victor Steinbrueck, professor of architecture at the University of Washington, said the towers would make the park unique. "I see the structures as industrial engineering and they are very interesting and exciting," he said.

Voorhees countered, "We are trying to de-industrialize Lake Union and if we retain those towers we're not doing the job."

Calhoun Dickinson, board chairman, said there have not been many letters to newspapers supporting removal of the towers.

Park Supt. Hans A. Thompson said the design should be complete in the spring.

BUSH SCHOOL — The board recommended denial of a Helen Bush-Parkside School request to convert a nearby park temporarily into a small soccer field. It recommended the Park Department help the school find alternate locations for their athletic activities.

John Grant, school headmaster, earlier had requested the use of the park at Lake Washington Boulevard East and 37th Avenue East.

Several residents of the area oppose converting the park. The department staff said the field could not be converted back to its original status.

WATER SKI — The board concurred with a staff recommendation to allow the national water-ski champion-

ships on Green Lake August 14-20.

Howard Bogie, recreation and program director, said neither the swimming beaches nor sailing and canoe lessons would be affected during the competition. There only will be two boats on the water at one time, with one boat pulling a skier.

Competition will be held from the Duck Island area to the Aqua Theater. Boats and skiers will be on the water 10 hours a day. Bogie said the boats' motors would be muffled.

POWER BOATS — The board accepted a recommendation that power-boat races be held on Green Lake one day during Memorial Day weekend and three days during Seafair.

Thompson said there will be improvements in parking and sanitary facilities and lessening the noise of the public-address system.

FORT LAWTON — The board will reiterate to the City Council that Fort Lawton is not the place for the aquarium.

Since the Golden Gardens site was rejected by the Council, several alternate sites are being considered, including fort Lawton. Board members felt that an aquarium would be out of context with the proposals of Dan Kiley, planner, for the fort area.

RE-ELECTED — Virginia Van Ness has been re-elected the board's vice chairman for 1972.

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