

Once left to die, girl receives diploma in test of courage



SUSAN'S DEGREE — Susan Bartolomei, who was kidnaped four years ago, shot five times in the head and left to die, finally receives her diploma from Ukiah (Calif.) High School in her home.

UKIAH, Calif. (AP) — Four years ago Susan Bartolomei was kidnaped, shot five times in the head and left on the side of the road, paralyzed and speechless.

Now at 21, Susan still is unable to speak and has only limited movement. But she has graduated from Ukiah High School — her last grades straight "A's" — and is looking for ways to help others with severe handicaps.

Sitting in a wheelchair, Susan wore the school's colors — a blue and gold cap and gown — for graduation ceremonies June 11 held in the living room of her parents' small white house.

The fact that Susan was able to reach out an arm to grasp a diploma from the school principal "is a miracle," her doctor says.

It was a balmy summer night in 1967 when Susan and her boyfriend, Timothy Luce, 17, were driving home from an auto junkyard where they picked up spare parts for Tim's jalopy.

When the car broke down, they accepted a ride from Thomas Braun and Leonard Maine, two youths on a violent crime spree that started in the Pacific Northwest.

Tim was shot and killed. Susan was raped, beaten and shot. She was in a coma for months.

Three bullets shredded the muscular control center of her brain and doctors had to remove her vocal cords to keep her from choking to death.

That winter Susan testified with hand signs and eyelash movements at the trial for the two men. Both were

convicted of murder, Braun sentenced to die in the gas chamber, Maine to life in prison.

"If she ever got discouraged since then, she never showed it," her mother said in an interview. "It amazes everyone and makes people enjoy being around her and helping her."

Through use of an electronic voice vibrator, Susan now can say such things as "how are you," "yes" and "no," her mother said. Mostly she speaks by moving her fingers in the deaf alphabet.

It is difficult for her to read, but her handwriting has improved.

She needed to complete only two classes, civics and English literature, to get her diploma.

Her mother said a private tutor, Jeannette Hovey, came to the house four mornings a week for a half an hour to read lessons and lecture. A girl Susan's age was hired to help her during the afternoon and at night her parents would quiz her.

"But she worked so hard on school now. She didn't have that many other activities."

Susan spends about an hour each day in physical therapy which consists mostly of "just using her sheer will power to get a little finger, or an arm to move," said her mother.

"Her big goal now is to get moving physically," her mother said.

Susan can move her arms and legs. Though she has to be fed, she can lift drinks to her mouth.

The Oregonian

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Captive hijacker surrenders

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Hijacker Robert Lee Jackson, his commandeered jetliner turned into an earthbound prison by squads of armed police, gave up his two-day marathon flight Sunday and surrendered. He raised his fingers in a V sign as he left the aircraft.

Police, backed by President Alejandro Lanusse, refused to refuel the Braniff International 707 or send food aboard, flattened the tires and massed assault vehicles in the aircraft's path. Jackson's female companion gave herself up several hours earlier.

The U.S. Navy deserter's 43-hour hop, skip and jump escapade covered 7,500 miles from Texas to this Argentine capital—a record hijacking journey. It ended in his failure to obtain the political asylum he wanted in Algeria.

Jackson, 36, who was a trusty when he fled the Charleston, S.C., Navy Base correctional center in May, wanted to fly to Algeria with \$100,000 in ransom money. He received the ransom for release of a passenger he held hostage on Friday in Monterrey, Mexico.

In San Antonio, Tex., the aircraft's destination before it was hijacked on Friday, the FBI said Jackson had been charged with air piracy and assault with a deadly weapon.

John Wachter, legal counsel of the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires, had said the United States would seek Jackson's extradition.

But Argentine officials said this would not be possible because of the seriousness of Argentina's charges against him: kidnaping and theft of an aircraft.

Wachter then said the United States would seek Jackson's "informal deportation."

Police had quoted Jackson as saying before his surrender that he wanted to remain in Argentina.

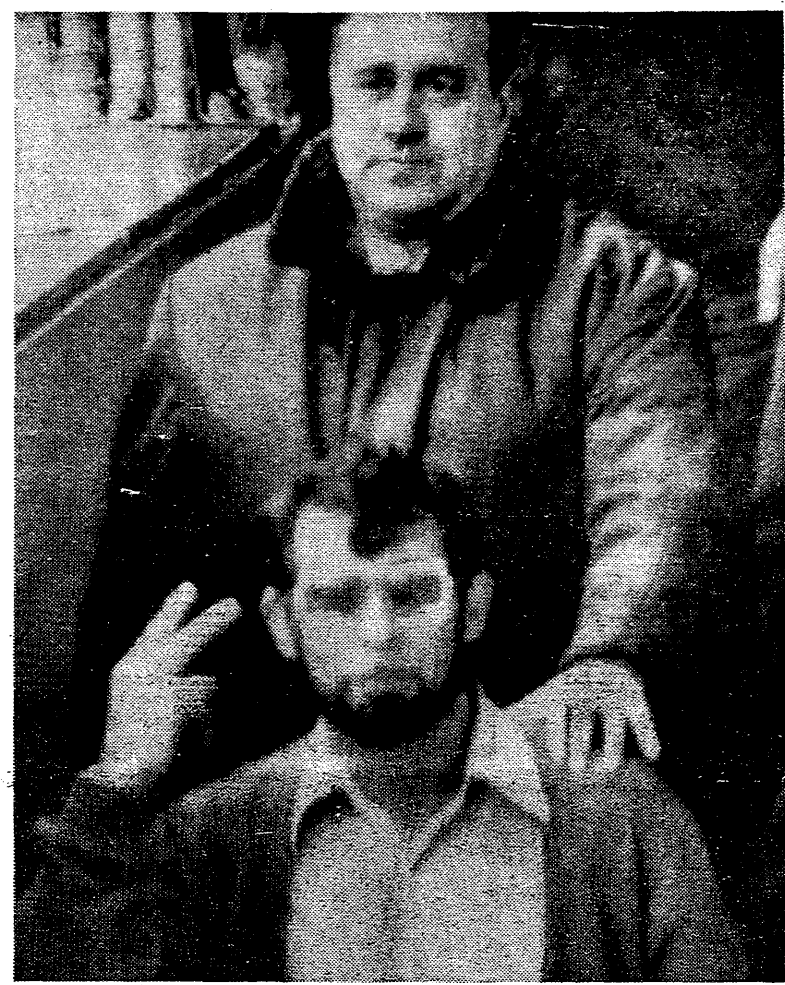
He left the aircraft at Ezeiza International Airport with the ransom money in a suitcase, police said. He made the V sign with his fingers as he walked between two policemen to a car. The policeman had removed a pistol from his belt.

Jackson had been without sleep for two days. Before his surrender he permitted the six Braniff crew members to leave the plane and he remained aboard for an hour.

Hours before, his woman companion — Guatemalan-born Lydia Lucrezia Sanchez, a resident of Mexico — had walked off the aircraft and was taken into custody.

Police said Jackson had changed to fresh clothes—a green sports shirt and sweater and brown slacks—before giving up.

"He was rather benevolent in the end," Wachter said. "He didn't want to



HIJACKER HELD—Robert Lee Jackson (front) was in custody of Argentine police Sunday following his surrender in Buenos Aires.

do anyone any harm and he let the crew leave the craft before finally surrendering himself." Jackson and the woman who had accompanied him on his hijack adventure were held most of the day at the airport where they were questioned by the police. A psychiatrist also spoke with Jackson, police said.

Miss Sanchez, 23, apparently was someone Jackson met only a few days ago in Mexico, Wachter said.

Police declined to discuss her role in the hijacking beyond saying that she had a pistol in her purse and slept frequently during the 21 hours the plane was in Buenos Aires, with Jackson holding out inside.

Jackson, who is divorced and has two children, seized the jet at midday Friday on a flight from Acapulco, Mexico, to San Antonio.

U.S. Embassy officials said Jack-

son's motives were unclear, but were not political. The 101 regular passengers were allowed to disembark at Monterrey, Mexico. Then Jackson received \$100,000 as ransom for the lone passenger he held as hostage. Braniff said the airline had provided the money. Argentine police said they had taken custody of the cash.

A Braniff airline spokesman said, however, that \$15,000 of the \$100,000 was missing, that Jackson could not explain to the police what had happened to the cash. He gave \$1,000 to Maria Garza, the Mexican woman he had held hostage at Monterrey.

In Washington, a Pentagon spokesman said Jackson, whose last civilian address was Maryville, Tenn., was classified as a deserter from the Navy shortly after he escaped from confinement on May 18.

The spokesman was unable to say why Jackson had been confined.

During the hijack escapade, Jackson said he had been charged in the United States with a crime he did not commit. He did not elaborate.

His former wife, Mrs. Fred Mayer of Albany, Ga., said he had been held in the Navy brig at Charleston, S.C.

In 1969, she said, he had been picked up by the FBI at the Canadian border at Alexandria Bay, N.Y., on a charge of kidnaping his 12-year-old stepson, Mrs. Mayer's son by a marriage previous to that to Jackson. The boy and Jackson were returned to Florida, where the mother had brought the kidnaping charge, but the charge was later dropped.

Mrs. Mayer, who divorced Jackson in 1968, said he had often voiced a hatred of the United States during their marriage and had expressed a desire to leave. She added that he had joined the Navy at the age of 17 after quitting high school in his second year.

He earned four Good Conduct Medals and served in Vietnam, she said.

The pilot of the Braniff airliner said Jackson hijacked the aircraft as it was preparing for a landing at San Antonio.

Jackson forced the plane to fly then to Monterrey and then on to Lima, Peru; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and finally Buenos Aires.

In Rio, where the plane stopped after the crew had convinced its captors the jet needed more fuel, swarms of police prompted the hijackers to force the plane to take off again, this time for Buenos Aires.

The Argentines were as opposed as the Brazilians to refueling the Boeing for the flight to Algiers, although Jackson threatened to blow up the craft if fuel wasn't provided.

Farm law loopholes aid richest farmers

WASHINGTON — Hundreds of the country's richest farmers, including Sen. James O. Eastland D-Miss. and movie actor John Wayne, have reshuffled their businesses in ways that avoid the effects of a 1970 law designed to limit their federal farm subsidy payments.

The law limits each farmer to a \$55,000 per crop maximum federal subsidy check. But Agriculture Department regulations and the law itself have produced a bumper crop of legal loopholes.

Congressional supporters of the payment ceiling had hoped it would save taxpayers \$60 million this year, principally on cotton, where the biggest subsidies are concentrated.

Contrary to their expectations: — Total farm subsidies, more than \$3 billion last year on cotton, wheat and feed grains, will not be lowered as a result of the payment restriction.

— Many big farmers, like Eastland, have legally circumvented the subsidy limit. The senator and his family will receive about \$160,000, only slightly less than payments last year. The Eastlands avoided the \$55,000 maximum payment by creating eight new business entities to farm their 5,200-acre plantation in the cotton-rich Mississippi delta.

— Actor Wayne and his partners will get about \$218,000 — far less than their 1970 payments of \$810,000 — for Arizona cotton ranches named "Red River," "Rio Bravo," and "El Dorado" after Wayne movies. The government, however, won't save any money. More than \$500,000 in federal checks that formerly went to the Wayne group will be paid instead to other farmers and investors. They, in turn, paid \$100,000 to lease his land and his valuable federal cotton allotments.

— The J.G. Boswell Co., which last year received \$4.4 million — the country's biggest single farm payment — this year won't receive anything from the government. Instead, most of the payments that would have gone to Boswell will go to a combine of 53 investors. This combine and others paid Boswell about \$1.3 million for a one-year lease of the firm's cotton allotments. They also will pay Boswell to farm their leased land. Each of the more than 50 investors can receive the maximum \$55,000. Again, the government won't save any money.

— Far more cotton will be grown this year, as giant operators like Boswell continue to plant their own land, but without federal subsidies. Boswell and

other large corporate farmers may this year experience some reduction in total income. But they now, in effect, have the farm program "both ways." They get substantial cash by leasing their cotton allotments to others, for use on other land, and then are free to grow as much cotton on their own land as they want without any of the restrictions of the farm program. Boswell has planted 25 per cent more cotton this year.

USDA officials say the business maneuvers of Eastland, Wayne and Boswell are legal variations on a theme employed by most of the 1,353 largest farm operations that are affected by the \$55,000 per farmer limit.

Kenneth Frick, the Agriculture Department's administrator for farm commodity programs, this year will get a federal subsidy check for about \$48,000 from programs he administers.

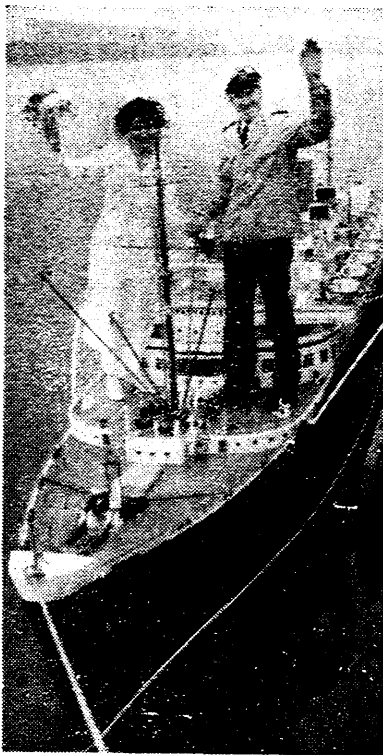
Frick's farm partnership with his brother will receive \$95,000 in cotton subsidies and about \$25,000 in sugar beet payments.

Although Frick's 40 per cent interest is being managed for him by a Bank of America trust while he is in the government, Frick said he will get the income.

The Frick partnership last year received \$195,000 in cotton subsidies.

Today's chuckle

Sign in a supermarket: "No one under \$21 admitted."



JULY NEWLYWEDS—The next best thing to a June wedding is one on July 4, though not all ordinary fare. West Germans Wolfgang and Ria Schulze attempted honeymooning on a scaled-down SS Bremen, while Jane Gillespie and Bruce Foster (right) said vows at Statue of Liberty.

Three elderly sisters killed in Washington train-car crash

STEVENSON, Wash. — Three elderly sisters were killed Sunday afternoon when their automobile was struck by a Burlington Northern freight train as they were crossing the tracks one mile east of here.

Dead are Mrs. Josephine S. Demme, 69, Ridgefield, Wash., driver of the vehicle; Mrs. Ottelyn S. Knapp, 80, Vancouver, and Mrs. Florence B. Atwell, 82, Ridgefield.

Forecast: Cloudy; high, 68; low, 55; report on page 19.

'Top seed' spitter hits 47 feet

PAULS VALLEY, Okla. — Pat Rattliff, a 20-year-old bearded flower child from the University of Oklahoma, curled his tongue, spit, and out soared a watermelon seed, 47 feet 7 1/2 inches, to capture the world's watermelon seed spitting title.

The new champion said he used the "curved tongue technique" and tried to lob the seed "end over end."

Last year's winner, Pat's brother, Victor, sent his seed soaring 36 feet down Paul Ave. in 100 degree weather.

The world record holder, Gary Archer, 34, did not participate. His wife said he could not get the day off from work. His mark of 52 feet 8 1/4 inches, set in 1965, still stands.

An early favorite, Max Billington, 17,

who practiced in the streets of Cairo, whipped his seed only 26 feet, not as far as Sheldon Smith who whistled his 29 feet 2 1/2 inches to win the contest for boys 8 and under.

Billington lives with his parents in the United Arab Republic and is spending his summer vacation in the United States.

Marie Moran, 63, won "the sweet grandma's contest" by spitting her seed 41 feet 1 1/2 inches.

None of the foreigners in the contest were able to do as well as the Americans. Gale Sherman of Australia could muster only 23 feet 10 1/2 inches.

Thomas Hasselby of Sweden did a little better, whistling his seed 31 feet.

What does it take to make a champi-

Next time, fella, just drop on in

NEW YORK (AP) — A man who said he fell out of an airplane while taking pictures over New York City parachuted into Central Park Sunday.

Sean O'Reilly, 23, of Manhattan, landed near the crowded Bethesda Fountain. A patrolman gave him a summons for parachuting within the city limits.

The most important thing, though, is "the ability to curl your tongue and make a rifle bore out of it," Reid says.

The winner received a plaque with a picture of the historic moment.

Port Schnorrenberg, the contest chairman, said 346 people took part. He estimated that there were about 7,000 spectators.

Which isn't too bad for this tiny town, whose biggest claim to fame is that it lies 60 miles south of Oklahoma City.

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