



Greensboro News & Record

Vol. 95, No. 237

Greensboro, N.C., Sunday Morning, Aug. 25, 1985

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The dying begins on a Sunday

Five murders
hit one family
within a year

By JERRY BLEDSOE
Staff Writer

Dr. Tom Lynch was about to leave his dental clinic late on a Tuesday afternoon in July when the Albuquerque police chaplain came in and introduced himself.

"I've got some real bad news," the chaplain said.

Tom felt fear surge through him. His first thought was of his wife and sons. Something had happened to them.

His children were from a previous marriage. John would be 10 in a little more than a month; Jim had turned 8 four months earlier. They were in Albuquerque for their 35 days of summer visitation and had only 11 days left before returning to their mother in North Carolina.

Tom tried to make sure the boys had a good time when they were with him. He had been hurrying to get out of the clinic to meet them and his wife, Kathy, at the Hiland Theater. They were going to see "Conan The Destroyer," and the boys were excited about it.

"There's been an accident," the chaplain said. "Your mother and sister have been killed."

Delores and Janie dead. The shock was cushioned slightly by relief that it wasn't Kathy and the boys. A car accident, no doubt. That treacherous road his mother lived on in Kentucky. She'd just had cataract surgery. She shouldn't have been driving.

Actually, the chaplain was saying, it was worse than an accident. Delores and Janie had been murdered in a robbery at home.

How could that have been? His mother took so many precautions. She had alarms and backup alarms. She had phones in almost every room, including bathrooms. She even had a battery-powered CB radio in case the phones and power failed.

Stunned, Tom went out into the dry New Mexico heat, drove to the theater, got Kathy and the boys from the ticket line and headed home to deal with the obligations and emotions brought by deaths in the family.



Delores Lynch



Jane Lynch

Both murder scenes were similar: affluent, secluded homes; signs of a struggle; a few rooms ransacked. But these were no ordinary robberies. Police suspected a professional killer. Family members began to suspect one of their own.



Hattie Newsom



Robert Newsom



Florence Newsom

BITTER BLOOD A Genealogy of Murder

On June 3, Fritz Klenner and his cousin Susie Lynch died when a bomb in his Chevy Blazer exploded north of Greensboro. Her two sons also died after being poisoned and shot. Police wanted to charge Klenner with murdering Susie's mother, father and grandmother near Winston-Salem. Police also suspected he murdered two of her former in-laws in Kentucky. This is their story.

Susan Reid thought something must be wrong. Here it was Tuesday, and she hadn't heard from her friend Delores Lynch since Saturday. Usually, they went to church together on Sundays, but Susan hadn't felt well this past weekend, and Delores went without her. On days they didn't

see each other, Delores usually called. When she hadn't called by Sunday night, Susan tried calling her.

The phone rang and rang. Susan figured it must be out of order again. When Delores was away, she always left the phone off the hook to foil would-be robbers who might call to see if any-

body was home. If the phone rang, it meant she was there. But a month earlier, the phone was out of order, and a caller would hear it ring when actually it didn't.

Susan tried calling several times Monday. On Tuesday, July 24, 1984, she had to stay at the real estate office where she worked until 1 p.m. When she didn't get Delores that morning, she decided to drive over to her house after work. She went home to Pee Dee Valley, about 10 miles away, changed clothes and picked up her dog Abbi, a Shih tzu. Delores loved Abbi, and Susan knew she'd want to see her.

Delores lived in a 14-room house with four bedrooms and four baths on four acres on State Road 329, called Covered Bridge Road, near Prospect in Oldham County, about 15 miles north of Louisville.

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South Africa forces seize 27 dissenters

New York Times News Service

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — South African authorities said Saturday that 27 leading opposition figures had been seized in the past 24 hours in the newest crackdown on dissent.

They also said "stern action" would be taken against protesters planning a march Wednesday to demand the release of the jailed nationalist Nelson Mandela.

Armed policemen and troops clashed with crowds throwing rocks and gasoline bombs as violence continued in 20 black townships, as the state of emergency in 36 magisterial districts around Johannesburg and the Eastern Cape entered its sixth week.

According to a report by The Associated Press, Zulu warriors with clubs and spears attacked dozens of blacks near Durban, wounding an undetermined number, after illegal funerals for blacks killed in riots. The new fighting came as the leader of the Zulus, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, repeated his contention that violence by blacks against blacks was a major obstacle to the ending of apartheid.



Mandela

He also repeated his criticism of the African National Congress for such acts of violence, and he repeated his call for the government to free its leader, Mandela. He said the 25-year effort by the ANC to mount an armed struggle against the government had produced virtually nothing.

Since the state of emergency was proclaimed July 21, about 140 people have died — the bulk of them blacks killed by the police — and more than 2,000 have been detained for interrogation. The authorities said Saturday that 1,038 of those still were being held.

The newest detentions, which were outside the area of the proclaimed emergency, were not included in that figure. Most of those held under the catchall emergency powers, like the latest 27 detainees, are members of the United Democratic Front.

The front was formed two years ago to oppose a new Constitution because the charter excluded the black majority from power and created a racially segregated Parliament among other groups. The front's activities since have widened to the point where it has become the main vehicle opposing the government.

The latest detainees are being held under a section of the Internal Security Act, legislation that per-

(See South Africa, A13)

Tiedge defection called worst blow

L.A. Times-Washington Post