

# DECATUR DAILY DEMOCRAT

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## HAPPY ENDING FOR BENNY



**HIS ARM IN A SLING** the only mark of his harrowing experience, little Benny Hooper, who one week ago was buried in a well-shaft precipitating heroic efforts to save his life, leaves Bayview Hospital in his home town of Mastic Beach, N. Y. With him are his dad, Benjamin Sr., his mother and sister and a new member of the family, a dog given Benny by an admirer.

## Ike Summons Top Advisers To Conference

**Unusual Saturday Conference Held On Disarmament Plans**

**BULLETIN**  
WASHINGTON (UP) — President Eisenhower today approved the new U. S. disarmament proposals to be submitted when talks with Russia resume in London on Monday.

**WASHINGTON (UP)** — President Eisenhower today summoned top advisers to an unusual Saturday meeting at the White House to stamp final approval on new American disarmament proposals.

The ideas that come out of the special morning conference will be carried to London where disarmament negotiations with Russia are scheduled to resume Monday. Presidential disarmament adviser Harold E. Stassen plans to leave here Sunday for the conference.

Besides Stassen, others called to the White House meeting were Secretary of State John Foster Dulles; Deputy Defense Secretary Donald A. Quarles; Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission; Adm. Arthur W. Radford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Robert Cutler, the President's adviser on national security matters.

**Follows Friday Session**

Most of these officials sat in on a three-and-one-half hour meeting at the State Department Friday afternoon to hash over the disarmament problem. Vice President Richard M. Nixon also attended Friday's session. No details were divulged afterwards.

One of the big problems facing the United States is finding an agreed U. S. position on areas for testing out Eisenhower's "open skies" aerial inspection plan. The Russians put forward a proposal accepting the plan on a partial basis and now are waiting for a U. S. reply.

Under the Soviet proposal, American inspectors would be permitted to fly over Siberia, a small portion of Western Russia and most of Europe. In return, Soviet inspectors would be permitted to fly over Alaska and the entire western half of the United States.

**Deemed Unsatisfactory**

The United States has indicated this is unsatisfactory because it gives the Russians too many important American areas to check while giving U. S. inspectors rather unimportant ones to check in Russia.

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## Mack Reece Dies At Home In Mansfield

Mack Reece, a native and former resident of Willshire, O., died suddenly at 6 o'clock this morning at his home in Mansfield, O. No details were received as to the cause of death.

Survivors include his wife, the former Emma Reinking; two daughters and one son, all of Mansfield; three sisters, Mrs. Dorothy Hurless of Willshire, Mrs. Kenneth Baney of Findlay, O., and Mrs. Fay Scheartz of Decatur; and two brothers, Frank Reece of Willshire, and George Reece of Mansfield. Funeral services will be held Monday.

## Kiefer Sentenced To Death For Murder

### Fort Wayne Man Is Convicted By Jury

**FORT WAYNE (UP)** — Richard Kiefer, 36, Fort Wayne, Friday night was sentenced to die in the electric chair at Indiana State Prison "before sunrise on Sept. 27" for the brutal slaying of his wife last Jan. 15.

The sentence was imposed by Allen Circuit Judge William Shannen after a jury of nine men and three women deliberated for more than 30 hours before returning a verdict of guilty of first-degree murder.

Kiefer earlier signed a three-page statement in which he confessed the brutal murder of his wife, Pearl, 36, and daughter, Dorothy, 5, in the basement of their home. He said he beat both to death with a small hammer and slashed their bodies with a kitchen knife. The little girl's body was half stuffed down a laundry drain.

Asked by Shannen if there were any legal reason why his punishment should not be carried out, Kiefer replied "the only thing I can say is that I did not pre-meditate it."

Shannen answered: "That is not a legal reason. The jury reached the only verdict in good conscience it could have. It was not an easy thing to do. No one likes to do it, but this is a country of law. No man has a right to take a life. You may be wondering why your life is being taken. It is not being taken, you have forfeited your life."

"Thou Shall Not Kill" means no one has a right to go out and kill. If we have no laws, we have no country, no government. The members of the jury had a hard job and by their forthright decision told the people of Allen County they will not allow murder to go unpunished in this county."

Kiefer covered his face with his hands when Shannen ordered him to do so.

His son, Paul, 16, and daughter, Caroline, 14, only surviving members of the family, both rushed up to their father and embraced him as he was being led from the courtroom. Caroline became hysterical and had to be removed from the room.

Kiefer said in his statement he argued with his wife when she complained he spent too much money on fishing and drinking.

Shortly after the double slaying, Kiefer drove to Chicago and registered under a fictitious name in a hotel. He was the object of a four-state manhunt before he returned to Fort Wayne voluntarily and gave himself up about 48

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## Lawrence Goodin Dies At Bluffton

Lawrence Goodin, 71, prominent Bluffton businessman, well known in Decatur, died unexpectedly at 7:15 p. m. Friday at his home. He had been in failing health for 10 months. He was a member of the First Methodist church and the Rotary club. He operated the Goodin Motor Co. for many years.

Surviving are his wife, Goldie; a daughter, Miss Peggy Goodin, nationally known author, and a half-sister, Mrs. Eld Snow of near Keystone. Friends may call at the Thoma funeral home after 7 p. m. today until noon Monday, when the body will be taken to the Methodist church for services to be held Monday.

## Mandamus Suit Filed Today On Township Line

### Trustee Of Wabash Township Asks Land In Berne Returned

A mandamus suit against county auditor Edward F. Jaber in the Adams county circuit court was filed today, asking the court to direct the auditor to show that Berne, south of Main street, lies in Wabash township.

The suit, brought by Wabash township trustee L. A. "Gus" Mann, in behalf of his township, was filed today by his attorneys, Custer & Smith.

The mandamus suit will not affect the city of Berne, or its school taxes. It will only affect the civil townships of Monroe and Wabash on the minor rates of trustee's fund and poor relief fund. This amounts to seven cents in Monroe township and 29 cents in Wabash township.

Changing of the approximately \$1,500,000 in tax evaluation from Monroe civil township to Wabash civil township would increase by 50 percent Wabash's total assessment, and lower its tax rate. It would very slightly raise Monroe township's civil rate.

More important, it would affect voting for the Wabash and Monroe township trustees, and for county councilmen from the third and fourth districts. Berne C precinct, with 683 voters, would be changed from Monroe to Wabash township, and from the third to the fourth councilmanic district.

The problem is a knotty one for county officials. Since a petition was first filed a week ago, on behalf of the Wabash township trustees to make the change, lawyers, county officials, and township trustees have worked on the problem.

Where does the problem start? Indiana became a state in 1816, with its present boundaries. Originally Adams county was part of Knox county. From 1816 until 1823 it was part of Randolph county, with Winchester as county seat.

In 1823 Adams county was transferred to Allen county, where it remained as Root township of that county until 1836. In 1835 the state legislature authorized the establishment of Adams county, among 13 others. On January 23, 1836, the governor issued a writ calling for an election of officers in Adams county for the first Monday of April for that year.

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## Subpenas Are Served On Three Witnesses

### Beck's Son And Two Others Are Located

**SEATTLE (UP)** — Dave Beck Jr. and two other long-sought witnesses were under subpoena today to appear "forthwith" before the State Rackets Investigating Committee.

Beck's father is under investigation by a Senate racket committee for his conduct as head of the Teamsters Union.

The son of the Teamsters boss was the first of three long-sought witnesses to be subpoenaed Friday. He was served at 11 a. m. c. d. t. and 3 hours and 10 minutes later Joseph McEvoy, a nephew of the elder Beck wife, voluntarily accepted a subpoena at the home of U. S. Marshal W. Budd Parsons.

Later in the day Fred Verschueren Sr., a Teamster auditor, was subpoenaed at Providence Hospital where he was a patient.

Another man, Norman Gessert, originally was among the missing witnesses but was served in Elensburg, Wash., and appeared before the committee before it put him to death.

His son, Paul, 16, and daughter, Caroline, 14, only surviving members of the family, both rushed up to their father and embraced him as he was being led from the courtroom. Caroline became hysterical and had to be removed from the room.

Kiefer said in his statement he argued with his wife when she complained he spent too much money on fishing and drinking.

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## Indiana Weather

Mostly cloudy and warmer with scattered showers and thunderstorms tonight and Sunday. Low tonight 58 to 65. High Sunday 78 to 85. Outlook for Monday: Partly cloudy and a little cooler.

Decatur, Indiana, Saturday, May 25, 1957.

# Chiang Takes Personal Command Over Serious Situation In Formosa

## At Least 31 Tornadoes Hit In Southwest

### Four Persons Dead, Several Missing In Storm-Lashed Area

**LAWTON, Okla. (UP)** — At least 31 tornadoes swept across the storm-battered southwest late Friday, killing four persons, injuring a countless number of others and destroying more than 200 homes and one school.

Several other persons were reported missing and searchers feared the death toll would mount. Forecasters said the prevailing threat of new twisters over the five-state area of Texas, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Colorado and Kansas.

Handley's Hardest Hit

Friday's outbreak, which followed a wave of tornadoes that struck the area earlier this week, was described by the U. S. Weather Bureau as one of the worst in a single day in years.

Hardest hit was the town of Lawton, in southwest Oklahoma, where all four recorded deaths occurred. Ten others were hurt, four seriously, when three twisters rocketed through the small farming community almost simultaneously.

The new rash of twisters brought to at least 181 the number that has swept across the Southwest this week. More than 50 persons were reported killed in an earlier siege on Monday and Tuesday.

Handley said Holovachka has been told he could send investigators to the Highway Department just as Marion County Prosecutor John Tinder did. But he added, "I'm not going to send him a primer" on how to get it done.

"If he's interested, as he should be, he will be down here," Handley said.

**Planes In Jeopardy**

Friday's injured included several airbone persons. Pilot James Ruscoe and stewardess Dianne Durham, of Flushing, N. Y., received head and rib injuries when thrown about the cabin of a chartered C46 plane buffeted by a twister between Amarillo, Tex., and Tucumcari, N. M. The plane, carrying 39 soldiers, had just skirted one tornado when it ran into the edge of another. None of the soldiers were injured.

Thirty homes were destroyed at Olton, in the South Plains country of Texas, below the Panhandle. Fifteen homes suffered major damage and 10 others minor damage. Ten persons were hurt at Olton.

**NOON EDITION**

## One Of Road Scandal Indictments Junked

### Judge Refuses To Quash Other Counts

**INDIANAPOLIS (UP)** — Ten indictments against four key figures in Indiana's highway scandal remained in force today, but an 11th was junked because of a typographical error.

The one charge thrown out by Criminal Court Judge Scott McDonald accused Milan Attorney Robert Peak of false notarization.

Prosecutor John Tinder indicated Peak would be indicted on the same charge again next Tuesday.

McDonald overruled Friday motions to quash other counts against Peak and the other three-former highway chairman Virgil (Red) Smith, former right-of-way director Nile Teverbaugh, and Teverbaugh's ex-assistant, Harry Doggett.

A Marion County grand jury indicted them May 2 on charges of conspiracy to steal and embezzle in connection with land-buying deals along the Madison Ave. expressway route here. Smith and Teverbaugh also were charged with embezzlement.

McDonald set June 5 as the date of the next court appearance.

Meanwhile, Governor Handley told a newsmen he would not send a "primer" to Lake County Prosecutor Metro Holovachka on how to get evidence from the Highway Department on scandals in the Calumet area.

Handley said Holovachka has been told he could send investigators to the Highway Department just as Marion County Prosecutor John Tinder did. But he added, "I'm not going to send him a primer" on how to get it done.

Handley said Holovachka has been told he could send investigators to the Highway Department just as Marion County Prosecutor John Tinder did. But he added, "I'm not going to send him a primer" on how to get it done.

"If he's interested, as he should be, he will be down here," Handley said.

**Brother Of Decatur Ladies Dies Friday**

**JAY N. MARKEL**, of Centerville, O., died at noon Friday at the Miami Valley hospital at Dayton, O. Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. J. Ward Calland and Mrs. Frank Alton, both of Decatur. Funeral services will be conducted at 1:30 p. m. Monday at the Routsong funeral home at Dayton.

**Greater Decatur Fund Is Still Short Of Goal**

Apparently lost interest in the "Greater Decatur" fund. No new money has been donated since pledges were taken last fall for the purchase of part of the Scheleman property as an industrial site.

While local merchantsicker over store hours here, Berne's active Chamber of Commerce, under the guidance of its new president, Fred Von Gunten, has quietly taken up options on the four major industrial land sites bordering that city.

The options, running from a minimum of 6 months, are made over to officers of the Berne Chamber, as the Chamber itself cannot take an option. This enables the Chamber to tell any industry just how much a given piece of land would cost. It keeps down the chances of a prospective buyer. Berne's options run upward from \$500 an acre for the least likely location to raise the money.

One project which will allow local people to share in the "Greater Decatur" program will be explained at the "Greater Decatur" booth at the merchants showcase June 4.

The present "Greater Decatur" fund must be closed before a full-scale effort to attract industry can be launched. Chamber of Commerce officials have stated.

The Chamber of Commerce now has three committees, one working on collecting money for the fund; another working on a brochure of Decatur aimed at colorfully explaining Decatur to prospective industries; the third committee is working on attracting an industry here. The Chamber feels that when the first two committees can conclude their business, the third committee can be increased in size and have something concrete to "sell" to industries.

Meanwhile, Decatur citizens have

## Catholic High, Eighth Grade Grads Listed

### Annual Graduation Exercises Will Be Held Here June 7

Commencement for 22 seniors, and 42 eighth graders of the Decatur Catholic schools will be held in the school auditorium Friday evening, June 7, at 8 o'clock, it was announced today by Sister M. Rosemary, C.S.A., principal.

Included in the list of candidates for high school graduation diplomas are Lawrence Ehinger, Thomas Ehler, Ronald Ford, Anthony Gillig, David Heimann, Marjorie Kohne, Edward Laurent, Ruth Lengerich, Stephen Litchfield, Gerald Loshe, Ronald Meyer.

Nancy Mies, Ann Miller, Elizabeth Miller, Michael Murphy, Patrick Teeple, Janice Titus, Margaret Ulman, David Vogelweide, Eleanor Wernhoff, Rosalie Wilder, and Alan Wiseman.

Eighth grade graduates will be

Patricia Alberding, James Baker, Judy Baker, Sue Ann Baker, Rosemary Baker, Russel Bowers, Gary Coffee, Nancy Colchin, Patricia Cook, Patrick Ellerberger, Gloria Vogelweide and Mary Ellen Walter.

McDonald said the Formosa incident squared with other reports that friction is developing steadily in foreign countries where "we would ordinarily look for friendship" because of U. S. aid.

Rep. Frank Bow (R-OH) said

he will try to attach a rider to the foreign aid bill to do away with the status of forces agreement with other nations. Under such agreements U. S. troops can be tried in foreign courts for off-duty offenses committed away from the base.

Robertson said the Formosa incident squared with other reports that friction is developing steadily in foreign countries where "we would ordinarily look for friendship" because of U. S. aid.

Sen. Willis Robertson (D-Va.) insisted the Army consider bringing home some of its troops stationed in 72 countries around the world.