The Salt Lake Tribune

Vol. 220, No. 6 — Salt Lake City, Utah—Saturday Morning—October 20, 1979 — Price Twenty Cents

Modern Day Noah Builds Catamaran, — Not Ark

SHAWNEETOWN, Ill. (UPI) — And then the Lord said, build yourself a boat and stock it with food and gather your family around you.

Sound familiar? Frank O'Hara has heard plenty of Noah jokes over the last 12 years, ever since, O'Hara said, the Lord told him in a vision to build a shallow draft boat and use it to take the gospel to the natives of a small South Pacific island.

Friday O'Hara, 50, and six members of his family were sailing down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, on the 1,000-mile first leg of their journey, which will take them to New Orleans, across the Gulf of Mexico, through the Panama Canal, and then 3,500 miles to the island of Rangiroa, north of Tahiti.

Their boat is a 53-foot, twin-hulled, six-ton catamaran, which O'Hara built himself over four years with oaks felled from his farm near Galatia in southern Illinois. His wife, Mary Ellen, sewed the 850-foot dacron sail.

With the O'Haras are their daugher, Shannon, 13, and son, Kasey, 12; their son-in-law and daughter, Bill and Candice Terry, and the Terrys' daughter, Jennifer, 2.

To O'Hara, the missionary work is a way of paying a debt to the Lord. Until 1960, he said, he was "real mean and vicious" and got drunk and into fights. Then, he said, a friend talked him into going to an all-night prayer meeting, and he changed his ways.

U.S. Economy Registers Surprising 2.4% Boost

By Steven Rattner
New York Times Writer

WASHINGTON — In a display of surprising strength, the nation's economy grew at an annual rate of 2.4 percent in the three months ending Sept. 30, the government reported Friday.

The increase came despite a decline in economic activity in the second quarter and contentions by many economists — including those within the Carter administration — that the economy is in the midst of a recession.

Since an early "flash report" several weeks ago, many economists have expected the third quarter to show that the economy had resumed growing, but the size of the increase was still mostly unanticipated.

The large increase in the Gross National Product is likely to give further credence to the argument of the Federal Reserve that credit has remained too loose and needs to be tightened if inflation is to be contained. Even economists who believe that a decline in economic activity is imminent concede that the Fed's efforts, which have raised interest rates by a full percentage point, are now difficult to object to.

For his part, Treasury Secretary G. William Miller remained close to his increasingly pessimistic theme of recent days. "We expect the economy to return to slower, negative growth in the next few quarters as the impact of our policy of restraining inflationary pressures and speculative activities takes hold," he said through a spokesman.

Miller's statement appears to be a concession that the Fed's tightening activities will also slow the economy, a linkage he has been reluctant to make.

At the White House, the presidential press secretary, Jody Powell, said that "perhaps our economy is stronger and more resilient than many expected." He said that the figures "certainly do not mean that we are out of the woods."

The GNP figures also include an inflation index, known as the "deflator," which showed that inflation in the quarter ran at a relatively modest 8.4 percent annual rate, the slowest rate of inflation in a year. The Consumer Price Index, which is con-

See Page 2, Column 4



— Associated Press Laserphoto

Rescue workers and refugee family float down flooded street in Iwaki City, Japan after rains of Typhoon Tip hit. Storm crossed island of Honshu, killing and injuring scores of persons.

Typhoon Slams Japan Island, Sets Off Fire at Marine Base

By Richard Pyle
Associated Press Writer

TOKYO — Typhoon winds toppled a gasoline storage tank and triggered an explosion and fire that raced through a U.S. Marine Corps camp at Mt. Fuji on Friday. One American Marine was killed and at least 46 persons, most of them U.S. citizens, were injured, authorities said.

At least seven were reported in critical condition with burns.

The storm, Typhoon Tip, was the strongest in 13 years to hit Japan's main island of Honshu, where Tokyo is located. It left 25 persons dead, 13 missing and more than 200 others injured and caused widespread destruction, officials said. The figures included those caught in the Marine camp fire.

Authorities refused to identify the American and Japanese victims until next-of-kin were notified.

Details Sketchy

Hampered by storm-disrupted communications and continuing bad weather, U.S. officials here had trouble assembling details of the accident at Camp Fuji, a combined American-Japanese military base at the foot of the sacred 12,000-foot extinct volcano 90 miles southwest of Tokyo.

Efforts to evacuate the most serious cases to a U.S. military hospital failed because helicopters sent to the camp could not land, authorities said.

U.S. officials said they would move the critically injured by other means to the hospitals at Yokosuka, the 7th Fleet Headquarters, and at the U.S. air base at Yokota.



—Associated Press Map

Fuel tank exploded at Camp Fuji in Japan at height of typhoon.

For the time being, the injured were being treated at five Japanese hospitals in the area, they said.

Enclosure Collapses

The Kyodo news service, quoting police near the camp, said the howling winds and rain collapsed a 10-foot enclosure where fuel was stored in plastic containers, allowing the gasoline to flow into the barracks area where it "probably" was ignited by a heater, setting off the blast and fire.

Master Gunnery Sgt. Bos Green, a U.S. military spokesman here, did not confirm those details. "The fuel tank leaked, flowed and then ignited. That's all I know," he said.

The U.S. military reported it took firemen almost five hours to extinguish the fire. Fourteen of 20 quonset huts, plus a laundry-concession building, were destroyed, the reports said.

A senior Marine who has been assigned to Camp Fuji said it was likely that the Marines, members of an Okinawa-based "battalion landing team" taking special training at the base, were confined to the quonset barracks because of the storm.

Awaiting Inspection

"The usual routine is that there's an inspection every Saturday. They were probably sitting around cleaning their weapons and field gear," he said.

One Japanese woman was treated and released, according to the U.S. Command. Kyodo said three of the injured were Japanese.

About 12,000 Marines normally are stationed at Camp Fuji.

The freakish incident at the base occurred as the typhoon, a fierce storm that struck southern Japan earlier in the day, surged northward toward the Tokyo region with torrential rains.

Japanese authorities said the typhoon ruined 44 houses, damaged 94 others and flooded more than 19,000. It also knocked out 550 roads, 45 bridges, 105 dikes and caused 587 landslides. Five ships sank in heavy seas off the Japanese coast and 50-story buildings swayed in the capital.

Act Swiftly on China Suit, Appeals Court Advised

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. relations with China may suffer serious damage unless an appellate court quickly upholds President Carter's authority to end a defense treaty with Taiwan, government lawyers argued Friday.

The Justice Department formally filed a legal brief urging all nine members of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia to take action before Jan. 1, when the U.S.-Taiwan treaty is scheduled to be terminated.

U.S. District Judge Oliver Gasch, in a ruling Wednesday, decided Carter acted unconstitutionally in deciding to end the 25-year-old treaty with Taiwan as part of his program to normalize relations with mainland China.

One Condition

Ending the treaty with the island nation had been one condition set by the Peking government before the United States and China could assume normal diplomatic relations.

Gasch contended Carter would have to receive the approval of two-thirds of the Senate or a majority of both the House and Senate in order to end the treaty.

Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher, in a statement attached to the government's appeal, told the appellate court Gasch must be reversed or "there is the risk that the (Peoples' Republic of China) will feel obliged to reconsider the entire relationship and a reversal of steps already taken is a distinct possibility."

'Serious Trouble'

In Peking, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Han Nianlong said the United States "should act in accordance" with Chinese-American normalization agreements. He said that if the U.S. defense pact with Taiwan is extended, relations between Washington and Peking will be in serious trouble.

In its legal brief, the Justice Department urged the full appeals court to expedite review of the case.

Christopher's statement said "a normalized political relationship with (China) is of great significance to the strategic interests of the United States in achieving a careful balance of relationships in Asia and the world."

He said unless Gasch's ruling is overturned before the end of the year, "the consequences could be serious indeed and of long-lasting disadvantage to the United States."

The government's appeal noted that since last December, when the United States and China announced plans for formal diplomatic recognition, embassies have been established, long-standing claims of U.S. nationals against China have been settled and a major trade agreement has been signed.

The administration plans to send Congress a trade agreement later this month that would grant China most favored nation status. The agreement would permit Chinese goods to compete for American markets on equal terms with U.S. trading partners.

Christopher also noted that under the new policy toward China, the United States will maintain close commercial, cultural, scientific and technological ties with Taiwan and will continue to supply Taiwan "with carefully chosen defensive military equipment."

The suit seeking to halt termination of the Taiwan treaty was filed by Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., and 24 other current and former members of Congress.

L.A. Suspect Confesses To Hillside Stranglings

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (UPI) — Kenneth Bianchi, a security guard who always wanted to be a policeman, pleaded guilty Friday to the murder of two Washington coeds and confessed to the Los Angeles "Hillside Strangler" slayings in a deal to save himself from the gallows or the gas chamber.

Bianchi, 28, also named his cousin, Angelo Buono Jr., 44, an upholsterer, as his accomplice in the slayings of 10 of the 13 young women whose killings terrorized metropolitan Los Angeles in 1977 and 1978.

Buono was arrested at his home in suburban Glendale, Calif., less than half an hour after Bianchi entered his guilty pleas in a Bellingham courtroom to the slayings of the college coeds.

Bianchi was sentenced to two consecutive life terms for the Washington killings. A short time later Los Angeles County District Attorney John Van De Kamp announced he had agreed to plead guilty to five of the "strangler" slayings.

No Death Penalty

Van De Kamp said California would not seek the death penalty if Bianchi — who could have been hanged in Washington or put to death in the California gas chamber under its capital punishment law for unusual homicides — appeared as a truthful witness for the state in Buono's trial.

Trembling and weeping at times, Bianchi wore a bullet proof vest under a three-piece grey suit when he appeared before judge Jack Kurtz and changed his plea to guilty from one of innocent by reason of insanity.

"I can't find the words to express the sorrow for what I have done," he told the judge.

"In no way can I take away the pain I have given to others and in no way can I expect forgiveness from mothers."

Cousin Involved

Buono had maintained he had no part in the killings and even has sued the Los Angeles Police Department for naming him as a suspect, but Bianchi claimed he was equally, if not more, involved in the "strangler" slayings.

A complaint by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office detailed how Bianchi and Buono allegedly picked up the girls, took them to Buono's apartment in Glendale, strangled them and tossed their naked bodies onto the slopes of the Hollywood Hills.

Although Bianchi confessed only five of those murders and Buono was charged with 10, there was little doubt that police felt they were jointly or

See Page 2, Column 5

Inside The Tribune

Tribune Telephone Numbers, Page A-2

	Page		Page
Amusem't	B-6-8	Lifestyle	A-11-15
Bridge	B-5	National	A-2-3
Business	D-6-7	Obituaries	C-3
Church	B-2	Regional	C-1
Classified	C-3-24	Sports	D-1-4
Comics	B-4-5	Star Gazer	B-5
Editorials	A-16	Television	D-5
Foreign	A-7-9	Washington	A-4-6

Saturday's Forecast

Salt Lake City and vicinity — Rain and rain mixed with snow. Cooler. Weather details on Page C-2.

Coming Sunday In The Tribune

Timber-r-r, Call Binds Family

Fear and Fantasy In Utah

Bad-Joke City Looks to Mayor

Students Chase Blacks Off Boston Commons

BOSTON (UPI) — A group of white high school students shouting racial slurs at an anti-busing rally Friday chased a young black couple and several black men off historic Boston Common.

City Councilor Raymond Flynn said he went to the aid of the couple and escorted them off the common.

"They looked like they were in trouble . . . we ran down the street to get away from the kids," Flynn said.

Several other black men on the common at the time of the demonstration were pursued by a group of about 30 young white students who had skipped classes.

The blacks escaped and there were no injuries reported.

The incidents were the latest in a series of violent racial confrontations that have flared up in the city since the shooting of a black high school football player several weeks ago. Three white youths face charges in the case.

The player, Darryl Williams, 16, was left paralyzed from the neck down.

At several schools this week, rocks were hurled at school buses filled black students.

On Wednesday several dozen black

See Page 2, Column 3

Today's Chuckle

Street cleaner's theme song: "Nobody knows the rubble I've seen."



- Associated Press Laserphoto

Kenneth Bianchi sobs after pleading guilty to murders of two coeds. Bianchi changed his plea to innocent by reason of insanity and named his cousin Angelo Bueno Jr. as his accomplice.