

Gunman releases infant hostage from rail car

United Press International
RALEIGH, N.C. — A gunman holding out for the fourth day in a feid Amtrak sleeping compartment handed a crying 4-year-old girl to an FBI agent today but police said the girl's mother and 9-month-old brother were apparently dead.

The gunman, who identified himself as Mario Rodriguez, said a man was also lying dead in the tiny compartment, but police discounted the claim.

The girl was freed early today after the gunman was told by FBI agent Raymond Ayres, "I'm going to the hospital anyway, let me take the child."

The girl, wrapped in a pink blanket, was handed to Ayres through the window of the sleeping car after negotiators convinced Rodriguez they would not shoot him. She was in "fair to good condition" at a hospital.

Police have believed since Friday that a woman, thought to be the mother of the two children, is dead. Rodriguez has said her decomposing body is in a top bunk of the 6-by-10 foot compartment.

Some police officers stationed closest to the sleeping car wore masks today because of the stench apparently from the woman's decomposing body.

Although the 9-month-old child could be heard crying often Friday and Saturday, the crying gradually became more irregular and stopped Sunday morning. Rodriguez said the baby, which officials first thought was a girl but said today they believed was a boy, is dead.

"The baby is dead, allegedly," Police Chief Frederick K. Heineman said. "We don't have reason to believe he's lying."

Police said a man identified from an Amtrak passenger list as W. Rodriguez, a woman and the two children got on Amtrak's Silver Star at Jacksonville, Fla., Thursday night bound for New York.

Mario Rodriguez has claimed a man he identified as William Rodriguez is dead. Heineman discounted the claim, saying "it's possible but improbable" a dead man was in the compartment.

Police said they believed Mario Rodriguez and W. Rodriguez were the same man.

Heineman described the gunman as a "man of many extremes." "I have never run into anyone like him before nor have any of the other hostage negotiators that are here," Heineman said. "He is highly unpredictable."

Tay Beasley, a spokesman for Wake County Memorial Hospital where the 4-year-old was taken, said she is "active, she has been crying and talking. We have just brought in a nurse to act as an interpreter."

Ms. Beasley said the girl appears to understand Spanish better than English.

Raleigh Police Capt. C.L. Price said Ayers, who speaks Spanish, had been able to establish a relationship with Rodriguez.

Price said Rodriguez feared he would be shot if he gave up the girl.

"When Rodriguez went to the window, he showed both hands and said 'Don't shoot me,'" Price said. "The negotiator assured him he would not shoot."

After the girl was released, police attempted to resume negotiations with Rodriguez, who has wavered between threatening police officers and threatening to kill himself.

Sunday night, Rodriguez lowered a 9-millimeter handgun wrapped in a white cloth from the window of the compartment. In return, authorities tied a bag containing soft drinks and cigarettes to the rope and Rodriguez pulled it back into the compartment.

Police said Rodriguez still had a .45-caliber weapon.

Now you know

United Press International
An old home remedy that keeps the refrigerator smelling fresh may also help people avoid expensive gum surgery. Baking soda — though largely forgotten in recent times — has long been known as a tooth power. Now there is lab evidence for its effectiveness in preventing gum disease.

The September issue of Science Digest magazine reports that scientists at the University of California, San Francisco, have recently conducted tests that focus on the power of baking soda, Epsom salts and table

salt to kill oral bacteria. The research is funded by baking soda manufacturer Arm and Hammer.

Bacteria were inhibited by all three compounds but were inhibited by baking soda at lower concentrations than were necessary with Epsoms salts and table salt.

Oral biologist Ernest Newbrun said baking soda seemed to take special aim at gum disease-causing bacteria, affecting them more than they did other bacteria. "Now we are doing rate studies to see how fast they're killed," Newbrun added.

Arena collapse kills 2

United Press International
MEXICO CITY — A bullfight arena packed with 1,500 spectators collapsed Saturday, crushing hundreds of people under metal and wood debris. Two people were reported dead and an estimated 200 were injured, police said.

Police spokesman Jaime Lara said 75 ambulances from the Red Cross and the city rescue squad helped to take an estimated 200 people to hospitals.

He said two people were reported killed.

Half of the Carlos Arruza Plaza, constructed of metal tubing and wood, apparently collapsed from the vibrations of a landing helicopter Saturday afternoon, Lara said.

The helicopter was bringing bullfighter Antonio Lomelin to the plaza in San Pedro Actopan, a neighborhood in the southwestern part of Mexico City.

More than 1500 people were watching the bullfights when the plaza collapsed, Lara said.



staff photo by Irene Mees

For the chronic oversleper

Haas Hall has a new fund-raiser: a wake-up service. For 50 cents a week, a cheerful voice will call and awaken students. Julie Hilton, left, a sophomore accounting major from Houston; Deedee Pearson,

a junior industrial distribution major from Akron, Ohio; and Christine Tovar, a freshman geology major from Houston, are shown waiting for customers Wednesday.

A&M STUDENTS,
FACULTY AND STAFF

Lunch with HUGH LINDSAY

Candidate for
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
PRECINCT 7 PLACE 2

Come meet the only candidate in this race who has the training, experience and qualifications to serve you properly with hot dogs, dips, chips and chatter. If you're an Ag and/or live in College Station you need to know about this election.

12-1p.m.
THURSDAY, OCT. 14
in
HENSEL PARK

Paid political advertisement
Hugh Lindsay Campaign Committee
Wesley Hall, Treasurer
707 Texas Ave., Suite 216D
College Station, TX 77840

"AGGIE NIGHT" TEXAS TUMBLEWEED

SUNDAY and MONDAY are AGGIE NIGHTS

Special Tumbleweed prices for all you Aggies,
AND all those who wish they were!

\$5.95 Bacon-wrapped filet cooked over mesquite with all the fixin's (regularly \$9.95)

\$3.95 Chicken fried steak with home-style cream gravy & fries (regularly \$6.95)

TUMBLE ON BY FOR "AGGIE NIGHT" at Texas Tumbleweed

1521 Texas Ave. South in Culpepper Plaza (College Station) • 696-7773

Introductory Special

Come in and meet Mike, Janie, Carol, Brenda and Rick and when you do you can get a **Free Perm** with the purchase of an 18⁵⁰ cut and style. Pro Custom waves only. **Hurry!** This special is for a limited time only...

Imagine that! Spend 18⁵⁰ for a cut and style and get your perm **Free!** Check it out.

In the Round Hair Fashions
A Division of Professional Fashion Group, Inc.
840-3785
2801 Texas Avenue
Bryan, Texas 77801

No Check Please Cash Only

Thousands put their fingers on it...
Advertising in The Battalion
845-2611

Domino's Pizza Delivers.

At Domino's Pizza we promise a hot, nutritious meal delivered in 30 minutes or less. Your pizza is made with 100% real dairy cheese, our own special sauce, and your choice of items. Then we deliver it fast—at no extra charge. Give us a call...we deliver!

We use only 100% real dairy cheese.

Fast..Free Delivery
Call us.
693-2335
1504 Holleman, C.S.
260-9020
4407 Texas, Bryan

Hours:
11:00-1:00 Sun.-Thurs.
11:00-2:00 Fri.-Sat.

\$2.00 Off any 16"
2-item or more pizza. One coupon per pizza. Fast, Free Delivery.

\$1.50 Off any 12"
4-item or more pizza. One coupon per pizza. Fast, Free Delivery.