

Stereo pillow used to aid reviving of coma victims

United Press International
LONDON — British hospitals are using speaker-equipped pillows to revive comatose patients by playing their favorite music, a doctor said Sunday.

The pillows, available in stereo with miniature speakers for each ear or in mono with only one speaker, are also being used for long-term bedridden patients.

"While headphones cut the wearer off from the world, the pillow can bring the real world back into the intensive care ward, which is quite an unreal place," said Dr. Donald Clarke, director of the British Life Assurance Trust for Health Education.

"The pillow is far more comfortable than headphones, which cannot be worn all that

long without upsetting the patient," he said. "There are no trailing wires to get in the way of the patient's flailing arms, or other medical equipment."

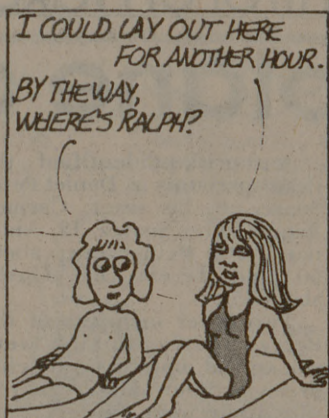
"The sounds of ordinary life played through the pillow will offset that feeling of not knowing where you are, rather like coming around after a pint or two too many, which many patients must have," Clarke said.

Clarke's Assurance Trust recently introduced a kit using smells and sounds to revive coma victims. Clarke developed the kit after his son, David, a motorcycle accident victim, recovered from a coma by hearing tapes of his favorite pop stars.

John Burton, director of the British company Pillowsound, which is manufacturing the pillow, initially developed it for pop music lovers who liked to lounge in bed.

"We now think the biggest future is with disabled and elderly people, who can lie back, head on pillow, and listen to their favorite programs and music without disturbing others," he said.

R.I.



IRA wounds judge, kills girl

United Press International

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Two Irish Republican Army gunmen critically wounded a Belfast judge and killed his daughter Sunday in a terrorist attack carried out as his wife watched during the family's walk home from church.

The two gunmen forced to the ground and shot Tom Travers and his daughter, Mary,

20, as they neared their house in a fashionable suburb south of the city after attending mass at St. Brigid's Roman Catholic church, witnesses said.

Travers was rushed to hospital and listed in critical condition after emergency surgery. Travers' wife was walking with him and their daughter, but she was not hurt.

The IRA, an outlawed Catholic paramilitary group seeking to end British rule in northern Ireland, issued a statement from the Belfast Republican Press Center saying its gunmen carried out the attack.

"The Belfast brigade of the Irish Republican Army claims responsibility for today's gun attack upon resident magistrate Tom Travers." Police did not immediately comment on the claim.

Mary Travers died soon after the shooting. Police said they

arrested a woman who was walking a dog near the scene of the shooting but gave no details.

The IRA statement appeared to indicate the killing of Mary Travers was accidental. "It is believed although not certain that the bullet which fatally wounded his daughter passed through Mr. Travers' body," the statement said.

Although he is a Catholic, as a magistrate Travers would have been an IRA target because his duties involved dealing with terrorist cases.

The shooting occurred close to the spot where a Protestant judge, William Doyle, was gunned down on a Sunday early last year as he was, too, walking home from church. The IRA claimed responsibility for that attack as well.

A woman who witnessed the shooting told reporters the attackers lay waiting at the en-

trance of a tennis club near Travers' home.

"The gunmen came out the entrance to the tennis and forced the man and young woman to the ground," the woman said. "They stooped down and fired a number of shots. The two gunmen ran away down the avenue."

Police said two handguns had been found near the scene of the shooting but declined comment on reports that had been found on the arms woman. News reports suggested the woman may have been an accomplice who was carrying the guns away from the scene.

After the shooting of Doyle last year several Protestant politicians suggested that St. Brigid's parishioners had helped the attackers.

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Doctor may testify in Lucas trial today

United Press International

SAN ANGELO — An Austin psychiatrist is expected to testify Monday in Henry Lee Lucas' capital murder trial that the confessed murderer was mentally disordered when he repeatedly admitted to a 1979 Georgetown slaying.

The 47-year-old drifter and former Michigan mental patient is charged with strangling, kidnapping, raping and robbing an unidentified hitchhiker whose body was found in a culvert along Interstate 35.

State District Judge John Carter also was expected to rule on whether the jury would be informed about a defense witness' felony forgery convictions. The witness signed a time sheet showing Lucas working in Jacksonville, Fla., when the hitchhiker's body was found on Oct. 31, 1979.

Defense attorneys Don Higginbotham and Parker McCullough argue Lucas falsely confessed last year to the slaying out of a sense of remorse and while suffering a severe mental disorder.

"Mr. Lucas has told me on a number of different times that what he wishes is the death penalty," Austin psychologist Tom Kubiszyn said Friday. He described Lucas as a "chronic schizophrenic" with "oversimplified perceptions."

Lucas already has been sentenced to life in prison for the murder of his 15-year-old common-law wife, Frieda Ringgold, in the first week U.S. District Judge James Barrow recently pleaded innocent to the Georgetown slaying when many started last week, but previously has confessed to more than 150 slayings across the country.

Prosecutor Ed Walsh admitted to jurors five confessed Lucas made concerning hitchhiker's slaying, but Higginbotham said Lucas learned tails of the woman's death reading a police document about it.

Higginbotham also has Lucas simply told authorities what he believed they wanted to hear. Lucas also was under the influence of Thorazine when he confessed, defense attorneys argue.

"He has a capacity to be times completely compliant and at other times to be completely resistant," Kubiszyn said, adding Lucas resisted frustrating the person who happens to be dealing with him.

Kubiszyn said Lucas resisted authority figures, but was not apt to use passive means of resistance against them rather than showing signs of aggressive behavior.

Oodles.

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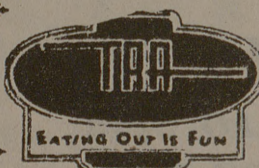
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