

Collapse of Storefronts In Roanoke Injures 3

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AROUND THE REGION

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Three brick storefronts tumbled with a thunderous crash into a downtown Roanoke street yesterday, injuring three construction workers, including one whose right foot was amputated at the scene, authorities said. A station wagon was crushed under falling debris, but its passengers were not hurt.

The facades were among seven being saved during reconstruction of the Campbell Avenue business strip as a city transportation center. City Manager Bern Ewert said that an independent structural engineer would check previous opinions that it would be safe to retain the three-story facades.

An orthopedic surgeon agreed with rescue workers that the right foot of trapped worker Richard Nichols, 37, of Roanoke had to be amputated at the scene. Robert Hodges, 19, of Roanoke was treated for cuts and bruises, as was a third worker whose identity was not immediately available.

Eight Rescued at Sea

Eight persons were rescued unharmed after they had jumped into the water when a 42-foot chartered fishing vessel burst into flames and sank Wednesday night 17 miles southeast of Ocean City, Md., the Coast Guard reported.

The Enchantress, chartered out of Ocean City, sank in 80 feet of water after it was raked by a blaze that the Coast Guard said apparently began in the engine room. The identities of the rescued were not immediately available.

A Coast Guard helicopter, a Navy helicopter, a Navy jet and a Coast Guard ship all responded to a distress call. A spokesman said the Coast Guard vessel pulled the eight people from the water and transferred them to another fishing vessel, which brought them to shore.

Army to Remove PCBs

The Army will remove 940 tons of soil contaminated with PCBs from a Woodbridge landfill by October 1985. The soil, in an area near the Army's Woodbridge Research Facility, was tested for contamination after an employe recalled burying equipment containing the toxic chemical about 10 years ago, an Army spokesman said.

Tests showed four affected areas, one with a level of 200 parts per million. Soil with PCB content

of more than 50 parts per million is considered contaminated. Other samples were not in the contamination range.

The spokesman said that environmental studies showed no danger to human health because PCBs were detected only in soil, not in ground water that seeps into streams or reservoirs.

U-Md. Minority Report

The percentage of new black full-time freshmen enrolled at the University of Maryland's College Park campus rose from 8.9 percent to 10 percent in the three years ended in 1983, officials said yesterday. A total of 442 full-time black freshmen enrolled in the fall of 1983, compared with 411 in 1980.

The report also indicated that in most other categories of students, faculty, and employes, the campus's minority populations remained relatively stable during the period.

The report is the third submitted to the Maryland Board of Higher Education in response to a five-year plan started in 1980 by the board to assure equal educational opportunity for college students in Maryland.

Garage Bonds Approved

The Arlington County Board has unanimously approved the sale of up to \$26 million in tax-exempt, low-interest revenue bonds to finance a \$100 million renovation of the garage at the Parkington Shopping Center.

The money will fund expansion of the garage from 1,500 spaces to 2,900. County officials said demolition and reconstruction could begin as early as next week.

Addenda:

• Phillip N. Hepburn, 22, of Sunderland, Mass., was charged yesterday with reckless driving in a collision in Great Falls Wednesday that killed a second driver, John R. Blaine, 56, of Sterling, Va., and hurt four other persons, Fairfax County police said.

• The Maryland Department of Agriculture has warned hog farmers to watch for signs of parvo virus in their herds following isolated outbreaks at two Western Maryland farms. The contagious disease affects mainly gestating hogs, resulting in stillbirths and pigs with low birth weights.

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Rescue workers clear away debris from three collapsed storefronts in Roanoke to free trapped man. United Press International