



EXCLUSIVE! Six Months Old Today, Patterson Mystery Deepens

Here Are All the Known Facts About Disappearance of El Paso Couple

Editor's Note

Exactly six months ago today, an El Paso business couple vanished under strange circumstances. Authorities, asked to find them, are frankly baffled. What is the true story behind the Patterson mystery?

To separate rumor and speculation from fact, Herald-Post reporters have intensively investigated the case and the background of the Pattersons. Thus for the first time there is a complete picture—all the known facts in the case.

This is the first of two articles telling the full story of the Pattersons up to today. The second will appear tomorrow.

By BRUCE ARMSTRONG

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On Aug. 15, Sheriff Jimmy Hicks of El Paso County issued an all-points bulletin to law enforcement officers throughout the nation. It read in part:

"Missing Persons: William Durrell Patterson, white male, five feet 11 inches tall, weight 200 pounds, gray hair, wears glasses.

"Margaret M. Patterson, white female, 48, five feet four inches, 110 pounds; red hair. Both wearing expensive jewelry. Both good dressers. Last seen El Paso March 5."

Just who are William Durrell Patterson and Margaret M. Patterson?

Why did they drop out of sight suddenly six months ago without saying anything to their closest friends? Are they dead or alive?

William Durrell (Pat) Patterson once told the State of Texas he was born in Chicago, Ill., on July 23, 1904. That would make him 53 years old now.

He never talked much about his boyhood, but what few hints he did drop indicated it was filled with hard knocks.

However, "Pat" learned early that a quick tongue often was as handy a weapon as a couple of fast-swinging fists. He learned to be a fast talker in the semi-slim areas of Chicago and he kept it up all his life.

Four of "Pat's" sisters still live in Chicago. They are Mrs. Ruth Kissell, Mrs. Margaret Stephenson, Mrs. Harriet Worley and still unmarried Mildred Patterson, who works for the Chicago telephone company.

"Pat's" father, 74-year-old Luther Patterson, is believed to be living with a distant relative in the St. Louis, Mo., area. His mother has been dead several years.

"Pat" apparently kicked around the country quite a bit as a young man. Somewhere along the line "Pat" became a "carnie." He was a barker several years with various small carnivals, "conning" the country boys to whistle at the hootchie-kootchie girls and watch the "geeks" eat raw chickens.

Margaret Enters the Picture

And, somewhere about that time, he met Margaret M. Patterson. No one seems to know where or when she was born or when and where she and "Pat" were married. Neither one ever talked much about Margaret's family.

Several women acquaintances of Margaret's said the marriage of "Pat" and Margaret apparently didn't please Margaret's family in the least.

"It seemed they told her she would have to choose between them and 'Pat,'" one of her girl friends said. "She chose 'Pat.'"

Another friend said Margaret once mentioned she had a brother somewhere, but they never saw each other or corresponded.

"Pat" worked for the Nedell Mfg. Co. of Chicago at one time as a salesman, but always wanted to go into business for himself.

Deprived of the material things which a child, he seemed obsessed with trying to have them as a man.

He was a good talker and a good salesman. He promoted an old reflex-type camera—and became a street photographer.

Apparently photography was what "Pat" was born to, because he was a good photographer and became better as the years rolled on.

Sheriff Bill Decker of Dallas recently said he had found some people who knew "Pat" as a street photographer there. Sheriff Decker said "Pat" didn't have much money in those days, and that probably made him to decide to move on to El Paso about 1940.

Things weren't much better in El Paso, however. "Pat" worked as a street photographer here at least three years, and also worked as a "special officer" at a local nightclub.

When Their Wealth Started

The big year in "Pat's" life was 1944. He was still eking out a not-very-satisfactory living by shooting pictures of people on the streets.

But he was ambitious and he wanted more money. His talking got it for him—from an El Pasoan who was in the money business. "Pat" didn't have any security to put up for the small loan, but the moneylender had confidence in the burly nimble-tongued ex-carnie.

That confidence was well-placed. "PATTERSON Wm D (Margaret) photo 711 Caples bldg r3815 Alameda av" first appears in an El Paso city directory in 1944. It was here that "Pat" became acquainted with "SMITH David J (Esta E) lawyer 218 Caples bldg 13223 La Luz."

Dave Smith, who was gassed in World War I, became and still is "Pat's" attorney. He refuses to talk much about "Pat" and Margaret. "Pat" made frequent trips to Mexico. One of the men who knew him best said recently: "Pat" told me he had brought a bunch of nylon hose from Mexico during the war. In fact, he bragged about it. He was always looking for a way to make a fast buck."

The Pattersons' photography business grew. And "Pat" and Margaret are listed in the 1945 city directory as living at 708 Kansas street.

"Pat" was handling the photography business, but Margaret was the financial head of the family. She kept a grip on the purse strings and she had strong hands.

Meeting Roth and Kirkland

It must have been along about this period in his life that "Pat" became acquainted with Herbert Roth and D. G. Kirkland, both of whom enter the puzzle in subsequent events.

Roth has worked as accountant, office manager or assistant credit manager for El Paso firms. And accountant for Patterson's business.

Attorney Smith said Roth, who was employed by Buckner and Bymark, auditors, at the time of the Pattersons' disappearance, "has been keeping Mr. Patterson's books about seven or eight years."

Kirkland and "Pat" apparently became acquainted through the photography business. "Kirk" is employed as manager of Duffy's Photo Supply Co. in Lubbock. He signed the 1956 tax rolls here for the Duffy's El Paso branch store.

Little is known here about Kirkland. He spends most of his time in the darkrooms of the Lubbock Duffy's store.

Roth is married and has a daughter now in school in Colorado. He is 48 years old, was born in New Jersey, and has been in Texas (Continued on Page 1, Col. 1)

Militia Guards Gov. Faubus At Little Rock

Arkansas Executive Appeals to Ike In Racial Situation

By United Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Sept. 5.—Two companies of state troops guarded the mansion of Governor Orval E. Faubus with pistols and rifles today, even though the White House denied any Federal intention to arrest him for defying integration decrees.

The troops were deployed about the mansion last night a few hours before Faubus telegraphed President Eisenhower at Newport, R. I., that Federal authorities in Little Rock planned to arrest him. He asked the President to ease the city's "explosive situation."

White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty said at Newport today that there is no plan for Federal authorities to arrest Faubus. Nor, he said, have U. S. marshals in Little Rock been ordered to escort Negro students through National Guard lines at Central High School.

FBI Investigates Hagerty said it is true that the FBI is investigating. Faubus has said that he prevented the integration of Central High, despite two court orders, because there has been a heavy buying of arms and he is afraid of a bloody riot between Negroes and whites.

Lieut. Col. Marion Johnson, commanding the 250 guardsmen and state police at Central High, escorted Reporter Ben Fine of the New York Times away from a crowd of whites at Central High School.

Maj. Gen. Sherman T. Clinger, Arkansas' adjutant general, told reporters later that there had been "several incidents" involving them. He warned them that they will be arrested if they do anything that incites violence.

Justice Department officials in Washington made it clear that when the showdown with Arkansas officials finally comes, it will be inside a courtroom.

Ordered by Faubus

The National Guardsmen turned back the Negroes yesterday on orders from Faubus. He called out the guard Monday night to stop desegregation, which, he said, would cause violence.

In his telegram to President Eisenhower—which the White House said the President probably would not answer directly because it was first handed to the press—Faubus again warned of bloodshed.

"The question now is whether the head of a sovereign state can exercise his constitutional powers and discretion in maintaining peace and order within his jurisdiction, being accountable to his own conscience and to his own people," the governor said.

National Guardsmen were stationed around the school this morning for the third day to turn back Negro students. Eight Negroes were prevented from entering classes at the school Wednesday.

U. S. Judge Orders Dallas Integration

By United Press DALLAS, Sept. 5.—Federal Judge William H. Atwell today ordered (Continued on Page 4, Col. 4)

City Fires Another Plumbing Inspector

GASOLINE PRICES

IT IS FUNNY how the prices of gasoline in little towns around the country are lower than in El Paso. Some of them are hundreds of miles from oil fields, and their inhabitants never saw an oil refinery.

We said it is funny, but it isn't. It's un-funny. Oil companies charge Texans who live West of the Pecos more than other Texans. It smells like collusion. It certainly is a gyp.

Look at these wholesale or tank wagon prices per gallon for regular grade gasoline:

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Covington, Ky. | 17.4 |
| Vicksburg, Miss. | 17.5 |
| Pensacola, Fla. | 17.4 |
| Mt. Vernon, N. Y. | 16.9 |
| Concord, N. H. | 15.9 |
| Manchester, N. H. | 16.1 |
| Cumberland, Md. | 17.8 |
| Petersburg, Va. | 17.6 |
| Hickory, N. C. | 17.0 |
| Mt. Airy, N. C. | 16.8 |
| Salisbury, N. C. | 16.7 |
| Spartanburg, S. C. | 16.6 |
| New Iberia, La. | 16.7 |
| Alexandria, La. | 17.3 |
| Roswell, N. M. | 17.8 |
| Muskogee, Okla. | 16.9 |
| El Paso. | 18.6 |

WHY?

In Washington, Senator Yarborough has asked for a Congressional investigation. Why not do something about it in El Paso, City Attorney, County Attorney and District Attorney?

Why not get up off your foam rubber cushions and do something for the people who pay you—for a change?

F. W. Norton Sr. Taken by Death

Frederick William Norton Sr., pioneer El Paso businessman and civic leader, died early today at his home at 1717 North Oregon street, after a long illness. He was 89.

He was chairman of the board of directors of Norton Bros. stationery and book store at 112 Texas street.

Mr. Norton was born in Sedalia, Mo. Sept. 16, 1868. His parents, Elisha Newton Norton and Elizabeth Lamm Norton, moved to Pettis County, Mo., in 1866 from Wayne County, Ohio.

Mr. Norton started the El Paso business Oct. 4, 1907, by purchasing the old International Book and Stationery Co. at 107 South El Paso street. The store was moved to (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Bigamous Wife Testifies She Had Six Men 'On a String'

But Now She Loves One Who Shot Her

Redheaded Carol Ann Williams testified today she had six men on the string at the same time, including her husband and the man who shot her, and "lied to 'em all."

But now she loves the man who put a bullet in her chest—Sgt. Aria Brewington—and would wed him in the Ft. Bliss stockade if she could, Mrs. Williams said.

The pretty, slender, 20-year-old woman was a defense witness today for Brewington in his Ft. Bliss court martial.

Brewington, 26, is charged with bigamy by marrying Carol while she was still married to Pfc. Arnold Williams, and with assault with a deadly weapon.

Kiss at Trial

Carol and Brewington exchanged a fond kiss before she took the stand to testify he shot her accidentally.

She gave him loving glances as she told how she took turns dating six men at Ft. Jackson, S. C., before coming to El Paso. Her testimony generally substantiated that of Brewington, who earlier said he had no intention of shooting Mrs. Williams.

Since the Aug. 3 shooting the bigamous marriage between Carol and Brewington has been annulled. Last week she got a Juarez divorce from Private Williams.

Husband No. 6

A reluctant witness for the prosecution, Carol proved to be an eager and cheerful witness for her lover, Brewington.

While married to Williams and stationed at Ft. Jackson, Carol testified, she met Brewington through another sergeant she was dating.

"I was going with a first sergeant, one of four I was going with at the time," she said under questioning by her attorney, Joseph Rey, Brewington made five, and her husband, somewhere in the background, was the sixth.

"To what extent were you going with them?" Rey asked. "They took turn about—one each night," she said. "I gave them all a line. I told them many lies."

Says She Lied

"You were using Brewington for a purpose?" "He gave me money."

"Where did you get the name 'Cindy Dorr'?" Rey asked. Dorr was the name she used when she (Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

Council Says Faulty Jobs Given Okay

'Inefficiency' Uncovered During Bribe Case Probe

Jesse Ferrell, a City Junior plumbing inspector, was fired by City Council today on charges of approving faulty plumbing jobs.

"You have been consistently inefficient in the performance of your duties as junior plumbing inspector," Mayor Raymond Teles wrote in the discharge document read before the Council.

Four of the homes mentioned in which Ferrell was supposed to have approved bad plumbing were in the 5600 block of Beaumont Lane. A fifth was at 705 Del Mar.

Second One Fired

Ferrell, 38, was the second plumbing inspector to be fired within the past two months. The first was Henry A. Parker, discharged on charges of trying to influence inspection decisions of other inspectors with money gifts.

Information on Ferrell's "inefficiency" was uncovered during the investigation of Parker.

Ferrell, when he heard of the charges, said: "I think I can disprove all of those charges. In most of the cases mentioned, I had the faulty work fixed before the final inspection."

"I think they trumped up these charges against me because I did everything I could to help Parker when they fired him."

Ferrell was asked to resign nine days ago by City Engineer Gerald Turner. No reason, other than that of "inefficiency" was given him at that time. He refused.

No Proper Posts

In all of the instances of faulty plumbing mentioned in the document, Ferrell had approved lavatory and sink drains which had been installed without cleanout areas. The cleanouts are required by the City Plumbing Ordinance.

The jobs mentioned were inspected by Ferrell during a three-month period from May to July. The Beaumont Lane houses inspected were at 5847, 5843, 5846 and 5842.

The letter listing the charges against Ferrell was given to City Engineer Gerald Turner. Mr. Turner said he would deliver it to Ferrell this afternoon.

Police Appointments Approved by Council

City Council today approved three appointments in the Police Department.

William F. Bland of 8700 North Loop road and Robert Causey of 1301 North El Paso street were appointed sergeants. William A. Zent was appointed a patrolman.

LITTLE LIS



Where there's smoke there's probably a bride cooking.

Inside Your Herald-Post

U. S. Weather Bureau Forecast: Fair. (Details on Page 9.)

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Amusements | Page 12-13 |
| Ann Carroll | 16 |
| Comics | 27 |
| Crossword Puzzle | 27 |
| Editorials | 16 |
| Dr. B. U. L. Conner | 16 |
| Foreign Scene | 16 |
| Inez Rebb | 9 |
| Markets | 26 |
| Ochman | 17 |
| People | 6 |
| Radio and TV Programs | 12-21 |
| Sports | 20-21 |
| Women's News | 12-15 |

Enrollment in City's Schools Reaches Record Total of 37,410

Attendance in El Paso Public Schools totaled 37,410 today, an increase of 2081 over the first day of school last year.

The record figure was recorded as elementary schools opened with an enrollment of 24,774, an increase of 1150 over the first day last year.

High schools opened yesterday. Intermediate and high school attendance today reached 12,636, an increase of 31 over attendance in the same grades the first of last year.

The grand total membership of 37,410 is an increase of 535 over the peak membership last year.

Elementary Schools Alamo 748, Alta Vista 607, Aoy 379, Beall, 906, Bonham 712, Burleson 1124, Burnet 560, Clardy 1187, Coldwell 85, Cooley 683, Courchesne 140, Crockett 859, Douglass 510, Franklin 360, Hart 615, Hillside 832, Houston 678, Hughey 1422, Jones 369, Lamar 444, Leo 1488, Lincoln 484, Mesita 186, Milam 633, Morehead 620, Roosevelt 791, Ruak 848, San Jacinto 409, San Juan 838, Travis 593, Villa 268, Wainwright 689, White 555, Zaval 1144. Total 24,774.

Intermediate Classes Intermediate classes: Austin 475, Bowie 733, Burges 681, El Paso 347, Jefferson 1104, Magoffin 722, Tech 186, Bassett 723. Total 5021.

Senior high schools: Austin 2270, Bowie 720, Burges 1042, El Paso 1206, Jefferson 1156, Tech, 1218. Total 7615.



NO SCHOOL—Return to school is delayed for Nora Quinones, eight. The staff of El Paso General Hospital, where Nora has been a patient since Aug. 5, hoped she would be able to enter second grade today. They didn't quite make it. Favorite subject of the little girl, who suffers from a bone infection of one of her legs, is reading. She is the daughter of Mrs. Victoria Quinones of Fabens.



Mrs. Arnold Williams



Pfc. Arnold Williams

Sgt. Aria Brewington

Magazine Trial Nearing Windup

By United Press

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 5.—Prosecutor William Ritz and Defense Attorney Arthur Crowley today busily prepared to square off with final arguments in the last act of the sensational Confidential magazine criminal libel trial.

The trial was in recess today and final arguments probably will begin when the proceedings resume Friday. However, both the prosecution and defense in resting their cases yesterday reserved the right to call at least one more witness each before final arguments open.

The main issue in the trial continues to center upon whether Actress Maureen O'Hara cuddled with a "Latin" in a movie theater. Miss O'Hara on the witness stand angrily denied the escapade described in a Confidential story. However, the defense has attempted to prove in nearly five weeks of testimony that the story was true.

Hollywood Police Jail Trial Figure

By International News Service

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 5.—Ronnie Quillan, who was a witness at the Confidential magazine criminal libel conspiracy trial, was jailed last night on suspicion of offering. Two officers said that they arrested her after they made a \$50 appointment with her by telephone. As the cell door banged she declared:

"You didn't give me any money. You haven't got any witnesses and you can't arrest me."

Millionaire Protects Magazine Tipster

By International News Service

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 5.—Francisca de Scaffa's former lawyer said today the alleged tipster for Confidential magazine is hiding in Mexico "under the protection of an influential millionaire."

Juarez Strippers Plan Coverup

The Follies cabaret in Juarez, closed last Sunday, will put more clothes on its strippers and donate 50,000 pesos (\$4000) to flood relief in return for a permit to reopen.

Police closed the cabaret on charges it permitted nude dances, pornographic spectacles, racial discrimination, and immoral extracurricular activities by percentage girls.

Mayor Mascareñas announced the Follies agreed to abide by city regulations, to close doors and windows on Juarez avenue and use a Mariscal street entrance, and to contribute the 50,000 pesos to help persons who had to evacuate their homes in recent rain floods.

Juarez Flier Killed While Crop Dusting

Juan Garcia Mercado, 27, was killed when his light crop dusting airplane crashed and burned yesterday in the Juarez Valley, Juarez police said today.

Witnesses said Garcia Mercado's Piper aircraft was only 25 yards above the ground when it exploded in the air, crashed, and burned in a cotton field near Zaragoza.

Mrs. Dolores Arrellano said she heard a noise like a bomb explosion and then heard the pilot scream, "Oh, my God!" Garcia Mercado's family resides in Torreón.

Acting Street Chief Gets Permanent Post

W. S. Wilcox, who has served as acting street superintendent for most of the summer, today was appointed permanent superintendent by City Council.

Mr. Wilcox, who lives at 144 Lozano street, was commended for work his department did during recent floods.