

# El Paso Crime Increase Matches Rate for All U. S.

## Rape Cases High; Murders Decline

El Paso's rising crime record matched an 11 per cent increase in crime generally throughout the United States, according to figures released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

El Paso's murder rate, however, showed a decrease of about 40 per cent over last year.

The report compares the first nine months of 1958 with a similar period last year in cities with a population of 25,000 and over.

**Nine Murders**  
Nine murders were committed in El Paso during 1957, or about seven for the first nine months. Four have occurred this year.

Nationwide, murders in cities of El Paso's size decreased by nine per cent. In all cities of more than 25,000 population the increase was three per cent.

El Paso, however, showed a high incidence of rape cases, compared to other cities in the State. Fourteen were reported during the first nine months of this year, but only 29 were reported in San Antonio, a considerably larger city, and 29 in Fort Worth.

**Houston Leads**  
Dallas reported 32, Houston 80. El Paso had fewer murders than any other Texas city reporting. Houston led the list with 94, fourth ranking in the country, Dallas was second with 56, Fort Worth third with 33, San Antonio fourth for 31 and Corpus Christi fifth with five.

This year's crime record in El Paso: Murder — 4; forcible rape — 14; robbery — 32; aggravated assaults — 102; Burglaries — 1543;

## \$5000 Reward For Pattersons

(Continued from Page One)

ward from the Patterson estate. If some person should give information that located Mr. Patterson, and Mr. Patterson should refuse to honor the reward offer, those responsible for offering the reward would be liable for it. That would develop complications.

Mr. Long said he is continuing the search for legal authority to post the reward, and that if it is established this can be done legally, he will not hesitate to request the Court to authorize the reward.

The matters remaining unfinished in the court of inquiry on the Patterson matter involves a letter mailed from El Paso while the inquiry was in progress in June, and a report on whether an official search established that any clothing or luggage is missing from the Patterson home.

The letter mailed in Laredo bore the purported signature of W. D. Patterson. Handwriting experts in the Texas Department of Public Safety at Austin reported that in their opinion the signature on the letter was not genuine. The search to determine whether clothing and luggage of the Pattersons is missing from the home failed to develop anyone who could give information on the extent of clothing and luggage possessed by the Pattersons. The renewed inquiry, now postponed, was intended to place these reports in the official record.



**PREVIEW PEEK** — June Harlow, whose photo will grace the cover of the 1958 El Paso Press Club Girdiron Show program, shows surprise when she looks at the show's script with Club President Bill Montgomery. Miss Harlow is an entertainer at the Guadalajara de Noche Club in Juarez.

larceny over \$50 — 429; auto theft — 832.

For the same period last year: murder — 3; forcible rape — 17; robbery — 47; aggravated assaults — 62; burglaries — 1143; larceny over \$50 — 304; auto theft — 616.

The biggest percentage increase over last year's figures, for cities with populations roughly equal to El Paso's, was recorded in the forcible rape category. The increase was 31 per cent.

This was the only category in the El Paso totals where the 1958 figure was a decrease over last year's.

El Paso barely edged Corpus Christi to rank fifth in crime throughout Texas. Corpus Christi had one more murder and 253 more aggravated assaults. El Paso's 14 rapes, however, doubled the Corpus Christi figure. El Paso also led all other categories by wide margins.

El Paso's 832 auto-thefts were fourth highest in the State. Top crime cities were Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth and San Antonio in that order.

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## American Pilots Threaten Strike

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engineers get the strike for 9 a. m. and said they were assured the machinists and stewards union would not cross the picket lines. A company official said the walkout would force Eastern to halt its operations.

A strike against TWA entered its fourth day with no progress reported in efforts to settle the walkout.

American Airlines was faced with a scheduled strike of its 1500 pilots tomorrow night in a dispute over wages.

Stewardesses on Lake Central Airlines, a feeder airline, went on strike early today in the first walk-

out of stewardesses in airline history.

A spokesman for the line's 32 stewardesses said she had expected the pilots to refuse to cross the all-girl picket lines. However, at least one flight this morning landed in Indianapolis and took off on schedule. The company said the walkout would not curtail service.

Meanwhile, Capital Airlines resumed limited flights yesterday after a 37-day strike by 2600 mechanics and other ground personnel. The line hoped to resume full operations by tomorrow.

Eighteen flights in and out of

International Airport would be grounded if pilots of American Airlines carry out their threat to strike by midnight Tuesday, a company spokesman said today.

The 1491 pilots, members of the AFL-CIO Air Line Pilots' Assn., have threatened to walk off the job over a disagreement with American about wages and changes in working conditions. The company operates from coast to coast and in Mexico and Canada.

About 130 American employees based here would be affected by the strike, the spokesman said.

## Police Probe Theft of Gas

Police today investigated the possible theft of more than 1000 gallons of gasoline from Clausen's Texaco Service Station at 7048 Alameda avenue over the weekend.

John Clausen, manager, told police he ran out of gasoline yesterday afternoon while his books showed he should have 620 gallons of ethyl and 73.4 gallons of regular gasoline. Police determined it was impossible for the gasoline to be siphoned from the underground tanks.

Police theorize the gasoline was stolen by pumping it into a tank truck and driven away. Clausen was rechecking with the Texaco people today on the amount of fuel that had been delivered to him.

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