

Peel case dismissed; prosecutors scolded

KEETCHIKAN, Alaska (AP) — An eight-count murder indictment against John Peel was dismissed Friday by a Superior Court judge who said prosecutors misled the grand jury that indicted the 33-year-old son of a well-known Alaska politician.

Judge Thomas Schultz dismissed the case without prejudice, meaning prosecutors are free to try for another indictment against Peel. They may appeal the decision to the Alaska Court of Appeals, which gave them 60 days to respond to the ruling.

Ketchikan District Attorney Mary Anne Libby said she and assistant prosecutor Robert Blaine would discuss their plans this weekend.

Peel was indicted last fall and charged with the September 1983 slaying of eight people aboard a fishing vessel near the picturesque Alaska village of Craig. The vessel's inventor was burned to the waterline after three should have been out on the water.

Schultz said prosecutors misled the grand jury by presenting a witness who did not see Peel they regular gasoline in Craig the day the inventor burned. They did not tell the grand jury that only residue of white gas was found on the boat's charred hull.

"It was a half of a mistake," Schultz said. "They're going to have to go back and re-indict him if they can."

Schultz said an expert several other defense attorneys called demonstrated that Alaska State Trooper investigators limited or falsified or concealed the \$1.1 million Schultz refused to accept the \$1.1 million bail against Peel, saying "substantial evidence supports holding him for trial."

Peel is staying with his family in Bellingham. His mother, Marilyn, said Peel would not talk to reporters. She called his ruling "great news."

Peel's defense lawyers in Anchorage said they were being overzealous.

"For nearly a year, the police and prosecutors have attempted to spin reality and escape the consequences of their actions and mislead an innocent jury. They have not worth the paper it was printed on," attorney Phillip P. Videman said.

"We have prepared a letter to prosecutors demanding that they present evidence which proves John Peel's innocence if they choose to take the case before a second grand jury," said Bruce McGee, another defense lawyer. That evidence includes the gasoline residues, as well as other evidence which he said he could present.

Killed aboard the inventor were his sons, Mark and Irene Coulter, both 28, of Blaine, Wash. Their 3-year-old daughter, Kimberly Lynn, their 4-year-old son, John, cousin Dean Moon and Jerome Keown, both 13, of Blaine, Coulter's cousin, Alvin Stewart, 16, of Bellingham, and Chris Morrison, 14, of San Rafael, Calif.

Investigators believe they were slain aboard the 34-foot party vessel while it was en route to Craig on Sept. 11. They believe the killer moved the inventor away from the boat, shot the inventor and then set. When that failed, it was set afire.

Salmon-fishing restriction will be lifted for weekend

OLYMPIA (AP) — A ban on sport salmon fishing from the beach out three miles in the Puget sound area will be lifted for the Labor Day weekend starting Saturday, spokesman for the state Department of Fisheries said Friday.

The ban on the Fisheries Department said the ban on sport fishing had been imposed to lengthen the salmon season in the area, which covers the coast from Ledbetter Point north to the Quetzal Bay.

"The king (chick salmon) catch has been falling consistently," he said, adding that about 71 percent of the chick salmon quota of 13,500 had been met.

More than 80 percent of the coho salmon quota of 78,000 in the Puget area had been met, he said.

Lifting the restriction would "give the smaller boats an opportunity for Labor Day weekend fishing," he said. "The Puget area will again be closed to salmon anglers at midnight Monday, at the request of the Charley Boat Association."

It will reopen Saturday, Sept. 7 and will run through that weekend until the salmon quota is met, Floor said. He said it was "doubtful" that the quota would be met before the Sept. 7-8 weekend.

The National Marine Fisheries service announced Thursday that the coastal sports salmon season from the Quetzal Bay north to the Canadian border will be closed after Sunday night.

The agency's regional director, Roland H. Smith, said that the sport fishing season indicated the harvest quota of chick salmon was being met.

State officials also announced that the regular salmon fishing season in the Puget waters would close at midnight Sunday, but that the sport fishing season for the Quetzal Bay was extended through Sept. 5 until the quota of 10,000 other catch, whichever comes first.

Chick salmon that are caught there accidentally must be thrown back. Floor said.

The closure of the coast from the Quetzal Bay to La Puig was ordered because "we project that the coho salmon quota of 65,000 will be met by then (Sunday night)," Floor said.

He said that closure covers state waters off the Washington coast from the Quetzal Bay to the Canadian border and about 15 miles eastward along the coast of Juan de Fuca to the Selah River.

Widower beaten on first walk in months

SEATTLE (AP) — Albert O. Russell, 71, was beaten on his first walk in months after he was hospitalized for a heart attack. He was just out of his chair and watched his wife, who was with him, get hit.

"He had no interest except staying in bed," his wife said. "He had no interest in going out and going down."

On Aug. 15, Russell went to a downtown Seattle neighborhood, probably to a restaurant he remembered from his days working for American Can Corp., his family believes.

Russell was found lying on his back that evening. His body was cut and bleeding, and his ribs were broken. "Two men who appeared to be rifling through his pockets were scared off by a passer-by who called police," Russell said.

Russell had a pre-existing condition at Harborview Medical Center. Doctors say he suffered a heart attack during the beating.

"We're outraged at this," said Pauline's wife, Kathleen. "Grandpa was just an old man who was just out on a walk. This is the first time he got out of the house. This happened."

"He was so brutally beaten, it looked like they kicked him when he was down. He was already weakened from previous heart attacks and walked very slowly because of the attack. The robbery was probably for a few dollars; that's all he had on him."

A former Army boxer, Russell would have given his assailants a run for their money had they picked on him as a younger man. He has a grandson, a first lieutenant in the Air Force.

"He always enjoyed the downtown area and he used to go down there together to see about how that area has changed considerably."

Library discarding 'valuable' books

SEATTLE (AP) — The Seattle City Library is taking 100,000 books off its shelves and selling them for far less than they're worth, the Library Board has been told.

Books sold for 75 cents at a Friends of the Seattle Library sale last weekend normally sell for \$7.50 to \$15.00 at used book stores, said Dick Russell, one of the library board members who was consulted about book discarding at a meeting of the board.

"Those who decide what to throw away don't know what they're doing, for too many valuable items were in the 75-cent category," Russell said.

Furthermore, libraries are not like supermarkets, in which you stock only the products which move. As many as 50,000 to 70,000 volumes were sold at the sale, and gross receipts were about \$25,000, said Tom Hughes, treasurer of Friends of Seattle Library.

The problem is the library has no guidelines for eliminating library books, said John Sheets, a librarian in the downtown library's library department and president of Seattle City Librarians Local 1493.

"We are discarding books now before we have a clear idea of what kind of a library we want to be," he said. "And we didn't have enough time to do this last weekend project — only the week before we contacted our regular titles. There simply was no time to check how valuable some items were."

City Librarian Ron Dabberty said although the library has a 23-year-old policy about selecting materials that provides some guidelines for discarding books, "it doesn't provide specific guidelines."

The library annually buys 120,000 items and adds as many as 200,000 titles to a collection of 1.6 million books and 570,000 titles. "Just because a book is bought once doesn't mean we should never weed it out," Dabberty said.

Library officials plan to discuss a discarding policy in the near future.

Bandido sentenced on gun charges

SEATTLE (AP) — The last of the Washington state convicts arrested in a nationwide crackdown on the Bluebonnet motorcycle gang has been sentenced to six months in prison.

U.S. District Judge John C. Coughenour sentenced Bernard Warner of Bellingham to six months in prison and five years probation on Friday, according to U.S. District Court clerk Julie Mathias. She said Coughenour, who presided over the four-week Bandido trial, permitted Warner to report his own in prison.

Warner was one of five people who went to trial on charges of conspiracy to receive, possess, import and transfer firearms in violation of state and federal firearm laws. Assistant U.S. Attorney Andy Hamilton said during closing arguments in the jury

trial that Warner, a former Oregon Pacific Corp. employee, smuggled guns into the United States by paying a U.S. truck driver to conceal the weapons in a load of wood.

Warner was convicted July 13 on six felony counts.

Also convicted were Rex Reddick, a Bellingham gun dealer; Alvin Parkling of Blaine; and John Robertson of Vancouver, British Columbia.

The eight-man, four-woman jury found Juan Endicott, Rex's wife of 27 years, innocent of the same weapons charges.

Endicott, who was convicted on seven counts of the conspiracy charges, received a total of two years in prison for six of those counts.

Coughenour sentenced Palino to two years in prison.

OFFICIAL RECORDS

Friday

Records for the week ending August 31, 1985. Includes a list of names and addresses for various records.

CLASSIFIED INDEX AND INFO

Includes a list of classified advertisements and their corresponding page numbers. Categories include Real Estate, Business, and Personal.

PRIVATE PARTY RATES

THE 99¢ INCREDIBLE DEAL

ONLY 99¢ per line per day of classified advertising

It's an exciting, simplified plan that's designed to save you money! Use as many lines as you need. Run your ad 4 days, the 5th day is FREE. Cancel anytime during classified hours. Private party ads only. Not for rental, commercial, business or investment use. For complete details call 822-4854.

COMMERCIAL RATES

12 days	\$1.02 per line per day
6 days	\$1.24 per line per day
4 days	\$1.52 per line per day
1 day	\$1.75 per line per day

Minimum 2 line charge.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution Monday

ACROSS: 24. Lucertina, 27. Teg, 28. Prop, 29. Boulder, 30. Clench, 32. Brucce, 33. Insignia, 35. Expect, 36. Turkish chieftain, 37. Cracker, 41. Complete, 42. Slud, 43. Deakle, 44. Railway, 45. American, 46. humorist

DOWN: 1. Shooting match, 2. Signal, 3. Asidly, 11. Sewaged, 12. Malow, 13. Wisdom, 14. Formulas, 15. Formerly, 17. River in central Europe, 18. Inward anatomy, 19. Bearing weapons, 21. Duke or earl, 22. Palm fiber

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

DOWN: 3. Endoring, 4. Raccord, 5. Footlike apparatus, 7. Separate, 8. Aims, 9. Grampus, 10. Rustic musical pipe, 15. Opinion, 18. Cooper, 19. Card, 20. Outburst, 21. Ostrium, 22. Seasmie, 23. Sister, 26. Hall of Fame Mel, 28. Baker's product, 29. Came to rest, 31. Accada, 32. Formal dances, 33. Bunde, 34. Among, 35. Embankment, 37. Car designers, 38. Never, 39. Prior

WANT ADS

Buy or sell collectibles in this great shop/price for antiques.

THUR TO SAT NOW AND CHECK OUT OUR ANTIQUE SHOW

455