

THE CAROLINAS — Partly cloudy, hot and humid with scattered showers and thunderstorms.

CHARLOTTE AREA—Partly cloudy, hot and humid with scattered thunderstorms. Expected high today 95, low tonight 72.

Sunday High 96; Low 73
Year Ago High 97; Low 67

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ALMOST HALF OF COVER GONE

Storm Rips Up Coliseum Roof

Freak Winds Are Blamed

Building Escapes Structural Injury; Total Damage Estimated At \$40,000

(See Other Story, Pictures On 2A)

By ROY COVINGTON
Observer Staff Writer

Almost half of the Charlotte Coliseum's glistening roof cover was stripped off Sunday by a capricious thunder and wind storm.

Great sheets of shiny aluminum were peeled off the eastern side of the world's largest unsupported dome and dropped into twisted, crumpled masses around the base of the circular entertainment center.

Eyewitnesses said the Coliseum was sheared of much of its crowning glory about 1:45 p.m. when ripped by a severe blast of wind and rain.

"It (the roof) looked like it was just folding back," said Mrs. James W. Burnette.

Architect A. G. Odell, designer of the unique structure that has become a Piedmont showplace, said that three-eighths of the roof covering was torn away.

However, there was no structural damage to the building. Leakage from rain was minor and did no harm to expensive electrical installations.

Odell estimated roof damage would approximate \$40,000. The amount is covered by insurance, he added.

There were no injuries. Watchman James Stone who was the only person inside the building said a crew had completed setting up a ring for Monday night's wrestling match and had gone before the storm struck.

"I heard a peal of thunder, then it sounded like a big rain hitting a tin roof. I looked out one of the glass doors and there was the roof on the ground."

Auditorium-Coliseum Authority Chairman Arthur Newcombe, one of the early arrivals at the scene, said there was no immediate evidence that the dome had been hit by lightning.

The erratic storm was labeled as a freak. It struck briefly but viciously at scattered points, mostly in the southeastern section of the city and county.

Plate glass windows of at least three stores in the Park Road Shopping Center were smashed. There was some damage to trees.

At the Weather Bureau, situated at Municipal Airport about 10 miles from the Coliseum, Meteorologist Jim McNeal said instruments recorded maximum winds of only 17 miles per hour during the storm.

He said, however, that due to sultry weather conditions localized winds of much greater strength could have been possible.

Only other evidence of wind damage at the Auditorium-Coliseum site was the twisted wreckage of metal scaffolding erected by WBT to transmit television coverage of the NCAA regional basketball finals at the Coliseum in March.

The scaffolding, complete with microwave "dish" on top was constructed to withstand winds up to 70 miles per hour. The large circular "dish" was not attached to the scaffolding Sunday when the wind smashed it.

There was no evidence of damage to a partially constructed roof of the Coliseum.

See COLISEUM, Page 2, Col. 1

PROPERTY DAMAGE IN THOUSANDS

Severe Winds Hit Carolinas

Fast striking, severe windstorms, spawned by 90-degree heat, struck at scattered areas of North Carolina and South Carolina Sunday, causing tens of thousands of dollars property damage.

The winds, carrying hard rains and in some instances hail, damaged crops, broke plate glass windows, and leveled frame buildings, trees and power lines.

Walnut-sized hail and wind in the Deep Run farming area 10 miles south of Kinston did crop damage, observers said. Windmills were blown off. Two days of 102 degree heat and windstorms hit Rock Hill and Laurens and a thunderstorm

drenched Lake City, the bureau said.

A few trees were down and power service was interrupted at Laurens, where the State Highway Patrol reported a few residences damaged.

The turbulence continued until sunset through the upper section of the state and as far south as Augusta, Ga., to Myrtle Beach.

It was the second straight day in which high winds struck the Carolinas. Extensive damage was done to buildings and utilities Saturday night at Greensboro and Goldsboro. Wind was recorded at up to 76 miles an hour in Greens-



Here's Aerial View Of Damage To Charlotte Coliseum's Roof Roofing Can Be Seen In Three Large Mounds Where It Fell To Ground. At Right Is Independence Boulevard.

(Observer Photo-Blackletter)

FOR ADAMS' PAL

FTC Man Denies He Gave Favors

WASHINGTON — A former chairman of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) said Sunday Sherman Adams' wealthy Boston friend, Bernard Goldfine, was treated "no differently from anyone else" in his case with the FTC.

Edward F. Howrey, one-time FTC chairman now in private law practice, backed up in an interview the facts as outlined by Adams last week in a letter to Chairman Oren Harris (D-Ark) of the House subcommittee checking regulatory agencies.

Harris called Howrey and present FTC officials for testimony Monday as political reverberations continued to swirl about charges that Adams, President Eisenhower's chief assistant, had accepted expensive gifts from Goldfine.

Adams' wife said the Democrats are "just going to hound him until he has to leave." She was quoted in an interview copyrighted by the Minneapolis Tribune and Des Moines Register.

Adams has acknowledged frequent stays at a Boston hotel, for which Goldfine paid the bills. But he denounced as "unwarranted and unfair" what he called subcommittee insinuations that favored federal treatment for the Boston industrialist.

Sen. Edward J. Tye (R-Minn) said that unless Adams explains further the alleged gifts from Goldfine, "then I cannot condone his conduct."

Tye became the fifth GOP senator up for re-election this year to speak critically in public of Eisenhower's right-hand man. Others have included Senators J. Glenn Beall (R-Md.), Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), Charles E. Potter (R-Mich.), and John J. Williams (R-Del.).

Sen. George Smathers (D-Fla.), chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, predicted Democrats would find political ammunition in the Adams affair in this fall's campaign.

"Mr. Adams appointed himself the conscience of the world and led the attack on what he called

Democratic 'corruption' in the 1952 campaign," Smathers commented in an interview.

Michigan's Gov. G. Mennen Williams, a potential 1960 Democratic presidential candidate, said Adams' actions indicate "this administration is hypocritical. It's immoral and it's corrupt at the same time."

Adams' wife said the Adams and the Goldfine families have exchanged gifts for years.

She said congressional Democrats will bring out the story on each gift, one at a time, "for months," and "they will want to jab the knife in, and then keep opening the wound."

12 Years Too Late

LONDON — (UPI) — The town council of suburban Wimbledon closed the books on an alleged tax dodger and withdrew a warrant for his arrest.

The council discovered that the recalcitrant taxpayer, otherwise unidentified, died 12 years ago.

IT'S ON THE INSIDE

Proud Pop Sounds Off

BETSY'S HUSBAND is having himself a ball showing pictures of his new son, Farley, to friends down at the office. You won't want to miss their reactions, especially that of the chairman of the board, in today's installment of Betsy & Me on Page 12A.

DOES YOUR SON want a pony? (All boys do, of course.) Maybe he'll enjoy the Page 11A story of the largest pony farm on the eastern seaboard. You certainly will.

FIRST WINNERS in the Observer's amateur photo contest are shown on Page 9A. You may find your picture there. We hope so.

Bridge	15B	Obituaries	9A
Bishop	14B	Puzzle	14B
Classified	10-13B	Radio-TV	10A
Comics	14-15B	Sports	4-7B
Editorials	2B	Theaters	12A
Farm	11A	Women	4-8A
Horoscope	14B		

'Explosive' Joke Fails To Go Off

LONDON — (UPI) — Five officers of an elite British regiment have been punished for planting explosives in the River Thames to drench the Prime Minister and members of the royal family in an elaborate practical joke that misfired, police said Sunday.

The officers, who were not further identified, put 11 sticks of gelignite in the river near the visitors' stands and planned to explode them at the height of the swank Eton School anniversary celebrations June 4.

If successful, the blast would have raised a geyser of river water that would have soaked Prime Minister Harold Macmillan, the dukes of Gloucester and Kent and other members of the royal family gathered for the celebration.

Today's Chuckle

Ad in rural paper: "Farmer who owns tractor wishes to meet widow who owns threshing. Object matrimony. Send photograph of threshing."

MIKHAIL MENSHIKOV

Red Ambassador Is Called Home

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Soviet Ambassador Mikhail Menshikov was summoned back to Moscow Sunday on a "temporary official mission."

The Soviet Embassy said he is expected to return to Washington "within a few days"—a couple of weeks at the outside.

Boy Taken By Stranger

COLUMBUS, Ohio — (UPI) — A seven-year-old boy, traveling from the west coast to Akron, Ohio, by himself, was taken from the Greyhound bus depot here early Sunday by an unidentified man.

George Jack, Westerville, Ohio, who was in the bus station, told police the man came into the waiting room where the little boy was asleep, woke him up and offered to take the youngster to his room for the night. The boy left with him.

According to passengers who were on the bus, the boy was going to Akron to meet his father. A check of the Akron bus depot however showed no one had been asking about the youngster.

Passengers said the boy lost all his money "somewhere" in Texas and two men befriended him, buying his meals and seeing that he got on the proper bus.

However, the men, H. C. Beck with of Akron and H. M. Brock of Malvern, Ohio, were not in the waiting room when the boy left with the stranger.

None of the passengers or police know the youth's name or where he first boarded the bus. The youth was carrying a small suitcase when last seen.

Authorities said passengers described him as being either "Indian or Philippino."

Coliseum To Operate As Usual

Business at the Coliseum will go on as usual, manager Paul Buck said Sunday night.

Buck was in Washington attending a meeting of the Eastern Hockey League when he learned a portion of the roof cover had blown off the Big Dome. He flew into Charlotte Sunday night.

After conferring with City Building Inspector C. W. Edge, Buck said tonight's wrestling match in the Coliseum will be held as scheduled. That goes for other events this month, he added.

He said he had been assured by Edge that the building was structurally sound and that performances could go on even while the roof cover was being replaced.

Cubans Arrested

PROGRESSO, Mexico — (UPI) — Federal security agents arrested Sunday nine Cuban rebel leaders as followers of Cuban rebel leader Fidel Castro.

Authorities said they also seized rifles, cartridges, a radio transmitter equipped with microphone, and a record player with records of propaganda for the Castro movement.

He then embarked on a one-man goodwill crusade, smiling and handshaking his way among cabinet officials and other Washington notables for several weeks.

The Soviet Embassy said Mrs. Menshikov remained in Washington while her husband returned temporarily to Moscow.

There have been some demands in Congress that Menshikov should be declared persona non grata by the U. S. government.

Twins Are Born

SEROWE, Bechuanaland — (UPI) — Former London tyist Ruth Williams, who married Bamaungwa Chietani Setete Khama, gave birth to twins this week. That makes it three boys and a girl for the now deceased head man and his white wife.

(Observer Phone—ED 27121)