

# Bel Air California Rebuilds After Historic Fire Destroyed Its Homes

By DIAL TORGERSON  
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Mrs. Sarah Salot was alone in her five-bedroom mansion in Bel-Air last Nov. 6 when she saw flames on the hills behind her.

She telephoned the fire department to ask what to do.

"Stay put," a fireman told her. "We'll notify you if you have to leave."

That evening only 12 of the 46 homes on her block were still standing. For that was the day fire came to Bel-Air.

When the losses were totaled, 444 homes and 21 other structures were counted destroyed. It was the fifth costliest fire—\$25 million in damage—in U.S. history.

It swept Bel-Air and dipped into Brentwood, two of the most exclusive suburbs of Los Angeles. Movie stars, writers, scientists, millionaires lost their homes.

So did Henry and Sarah Salot. Today, almost a year later, Salot has a story to tell—a story typical of many of the residents of Bel-Air.

## Steven Hill Had Bad Bark

By JOHN FLYNN  
HOLLYWOOD — Steven Hill launched his acting career by putting his worst foot forward—and the other in his mouth.

He couldn't have hurt himself much more if he showed up on the set without dark glasses.

Steven fought — vehemently — with directors and worse yet, producers.

He wasn't just temperamental in the young rebel manner.

"At least Marlon Brando and Jimmy Dean held off until they got to first base," Steven said.

"I said to heck with first base."

He was fired from featured roles in four Broadway plays. He blew his big chance in Hollywood, telling a producer what he thought of him.

After attending the University of Washington, he headed for New York 17 years ago. Then his tumultuous battle broke out.

"I had to develop a sense of humor about it. I even wrote a play (never performed) about my troubles."

At last the good fight eased. Hill got some meaty television roles in New York—"The World of Nick Adams," "The Legs Diamond Story," "The Sacco-Vanzetti Story."

He won the Sylvania Award. "They (directors and producers) finally wore me down," he said.

For nine months on Broadway he played Sigmund Freud in "A Far Country." He left the show when Hollywood beckoned again.

"I waited six years to get the right part for Steve," said John Cassavetes, director of "A Child Is Waiting."

"He's one of the finest actors to come along in years."

The now relatively conforming Hill says, "It's just like making shoes or being a bricklayer. You do your best and that's all."

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## Ghana Loses Its Gay Life

By DENNIS LEE ROYLE  
ACCRA, Ghana (AP)—A dusk to dawn curfew, armed troops at government buildings, police searches and numerous threats have thrown a pall of suspicion and uncertainty over this capital.

Formerly a gay city, with music blaring through the night, Accra has gone the way of many newborn African states.

Recent bomb attacks on President Kwame Nkrumah, labeled the "Osagyefo"—which can be translated as "Saviour, Redeemer or King of Kings"—indicates the growing unrest in this one-party, one-leader state.

For weeks a virtual prisoner in his Accra residence, Flagstaff House, Nkrumah has appeared only twice in the past few weeks: at a military parade and the delayed opening of Parliament.

Even then there were elaborate precautions for each appearance.

Thorough searching of both white and blacks is the order of the day. Nkrumah's admirers, who formerly clamored at his every move, were not allowed to approach him during these two functions.

Also noticeable was the fact that Nkrumah, who used to wear the Roman toga styled kenti, a multicolored national garment, had changed over to a severe white tunic, which bulged out, neck down to his waist. Observers guessed he was wearing some sort of protective vest.

Accra's life centers around the governmental offices, her bustling market place and high-life night clubs. Shows and cinemas are closed.

Hotels are forced to shut their dining rooms by early evening while a police bus with escort takes the African members to their homes.

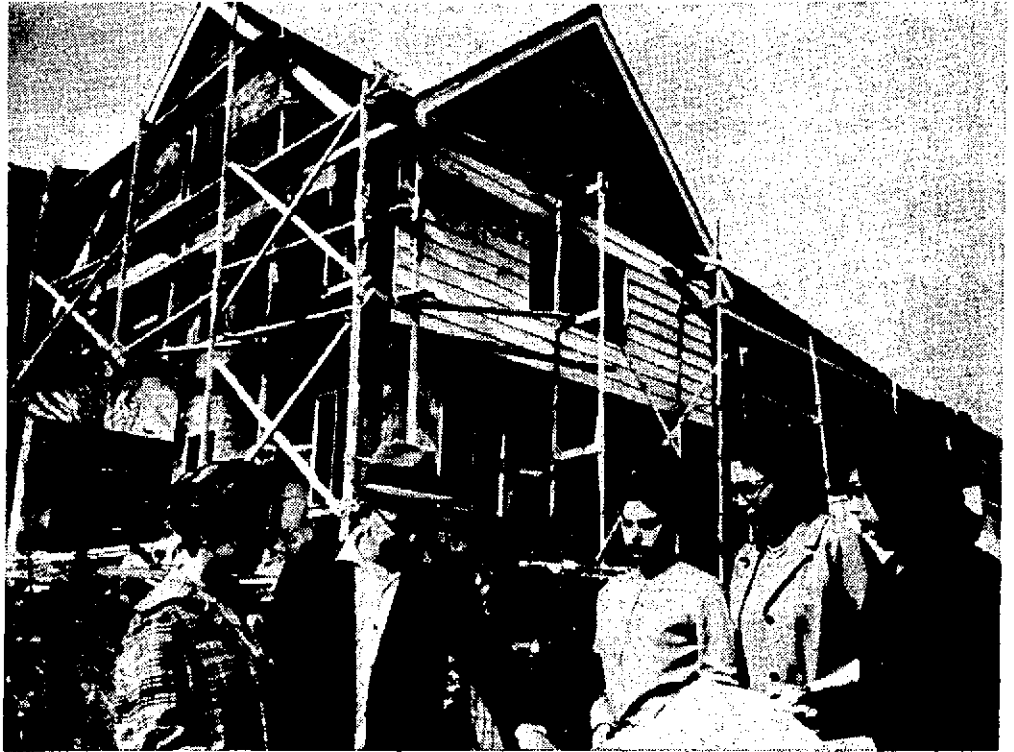
At night guests are not allowed outside the doors of the government-owned Ambassador Hotel, which is guarded by a dozen armed police.

The pro-government Ghanaian Times issues a daily dosage of propaganda against the "imperialist foreign press," "the neo-colonialists" and the "British colonialist robbers." Censorship has been imposed on outgoing news and radio broadcasts.

Hundreds of thousands of Ghanaian workers received the minimum daily wage of less than six shillings, six pence—90 cents. A recent suggestion by Nkrumah that cheap food should be produced to feed these multitudes prompted The Ghanaian Times to place the blame for high food costs on the British colonial administration "who for 114 years has robbed and dominated us."

Many new anti-government underground organizations have been formed. A tribal group called the "Unknown Warriors" and a powerful group known as the "Kumasi Command" coupled with an active exiled group operating from neighboring Togo, had changed over to a severe white tunic, which bulged out, neck down to his waist. Observers guessed he was wearing some sort of protective vest.

Nkrumah is faced with the choice of relinquishing his one-party rule and discarding harsh legislation or ruthlessly crushing any opposition that hopes to topple his command. This can only be achieved by armed searches, curfews and restriction on public movement and night life pleasures, which is contrary to the Ghanaian way of life.



OUT OF THE ASHES

In front of the new home he is building, Henry Salot discusses the plans with his family, on their place on Chantilly Road in the Bel Air section of Los Angeles. Left to right: Daughter Marilyn, 19; Salot; Deedee, 9; Norma, 17; Mrs. Sarah Salot.

the wife and mother, and Claudia, 15. The new \$85,000 home is being built on the foundation left when last November's brush fire in Bel Air destroyed the \$50,000 Salot home. (AP Newsfeatures Photo.)

—Wonders Of The Universe—

## Fumes From Rocket Exhausts May Be Harmful To Man Below

By DR. I. M. LEVITT

Director The Fels Planetarium

of the Franklin Institute

Space scientists have new cause for concern, due to the large volume of rocket exhaust materials being released in the upper atmosphere.

This contamination may change some of the physical characteristics of the atmosphere, and be harmful to man on earth.

Jerome Pressman, manager of atmospheric physics of the Geophysics Corporation of America, has indicated that the vast amount of rocket materials put into the sky today and the increased amounts which will go into the sky as the result of Soviet and American launchings of super rockets will provide unwanted modifications which may affect both civilian and military activities.

These effects, Mr. Pressman contends, are similar to those with which we are already familiar—such as the big-city smog problem, the industrial pollution of our waterways, the carbon dioxide influence on our climate and the increase in radioactivity resulting from the detonation of large-scale nuclear bombs.

While we are learning to live with some of these modifications and are correcting others, when we begin to appreciably disturb the constituents of our atmosphere, we must look for effects which may adversely affect our well-being.

It is inevitable that this contamination will materialize. Our Nova booster will carry 1,500 tons of hydrocarbons and oxygen for the first stage, which will be put into the atmosphere up to altitudes of 35 to 50 miles. The second stage, which may reach 150 miles, will discharge 500 tons of, perhaps, hydrogen and oxygen, and the third stage, which will reach 300 miles, will discharge 250 tons of the same elements in this region.

We must assume that the Russian boosters will use similar quantities of propellants. Thus a tremendous release of contaminating materials will spread over wide areas. Mr. Pressman indicates that the release of only 100 tons of foreign gaseous materials above 62 miles may be expected to cause local modification effects over an area roughly 100 miles wide. Depending upon the movement of upper atmosphere winds, such locally modified areas will circulate like mammoth clouds in the upper atmosphere for several weeks or more.

Mr. Pressman refers to gases such as ozone which is present in such a few parts per million in the region about 20 miles high as an important constituent. This relatively insignificant amount of ozone not only determines the temperature structure of the middle atmosphere but also determines the quantity of ultraviolet radiation which gets through to the surface of the earth. Similar

ly, nitric oxide (there are but 2.5 tons of it some 40 miles above the surface of the earth) determines the characteristics of the ionospheric D-region which reflects radio waves permitting broadcasting beyond the line of sight. One of the dominant emissions in the night glow is caused by sodium despite the fact that the total amount of sodium in the earth's atmosphere is less than 50 pounds.

Fluorine has been categorized as a fuel and this could create a serious problem. The by-products of the fluorine reaction absorb not only the temperature profile of the atmosphere but the number of electrons in the atmosphere they find that there are about a thousand billion billion electrons. About 25 tons of fluorine could absorb the earth is so large and the atmosphere so tremendous, man

disastrous effect on the overall level of the ionosphere.

IMBALANCE POSSIBLE

The significant feature which seems to be apparent is that these chemicals will provide absorptions in the infrared and ultraviolet regions of the spectrum, and in turn the solar radiation which has a strong influence on the natural atmosphere may be prevented from continuing to provide the balance we enjoy today.

This may provide changes in the solar radiation which penetrates to the surface. The result may be a change in the temperature profile of the atmosphere but a change as well in the temperatures on the surface of the earth.

We have always believed that 25 tons of fluorine could absorb the earth is so large and the atmosphere so tremendous, man

cannot possibly alter it no matter how much he tampers with it. Yet here we find that a relatively small amount of material may produce changes far beyond our wildest expectations. Just how these changes may affect us is as yet uncertain. They may prove to be catastrophic. Before we learn the hard way by having them occur, it is a comforting thought that today someone is investigating these reactions to evaluate now what could become a serious problem in the future.

While some of us may want the weather and climate modified we would like that on a local scale only, and certainly not on a global one.

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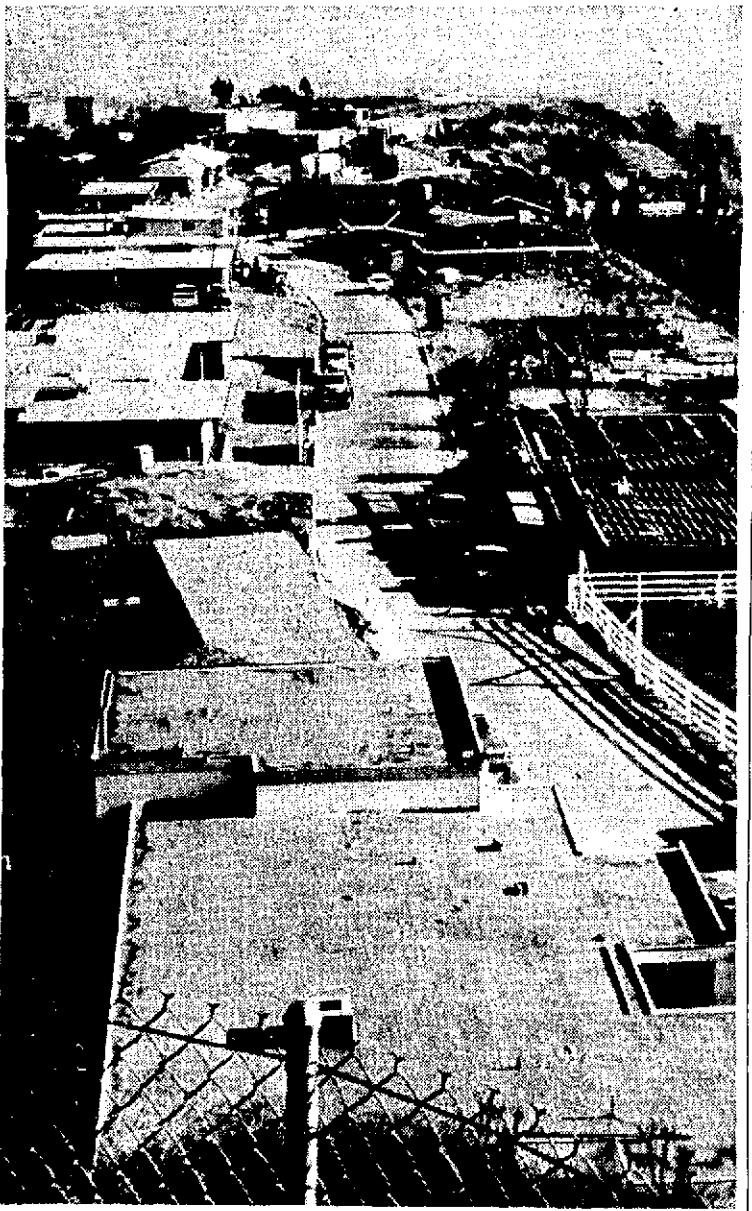


Rocket exhaust materials in the upper atmosphere could contaminate the global environment and in turn prove harmful to man.



ROAD TO RUINS

The day after the big fire a year ago, ruins of expensive homes line Chantilly Road in the Bel Air section of Los Angeles. A sudden brush fire, blown down from the hills, left 484 homes and 21 other structures destroyed in Bel Air and nearby Brentwood and cost \$25 million damage. But it caused no deaths or injuries among the film stars, writers, scientists and millionaires who lived in the area. (AP Newsfeatures Photo.)



ROCKBOUND HOPES

New homes go up along Chantilly Road in Bel Air, hillside section of Los Angeles which was swept by fire last Nov. 6. More than half the owners of the many houses which were destroyed along the road are rebuilding. But many are putting on rock roofs instead of the shingle roofs which the Los Angeles Fire Department blamed in part for the speed with which the brush fire was carried from house to house. (AP Newsfeatures Photo.)

## Car With Most Interest This Year Not Even Made

By BEN PHLEGAR

AP Automotive Writer

DETROIT (AP)—With 322 models of the 1963 cars already on display it is sometimes difficult to remember that the one car which generated the most advance interest was not introduced.

This was the Cardinal, which was a small-small Ford with change of heart in Dearborn as a Volkswagen price tag built in Louisville, Ky.

The Cardinal project had been hailed and rumored for several years as moved through the myriad stages of development. Then in April it was suddenly and officially killed.

"After long and serious consideration," said Chairman Henry Ford II in a formal announcement, "and as a result of market conditions and other factors, it has been decided not to produce such a car in the United States."

The British and German affiliates went right ahead and their cars are now on the market.

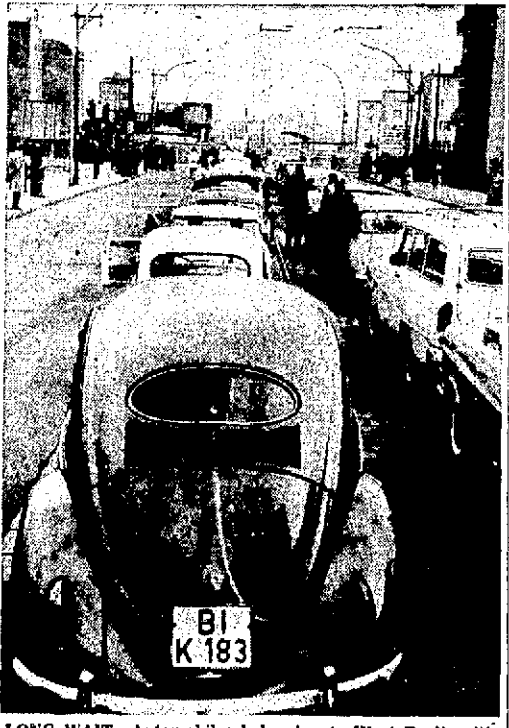
There has been no indication of a change of heart in Dearborn as far as American production is concerned. In fact, at the company's annual meeting, Henry Ford eliminated all reference to domestic Cardinal project had been abandoned.

While Ford specifically cited market conditions, the most basic reason was cost. The company couldn't get the costs down to

anything like the Volkswagen range and still sell the car at a profit.

Ford apparently is getting its money's worth out of the time and energy which went into the Cardinal project. The company said that in contrast to the ill-fated Edsel, which cost \$150 million, losses on the Cardinal were a minimum and already had been absorbed by the time the abandonment was officially announced.

The years of work so far have produced the Taunus M-12 from Germany; the Consul Cortina from England; the Mustang, an experimental American sports car prototype, and most recently, the basic Cardinal V-4 engine for industrial applications.



LONG WAIT—Automobiles belonging to West Berlin citizens anxious to visit friends and relatives in East Berlin, must sometimes wait two hours and longer to cross through the wall which cuts the constantly troubled city in half.