

# 15 hostages held at knifepoint by trio

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of B.C. law professor Michael Jackson and Province reporter Jim Spears. The three were told that Hunter was away on the Greenpeace whaling mission off the west coast of Vancouver Island. Lucas and Bruce are both serving life terms for murder and Wilson a life term for attempted murder.

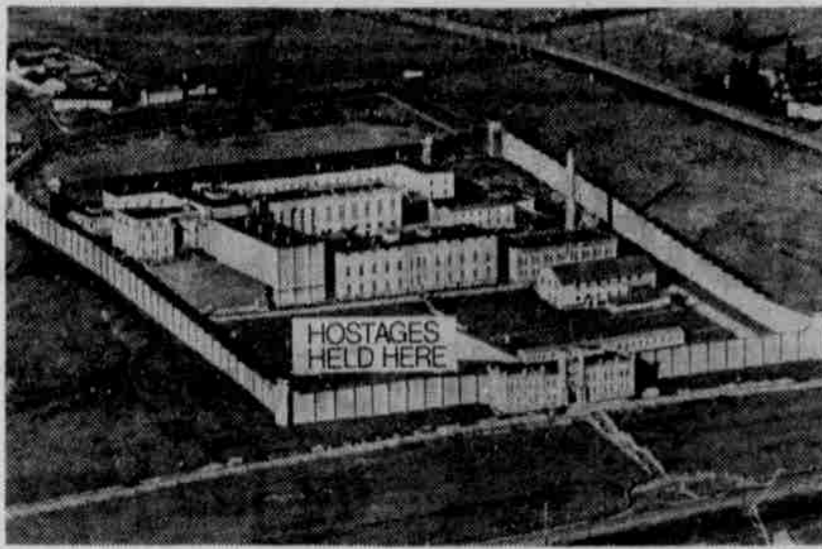
Lucas was one of two men sentenced in Winnipeg to life imprisonment on June 27, 1974, for the axe-killing of Michael Ray Hurd, 26, on Nov. 1, 1973.

Lucas and Jack Wayne Bender were both found guilty of the attack, and the court sentenced them to life terms with no parole.

Hurd and another man were both battered with an axe and left for dead on a lonely road 19 miles from the Manitoba capital but the other man crawled to a nearby farmhouse and obtained help.

The court was told that Hurd and his companion found Lucas and Bender tampering with their truck. They were forced into the truck and driven out of the city to the spot where the axe attack took place.

Both accused were on day leave from prison, where Lucas was serving a two-



AERIAL VIEW OF PEN . . . locates hostage position

year term for stabbing a cell-mate during a previous prison term.

The court heard that Lucas had been in trouble since he was 10 years old. He was described by the Crown as unfit for rehabilitation.

Bruce, 26, was convicted of the 1970 hired killing of go-go dancer Jacqueline Lampen in what was believed to be part of a battle for control of Vancouver's illicit narcotic trade.

In addition to his life term for the murder,

Bruce was sentenced to 10 years for each of three holdups in Vancouver and North Vancouver in 1969.

Last December he was given an additional 15 years for the attempted murder of a prison guard at Prince Albert, Sask.

Bruce was one of a group of eight B.C. Penitentiary inmates who launched a civil court action last year claiming they had been subjected to cruel and unusual punishment in their confinement.

They withdrew the action after a Federal Court judge ruled that, because of a grave security risk, they could not appear in court as a group.

The judge's ruling was upheld by the Federal Court of Appeal.

Wilson, 25, was one of three inmates convicted last March on attempted murder charges arising out of an escape from Nanaimo airport Nov. 26, when a deputy sheriff was viciously beaten.

Wilson was found guilty of the attempted murders of the officer, a retired clergyman and an RCMP constable.

He and one of his co-accused spat at Mr. Justice A. B. Macfarlane when the judge imposed sentence, calling them menaces to society.

## FRANCE STAGES NUCLEAR BLAST

Sun News Dispatches  
PARIS — The French defence ministry announced today it had triggered an underground nuclear explosion in the South Pacific at the end of last week.

The test was apparently at Fangataufa Atoll, near Mururoa Atoll, the site of previous French atmospheric nuclear testing. Mururoa is 800 miles southeast of Tahiti.

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## Union warned to cut expectations

Continued from page 1

catch-up agreement. "But this time it is not going to be so easy."

His written report read to the convention Saturday had also warned that the next round of bargaining with the provincial government will be tough.

It said there will probably be a backlash against the relatively high wage settlements recently obtained in the component agreements.

"The BCGEU must be prepared for much more employer resistance in the forthcoming wage contract negotiations than we encountered during the first series of agreements," he said in his annual report.

"Negotiators will have to contend with the prevailing economic climate and the backlash from other employers and their organizations against the relatively high wage settlements recently won by the BCGEU."

Fryer also cautioned union members against fragmenting their goals into the 13 specialized job components which make up the union.

More than 200 voting delegates from throughout B.C. attended the opening session of the two-day convention.

In an opening address, Jake Norman, general manager of Ontario's 72,000-

member civil service association, hailed the "tremendous" progress made by B.C. civil servants.

"The advances made in B.C. are the foremost by any civil service union and among the foremost in Canada," Norman said.

Norman said in an interview later that, by comparison, Ontario civil servants have had a tougher row to hoe because of their province's "antiquated" public service bargaining laws.

Although B.C. still has a long way to go, he said, the BCGEU has succeeded in establishing a basic rapport with the B.C. government.

In his annual report, president Norman T. Richards of Victoria said the BCGEU has "put the finishing touches" on the transformation from association to full-fledged union.

Key dates in the progress were Jan. 3, 1974, when the provincial government granted civil servants collective bargaining rights, and March 8 that year when the BCGEU was certified as bargaining agent.

Since then, Richards said, the union has negotiated a master agreement covering working conditions for all members and 13 wage agreements for components.

Fryer, still on the mend from an auto accident on Feb. 28, called the two years'

work "eventful and productive."

He pointed out that, since 1973, membership has doubled from about 20,000 to over 40,000 during the peak months of summer employment, while the year-round figures hovers near 35,000.

Fryer warned delegates "to remain vigilant and united in our opposition to any tampering with our full and free (collective) bargaining rights."

"The other objective must be to guard against fragmentation of our organization. Fourteen small unions would be no match for an employer."

"But, a single, strong, unified organization with a membership approaching the 40,000 mark can match the power of an employer such as the provincial government."

The delegates approved a resolution from the union executive adopting an official strike policy.

The policy, which becomes part of the union's by-laws prohibits strike action without majority consent by secret ballot from the union local or component involved. The union's executive must also give prior approval for such action.

The provincial executive must also give prior consent to a strike vote and has sole power to determine the number and location of picket lines.

## RAILWAY

Continued from page 1

has been expended," he said, "obviously the reason for the railroad being built begins to evaporate if there's no development."

"People don't want an ego trip, they want a trip to the bank," said Ed Scholz of Placer Development, one of the potential coal operators in Northern B.C.

"There's no way under present law that an operator can make money in there," he said.

When questioned concerning the government's decision to proceed with the Dease Lake extension, despite the huge escalation of costs, Barrett referred to his Friday speech.

In the speech, he quoted a consultant's recommendation to complete the line as far as the Stikine River, then to "negotiate a firm commitment with the federal government for a grant and, if received, to continue to Dease Lake."

If the government was unable to get a grant, the consultants said, their recommendation was "to reassess the completion of the extension."

In Ottawa, the office of the department of regional economic expansion said minister Don Jamieson had nothing further to say on DREE grants.

Also in Ottawa, Energy and Mines Minister Donald Macdonald said it would probably be more costly to stop construction of the railway at this time and finish it some time in the future.

"If it is a question of the mining sector providing revenue for the railroad, there is a question about the appropriateness of the current fiscal regime in B.C. to the long-term future of mining," Macdonald said.

"I know the mining industry has long-term reservations about development in B.C.," he said. "Even if the railroad does open up the area, are people going to be dismayed at the terms?"

In Prince Rupert, where the city has been expecting increased port development as a result of the railroad's potential for opening resource areas, Mayor Peter Lester said:

"It's no good building a railway if you have nothing to ship on it. Unless the government is prepared to go in and develop the country itself, nothing is going to move."

## ICBC declared 'hot' by labor federation

Continued from page 1

pared to meet with union or mediator at any time," he added.

Bortnick was unavailable for comment on the "hot" declaration, which was announced later today following a meeting between Trotter, Guy and other union representatives at the federation offices.

The memos, obtained by The Sun review plans for claims staff and procedures in case of a strike.

The March 19 memo carries the title: "Contingency plan—Strike by ICBC employees. Duration, two-three weeks minimum."

The April 29 memo, written three weeks before the strike, had the title: "Contingency plan — Strike by ICBC employees. Duration six to eight weeks."

While the March 6 memo contains no estimate of the strike's duration, its four pages detail procedures for handling various types of accidents and claims. Many of the procedures were subsequently put into practice by ICBC when the employees went on strike.

The memos are written by Eric Ralph, who ICBC information officer Bev Penhall identified as working in the claims division.

The first two memos are addressed to B. F. Pearson, Douglas Eakins and J. E.

McCulloch of the claims division while the April 29 memo is addressed to those three plus Douglas Scrivener, a senior ICBC executive.

Trotter said he was angry at the memos because they show the company was conducting an investigation of alternative claims procedures on March 6 when contract negotiations were amicable and "non-controversial."

He said the company was considering a two-to-three-week strike March 19 when wage issues had not been discussed.

"As far as I'm concerned, to make that kind of preparation at that stage of the negotiations was bargaining in bad faith," Trotter said in a telephone interview.

Talks for a first contract broke off May 15, with ICBC offering a salary increase of 14 per cent or \$100, whichever is greater, retroactive to Nov. 1, a further seven per cent on Oct. 1, 1975, and six per cent on March 1, 1976, in a 20-month agreement.

The union's last offer called for an increase of 25 per cent or \$100, whichever is greater, and a further hike of 15 per cent or \$40 on April 1.

The striking employees met Sunday at the Pacific National Exhibition Garden Auditorium to discuss the progress of the strike and hear executive plans for its escalation. Trotter said he would hold a

press conference later today to outline OTEU's plans.

Ralph's first memo, written March 6, says body shops would get a "licence to print money" if there were no inspection of damaged motor vehicles during a strike.

To locate 45 management staff in one claim centre would be "disastrous," he says, because they would only be able to handle 150 to 200 claims a day out of approximately 2,000 and would "be creating large line-ups, traffic congestion and numbers of irate people, which would slow claims handling even more."

"Added to this would be on-the-spot live media coverage and possible incidents with pickets, etc.," the memo says.

Ralph says in his March 6 memo that a strike of more than one week would require definite action to prevent a complete breakdown of ICBC service.

He also suggests hiring additional clerical staff and university students to help handle claims.

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