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AN EXPRESSIONLESS WILLIAM GRAVLIN  
Accused ax-slayer stared at wall for three hours.

**Gravlin**  
(Continued from Page 1)  
A passing motorist said he had killed his family.  
Judith was killed by a heavy blow

to the back of the head, injury to the brain and extreme loss of blood. Dr. Olson testified. He said he observed similar wounds on some of the other bodies.

**SENIOR ASSISTANT** prosecutor William E. Lang presented the alleged murder weapon, a large double-bladed ax.

Donald Hannah of the state police crime laboratory said he found human blood and human hair on the blade.

Other witnesses called by the prosecution were Dr. Joseph R. Schriebe, Pontiac deputy medical examiner, who also went to the home; Troy patrolman Charles R. Green, who found the ax under the house; and Earl Stone, the truck driver who was stopped on John R by Gravlin.

Paul Brabant, a state police detective, testified that he checked the ax for fingerprints. He said he did not find any.

**ROBERT E. Rann** of Royal Oak, Gravlin's attorney, in cross-examination had each witness describe in detail what he had observed at the home.

At the end of each description, he asked:

"In your experience, have you ever witnessed a similar crime with a similar set of circumstances?"

The answer was invariably "no."

Twice, Rann asked that testimony be stricken, adding that his client had been declared "mentally incompetent" by probate court three years ago.

**JUDGE LOSSEY** denied both requests, ruling that it was not within the jurisdiction of his court to determine mental competency, beyond the defendant's ability to assist counsel.

"It is the responsibility of this court only to determine if a crime has been committed, and if it is likely that the respondent committed it," Lossey said.

Found in the home at 2121 Garrison on Sept. 29 were the bodies of Gravlin's wife, Bette, 40; a daughter, Sue, 5; five step-children, Benson Bentley, 17; Thorne Bentley, 15; Paul Bentley, 12; Walter Bentley, 10; and Judith Ann.

Gravlin presently is charged only with the death of Judith Ann, to avoid legal technicalities that could arise if he were charged with murdering the whole family.

## Supervisors to Hear Report On County Airport Question

Should Oakland County be in the airport business?

If so, should it assist in development of the already-established Pontiac Municipal Airport or proceed with the county-owned Allen Airport in Pontiac Township?

Leaders of the board of supervisors last Thursday discussed a report from the Leigh-Fisher Associates, Inc., airport consultants, and passed it on to the full board without recommendation.

**COUNTY** participation in the airport business has been a controversy ever since the county bought the 42-acre Allen Airport in 1960 for \$357,272. Plans then were to develop it as a major jet facility.

However, the Federal Aviation Agency put an end to this hope when it ruled that the field wasn't suited for such a terminal.

The county since has thought of it as a possible intermediate-type airport, especially in comparison to the cost of expanding Pontiac Municipal Airport.

The Pontiac City Commission has asked the county to participate with the city in a modernization of the municipal field.

**COST** of constructing an intermediate-type facility at Allen has been estimated at \$7 million; whereas the cost has been placed at \$12 million for expanding Pontiac Municipal.

The report from the airport consultants said Pontiac can qualify for instrument landing facilities while Allen could not because of existing traffic patterns from current commercial and military airports in the metropolitan area.

The consultants recommended that the county concentrate its efforts on the Pontiac airport, which view has been supported by both the supervisors' Aviation Committee and the Pontiac City Commission.

**AN OUTSPOKEN** critic is Supervisor Charles B. Edwards, Jr., from Madison Heights, who is a former chairman of the Aviation Committee and is now a member of the powerful Ways and Means Committee.

He has contended that the low

cost makes Allen more acceptable and has criticized the conclusions of the \$10,000 Leigh-Fisher report.

Problems that would be encountered in relocating Pontiac field to the Allen site include:

- Possibility of the county being forced to assume the costs of relocating some FAA navigational facilities.

- City of Pontiac's commitment to the Federal Government, upon acceptance of recent Federal funds to operate the municipal field as a public facility for 20 years.

- The wish of tenants at Pontiac to stay there.

- Uncertainty of obtaining an IFR airspace clearance.

On Monday, the manager of the Pontiac airport, Homer D. Hoskins reported that the facility had just received a Federal grant of \$5,400 instead of an anticipated \$40,677.77.

He had planned to use the federal matching funds for a construction program amounting to \$81,355.44. This involved a taxi strip at the north end of the field, three fire truck stalls and space for maintenance equipment.

The actual grant would provide only for the taxi strip, said Hoskins.

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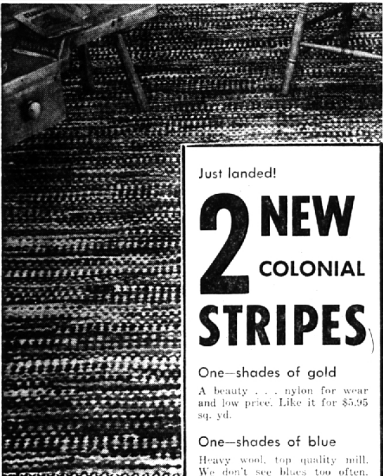
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## Washington Calls Broomfield for Crises Briefing

Cong. William S. Broomfield left for Washington Tuesday night for a personal briefing by Secretary of State Dean Rusk on the developments in Russia and Red China.

Rusk, in a telegram to Broomfield, said: "I think it's most anxious to give you the full benefit of our views on the Krushchev overthrow and the detonation of the atomic bomb by the Communist Chinese."

Broomfield is a ranking Republican on the Far East and National Security subcommittees in the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

**HE CANCELED** speaking engagements and meetings for two days. "I think it's more important that I attend these meetings in Washington than continue my campaign schedule."

"These two events, the ouster of Krushchev and the Red Chinese atom blast, are the most significant of recent years and it is important that all of us on the Foreign Affairs Committee keep abreast of the events in these important parts of the world."

"This is going to cut my campaign short but in my judgment it has to be done."

Broomfield was expected to return to the county today.

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