



Bertha Adekola of Miami is carried off Amtrak train after accident near Gainesville

Associated Press

Amtrak train crash injures 5 passengers

Associated Press

LOCHLOOSA — Cleanup crew supervisors say they expect to clear debris from the derailment of Amtrak's Silver Meteor passenger train today.

The train, which was traveling 75 miles an hour, jumped the tracks shortly after noon yesterday when the engineer noticed an improperly aligned switch and slammed on the brakes, said Seaboard Coast Line spokesman Ray Bullard in Jacksonville.

Five of the 127 passengers aboard the New York-to-Miami run were hospitalized. Miamian Bertha Adekola was admitted to a Gainesville

hospital for observation. She was in stable condition, although she was cut and bruised.

Four other passengers were treated in local emergency rooms and released. They were: Alva Little, 77, of Hialeah; Lucy Boyadgian, 83, of Fort Lauderdale; Peggy Catarelli, 41, of Sebring; and Harry Britton, 74, of Sebring.

Bullard said the railroad is investigating why the switch, controlled by dispatchers at Seaboard's Jacksonville operations center, was not functioning correctly.

"We don't know if it was caused by a person or what," Bullard said yesterday.

"I had just fallen asleep, settling down for a long nap, when I felt this bump and somebody hollered 'It's off the track!'" said Henrietta

Knowles, a Miami woman returning from a visit to her son in Fayetteville, N.C. "Then I heard this terrible noise as we started swaying all over the place. The Lord was with us."

The accident occurred on a north-south straightaway along the track, which runs parallel to U.S. 301 through the tiny agricultural community of Lochloosa, about 20 miles southeast of Gainesville.

Conductor E.C. Carter said soft dirt on both sides of the track helped cushion the stop and kept the nine cars and locomotive from overturning.

"It's what saved us from a lot of injuries," Carter said. "It could have been a lot worse."

Ex-prosecutor, 14 others named in 'Giraffe' bust

HEATHER DEWAR
Miami News Reporter

A former assistant U.S. attorney and a suspended Miami policeman were arrested and warrants were issued for 13 other suspected drug dealers in "Operation Giraffe," the Metro Organized Crime Bureau's investigation of an alleged South Dade drug ring.

Accused ringleader Mario Tabraue, owner of the South Dade animal farm where Organized Crime Bureau detectives seized 13,000 pounds of marijuana, cocaine, Quaaludes and a cache of automatic weapons in a May 7 raid, is believed to be in New Jersey after posting a \$1-million bond on charges stemming from that raid.

Police expect to arrest Tabraue today on new charges of narcotics trafficking and conspiracy, said Organized Crime Bureau Commander Arthur Nehrass.

A telephone tap on Tabraue's phone led to the arrest last night of lawyer Harold Keefe, 37, of 9121 SW 93rd Ave., Nehrass said.

Keefe is a former assistant U.S. attorney who led the Miami office of a Justice Department team that prosecuted drug smugglers. Keefe, who now has a private practice at 235 Catalonia Ave. in Coral Gables, is charged with trafficking in narcotics and conspiracy to traffic for "advising (Tabraue) on how to best structure the criminal enterprise to avoid detection," Nehrass said.

According to tapes of telephone

conversations between Tabraue and Keefe, the lawyer allegedly gave the smugglers advice on how to recover \$97,000 in cash seized by federal Drug Enforcement Administration agents from a ring member who went on a cocaine-selling trip to New York, Nehrass said.

In conversations with Metro detectives, Keefe also revealed that he knew where shipments of marijuana were stashed, Nehrass said.

Also arrested last night was Miami police officer Samuel Streiner, 40, who was suspended with pay immediately after Metro detectives charged him with conspiracy during the May 7 raid.

Streiner, a 16-year police veteran, was originally accused of providing gang members with information from police computers to help them evade arrest. He has now been charged with taking part in several drug deals, Nehrass said.

Streiner has been reprimanded by the Miami Police Department's Internal Security department and faces an administrative hearing, said Miami Police Chief Kenneth Harms. Harms said he expects new administrative charges to be filed against Streiner in the wake of his second arrest.

Arrest warrants have been issued for nine other Dade residents and three New York men on charges ranging from narcotics possession to conspiracy to traffic in narcotics, Nehrass said. Seven of those charged are facing earlier charges stemming from the May 7 raid.

Be gentle to taxpayers, IRS tells its agents

Newhouse News Service

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service has changed its rules to prohibit its agents from using physical force against taxpayers unless the agents' safety or the safety of others is threatened.

The new rules are contained in revisions of the Internal Revenue Manual, the guidebook for agents. "IRS's written rules have been changed to make it clear that IRS personnel cannot use force except in situations involving their own safety or the safety of others," a representative of the agency said.

There have been more assaults and threats against IRS employees in recent years — 508 in 1980, compared with 455 the year before.

Internal Revenue representatives say, however, that the new rules result primarily from one incident in Fairbanks, Alaska, on Feb. 22, 1979.

The IRS had assessed Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Oliver \$4,177 in additional income taxes. After they failed to pay or go to court, the agency obtained a court order allowing the government to seize the couple's property.

When Internal Revenue agents tried to seize the couple's 1970 Volkswagen, Mrs. Oliver locked herself in the car and refused to get out. The agents smashed the window, dragged Mrs. Oliver out into the glass-littered street, and drove off.

"We think that was bad judgment," Al Golato, chief spokesman for the agency, said.

The new regulations note that an Internal Revenue agent, like any citizen, generally can make a warrantless arrest but "it is generally necessary that a violation constituting a felony be committed in their presence or that the special agent reasonably believes the person whom he or she arrests has committed a felony."

"Because this is potentially very sensitive, special agents should use extreme caution in acting as arresting 'citizens' and should be familiar with the arrest laws of the locality where he or she is acting," the manual says.

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