

Fourteen

THE BOSTON GLOBE—WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 1950

# "Couldn't Believe My Eyes" Says Messenger of Gunmen's Invasion

## Raid on "Impregnable" Room Amazed Victims

It was 7:15 p. m. last night when Charles E. Grell looked up from the pile of money at the desk in the Brink's office and saw seven masked men leveling guns at him through the wire mesh enclosing the counting room.

"I couldn't believe my eyes," Grell said.

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Open Wednesday until 8:30 P. M.

Grell's words described the amazement of himself and the four fellow workers as they stood in the supposedly impregnable second floor room in the North Terminal Garage at 600 Commercial St., North End.

Almost \$2,000,000 in cash and securities was stacked on counting desks, piled in money bags nearby or locked in a vault a few steps from the menacing masked men.

The holdup ended at Grell's side, the shaven pistols of the other employees and the wall rack of shotguns were rendered useless by the muzzle of the seven holdup guns.

Grell opened the gate to the cage. The holdup men, their steps muffled by rubber-soled shoes, slipped through the gate as quickly and as quietly as they had come up the back stairs to the money room.

Arms Akimbo They The five employees were disarmed, forced to lie on the floor and their arms and ankles secured by each robber. The robbers then moved to the vault.

Thomas B. Lloyd, a cashier, rolled over on the floor, back to another vault door. He was ordered to open the vault.

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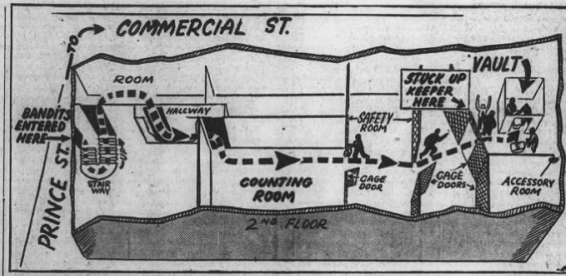
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SKETCH SHOWS HOW HOLDUP WAS STAGED—Globe artist Phil Reidy depicts how armed-masked men robbed North End establishment in nation's biggest cash holdup.



ANNOUNCE OFFER OF REWARD for solution of holdup. Brink's, Inc. officials here for conference following \$1,500,000 robbery, confer at company offices today. They are (left to right): Eugene E. Murphy, general counsel and vice president; H. E. Reeves, representing Joyce & Co., general insurance agents; and Otto Plank, vice president.

NURSE Continued From the First Page

She was the only witness. The brevity of the hearing was in contrast to the recent hearing before the State Board of Registration in Medicine on suspension of the license of Dr. William J. Sullivan, which extended over five weeks.

Miss Stolt pleaded guilty in a moral charge in Middlesex Superior Court last May and was fined \$25.

## British Firm Has Brink Insurance

The \$1,000,000 loss in the Brink's holdup will fall on British underwriters, Boston insurance executives believe. Brink's carries a basic "all risks" policy with the Commercial Union Assurance Co., Ltd., London.

In New York, the firm said that it did not write the insurance against theft for the Boston transportation company.

This British insurance company will have insured the risk, however, spreading it among many companies both in England and throughout Europe.

One reason why the loss will fall on British underwriters is that American companies are prevented by law from writing "all risks" insurance and may insure only against specified risks.

In addition to the basic policy with the Commercial Union Assurance Co., Brink's has a \$500,000 policy with the American Insurance Co., Ltd., New York.

Mr. Shevchuk, 129 State St., Boston, said that the firm's policy with the Commercial Union Assurance Co. was a "first loss" policy.

The only insurance that will be touched by last night's loss, however, is the basic \$1,000,000 policy with the English company, insurance executives believe.

The claim against the insurance company will be handled through Brink's, Inc., main office in Chicago.

It is believed.

Berlandi Files Bill Requiring Fund Firms to Protect Cash

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Representative Angelo V. Berlandi, Dem., of the North End, sponsored both measures. The first bill proposed a \$100,000 fine for the failure of any business handling or transporting money to provide adequate security for the money.

And the second would require the same type of security for the State Police protection.

COMMUNISM Continued From the First Page

The proposal to create a Legislative committee to investigate "persons who are sympathetic to Communism" was attacked as a "trap" bill whose sponsors do more to undermine American Democracy than to Communism.

Representative John L. Sullivan, Union, attorney Edward Spiegel charged the "red-baiting" sponsors of the investigation with failing to give "a single clue as to whom they would investigate."

The measure, he said, would be a "drag net into which they could pull any citizen of the Commonwealth."

There were three supporters of the investigation at a hearing before the committee on Constitutional Law and more than 150 opponents, led off by the officials of the Civil Liberties Union and including several "red" Communists.

The proposal to study the "infiltration of Communist doctrine into the teaching system" and to investigate Communist sympathizers was sponsored by Representative Berlandi and Mr. Lally, Dem., of Dorchester.

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## Brink's Trucks Started Operating Here in 1925

Brink's familiar armored trucks first appeared on Boston streets in 1925, 76 years after Brink's Express Company had been organized in Chicago by a Vermont.

By the time the Boston service was established Brink's already had been in business for 100 years.

The officers of the two banks had been working to secure just a service for Boston for three years.

It was pointed out, Brink's already had opened an office in the Chamber of Commerce Building and was transporting the payroll for the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company.

In 1921 the company developed the idea of putting up payrolls for their clients, and during the last holiday Brink's sent a car to the University of Chicago to pick up the payroll.

Brink's trucks, which are now in the industry throughout the country, became the first Boston vehicles.

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