

# Mystery Blast Again Awakens Tucsonians

By JAY HALL and GENE BROOKS

For the second consecutive night, a mystery explosion shook many Tucsonians out of their sleep last night.

The first occurred about midnight Sunday.

Last night's boom came at 1:10 a.m.

Police and sheriff's department officials said they received 50 to 60 calls about the strange burst of sound, the phones beginning to jingle with inquiries about 1:15 a.m.

"It woke me up and it shook my bed," said a mining company secretary who lives in the university area.

Other residents said the blast shook their windows.

Most of the calls came from homes north of Broadway to the city limits and east of Park out into the county.

Police called their cars patrolling the area and ordered a look around. Officers searched for signs of explosion and interviewed callers to no avail.

On both nights, one of the first thoughts of those investigating the noise was the possibility of a sonic boom from a plane breaking the sound barrier.

But Col. Joseph Perino, executive officer of the 162nd Fighter Group, Tucson's Air National Guard Unit, said:

"The noise woke me both nights. Last night we had two F100 Super Sabre jet fighters in the air about that time but they were hundreds of miles away. And the radar station on Mt. Lemmon has confirmed they were not flying at supersonic speeds. Besides, the night before, we had no plane in the air at the time of the noise."

Lt. Col. Marshall Hanson, commander of the 684th Radar Squadron on Mt. Lemmon, said:

"There were no Air Defense Command planes in the area either last night or the night before when the noise sounded.

"We have checked this out with the regional SAGE control center in Phoenix."

Capt. Arturo Aviles, Davis-Monthan information officer, checked all Strategic Air Command operations in the area. He said:

"We can virtually rule out any sonic boom from SAC aircraft."

There was no blasting at any of Tucson's Titan II missile launching sites, officials said.

## McNamara Sticks By His Guns

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Another "peace" conference between Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and investigating senators to whom he has refused to give requested censorship information broke up today without even any "preliminary agreements."

McNamara stuck to his refusal to give the senators the names of Pentagon censors who had altered the texts of specific anti-Communist speeches prepared for delivery by military men.

Sen. John Stennis, D-Miss., chairman of the armed services subcommittee which has demanded this information, announced the group would meet again tomorrow or Thursday, but has no plan to call McNamara to sit in at that session.

Stennis said today's meeting "did not reach any final conclusions or, really, any preliminary ones."

The senator announced he plans no resumption of public hearings on the censoring of speeches until the row over McNamara's present stand has been settled.

The secretary told reporters after the closed meeting that "we've hidden nothing" from the subcommittee by refusing to give the information requested. He repeated his position that he believed it would undermine staff morale if he let subordinates take responsibility for fulfilling orders based on his own directives.

Col. Perino offered one possibility: "It's possible, if atmospheric conditions are right, that a jet's afterburner could make a sound like a boom without breaking the sound barrier. But I have confirmed that our fighter planes were not in the area when the noise sounded this morning."

Dr. James McDonald of the University of Arizona Atmospheric Physics Department, said he couldn't account for the noise but thought it possible that a plane passing over Tucson from another area caused a sonic boom.

Spokesmen for major mines in the area said they had no blasting that could account for the sound.

The noise was heard by many people in the university area, leaving an unconfirmed possibility that it could be the result of a student prank. Still, there is no evidence anywhere yet that a surface explosion has occurred.

Next to what caused the mystery sound, the uppermost thought in the minds of many Tucsonians is: Will it come again tonight?

## 'PUT HER OUT

# Son Of Stabs M

NORTH HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—(AP)—Mrs. Helen S. Scheuer, first wife of the late author and columnist Morton Thompson, was stabbed to death by their son last night, police said today.

Thompson, who wrote the best seller "Not As A Stranger" and many top movies, died several years ago.

Their son, Morton (Bud) Thompson Jr., 27, told police he had killed his mother because he "wanted to put her out of her misery."

The mother stumbled out of her home with 11 ice pick wounds in her back