

Seizure Planned By Govt.

By JIM CARBERRY

Four U.S. Army trucks rolled up to the Coast Drayage Co. here at 2 p.m. yesterday to pick up an estimated 16,000 lbs. of arms and ammunition, then pulled away empty-handed two hours later.

Federal agents had gone into U.S. district court to obtain a search warrant in order to confiscate the ammunition ordered by William Thoresen, heir to a Chicago steel fortune, whose mansion in San Francisco's Pacific Heights district was raided Friday night.

Reportedly, officials of the Treasury Dept. and Alcohol Tax and Tobacco Unit were in the process of obtaining the warrant when it was decided it would be too late to inventory the ammunition before dark and past company working hours. The firm is located at Eastshore Freeway and Cedar St.

Confiscation Today

Inventory and confiscation of the ammunition reportedly is scheduled at 10:30 a.m. today, although the San Francisco U. S. Attorney or a spokesman as usual was unavailable for comment and confirmation of the report.

Mrs. Louise B. Thoresen, 30, was arraigned before U.S. Commissioner Richard Goldsmith Monday on two counts of illegal possession of firearms and of violation of the National Firearms Act.

The charges resulted from last Friday's raid on the mansion at 2801 Broadway where an estimated 35,000 lbs. of ammunition was seized. In addition to ammunition also held by the Berkeley drayage firm, there reportedly is additional ammunition held by an Oakland trucking firm.

Inspection indicated the following ammunition held for Thoresen by the drayage company includes:

- Some 312 crates each containing 1,500 rounds of 7.92 mm ammunition.
- Several crates containing 48 star parachutes.
- One crate that may contain part of a machine gun assemblage.
- Several crates each containing 110 caliber .50 cartridges.

Also lying about were several large crates, whose contents were unidentifiable, that could contain arms or ammunition.

Never Arrived

After FBI agents, a Berkeley plainclothesman, and Army drivers had arrived at the drayage company in early afternoon, reporters were told

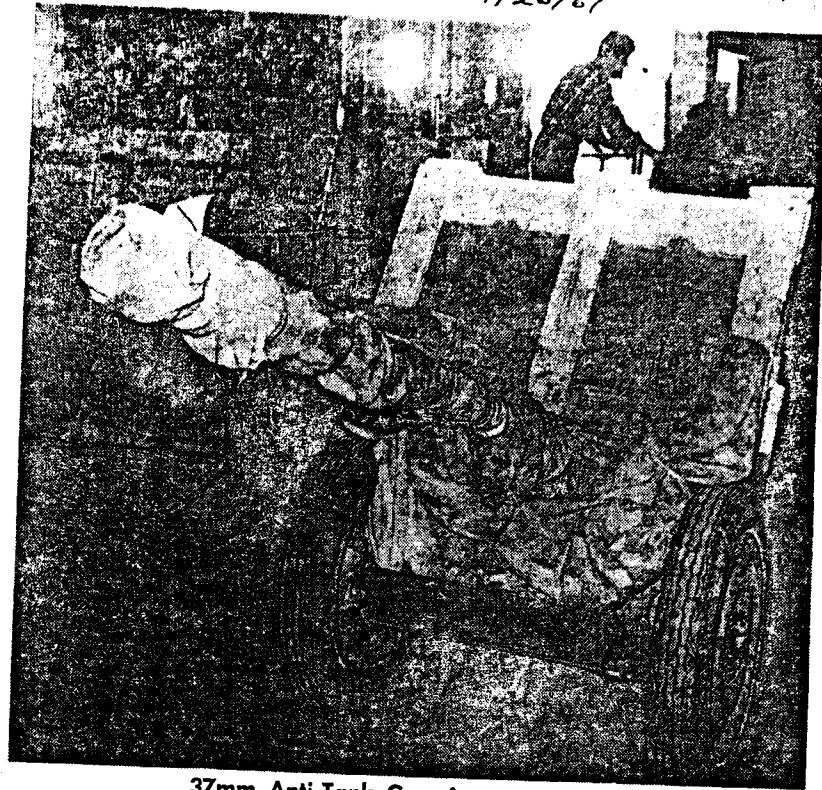
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and will move freely
Britain, if it ever gets
the Common Market.
arts which should be
more liberal than any-
else are actually more
conservative in their atti-
tudes than coal miners.

These unions, of course,
they're protecting the
of their membership.
American Equity has so
elected its members' rights
that the number of
opening on Broadway
shrunk from 178 in 1926

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37mm Anti-Tank Gun Among Arsenal



EXPLOSIVE SITUATION - Gazette reporter Jim Carberry seems lost among crates of ammunition stored at the Coast Drayage Co., 1595 Eastshore Blvd. - Dick Dubois photo

Government to Move In On New Arsenal Here

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company officials were waiting for Treasury or Alcohol Tax Unit officials to deliver a search warrant.

However, they never arrived.

By contrast, federal agents Friday worked late into the night to inventory the massive arms shipment at the Thoresen mansion at 2801 Broadway in San Francisco.

Some of the ammunition at the drayage company here appeared to have been manufactured in Germany or Italy. Some was World War II vintage, possibly purchased as Army surplus.

It was shipped from several

East Coast firms, including:

— Service Armament Co., 689 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, New Jersey.

— Hunter's Lodge Inc., 200 South Union St., Alexandria, Virginia.

— Numrich Corporation, West Hurley, New York.

Company officials said Mrs. Thoresen had paid cash or certified check for delivery of the merchandise, since trucking regulations prohibit payment by personal check. However, they did not disclose cost of the arms and ammunition.

Company spokesman also were emphatic in denying published reports that there had

been any type of surreptitious pre-dawn delivery of the ammunition to the Thoresen residence.

"You couldn't get any of our drivers to make a pre-dawn delivery; the earliest they come to work is 7 or 8 in the morning and the latest they work is until 6 p.m.," he commented.

Observers speculated on the unanswered question why Thoresen, still at large and charged jointly with his wife, would order such massive quantities of arms.

"I can understand why he might have wanted to collect guns, but why all that ammunition?" one asked.