

# 2 Nurses Are Accused in Deaths At Michigan Veterans' Hospital

NYTimes

By United Press International

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DETROIT, June 16 — Two nurses were arrested today on first degree murder charges relating to last summer's mysterious series of deaths at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich., the Federal Bureau of Investigation said.

Jay E. Bailey, acting special agent in charge of the Michigan F.B.I. office, identified the suspects as Filipina B. Narciso, 30 years old, of Ypsilanti, Mich., and Leonora M. Perez, 31, a former Ann Arbor resident who now lives in Evanston, Ill.

The two nurses, who both worked at the Ann Arbor facility during the series of deaths last July and August, were charged in a 16-count Federal grand jury indictment returned today with five counts of first degree murder, 10 counts of introducing poison into the intravenous medicine of patients at the hospital and one count of conspiracy to commit murder.

The arrests and indictments ended a 10-month investigation conducted by the bureau. Both nurses were employed in the intensive care unit at the hospital in Ann Arbor during the

NOTICE: Baby Wootle graduates today, June 17, 1976, M.C.L. Harvard.—Advt.

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## 2 Nurses Charged in Deaths at Michigan Hospital

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period when an unusually high number of respiratory arrests occurred.

The two nurses were charged in the deaths of five patients at the hospital, identified by the bureau as John Maurice Herman, James E. Oulds, Joseph W. Green, Adam Oelbert and Joseph C. Brown.

In addition, Miss Narciso and Mrs. Perez were charged with introducing a poison into the intravenous medicine of 10 other patients. Both were scheduled for arraignment tomorrow before Federal magistrates in Detroit and Chicago.

Mr. Bailey said Miss Narciso was arrested at the V.A. Hos-

pital in Ann Arbor and Mrs. Perez was arrested at the V.A. Hospital in Chicago by F.B.I. agents.

Because the killings were committed on Federal property, Mr. Bailey said, both suspects will be tried in Federal courts. Conviction on one or more of the counts could result in a sentence of up to life in prison.

### Brief Statement

Mr. Bailey read a brief statement on the indictments and arrests to reporters, but refused to answer questions. United States Attorney Richard DeLionis, the Government prosecutor in the case, was expected to hold a news conference tomorrow to discuss the arrests in detail.

Investigators earlier determined that many of the breathing failures at the hospital had been caused when unknown assailants injected patients with a potentially lethal muscle-paralyzing chemical, pancuronium bromide.

The two nurses were identified as suspects in the case earlier this year, but were not formally charged. Miss Narciso continued to work at the hospital in Ann Arbor and Mrs. Perez remained on the staff of the facility in Chicago where she had been transferred.

Investigators said they believed as many as 17 patients suffered breathing failures at the Ann Arbor hospital last summer after they were in-

jected with Pavulon, a fast-acting muscle-paralyzing drug. Many patients survived the attacks, but investigators said then that they believed that as many as six had been killed.

### Territories Bill Gains

WASHINGTON, June 16 (AP)—The Senate passed today a bill authorizing an additional \$10 million in loans to the Virgin Islands to bolster its depleted unemployment compensation fund. The bill, previously passed by the House, was amended in the Senate to extend to the new United States territory of the Northern Marianas Islands the provisions of Social Security programs applicable to other territories.