



THE MOBILE REGISTER

FINAL

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MOBILE, PRICHARD, CHICKASAW, SARALAND, ALA., MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 7, 1977

10c DAILY, 80c WEEKLY, PLUS TAX

Fire truck, train collide; 4 injured

Four firemen were injured, one of them seriously, when a fire truck collided with a Louisville & Nashville freight train at the foot of Government Street late Sunday night.

The injured firemen were taken to Mobile Infirmary. Their identities were withheld pending notification of their families.

Authorities said Fire Company 2 was en route from Central Fire Station to the fire boat Ramona Doyle, which is moored at the foot of Government Street, when it collided with the north-bound freight train shortly before 11 p.m.

Firemen said the truck's emergency lights and siren were switched on when the cab of the truck slammed into the train engine. The truck was thrown about 25 feet following the impact but remained upright. The four firemen aboard the truck were thrown from the vehicle.

Both fire department rescue companies were dispatched to the scene and paramedics administered first aid to the injured.

Authorities said the four firemen were assigned to crew the fireboat Ramona Doyle. The Ramona Doyle was to be sent up the Mobile River to investigate the possibility of an oil spill.

The Coast Guard and fire department had been swamped by phone calls from residents of the Mobile area complaining that there was a strong odor of gas in their neighborhoods. Coast Guard personnel believed that odor was caused by the transfer of naphtha from a barge which collided with Cochrane Bridge Saturday morning. As a precautionary measure, the fire department decided to send the Ramona Doyle up the Mobile River to investigate the origin of the acrid aroma.

After the four injured firemen were sent by ambulance to the hospital, another crew of firemen was assigned to the boat. The firemen could find no cause for the odor other than the naphtha transfer.

Fire Chief H.H. "Buddy" Edwards said shortly before midnight that three of the firemen's injuries seemed minor. The injuries of the fourth fireman were termed serious. Dr. Phillip Snodgrass went to the infirmary to assist in treating the firemen.

A spokesman for L&N railroad said the freight train involved in the accident was en route from New Orleans, La., to the Sibert Railroad Yard in Mobile. An estimate of the speed of the train when the collision occurred was not available.

2-B—Mobile Register

Mobile, June 4, 1977



VAUTIER BENEFIT FUND — Mobile City Commissioner Bob Doyle (left) is fed a piece of fish by Fireman Maurice Vautier during a V.F.W. benefit fish fry for Vautier Saturday. Commander of V.F.W. Post 49 Nick Raybon (background) and Mrs. Vautier look on. Vautier was paralyzed from the waist down after a fire truck he was riding collided with a freight train. Members of the V.F.W., Mobile County Sheriff's Flotilla city firemen and friends have raised almost \$3,000 to help pay for Vautier's rehabilitation and expenses. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the benefit fund is asked to contact Commander Raybon at 471-5178.



VOID AFTER
90 DAYS

LOUISVILLE & NASHVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY

LAW DEPARTMENT—GENERAL CLAIMS DIVISION

Mobile, Alabama May 25 1978 D-09912

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Maurice Vautier and Sharon Vautier and Robert T. Cunningham, Jr., their attorney

Five Hundred Fifty Thousand and No/100----- DOLLARS \$ 550,000.00

FOR and in full compromise settlement of any and all claims arising out of an accident at or near Mobile, Alabama on or about February 6, 1977 per release executed May 25, 1978.

By TREASURER, LOUISVILLE AND NASHVILLE RAILROAD COMPANY, LOUISVILLE, KY.

PAYABLE THROUGH CITIZENS FIDELITY BANK & TRUST COMPANY, LOUISVILLE, KY.

FORM 4441

COUNTERSIGNED District Claims Agent

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