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Daly found in West End flat

'QUIET MAN' HELD IN TRAIN RAID SWOOP

By TOM TULLETT, HOWARD JOHNSON and PAUL HUGHES

DETECTIVES yesterday swooped on a flat in a fashionable square in London's West End and arrested John Thomas Daly, 32, who was wanted for questioning in connection with the Great Train Robbery.

The police found Daly with his 22-year-old wife Barbara, who is expecting a baby, in a lavishly-furnished basement flat, 65A Eaton-square, Belgravia.

People living in Eaton-square include MPs, peers and Privy Councillors. One neighbour described the occupants of No. 65A as "very quiet people."

Last night, three hours after his arrest, Irish-born Daly was escorted into the police station at Aylesbury, Bucks—headquarters of the hunt for the bandits who stole more than £2,600,000.

Charged

There he was charged with conspiring with others to rob the mail train. He will appear in court at Linslade, Bucks, today.

Shortly after the train robbery on August 8, the police issued a description of Daly and his wife. They said Mrs. Daly might be pregnant and might be accompanied by her year-old daughter, Lorraine.

The police swoop in Eaton-square at 4.15 p.m. was led by Detective Chief Superintendent Thomas Butler, head of Scotland Yard's Flying Squad.

They rang the bell of the walnut-veneer door of Flat 65A. In the door was a peephole with a magnifying lens.

Daly, black-bearded and in red pyjamas, was having tea. He was told to dress, and later went away with the police.

His wife was left behind in the flat for a time, but five hours later she walked out with detectives and a policewoman.

Brother

She had a black scarf covering her face and hair.

Half an hour earlier a man friend had called at the flat with Mrs. Daly's teenaged brother.

Helped by detectives, they carried woman's clothes and suitcases from the flat to a car.

Then Mrs. Daly got into the back seat of the car and drove off with the friend and her brother.

Detectives locked up the twenty-guinea-a-week basement flat and left. One said: "We have finished here now."

Antique dealer Daly is a brother-in-law of Bruce Reynolds, 41, also an antique dealer, whom the police want to interview in connection with the train robbery.

They also wish to see Roy ("The Weazel") James, 28; Ronald ("Buster") Edwards, 32, his wife, June, 31; James Edward White, 43; and his wife, Sheree, 30.

Daly's is the twentieth arrest in the Great Train Robbery case. A woman accused of receiving stolen money has been cleared, and eighteen other people are now awaiting trial on various charges.

DINNER FOR TWO IN TOWN

Antique dealer John Daly, who was arrested yesterday, is pictured above with his wife Barbara before the police announced that they wished to interview him. The couple are seen dining at a club in London's West End.

Detective in arrests row falls under lorry

By MIRROR REPORTER

A DETECTIVE who is the centre of a storm of criticism was lying injured in hospital last night.

He is 42-year-old Detective-Sergeant Harry Challoner, who arrested several people following demonstrations against Queen Frederika of Greece this summer.

Yesterday, he fell in front of a lorry at Coulsdon, Surrey, threequarters of a mile from Netherne mental hospital, where he was a patient.

'Observation'

He was taken to Redhill Hospital. He had head injuries.

Last night a hospital spokesman said: "He will have to stay under observation for at least three days. His condition is satisfactory."

Sergeant Challoner, stationed at London's West End Central police station, gave evidence in a case in which four young men were accused of having offensive weapons during the Greek royal visit.

The four claimed that half-bricks were planted on them by police.

Scotland Yard announced later that the prosecutions against them would be dropped, and that they would be paid £1,600 compensation because of the "mental illness" of a detective in the case.

Sergeant Challoner . . . "wore himself out with work."

Last month the Home Secretary, Mr. Henry Brooke, said in the Commons that the detective wore himself out by overwork and was mentally ill.

Since the "half-brick" case, other people alleged that weapons were planted on them at West End Central Station.

A Scotland Yard inquiry into Sergeant Challoner's work this year is still on.

During the war he won the Military Medal.

He was captured during a six-man paratroop raid. But he escaped disguised as a woman.

Tullett, Tom, et al. "'Quiet Man' Held in Train Raid Swoop." Daily Mirror, 4 Dec. 1963, p. [1]. Mirror Historical Archive, 1903-2000, link.gale.com/apps/doc/WOIJIQ020873124/DSLAB?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-DSLAB. Accessed 19 Sept. 2023.