Now, mail guards.. but no guns

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By MIRROR REPORTERS

THREE super-safe rail vans were out of action just when they were needed for the treasure-train robbed in Thursday's £2,525,000 ambush.

This was revealed in London last night by Postmaster-General/Reginald Bevins.

Without the special vans to beat, the robbers had a much easier job. And Mr. Bevins said: "I don't rule out the possibility that the vans were tampered with."

Scotland Yard men are investigating the possibility that the vans might

FREE.

offered £200,000.

another £10,000.

£260,000

REWARD

It is waiting for the first person who

"turns in" the gang who got away with

more than £2,500,000 in Thursday's

mail train raid. And it will be TAX

and Co. and Topliss and Hardy, repre-

senting seven banks hit by the raid, have

Two London loss adjusting firms, Hart

The Midland Bank has offered a

more money

further £50,000. And the Post Office

the haul in the previous big-

gest Post Office robbery in

Britain-the £250,000 mail

van raid in London in 1952.

pools prize ever

This is as big as the biggest

have been sabotaged.

There are nine of the special anti-bandit rail vans in Britain.

Three are normally used on the Travelling Post Office run between Glasgow and London—the target in Thursday's 3.15 a.m. hold-up at Sears Crossing, Buckinghamshire.

For five years, the vans had given no trouble.

But between June 22 and August 2, all three went out of action.

Two had "hot axles"in danger of seizing up, because of faulty bearings. The third had a "flat tyre"—a metal wheel-rim worn down in one spot.

The vans were taken to railway workshops at Wigan, Lancs, at Swindon, Wilts, and at Derby. None was ready for Thursday's

Last night, the Postmaster-General announced three new plans to guard the mails on the railways. PLAN ONE: Security

valuable cargo; PLAN TWO: A loudhailer alarm system. PLAN THREE: More co-

men to travel with each

operation between signalmen and police. And guns for the train

guards? "No," Mr. Bevins said. 'The last thing we want is to see shooting matches on British Railways."

Plane

As Mr. Bevins spoke, the commissioned by Welsh hunt for the mail-robbers

Detectives studied rehung in their new hall. Thursday, from a deserted the loot was hidden.

£260,000.

Philip at his pad-Buck- Speaking of Stephen Ward airfield a few miles from It is one of the "smalltimers" who - the police the Duke of "He has seen the portrait | suicide was given yester- | The ambush ringleaders | hope — will give the gang | More than £4,600,000 day-Mr. Lazzolo said: are thought to have hidden away for the fantastic was knocked off the value "I was really sticking my | the loot, then flown out of £260,000 reward now of bank shares in stock offered.

ward to give evidence at The underlings, it is be- An insurance expert double the amount stolen ward's trial." lieved, were told to dash said last night: "The ring- in the train robbery.

ancient Barbers' and Sur- ports that a small private | home after the raid. But | leaders must be stunned at

won ..

Mirror City Editor Robert Head reports:

| markets yesterday—nearly



By MIRROR REPORTER

TITHE big secret of the Duke of Argyll (above) came out yesterday - he was married for the fourth time eight weeks ago.

His new bride is a childhood friend, 40year-old Mrs. Matilda Mortimer, an attractive, wealthy American, who lives in Paris.

The hush-hush wedding was held at a register office "somewhere outside London" on June 15.

Divorce

This was thirty-eight days after the 60-yearold Duke's last marriage ended in one of the longest, costliest and most highly-publicised divorce cases ever known.

The Duke's 25-year-old son, the Marquess of borne, was at the ceremony with his father's solicitor and Mrs. Mortimer's godfather, Mr. Stephen Potter

Afterwards the Duke took his new Duchessher own marriage to a professor at the Sorbonne in Paris ended in divorce in 1961—to his Scottish home, Inverary Castle.

Flat

No one was told that the Duke and his pretty guest, who has three sons, were man and

wife. Four days later the newly-weds went off to honeymoon in Paris, where the Duchess has

a flat. They are due back at Inverary at the end of

the month. QUOTE last night from the Duke's exwife: "I know the lady, but I cannot comment."



The Duke's ex-wife

LAZZOLO PAINTS THE

Vasco Lazzologave evidence at biephen Ward trial-1 ish ctured above last with his new por-

studio, Mr. Lazzolo, the dark blue robe of the Fishmongers' Guild, was

sittings with Prince

ingham Palace. and is pleased with it." ing the portrait The portrait, which shows

industrialist Colonel Des- | went on. mond Brayley for the

-on whom a verdict of the hold-up spot. neck out by coming for- Britain.

geons' Guild, and will be plane took off at dawn on they were not told where the size of the reward."

"£260,000 Reward." Daily Mirror, 10 Aug. 1963, p. [1]. Mirror Historical Archive, 1903-2000, link.gale.com/apps/doc/YETCGW127355942/DSLAB?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-DSLAB. Accessed 23 Aug. 2023.