







# Carbon Monoxide Is Identified As Cause Of Vegas Poisoning

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (UPI) — The deadly gas that spread through the towering Landmark Hotel and Casino Friday, killing one man and hospitalizing 138, was carbon monoxide from the exhaust of an auxiliary power generator, fire department investigators said today.

Four hospitals were still treating 91 persons today, although none was believed seriously injured, and 47 were treated and released.

The dead man was identified as Frank Gulla, of Marcy, N.Y., who was attending a convention of the Disabled American Veterans.

A leaky pipe poured two feet of water into a sub-basement, drowning out an electrical control

panel and knocking out the regular power supply, said Battalion Chief Karl McAllister.

When the regular power went off, an auxiliary generator kicked in, he said, sending carbon monoxide from its exhaust into the air conditioning system, which carried it throughout the hotel.

After occupants smelled the odor from the exhaust and began to sicken, firemen ordered the building evacuated.

Some 50 firefighters wearing masks and oxygen tanks spread through the hotel, warning occupants and searching for the source of the gas, as more than 900 gamblers, guests and employees trooped in orderly lines from the

building, a futuristic needle-shaped tower that looms 30 stories over the Las Vegas "Strip" of luxury gambling resorts.

"It was like taking my last breath," said Ken Schreiber, a tourist from Denver. "It smelled sweet. You couldn't see it but you knew it was there."

With only one elevator operating on the emergency power supply the evacuation went slowly and many guests walked down stairs. There was no panic, Fire Chief Leroy Hawks said.

"Breath and blood samples show the victims inhaled carbon monoxide," confirmed an administrator at Southern Nevada Memorial Hospital.