

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!
1960—On
the Brink!**

ENTERTAINMENT

Ain't nothing but a Hound Dog

Elvis still going strong at the turn of the decade.

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AUTOMOBILE

New Thunderbird model hits the streets.

Will the new size be a hit? It was a big risk to go from a small sports car to a large car. Critics say that there is no way it beat the corvette in sales now.

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POLITICS

Eisenhower and Nixon to visit New Hampshire this week.

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Japanese Fishermen Protest the Local Factory

FROM THE WIRE

In October, fishermen stormed the Chisso factory in anger because their fish could not be sold.

This month, Minamata Disease victims have demanded compensation from Chisso and have pitched a tent outside the factory gate. The Chisso factory has not been officially designated as the source of the poisoning. However, they have offered the protesting victims compensation for their suffering.

The fishermen were offered 300,000 yen for a Minamata Disease related death, and even smaller amounts for non-lethal cases. Victims have signed the agreement to start of the New Year by leaving the tragedy of Minamata City behind them.

Scientists have found high concentrations of heavy metals outside the discharge pipes of the Chisso factory, but they have been unable to determine the specific cause of the poisoning. Thus, they have been unable to identify Chisso as the polluter responsible for the horrific symptoms of Minamata Disease.

March 6, 1965

Minamata Tragedy Continues...

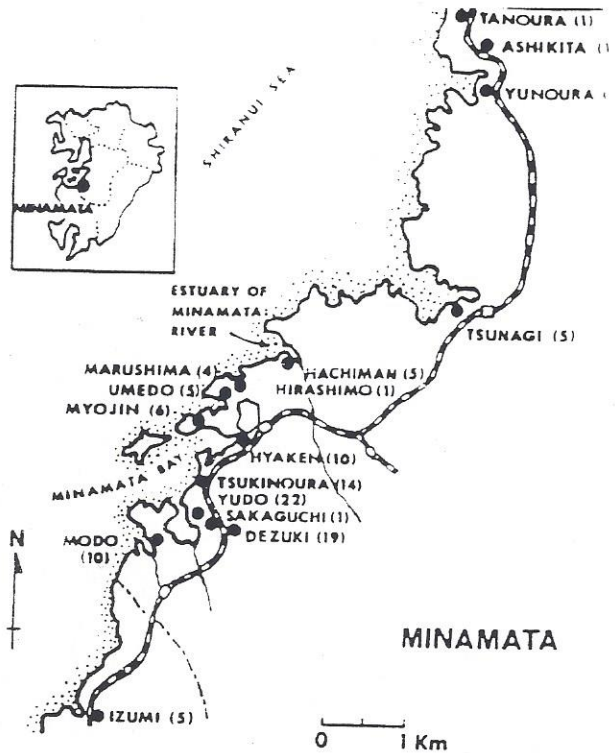
FROM THE WIRE

To date, 151 patients have been treated for symptoms of Minamata Disease. 121 of these patients lived near Minamata Bay, and 30 were victims of a second outbreak in Niigata, a city on the large Japanese Island.

The first outbreak began in Minamata City in 12 years ago. Between December 1953 and October 1960, 121 patients were recognized: 68 adults, 30 children and 23 fetal victims. The victims were initially isolated to the coast of Minamata Bay, from which the disease got its name; however, in 1958, new patients contracted the disease near the mouth of the Minamata River (see map for outbreaks). People began to develop symptoms as far away as Tsunagi to the northeast of Minamata City and across the Shiranui Sea at Izumi in Kagoshima Prefecture to the southwest. Officials have been trying to identify the causal agent, but have been unsuccessful thus far.

A second outbreak along the Agano River near Niigata in August this year has affected 30 local residents. In this case, the pollution was traced to the Show Denko corporation's Kanose acetaldehyde plant.

This second outbreak has caused an uproar from all Minamata Disease victims. Researchers have been trying to link an acetaldehyde plant in Minamata City to the initial poisoning but have been unsuccessful. The Niigata outbreak seems to provide sufficient proof that a toxin must be a byproduct in the production of plastics; however, there is still no government action to shut down these plants.



ENTERTAINMENT

Beatles Popularity Skyrockets

It seems as if this crazy British band is here to stay. One year after their American debut, the Beatles continue to win the hearts of American teens.

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BUSINESS

The Ford Mustang Roars Ahead

Ford sales continue to leave competitors in the dust.

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