



**KPIX-TV San Francisco** reported nightly for a month as Skylab fell to earth; in **New York**, **WPIX-TV** carried exclusive coverage in the market of flaming Skylab debris entering the earth's atmosphere. The feed came from Australia via Visnews and ITNA.

sports and weather) and had a live insert from the governor's office three stories above the newscast's location. The station had to install telephone circuits for standard communications and coordination. Scripts were written in the studio and sent by data link to the remote site.

**WFLA-TV Tampa, Fla.**, reporter Kris Rebillot was chosen to witness the execution of John Spink as the representative of Florida's press corps. Her eyewitness account was broadcast on local news shows, *NBC Nightly News* and *CBS Reports*.

The assignment to cover the double

murder trial in Miami of Ted Bundy, formerly from Seattle, followed three years of research and investigation into the man by **KOMO-TV Seattle** anchor, Ruth Walsh. She first started investigating cases to which he was linked in 1974, and later, after gaining his confidence, was granted exclusive interviews. A number of her investigative pieces on Bundy were used as backgrounders during daily reports fed by satellite to Seattle during the Florida trial.

When the Conner hotel in Joplin, Mo., collapsed, trapping three workmen, **KOAM-TV Pittsburg, Kan.**, had its mobile unit on the scene and live reports on the air within

an hour. Over the next five days, 40 live reports were aired as the search continued, with live coverage when one of the men was found, hurt but alive. Bodies of two other men were unearthed two days later.

**KAUZ-TV Wichita Falls, Tex.**, was just beginning its 6 p.m. newscast when the city's warning sirens announced a tornado. Seven minutes later the storm had ripped through town and knocked the station off the air. The station sent its minicam crews out to gather footage (later making it available to other stations and the networks). When the station came back on a day later, the anchors went live for the rest of the evening. Over the next four days, more than 12 hours of regular programming was pre-empted for tornado coverage and emergency information. Later, a half-hour special on the storm was aired.

New Orleans's police strike put the staff of **WDSU-TV** through a hectic three weeks. Starting with live interviews with the police leaving the meeting where the strike vote was taken, the station broadcast more than 11 hours of strike coverage, picking up two UPI awards in the process.

Spring was a busy time of year for the news department of **WEAR-TV Pensacola, Fla.** In March a rain storm caused flash flooding and extensive damage. In April a train carrying chemicals derailed, forcing

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*winner of the  
New Jersey Sigma Delta Chi  
and the  
One-to-One Foundation Feature  
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