

MARCH 7, 1980

# Vehicle Arson Hits Avra Valley

Two motor vehicle fires and one attempted motor vehicle arson within a 13-hour period early this week in the El Tiro and Green Acres neighborhoods are being investigated by officials of the Avra Valley Fire Department. The two actual fires also appear to be arson, according to Fire Department public relations officer, Charles R. Hudson.

The first of the suspicious fires occurred shortly after 5 a.m. Sunday in the Green Acres neighborhood. A SCAT unit, a pumper unit, and five firefighters from the Avra Valley Fire Department responded and extinguished the blaze, but the vehicle was total loss. An investigation by Fire Department officers revealed that an attempt to start a fire in another vehicle on the same premises had been made but had failed.

Shortly before 6 p.m. the same day, six of the Department's firefighters and the SCAT unit were called to put out another vehicle fire at the intersection of El Tiro Road and Pump Station Road. This vehicle was also a total loss, according to the Department, and arson is also suspected.

The Avra Valley Fire Department is asking anyone who may have information regarding the vehicle fires or who may have seen anything or anyone suspicious in those areas early Sunday morning or late Sunday afternoon to contact Fire Chief George Kline at 682-3255 or stop by the Avra Valley Fire Station Number Two at 16250 West El Tiro.

The Department is also asking all residents of the Avra Valley Volunteer Fire District to lock their motor vehicles in order to make it difficult to anyone to enter the vehicle and start or attempt to start a fire. Department officials also point out that a well lighted parking area will also help to deter an arsonist or prowler.