

# 'Sniper' Fires On River Boat

Somebody fired a shot at the Paddle Wheel Queen river boat from the East Kildonan bank of the Red River Sunday night.

The bullet made a neat, round hole in the glass on the lower deck of the boat and zoomed with a loud "zzzing" sound across the front part of the deck, finally boring through a plywood wall on the other side.

Nobody was hit, as the nearest of the 60 passengers was about five feet away from the place where the bullet entered.

"But this isn't funny, you know," said Ray Senft, president of Red River Excursion Ltd., the company which owns two paddlewheel boats.

"Somebody could have been sitting right there," he said, pointing at a place in the path of the bullet, "and that hole could have been in somebody's head. It couldn't have been just an air gun, it must have been something pretty powerful, at least a .22."

The passengers got off with

a scare, but everybody was still talking about the incident when they left the boat at 10 p.m.

The shot was fired from the east side of the river around 7:30 p.m. The boat was on one of its regular 7 to 10 p.m. tours up the Red River and was at the latitude of Kildonan Drive in East Kildonan when it was hit.

Since nobody was hurt, the boat continued its trip and docked at the Redwood bridge normally at 10 p.m. The crew tried to recover a bullet from behind the plywood wall, but failed to find anything. The steel outside wall of the boat was not penetrated.

East Kildonan Police Chief Chris Einfeld said later Sunday night police are working on the assumption a shot was fired from the foot of Hazeldell Avenue.

However nobody saw or heard anything in the area, a survey of the homes in the neighborhood revealed. The investigation continues.