

Death Rides In Car With Highway Killer

(Every fatal wreck leaves its human debris. On the eve of a long July 4 weekend, a convict, serving 7-10 years for manslaughter, tells of his nightmares as he recalls the fatal night his five friends were killed in his car. Here is his copyrighted story from the Southern Michigan prison newspaper, The Spectator. Only the writer's name is fictitious.)

By JOHN TEMCO
JACKSON, Mich. — Ever drive a car from a prison cell? I do.

It is not the kind of drive that makes for pleasant dreams. Instead, it is a nightmare ordeal.

I've tried to break the habit. I've even been to the prison mental health clinic. But I still wake up with visions of five young faces that shared the ride, haunting me.

I'm their driver. It was three years ago. I still am.

MY PRISON SENTENCE is not the real punishment for my murderous, drunken drive that never ends. My

prematurely white hair is only an outward sign. My limp and stiff leg doesn't bother me at all compared with the realization that I turned Highway M12 into a concrete murder strip for five friends and neighbors.

The judge said: "A drunken driver is as dangerous to society as a drunken gunman."

At first I couldn't understand why motor manslaughter called for a long prison term. Today, after three years in prison, I can appreciate the judge's reasoning.

He couldn't bring back the five people crushed to death on M12 — but he could prevent me from causing other tragic accidents.

Too many drinks at a party and too many passengers in my seven-year-old, souped-up jalopy were things I took with me on that ride three years ago.

THE WHITE LINES seemed to zig-zag, reflected dancing moons on the wet pavement gave a feeling of

exhilaration, rather than of danger. A pair of on-coming headlights seemed just like two offset moons.

There isn't any pain when two speeding cars crash head-on. The pain comes after for the survivors in horrible memories that won't go away.

There isn't any noise for the people in the cars. They're unable to hear. And there isn't any more fun for them. Dead and injured don't have fun.

Like the car I was driving home from the night party, the news of what happened came to me second hand.

Six of us piled into the car and headed for a highway drive-in restaurant for breakfast. It had been a gay night with all the fun that only a teen-age crowd can find dancing 'til dawn.

Goofed up with booze and benzedrine, I wheeled the old car with the confidence of a drunk kept awake by "Benney."

STATE TROOPERS TOLD me I drove my jolopy head-on into an oncoming transport truck. Its driver did his best to get out of my crazy path.

His effort to get out of the way may have saved his life. My drunken driving took five lives.

The real punishment is the haunting memory of the gay ride turned a death ride. I can serve my prison sentence. I cannot bring back my friends.

I agreed to tell my story to The Spectator with the hope of keeping other drivers on the highways rather than in prison cells — or coffins.

Our highways are for service and pleasure. But a fleeting moment of carelessness of whatever kind can make them pathways to the grave — or to prison, where moonbeams dancing through steel bars onto a concrete floor may remind one of five happy, laughing friends and moons glistening on wet pavement just before another dawn.



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FINAL

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WORLD NEWS

Body Recovered

SALISBURY — The body of Odell Lamb, 25, of Spencer, father of five children, was recovered about dawn today from the Davidson County side of the Yadkin River. Lamb left home Monday morning to check fish baskets, but failed to return.

Boy Found

CASPER, Wyo. — A 10-year-old Casper boy who wandered away from a picnic atop 8,300-foot Casper Mountain yesterday found his way to a ranch at the bottom of the peak today, 25 miles from where he became lost. Bobby Minchow, described as exhausted but apparently in good shape, staggered into the Pratt ranch early today.

Vote Bill OK'd

WASHINGTON — The Senate Rules Committee approved today a "clean elections" bill which would require public disclosure of virtually all campaign contributions and spending in elections to federal office.

Raiders Nab 18

WILKESBORO — Federal Alcohol Tax Unit agents acted quickly today to nab and snare 18 suspected bootleggers in the area near here.

Killers Executed

ALGIERS, Algeria — Four Arabs were executed in Constantine Prison today for the slaying of three European boys last year. The boys disappeared May 3, 1956, while on a bicycle ride. Their mutilated bodies were found later in a mountain cave.

Motion Denied

WASHINGTON — U. S. District Judge Burnita S. Matthews today denied a defense motion for a mistrial in the bribery-conspiracy trial of midwest Teamsters boss James R. Hoffa.

Custody Asked

ORLEANS, France — U. S. Army officials said today they are asking for custody of Specialist 3.C. DeWayne McOsler of Manassett, N. Y., now held by the French on a charge of killing an Algerian in Paris over payment for American cigarettes.

Study Ordered

WASHINGTON — The U. S. Court of Appeals told the State Dept. today it must reconsider its denial of a passport to Donald Ogden Stewart, author and playwright.



CARRIED DOWN a ladder in an unconscious state is Mrs. Lillian Forbus of North Adams, Mass. She was rescued from a fire which swept four buildings, including one where she lived in a second floor apartment.

Fatal Shooting Laid To Dishes

KANSAS CITY — "It was all about some old dishes. Now look what's happened."

So sobbed Mrs. Bonnie Meydars as she looked down at the body of her young airman husband, Leonard, shot to death by his 75-year-old landlord, Walter H. O'Grady.

Police said O'Grady, orally admitting he shot Meydars three times with a pistol, told them he was disturbed because he noticed little things were missing from an apartment the Meydars occupied in his home. Specifically, he listed a carving knife, a fork, a cup and saucer.

FINISHED DINNER

Meador, 23, was shot as he and another airman, Homer Gillham, 22, were moving a refrigerator from the apartment. Police said that after shooting the airman, O'Grady walked back inside the house, sat down at a table and finished eating his dinner. He was still at the table when arrested.

The Meydars and their 18-month-old son, George, moved into O'Grady's house June 8. The airman, whose home is here, had recently returned from overseas duty and was stationed at nearby Richards-Gebaur Air Base. Part of the rental agreement, Mrs. Meydars said, was that they feed the elderly landlord.

Evening Prayer

O God, our Father, Thou art near us at all times, but sometimes Thou dost seem far away. Lead us to such an experience of Thee as will make us aware of Thy nearness always, even in those night hours when we are sleepless. We would be as vividly aware of Thee as was our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

—IGNORING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS— Council Shuns Park Reports

By DICK YOUNG
Charlotte News Staff Writer
A Park Board surplus could have sneaked up on the City Councilmen just as easily this year as last.

About this time last year Councilmen were greatly disturbed over discovery of a surplus of more than \$200,000 in funds of the Park & Recreation Commission.

At his 1956 Councilmen Herbert H. Baxter made a motion, which the Council adopted, requiring the Park

Board to submit a financial statement every three months. It has been almost a year and park officials have consistently filed the reports with City Manager Henry A. Yancey.

When queried as to whether he has seen any of these reports this past year, Mr. Baxter laughed and said he hadn't.

It turns out, according to Mr. Yancey, that none of the Council members has seen the reports.

Russians Included In Offer

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower said today he will invite all other nations to make on-the-spot checks of radioactive fallout at any future U. S. atomic weapons tests.

Eisenhower made the statement at a news conference in repeating that American scientists are convinced that, given another four or five years, they can produce an absolutely clean hydrogen bomb.

Eisenhower also reiterated that the United States stands by its offer to suspend atomic weapons tests temporarily in an effort to reach agreement on disarmament.

RUSSIA INCLUDED

Eisenhower said this country means to go through with that offer to Russia even though it may mean the loss of some scientific advantage gained from testing of weapons. He was speaking of advantages in connection with peaceful use of atomic power.

Eisenhower's remarks about inviting other nations—presumably including Russia—to observe and check for fallout at any future U. S. weapons tests came as he talked again about the possibility of producing an H-bomb free of radioactive fallout.

NOT EXTREME?

Among other topics arising in the news conference: Civil rights—Eisenhower said it is incomprehensible to him how anyone could regard his civil rights program as extreme. He was commenting on an argument by Sen. Russell (D-Ga.) who told the Senate yesterday it would herald a return to post-Civil War reconstruction days.

The President also said he doubts the civil rights program would make a very good subject for a referendum, even if you could have one. Russell had proposed that the program be put to a general referendum vote if it does pass Congress.

Eisenhower said the Constitution contemplates that federal officials are responsible for legislation, rather than the general public.

Uranium grants—Eisenhower announced the United States is ready to grant what he termed considerably more uranium 235 to friendly nations for construction.

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"You know how it is. Financial statements don't create much interest and I just haven't said anything about the park reports," Mr. Yancey said.

Mr. Yancey said no Councilman had asked about the park reports and he just didn't mention them.

But Mr. Yancey said the statements have been a guide to him and to George B. Livingston, municipal accountant, on "how the Park Board's operations are coming along."

We To Invite Checks On Bomb Test Fallout



A Man Pushes A Wheelbarrow And A Few Trucks Move On A Cameron Street In Cleanup Work.

—HURRICANE LEFT 'GHOST TOWN'— Cameron Folk Gambled And Lost—Lives

By ARTHUR EVERETT
CAMERON, La. — In the sparsely settled bayou and marsh country of southwestern Louisiana live a hardy breed of trappers and fishermen known as Cajuns. They are descendants of French Acadians banished from Canada in 1755 to a descriptively pleasant area of Louisiana. They live out their lives amid a wild vastness more suited to birds and beasts than to humans. They still cling to the old customs, French or a patois thereof, still is a common tongue.

ANOTHER PHASE

Last Wednesday night Cajun ears caught the ascending wail of a great wind. But Cajun minds catalogued the sound as just another phase of rugged marshland life. The wind they heard, and the wind that of them ignored, heralded Hurricane Audrey, first of the season.

She was a premature baby, born the forenoon of June 24 near the juncture of Mexico and the Yucatan Peninsulas. She never grew to be a really big girl. The U. S. Weather Bureau calls her about average among 50 Gulf hurricanes of the past 57 years. But not since 1934 has a hurricane arrived this early in the year.

Tuesday morning, June 25, the first Weather Bureau advisory on Audrey warned:

"A hurricane watch is advised for the Texas and Louisiana coasts."

At 8 a.m. Thursday — 48 hours

after the first urgent advisory — Hurricane Audrey hit Cameron almost head-on. She brought 105-mile-per-hour winds and a 20-foot tidal wave.

Cameron took the impact. Then silence.

The village was a mile-long settlement with a Gulf Coast beach, a two-story brick and steel court house, a tiny theater, a hotel, a

bank, gas stations, groceries and a barber shop. Most of the area was below sea level.

While 20,000 refugees streamed toward Lake Charles 30 miles north of the coast, an ominous sign escaped notice in the tumult. Few of the refugees were from Cameron, although it was assumed that her 3,000 townspeople had fled like others in advance of the hurricane.

Iran's Earthquake Toll Goes To 750

TEHRAN, Iran — Rescue workers came across the bodies of 750 victims in two earthquakes that devastated villages in northern Iran today. The discovery boosted the over-all death toll to 750. More than 3,000 persons are missing.

The rescue workers uncovered the victims in the villages of Tighband and Sangchal. They had not been listed in previous reports.

Properly losses also were huge from yesterday's quakes ranging over a 500-mile arc in northern Iran extending up to the Soviet border.

DEATH DAMAGE
The quakes spread death and damage over the Elburz mountain range, along the Caspian Sea's southern edge and up to the Soviet border on both sides of the sea.

Iranian officials estimated the property loss at more than 12½ million dollars.

They put the number of seriously injured at 1,500.

More than 100 villages were described by officials as wiped out and nearly 50 more partly damaged.

Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, who is vacationing in Switzerland

with Queen Soraya, ordered large scale relief operations for the stricken area estimated to cover 30,000 square miles.

No fresh tremors were reported today but the frightened populace slept in the streets and fields last night.

Many roads were destroyed as a result of landslides. Telephone and telegraph lines were down between the small towns and villages of the stricken area. Messengers on horses provided the only means of communication.

There was no word of what happened on the Soviet side of the border. The Soviet Union's big Baku oil production center is on the western side of the Caspian.

The string of popular resort villages ringing the base of 18,000-foot Mt. Demavend, 35 miles east of Tehran, apparently fled the brunt of the shocks. Reports said a quake lasting more than two minutes flattened most of these centers.

The village of Navak, near Firuz Kuh, was reported destroyed. The fate of its 310 inhabitants was unknown.

Other dispatches said 40 persons perished in Polour Larjan, 12 in Firuz Kuh and 8 in Demavend.

Go FIRST to FIELDS — Sterling FRIENDSHIP RINGS \$1. (Adv.)

STAYED IN TOWN
On Friday, Deputy Sheriff D. P. Vincent reached Lake Charles, 250 miles west of New Orleans, with the startling report that its citizens had not fled the storm. On the contrary, many of them had elected to ride it out. His estimate of a possible death toll of thousands came as a hideous shock.

But as helicopters and surface craft converged on Little Cameron, the tentative death toll rapidly soared above 100.

Stories of Cameron survivors for the first time pin-pointed the magnitude of Louisiana's worst catastrophe of the century. Death estimates now reach 300 and property damage uncounted tens of millions.

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